



PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 3, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Becker, Chairman
William Patterson, Vice-Chairman
Richard Kratz, Member
Janet Heacock, Member

ABSENT: Gordon MacElhenney, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Cecile Daniel, Township Manager
Kenneth Picardi, Township Solicitor
Kevin Conrad, Township Engineer
John Moran Jr., Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer
Shawn Motsavage, Road Master

Dean Becker called the June 3, 2014 Board of Supervisors Meeting to order in the Perkiomen Township Administration Building at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 6, 2014 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved upon motion of Richard Kratz and seconded by William Patterson. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

POLICE REPORT: The Board receive no written State Police Report for May.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- **TRAPPE AMBULANCE** - Report for May.
- **LOWER FREDERICK REGIONAL AMBULANCE CORP:** William McGovern, chairman of the Lower Frederick Regional Ambulance Corp, was present at the meeting to inform the Board of discussions that are taking place regarding the possible mergers of the ambulance with Skippack or Harleysville or possibly both ambulance squads. Plymouth Ambulance has been assisting Lower Frederick with billing issues and there has been talk of a possible merger with Plymouth as well. A meeting has been set with PA Department of Commerce and Economic Development regarding any merger. Mr. McGovern also indicated that there may be a discussion with Trappe Ambulance as well. Mr. McGovern explained that his purpose in attending this meeting was to inform the Board as to these possible merger discussions.



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- **CPVRPC** - May Meeting Minutes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Kenneth Picardi reported on the following:

- **Realty Transfer Tax Ordinance Amendment:** At the May Meeting, Solicitor Picardi explained that the PA State Legislature amended the Tax Reform Code of 1971 by changing the definition of "Real Estate Company". Solicitor Picardi received approval to advertise the Ordinance for the Board's consideration at the June Meeting. This proposed Ordinance was advertised and is now before the Board for consideration. Solicitor Picardi explained that this proposed Ordinance will close a loophole that allowed certain entities to avoid paying Realty Transfer Taxes. Ordinance No. 219 will amend Ordinance No. 97 by creating a new definition of "Real Estate Company" consistent with the changes made by the PA State Legislature. Upon due consideration, William Patterson made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 219. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

ROAD MASTER'S REPORT: Shawn Motsavage submitted to the Board his Road Master's Report dated June 1, 2014 for activities taking place during the month of May. In addition to his report, Mr. Motsavage submitted a memo regarding the cost to replace a Township truck. In his memo, Mr. Motsavage explained his reasons for replacing the single axle truck with a tandem axle truck. The Board discussed with Mr. Motsavage his reasoning behind the purchase and the expense to make that purchase. Upon due consideration to Mr. Motsavage's request and discussion of his explanation and reasons, Richard Kratz made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to resolve and adopt Resolution 2014-12 to amend the Perkiomen Township Budget to transfer from the unrestricted net assets to the Capital Reserve/General Fund Account the amount of \$190,000.00 to purchase a new tandem axle truck for Perkiomen Township. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT: John Moran Sr. submitted to the Board his Fire Marshall Report dated June 1, 2014 for activities taking place during the month of May.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: John Moran Jr. submitted to the Board his Code Enforcement Report dated June 1, 2014 for activities taking place during the month of May.



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In addition to his report, Mr. Moran discussed the following with the Board:

- Wayne & Theresa Franks: Mr. Moran informed the Board that the public hearing for the Franks' Zoning Hearing Board Application was continued until June 23, 2014.
- Speed Elite Training Facility: A Zoning Hearing Board Application for Speed Elite Training Facility has been filed with the Perkiomen Township Zoning Hearing Board. Both Mr. Moran and Solicitor Picardi requested direction from the Board regarding Solicitor Picardi's attendance and participation at this public hearing which is scheduled for June 18, 2014. The Board discussed Solicitor Picardi's attendance at this public hearing and concurred that he did not need to attend; therefore; Solicitor Picardi was not authorized to attend this public hearing.
- Grass Cutting: Mr. Moran informed the Board that he has notified certain property owners under the Perkiomen Township Grass and Weed Ordinance that their grass needs to be cut as it violates the Township's Grass and Weed Ordinance. If the property owner does not cut the grass within so many days, a non-traffic citation is filed with the office of the District Justice, Judge Augustine. The difficulty is that, while this process is going on, the grass does not get cut and the abutting residents are calling the Township to complain. Mr. Moran is requesting authorization from the Board to allow him to contact Buck Enterprises to cut the grass while Mr. Moran goes through the enforcement process with Judge Augustine's office. Buck Enterprises is the company that the Township has awarded the contract to cut grass for the Township. The expense to cut the grass is covered under the Township's Fee Schedule and would be added to whatever penalty and court costs Judge Augustine issues for the non-traffic citation. The Board was in favor of this approach and authorized Mr. Moran to utilize the services of Buck Enterprise to cut the grass of those property owners that Mr. Moran has issued violation notifications under the Township's Grass and Weed Ordinance.



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PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Cecile Daniel reported that the Planning Commission held their meeting on May 20, 2014. At that meeting the Planning Commission discussed the following: Conditional Use Application for 360 Custom LLC.

LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY: At the May meeting of the LPVRS, there was nothing to report that would require consideration or action by the Board.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Regional Police Study: Ms. Daniel explained that she received letters from Collegeville Borough and Trappe Borough indicating they do not wish to participate in a Regional Police Study. As discussed at the May Board meeting, if the two Boroughs did not wish to participate in the PADCED Regional Police Study, the Letter of Intent was not to be sent to the state. As a result, the Letter of Intent was not sent to PADCED. The Board discussed what would be the next step. It was the opinion of Mr. Becker, that the Board should continue this discussion either amongst themselves or create a committee to study the cost of creating a local police department. Each year, the state legislature discusses charging the cost back to those municipalities that utilize the services of the PA State Police. As a result, Mr. Becker felt that a fully informed decision should be made on the cost to providing local police services before the state forces the issue by passing legislation that would require the Township to reimburse the state for the services of the state police. The Board discussed how best to move forward and decided to continue the discussion at a later date.
2. Parking Ordinance: Ms. Daniel discussed with the Board the restriction of types of vehicles and unattended sports equipment on Township roads. The Township has an Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance and the discussion was expansion of this ordinance to restrict large vehicles, boats, trailers, snowmobiles, campers, RVs, motor homes, unattended sports equipment (e.g. basketball poles/nets, portable soccer nets, etc), and dumpsters. All these items, at some time, have been issues due to the location either in the street or in the right-of-way. The Board discussed the creation of an amendment to the Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance, but indicated a desire to see a draft before proceeding forward on this matter.



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3. Open Space Zoning: Ms. Daniel discussed with the Board the creation of a new zoning district in the Township. This new zoning district would be labeled Open Space Conservation District. It would cover those properties located within Perkiomen Township that are listed in the Central Perkiomen Valley Regional Comprehensive Plan as open space. Ms. Daniel would work with the Township Planning Commission in creating this new district. Richard Kratz mentioned the possibility of looking into selling the property known as the Highland Tract which was previously owned by Kenneth Grosse. Mr. Picardi indicated he would need to investigate this question as this property was purchased with the Township's Open Space Funds. As to the creation of the new zoning district, the Board authorized Ms. Daniel to discuss this with the Township Planning Commission to develop a draft Zoning Amendment for the Board's review and consideration.

4. Perkiomen Township Municipal Authority: Ms. Daniel discussed with the Board the verbal agreement the Township has with the Municipal Authority regarding the Township Employees operating and maintaining the sewer collection system that is owned by the Perkiomen Township Municipal Authority. Under this structure, the Municipal Authority does not have any employees and the payment for the Township Employees time spent operating and maintaining this sewer system is reimbursed by the Municipal Authority back to the Township. Although there have not been any problems, a written agreement should be approved between the parties to establish this verbal agreement to writing. The Municipal Authority has approved the agreement and requested the Ms. Daniel present the agreement to the Board for their consideration. The Board reviewed the agreement and found it to be consistent with the verbal agreement; therefore, William Patterson made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve the agreement between Perkiomen Township and Perkiomen Township Municipal Authority on the operation and maintenance of the Perkiomen Township Municipal Authority's Sewer Collection System by the employees of Perkiomen Township. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

5. Conditional Use Applications: The Township is in receipt of two Conditional Use Applications. The first application (2014-2) is 360 Customs, LLC. The applicant is James & Connie Sue Daughenbaugh of 360 Gravel Pike in the Village of Rahns. The second application (2014-3) is for the proposed Umstead Development. The applicant is Carolyn Umstead of 14 Wartman Road, Graterford, PA. The Board discussed setting a public hearing date for both of these applications. Richard Kratz



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made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to set a public hearing date of Tuesday, July 8, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. for Conditional Use Application 2014-2 – James & Connie Sue Daughenbaugh and Application 2014-3 – Carolyn Umstead. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

6. Open Space Loan: Ms. Daniel discussed with the Board the outstanding loan the Township has for open space. Presently, this Open Space Loan is being paid back to the bank from the Open Space EIT Taxes collected. The loan was for twenty-five years and has an estimated eighteen years left for repayment. Under the agreement with the bank, the current interest rate for this loan is to reset at the end of 2014. Ms. Daniel suggested reviewing the terms of the loan in hopes of paying the loan off sooner. The Board discussed this and authorized Ms. Daniel to explore the possibility of paying the loan off earlier than under the current loan schedule.

ENGINEERS REPORT: Kevin Conrad reviewed the following items:

1. 2014 Road Project Issues: Mr. Conrad explained that, at the May Meeting, the Board awarded the 2014 Road Project to Reid Paving in the amount of \$202,386.25. At this meeting, Mr. Conrad presented to the Board the construction contracts which have been reviewed and found to be acceptable. Mr. Conrad is recommending the Board approve the construction contract so the project may begin. With the recommendation made by Mr. Conrad, William Patterson made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve the construction contract for the 2014 Road Project to Reid Paving in the amount of \$202,386.25. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES: The treasurer reviewed the receipts and expenditures for the month of May. After review of same, Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to authorize payment of the May bills. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Central Perkiomen Rotary Club: The Central Perkiomen Rotary Club is holding their annual Perkiomen Valley Fair this week. As part of the fair, the rotary holds its annual fireworks display. The present schedule is to hold the fireworks on June 6, 2014 with a rain date of June 7, 2014. The Township is in receipt of the required Certificate of



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Insurance. Under the new Perkiomen Township Fire Code Ordinance, there is a requirement for an Operation Fire Permit that must be issued and a fee charged for that permit. In a letter to the Board, the Central Perkiomen Rotary Club is requesting the waiving of that permit fee. The Board discussed the request of the rotary and Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by William Patterson to approve the request of the Central Perkiomen Rotary Club to hold their annual fireworks display on June 6, 2014 with a rain date of June 7, 2014 and to waive the Operation Fire Permit Fee for the year 2014. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion made by William Patterson and seconded by Janet Heacock.