



## PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Cecile Daniel, Township Manager  
David Allebach in place of Kenneth Picardi,  
Township Solicitor  
Kevin Conrad, Township Engineer  
Shawn Motsavage, Road Master

William Patterson called the September 6, 2016 meeting of the Perkiomen Township Board of Supervisors to order. Mr. Patterson informed the public that there was an Executive Session before this meeting to discuss Personnel Issues regarding Township Employees.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the August 2, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved upon motion of Richard Kratz and seconded by Janet Heacock. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Dean Becker abstained as he was not present at the August meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Cecile Daniel informed the Board that the Township received the regular monthly reports.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Schwenksville Borough: Schwenksville Borough has requested a formal response regarding the installation of three street lights on the new 73/Skipack Bridge. Dean Becker explained to the Board that Gib William, Schwenksville Borough's member to the Central Perkiomen Valley Regional Planning Commission, was working with PennDOT on the installation of street lights on the 73/Skipack Bridge. According to Mr. Becker, the reason for the installation of these street lights was a result of the pedestrian walkway that is to be constructed on this bridge as part of the rehabilitation project. PennDOT is requiring a letter indicating municipal responsibility for these street lights. Schwenksville Borough contacted Perkiomen Township because the

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73/Skippack Bridge is located just inside the border of the Township between the two municipalities. As a result, Schwensville Borough is requesting a letter from Perkiomen Township stating that the Board is all right with the Borough working with PennDOT on the decision of the installation of three street lights to be located on this bridge and that the Borough would be responsible to install, maintain, and operate these three street lights. Upon discussion of the request of Schwensville Borough, Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock authorizing a letter be sent to Schwensville Borough indicating that the Board of Supervisors has no objection to the Borough working with PennDOT on the decision of the installation of the three street lights on the 73/Skippack Bridge and that the Board finds it acceptable for the Borough to install, maintain and operate said street lights at no cost to Perkiomen Township. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

2. Montgomery County Association of Township Officials (MCATO) Fall Convention: Due to the schedule of the Board members, no one will be able to attend the Fall Convention of MCATO.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** David Allebach was present in place of Kenneth Picardi. Solicitor Allebach informed the Board that, in addition to other items to report as part of the agenda, settlement of 74 Gravel Pike took place on Friday, September 2, 2016.

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:**

- **POLICE REPORT:** The Board was in receipt of the PA State Police Report for August.
- **TRAPPE AMBULANCE** – Received July & August, 2016 Report.
- **PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION** – Received August, 2016 Report.
- **PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP FIRE COMPANY:** John Moran, Jr., submitted the report of the Fire Company.
- **FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT:** John Moran, Sr. submitted to the Board the Fire Marshall's Report dated September 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of August.

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**ROAD MASTER’S REPORT:** Shawn Motsavage submitted to the Board his Road Master’s Report dated September 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of August.

In addition to his report, Mr. Motsavage reported on the award of the Snow & Ice Removal Bids for 2016/2017. Mr. Motsavage informed the Board that he received three bids for the Snow & Ice Removal. Based upon the bids received, Mr. Motsavage recommended Zone 1: Lenhart Contractor and Zone 2: Buck Enterprises. The Board reviewed Mr. Motsavage’s memo of September 2, 2016. Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz accepting Mr. Motsavage’s recommendation and awarded the 2016/2017 Snow & Ice Removal Bid as follows: Zone 1: Lenhart Contractor and Zone 2: Buck Enterprises. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

- 539 Gravel Pike: Mr. Moran submitted to the Board an updated Property Maintenance Report. In addition to that report, Mr. Moran brought the Board up to date on the issues for 539 Gravel Pike. Mr. Moran informed the Board that all the tenants signed the Hold Harmless Statement. Therefore, based upon the decision at the August Board Meeting, the vacate date is now September 17, 2016. After receipt of the signed Hold Harmless Statements from the tenants, Mr. Moran notified the property owners of the revised vacate date for the tenants located at this property.
- H&K Group: Application: Mr. Moran informed the Board that H&K Group filed an application to the Zoning Hearing Board for variances and an application to the Board for Conditional Use. Both of these applications cover issues dealing with the disturbance of steep slopes. Presently, SSM Group is in the process of reviewing both applications. Ms. Daniel indicated that the Conditional Use Application is listed for discussion for the September Planning Commission Meeting. For the application before the ZHB, the Board discussed the need for the Township Solicitor, Township Engineer, and Township Manager to be in attendance at this public hearing. Dean Becker was of the opinion that the attendance of these individuals was not necessary as the Zoning Hearing Board members were capable of thinking through the issues on the disturbance of steep slopes in handling this application. The other members felt

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that there may be issues the Township Engineer may want the Zoning Hearing Board to consider in their deliberations, therefore, these individuals should be in attendance at the upcoming public hearing. It was agreed that these individuals will not be in attendance to support or oppose the application of H&K Group. Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by William Patterson authorizing the attendance of the following at the public hearing before the ZHB on September 28, 2016 for the application of H&K Group: Township Solicitor, Township Engineer, and Township Manager. The attendance of these individuals is for the purpose of supporting the recommendations of the Township Engineer on the H&K Group ZHB Application. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 4-1. YES: Richard Kratz, William Patterson, Janet Heacock, & Gordon MacElhenney; NO: Dean Becker

Regarding the Conditional Use Application of H&K Group, Richard Kratz made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to set a public hearing date for this application for Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

**PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:** Cecile Daniel reported that there was a Planning Commission Meeting held on August 16, 2016, at which time, the Planning Commission continued to revise and refine the proposed Wireless Communication Facilities Ordinance for the Township.

**LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY:** Richard Kratz informed the Board that Shannondell Inc., has filed a lawsuit against Lower Providence Township Sewer Authority and the LPVRSa over the issue of the purchase of sewer capacity.

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

1. 2016 Road Project: Mr. Conrad informed the Board that the contractor for the 2016 Road Project was issued the Certificate of Substantial Completion.
2. 202 Gravel Pike: The Board was in receipt of the Asbestos and Histoplasmosis Report for the building located at 202 Gravel Pike. The report stated that the samples taken were absent of Histoplasmosis, therefore this was no longer an issue. As to the issue of asbestos, the results indicate that asbestos was found in the building, therefore, should the decision be made to remove the buildings, the asbestos would

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have to be removed in according with the regulations. The discussion continued as follows:

Richard Kratz stated that there were three matters that he wanted to voice concern about. It was Mr. Kratz's opinion that the Board had yet to make decisions regarding these matters.

- (1) Banyacsky Property – Mr. Kratz was of the viewpoint that discussion of the possible purchase of the Banyacsky Property was not settled. The other Board members thought that this issue was settled based upon the response received from Mrs. Banyacsky's attorney.
- (2) Intersection of Route 29 and Route 113 – Mr. Kratz questioned why money was spent on a traffic study at the intersection of Route 29 and Route 113, when the majority of the Board are of the viewpoint that the Township is not going to spend Township money on road improvements at this intersection as both of these roads are PennDOT roads. The objective for this traffic study was to update the previous traffic study completed in 2003; thereby, updating and developing possible road improvements to this intersection prior to submitting the traffic study to PennDOT. The updated traffic study was then forwarded to PennDOT and Montgomery County Planning Commission to facilitate getting the road improvements listed on PennDOT's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- (3) 202 Gravel Pike – Mr. Kratz asked about the matter regarding the future of the structures located at 202 Gravel Pike. Ms. Daniel indicated that SSM Group completed the Structural Observation Report. A copy of this report was given to the Board. The report was based upon the visual observations by SSM Group and reported on the number of structural repairs that would be needed for the structures located at 202 Gravel Pike. The report listed an estimated cost to make those repairs as well as an estimated cost to take the structures down. The Board had a discussion on the future of the structures located on 202 Gravel Pike. Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Gordon MacElhenney that the structures located at 202 Gravel Pike be taken down subject to receipt from SSM Group of a Confirmation of Services regarding this work. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 3-2. YES – Dean Becker, William Patterson, & Gordon MacElhenney; NO: Janet Heacock & Richard Kratz

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**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. Winter Traffic Services Agreement: Cecile Daniel explained that Perkiomen Township has an agreement with PennDOT on snow and ice removal for Haldeman Road and Schwenksville Road. Since the Township has taken ownership of Haldeman Road, the Winter Traffic Services Agreement needs to be amended. Resolution 2016-22, which approves the amended agreement by deleting Haldeman Road, was before the Board for review. Richard Kratz made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to approve Resolution 2016-22; thereby approving the amended Winter Traffic Services Agreement by the deletion of Haldeman Road. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.
  
2. Lodal Creek Park: Cecile Daniel informed the Board that the Road Crew continues to work on the removal of the old tennis courts and installation of the basketball courts at the Lodal Creek Park. As part of this project, the ADA Accessibility Ramp needs to be installed. SSM Group has prepared plans for this accessibility ramp and a cost estimate. This cost estimate is based upon the ramp being constructed using either concrete or macadam. It was suggested by SSM Group to bid this work out using both types of material to see what the cost difference would be. Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz authorizing the bidding of the ADA Accessibility Ramp with the work being accomplished by using either concrete or macadam to find out what the cost difference would be in constructing the ramp. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.
  
3. Betcher Road/Trappe Borough: Cecile Daniel informed the Board that a meeting was held between Perkiomen Township, Trappe Borough, and Collegeville Trappe Municipal Authority (CTMA). The purpose for this meeting was to discuss the timing of the water line that CTMA proposes to install in Betcher Road and the overlay of Betcher Road. CTMA is looking to install this water line in the spring of 2017. At this meeting, the Township was informed that this proposed water line would begin at the Elementary School on Route 113, travel down Route 113 to the old Betcher Road, travel down the old Betcher Road to the existing Betcher Road and end at Nicolas Drive. Trappe Borough would like to move forward on the overlay of Betcher Road in 2017. With CTMA installing the water line in the spring, there should be enough time to overlay Betcher Road. In anticipation of completing the overlay of Betcher Road in 2017, Trappe Borough would like to move forward on an agreement regarding the splitting of costs for this work. The Board was willing to

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move forward with including this work in the 2017 Road Project for Perkiomen Township. In anticipation of this road project, Ms. Daniel reminded the Board that road inspection is set for September 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

4. Street Lights: Cecile Daniel explained that she filed the Application for Electric Service with PECO as discussed at the August meeting. PECO responded by informing the Township that the highest lumens that could be used to replace the existing 9500 sodium vapor lamps is 16000 lumens due to the street lights using colonial heads. The Board had no issue with changing the application to the 16000 lumens.
  
5. 74 Gravel Pike: Cecile Daniel informed the Board that, after the discussion at the August meeting, Daniel Schempp investigated the connection of the proposed new twin home to the existing sewer main located in Gravel Pike. Unfortunately, there is an issue with the grade in connecting the new twin home to this sewer line. Consequently, Mr. Schempp is investigating making the connection from the rear of the proposed twin home. If this is the path Mr. Schempp chooses, then he will need to deal with the issue of the steep slopes that are located behind the proposed twin home.

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

**SUPERVISORS COMMENTS**

Richard Kratz informed the other Board members that he would like to construct a memorial for those individuals who served in the armed services. Mr. Kratz informed the other Board members that he has been working with Nancy Gaugler and Ronald Oelschlager on this project. Mr. Oelschlager added that the idea is to create a memorial garden for veterans. Mr. Kratz indicated that he hopes to work with some of the local companies to assist in paying for this project. Mr. Oelschlager added that they have contacted the area Federal Representative as well as the Local State Senator and State Representative for possible financial assistance. Mr. Kratz explained where this project is being proposed on the Township's property near the Township Administration Building. The area where this project is proposed will require the removal of the old handicapped parking space which is no longer needed as it was replaced by two other

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handicapped parking space located in another area of the parking lot. The other Board members thought that this was a worthwhile project and had no issue with the removal of the old handicapped parking space.

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