



## PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: MAY 3, 2016

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

William Patterson called the May 3, 2016 meeting of the Perkiomen Township Board of Supervisors to order. Mr. Patterson informed the public that the Board held two Executive Sessions, one on April 20, 2016, and one on April 27, 2016. Both were held to discuss a real estate matter related to 842 Gravel Pike.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the April 5, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved upon motion of Janet Heacock and seconded by Dean Becker. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- **REQUEST TO CONDUCT A MULTI-WAY STOP SIGN STUDY:** The Board received the information on the estimated cost to conduct a multi-way stop sign study at the intersection of Cranberry Boulevard, Queen Road, and Westover Road. The Board discussed this matter and decided not to complete a study at this time. It was instead agreed to put the speed sign device on Cranberry Boulevard, then submit the results to the PA State Police with a request for enforcement of the speed limit.
- **REQUEST TO CONDUCT A SPEED LIMIT STUDY ON GRAVEL PIKE:** PennDOT responded to the Township's request to conduct a speed limit study on that portion of Gravel Pike that lies within the boundary of Perkiomen Township from its border with Schwenksville Borough to its border with Collegeville Borough. This study was completed, and PennDOT has determined that the speed limit will be 35 MPH for Gravel Pike within the boundaries of Perkiomen Township.



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- **PSATS NEWSBULLETIN:** Information from PSATS for March-April 2016.

### OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

1. Street Light Request: As discussed at the April Meeting, the Board conducted a site inspection based on a resident's request for the addition of two or three street lights in the cul-de-sac of Musket Court. Ms. Daniel informed the Board that a request was sent to PECO regarding the cleaning and/or replacing of the street light lens. PECO indicated that this request should be sent to the company that does the maintenance on the street lights. Ms. Daniel informed the Board that this request was made. Next, there was a discussion regarding increasing the wattage of the street light versus adding more lights. Ms. Daniel indicated that the street lights in Perkiomen Greene are presently at 9,500 High Pressure Sodium. In reviewing what other types of street lights exist in the Township, Ms. Daniel found that there are some that are higher wattages than these. According to the PECO Street Light invoices, there are some at 8,000 mercury, which is 191 watts; 12,000 mercury, which is 275 watts; and 25,000 sodium, which is 294 watts. A discussion with SSM indicated that, at a minimum, in order to replace the existing street lights with higher wattages, the lamp post top plus the ballast would have to be replaced. A request was submitted to PECO regarding the process the Township would have to go through to consider this option. PECO responded by stating that the fixture or head would have to be replaced. If the Board is interested in considering this option, the Township would need to send a list of the street light addresses and to what wattage each light is to be increased. This information would then be forwarded to PECO's New Business Department to provide a cost. The Board authorized Ms. Daniel to submit a request to PECO asking them what it would cost to upgrade the street lights for the following: 8,000 mercury, 12,000 mercury, and 25,000 sodium for the street light located at the cul-de-sac of Musket Court and the two street lights located in close proximity to the cul-de-sac.
2. Central Perkiomen Rotary Club: The Central Perkiomen Rotary Club is holding their annual fair at the beginning of June. As part of this event, the Rotary will conduct a fireworks display on June 10, 2016, with a rain date of June 11, 2016. The Rotary needs to obtain a permit as well as obtain approval from the Board of Supervisors before they can include fireworks. There is a fee associated with this permit. The Rotary is requesting permission to have their fireworks on the dates stated and request the Board waive the permit fee. John Moran, Jr. indicated that he was in receipt of and is satisfied with the required application and Certificate of Insurance. This



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request is an annual request of the Central Perkiomen Rotary Club. Dean Becker made a motion, seconded by Janet Heacock, to approve the request of the Central Perkiomen Rotary Club to allow fireworks as part of the fair for June 10, 2016, with a rain date of June 11, 2016, and, waive the permit fee of \$100.00 for said application. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Kenneth Picardi had no additional items to report beyond those items to be discussed as part of the agenda.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:**

- **POLICE REPORT:** The Board was not in receipt of the PA State Police Report for April. As discussed at the April Meeting, a question regarding the information in the report submitted to the Board from the PA State Police was forwarded to their attention. The PA State Police responded by indicating that they are in the process of installing new reporting software and are in transition. This transition may take some time to complete and train their officers in the use of the new system.
- **TRAPPE AMBULANCE** – Received March, 2016 Report.
- **PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION** – Received April, 2016 Report.
- **PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP FIRE COMPANY:** John Moran, Jr., as Fire Chief, updated the Board as to the activities of the Perkiomen Township Fire Company. In addition, Ms. Daniel previously discussed the giving of a picture of the Perkiomen Township Firehouse to the Fire Company for its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This Board agreed to the concept, but before granting final approval, wanted an idea as to how much this would cost. Ms. Daniel and William Patterson discussed some ideas with Alan MacBain. Based upon those discussion, Mr. MacBain estimated he could do this for \$800, plus any minor ancillary expenses. Since those minor expenses were unknown, Ms. Daniel requested authorization to spend up to \$1,000 on this project. Dean Becker made a motion, seconded by Richard Kratz, to authorize an expenditure of up to \$1,000 to have Alan MacBain complete a picture of the Perkiomen Township Firehouse to be given to the Perkiomen Township Fire Company in commemoration of its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.



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- **FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT:** John Moran, Sr. submitted to the Board his Fire Marshall's Report dated May 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of April.

**ROAD MASTER'S REPORT:** Shawn Motsavage submitted to the Board his Road Master's Report dated May 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of April. In addition to his report, Mr. Motsavage requested permission to sell some old equipment on MunicibiD. The Board was satisfied and authorized the request made by Mr. Motsavage.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:** John Moran, Jr. submitted to the Board his Code Enforcement Report dated May 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of April.

Mr. Moran informed the Board at the April Meeting that the owner of 500 Gravel Pike had submitted an application to the Zoning Hearing Board. The present owner has an interested buyer who wants to add an addition to the existing restaurant and turn it into a diner. In order to do this, the owner is seeking variances from the ZHB. Mr. Moran informed the Board that the ZHB granted the variances to the owner of 500 Gravel Pike at a public hearing held at the end of April.

Mr. Moran updated the Board on the status of those property owners he has sent letters to regarding the Township's Property Maintenance Code. In particular, Mr. Moran updated the Board on the Administrative Search Warrant requested from the District Justice's office for access to 539 Gravel Pike. At this time, he has not heard anything from the District Justice's office regarding this warrant. In pursuing this matter, Mr. Moran informed the Board that he will need assistance from the Township Solicitor which could mean spending money for legal fees.

**PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:** Cecile Daniel reported that there was a Planning Commission Meeting held on April 19, 2016, at which time, the Planning Commission continued the review of the Wireless Telecommunication Ordinance for the Township.



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**LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY:** Richard Kratz informed the Board that there were no significant issues discussed at the April meeting of the LPVRS.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:** Kevin Conrad reported on the following:

1. 2016 Road Projects: Mr. Conrad updated the Board on the contract for the 2016 Road Project. The contractor expects to begin this project the following week.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. January 2016 Jonas Snowstorm: In March, 2016, President Obama officially declared 22 counties in Pennsylvania eligible for disaster relief funds. Montgomery County was one of those 22 counties. As part of the paperwork needed for this Snow Assistance, the Township needs to pass a Resolution setting forth the designated signer for all the documents needed to be sent to PEMA & FEMA. Resolution 2016-18 designated William Patterson as the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator to be the Township's designated person. Richard Kratz made a motion, seconded by Dean Becker, to approve Resolution 2016-18 and designate William Patterson as the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator to sign all necessary paperwork for submission to PEMA & FEMA for the January, 2016 Jonas Snowstorm. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.
2. 74 Gravel Pike: The Board discussed the future of 74 Gravel Pike and determined that it should be sold. In order to move forward on this, the Board considered two things. First, a Resolution authorizing this sale, and second, authorization of the advertisement to sell this property. First, the Board reviewed Resolution 2016-17 authorizing the sale of 74 Gravel Pike through the public bidding process. Dean Becker made a motion, seconded by Janet Heacock, approving Resolution 2016-17. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0. Second, the Board reviewed the draft advertisement, offering for sale, by sealed public bid, of 74 Gravel Pike. These bids will be received on June 1<sup>st</sup> and opened on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Board will then review and consider these bids at its next public meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Daniel indicated that the final dates need to be reviewed. Pending that review, the draft advertisement is ready to go. The Board reviewed the draft advertisement. Dean Becker made a motion, seconded by Janet Heacock, to



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authorize the advertisement of the sale of 74 Gravel Pike by sealed public bid, pending final review of the dates. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

3. Road Maintenance Program: Ms. Daniel explained that she discussed with Mark Stabolepszy and Shawn Motsavage the existing Township's Road Maintenance Program. Due to the amount of money being spent each year on roads, Ms. Daniel recommended pushing out the number of years to complete this work. It was the opinion of Mr. Stabolepszy that we should try to keep to the schedule of microsurfacing the streets as the priority to extend the life of the streets. With the change in establishing the parameters of the road program, the program years were pushed out from the year 2026 to the year 2029. As part of this program, the present plan calls for the overlay of Betcher Road in 2017. Betcher Road is the municipal boundary between Perkiomen Township and Trappe Borough, and there is a Maintenance Agreement between the two municipalities for this road. In previous discussions with Trappe Borough, they indicated Trappe's plan calls for Betcher Road to be microsurfaced. Due to the condition of the road, microsurfacing is not the solution. According to SSM, the solution is to overlay the roadway. Ms. Daniel informed the Board that she sent a letter to Trappe Borough regarding Trappe's intentions to repair Betcher Road. Ms. Daniel also explained that the overlaying of Betcher Road does not come under the Maintenance Agreement that Perkiomen Township has with Trappe Borough. As of this meeting, Ms. Daniel informed the Board that she has not received a response from Trappe Borough regarding this letter. The Board directed Ms. Daniel to try to schedule a meeting between Perkiomen Township and Trappe Borough to discuss the issue of repairing Betcher Road.
4. Hours of Operation for Municipal Waste Collectors: At the April meeting, the Board discussed creating an Ordinance establishing the hours of operation for Municipal Waste Collectors in the Township. At the April meeting, the Board indicated they wanted time to consider the information submitted to them by Ms. Daniel. At this meeting, the Board inquired as to how many other complaints had been received from residents regarding the times when Municipal Waste Collectors are picking up trash in the Township. At this time, there have been no other complaints regarding this matter. Both Mr. Moran and Ms. Daniel indicated that with the weather getting better, we may begin receiving similar complaints. The Board chose to table this issue for the time being.



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5. Wireless Telecommunication Ordinance: Previously, Ms. Daniel informed the Board that the Planning Commission is continuing its work on a new Wireless Telecommunication Ordinance. Solicitor Picardi submitted information that he received from the Cohen Law Group regarding the issue of the PUC granting a Certificate of Public Convenience to those companies that are installing these mini-cell towers in the municipal right-of-way. In this information, the Cohen Law Group indicated that the PUC is seeking comments with regard to the issue of their granting Certificates of Public Convenience to these companies. During the PUC's open comment period, the Cohen Law Group is requesting that municipalities submit comments in opposition to what the PUC is doing. Included in the information is a template letter. If the Board finds it acceptable to send this letter to the PUC, she recommended that the template be reviewed by Solicitor Picardi to ensure that the citations in the letter are correct. The Board reviewed the proposed letter, and Dean Becker made a motion, seconded Richard Kratz, authorizing the use of the template letter being sent to the PUC on the issue of their granting Certificates of Public Convenience to companies that install mini-cell towers in the municipal right-of-way. The template letter should be reviewed and changes made, if necessary, before being submitted to the PUC. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES:** The treasurer reviewed the receipts and expenditures for the month of April. After review of same, Richard Kratz made a motion, seconded by Dean Becker, to authorize payment of the April bills. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 5-0.

### **SUPERVISORS COMMENTS:**

Gordon MacElhenney commented on the funding of police. Due to the financial constraints of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the legislature and/or Governor may push for those municipalities that use the PA State Police for police coverage to share in the cost of providing police services. If this should happen, then the operating expenses for the Township and the taxes to cover those expenses will substantially increase.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned upon motion made by Richard Kratz and seconded by Dean Becker.