



PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 1, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Becker, Chairman
William Patterson, Vice-Chairman
Vivian Schoeller, 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

CALL TO ORDER: Dean Becker called to order the October 1, 2019 Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Dean Becker informed the public that the Board held an Executive Session prior to this meeting for the purpose of discussing a Real Estate Matter.

CONSENT AGENDA: Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by William Patterson to approve the consent agenda items as follows: a) Minutes: September 3, 2019; b) Monthly Reports: Ambulance Reports, Perkiomen Township Fire Company and Fire Marshall Reports; c) Financial Matters: Authorize for Payment of Bills for September in the amount of \$79,426.41 and the Treasurer's Report to be placed on file for audit. The PA State Police Report was removed from the Consent Agenda because the Board had not received the report as of this meeting. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE: Cecile Daniel informed the Board that she received the following correspondence:

❖ PSATS News Bulletin: September 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

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OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ Perkiomen Valley Library: Aileen Johnson, Branch Library Manager, of the Perkiomen Valley Library was present to update and discuss with the Board the Level of Services the library provides to residents of Perkiomen Township. Also present were Carol Ewing, of the Perkiomen Valley Library, and Kathy Arnold-Yerger, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Norristown Public Library. The women also explained the building improvements being made to the library. One project involved the restoration and renovation of the walls. This project involves more work than originally anticipated. In order to keep the library open while the renovations are being made, the contractor will need to construct interior walls. This will allow the workers to work between the two walls. The renovation project needs to be completed to address structural issues. The project is expected to take six to eight weeks and will cost approximately \$200,000. Presently, the project is scheduled to begin this week. Perkiomen Township's annual contribution has been \$10,000. Due to this renovation project, the women asked whether the Board would be willing to increase that donation by \$1,000 making the donation total for 2020 \$11,000. Mrs. Arnold-Yerger explained that a patron of the library has indicated a willingness to match every dollar raised for this project up to \$25,000. Richard Kratz, a resident in the Township, asked if the Board would be willing to contribute \$25,000 for this project to be matched by the library patron. After this discussion, the Board thanked the library representatives for their attendance and for updating the Board on the library's activities and finances. The Board will consider the information when preparing the 2020 Perkiomen Township Budget.

- ❖ Vincent Tulio: Vincent Tulio and his attorney, Carl Weiner, were present to discuss with the Board Mr. Tulio's Application to the Perkiomen Township Zoning Hearing Board for property Mr. Tulio owns at 320 Gravel Pike in the Village of Rahns. Mr. Weiner explained his client is seeking variances to renovate and convert the existing house from a single-family structure to a twin. In addition, Applicant is proposing to take down the existing barn and build a new two-family structure behind the existing residence. After meeting with the Planning Commission, Applicant agreed to change the plan and remove the variance requests for building coverage and impervious coverage. To accomplish this, the second building will be made slightly smaller and the parking area will be reduced in size. Both buildings will be architecturally the same to what is existing now. Mr. Tulio indicated that, should the Zoning Hearing Board deny the two variances that are still needed, he will move on to another project. Mr. Tulio explained that he looked at the financial cost for doing less than four units. Based upon the work that needs to be completed, he needs the four units to cover the cost of the work. In addition, Mr. Tulio indicated these four units would be rented, and he has no intention of flipping or selling the property. Richard Kratz indicated

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that creating the VCR-1 District years ago was not a good decision. He believes that allowing four units to be built on this property would be grossly inappropriate. The creation of the VCR-1 District just allowed for the development of more rental units in the Village of Rahns. It was Mr. Kratz's opinion that what is being proposed for this property will not be an asset to the Township. The owner should either renovate the existing single-family home or take it down. Mr. Tulio explained the type of renovations he has completed in other surrounding areas. Adam Doyle questioned whether Mr. Tulio had pictures to show the work completed at his other properties. Mr. Tulio indicated he did not bring any photos of his other properties to this meeting. Having discussed the Zoning Hearing Board Application for Vincent Tulio, Dean Becker asked for a motion to take No Action on this application and let the Zoning Hearing Board do its job. William Patterson made a motion to take no action. There was no second to Mr. Patterson's motion; therefore, the motion does not come to the Board for a vote. Dean Becker then asked for a motion in opposition to Mr. Tulio's application and to authorize the Township Solicitor to attend the public hearing in opposition. Janet Heacock made that motion, which was seconded by William Patterson. Janet Heacock and William Patterson voted YES. Vivian Schoeller and Dean Becker voted NO. The motion is not approved; therefore, the motion failed.

MCATO Convention: The Fall Convention of the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials is scheduled for October 4, 2019. Unfortunately, no one can attend this convention due to schedule conflicts.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Picardi was present at the meeting and submitted his written report to the Board of Supervisors. In addition, Mr. Picardi updated the Board on the following:

- ❖ Perkiomen Valley School District: Solicitor Picardi informed the Board that the changes he made to the Amendment to the 2004 Traffic Signal Escrow Agreement between Perkiomen Township and PVSD, as discussed at the September meeting, were acceptable to the School District's Solicitor. There was one additional change made by the School District's Solicitor which, Solicitor Picardi found satisfactory. It was the recommendation of Solicitor Picardi to approve the latest version of this Agreement. Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to approve the Addendum to 2004 Traffic Signal Escrow Agreement between Perkiomen Township and Perkiomen Valley School District. 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 written Road Master's Report dated October 1, 2019, for activities occurring during the month of September.

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- ❖ In addition to his report, Mr. Motsavage informed the Board that the 2019/2020 Snow and Ice Removal Project was rebid. He received and reviewed the bids for the rebid project. Based upon the bids received, Mr. Motsavage recommended that Zone 1 be awarded to Lenhart Contractors and Zone 2 to P.K. Moyer and Sons. After review of the recommendation of Mr. Motsavage, William Patterson made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to award the 2019/2020 Snow and Ice Removal Bid as follows:
Zone 1: Lenhart Contractors and Zone 2: P.K. Moyer and Sons. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: John Moran, Jr. submitted to the Board his written Code Enforcement report dated October 1, 2019, for activities that occurred during the month of September.

PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Cecile Daniel reported that the Planning Commission discussed the Zoning Hearing Board application filed by Vincent Tulio. The Planning Commission also reviewed the proposed changes in the Township's Zoning Ordinance. The proposed re-adoption of the Township's Zoning Ordinance will include these changes. Under the PA Municipal Planning Code, the Board is required to hold a public hearing on this re-adoption. Based on the Code requirements, it was Ms. Daniel's recommendation that the Board schedule a public hearing for Tuesday, December 17, 2019. Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by William Patterson to set the public hearing for the re-adoption of the Township's Zoning Ordinance to Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 7:00 pm. There were no public comments. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

PARK AND RECREATION REPORT: Vivian Schoeller updated the Board on the activities of the Park & Recreation Committee. For Lodal Creek Park, the Committee is looking into bathrooms. There was an Eagle Scout at the last meeting and discussed with the Committee nature trails for the Highland and Mayberry Road Properties. Huber Property discussed a dog park and installation of a facility for the Road Crew to house the equipment to maintain the open space.

LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY: Dean Becker informed the Board that there was no new information discussed at the LPVRS meeting.

ENGINEERS REPORT: Kevin Conrad reported on the following:

1. Lodal Creek Park: At the September meeting, SSM requested and was authorized to obtain quotes for the two options discussed for the guide rail along Bridge Street near the recently installed playground in Lodal Creek Park. Option 1 is a standard wooden

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rail and Option 2 is the same, but with a band of steel attached to the back of the wooden rail. In his letter of September 25, 2019, Mr. Szeredai informed the Board that he submitted requests for quotes to four companies. Of the four only Collinson, Inc. and Long Fence, Co. Inc. responded. The quotes from both companies for both options were higher than the public bidding threshold of \$20,600. This requires that the installation of the guide rail for either option be publicly bid. The Board discussed which of the options to bid. Option 2 included steel back rails. Due to this inclusion, the Board favored going with Option 2. The Board authorized SSM to proceed with Option 2 and incorporate the installation of the steel backed rail timber guiderail into the 2020 Road Project.

2. Schoolhouse Run Bridge and Channel Work: SSM met with the property owners regarding the granting of the temporary easement for the channel work that needs to be completed at the School House Run Bridge. In consideration of granting this temporary easement, the property owners requested removal of a large sycamore tree to provide access to their property while the project is being completed. The Board discussed the request of the property owner and agreed to add the removal of the property owner's sycamore tree to the scope of this project in exchange for the temporary easement.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Sterling Act: The Sterling Act was passed in 1932 and requires non-residents who work in Philadelphia, but do not live there, to pay the Philadelphia Wage Taxes. There is nothing in the Sterling Act that compels Philadelphia to remit the 1% Earned Income Tax back to the municipality where they live. MCATO has submitted a proposed Resolution for the Board's consideration that is an attempt to begin a process by getting the local representatives to change the Sterling Act. The Board deliberated the request of MCATO. Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Vivian Schoeller to adopt Resolution 2019-18 – Requesting an amendment to the Sterling Act to require that up to one percent of the Philadelphia Wage Tax paid to the city of Philadelphia by residents of Perkiomen Township be remitted back to the Township. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.
2. 2019 Audit: Ms. Daniel reported that she received the proposal from Dreslin and Company to complete the 2019 Perkiomen Township and Fire Company Audit. The proposal represents an increase of \$450.00 to complete the 2019 audit (audit of Perkiomen Township: \$15,900 and Perkiomen Township Fire Company: \$1,750). As required by the Township Code, the intent to use Dreslin and Company to complete the 2019 Township and Fire Company audit must be advertised for 30 days. Since the Board usually makes this decision at the January Meeting, Ms. Daniel requested

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permission to advertise its intent to consider making this appointment at that meeting. The Board reviewed the proposal and William Patterson made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock accepting the proposal and authorizing the advertisement of the Board's intent to utilize the services of Dreslin and Company to complete the 2019 Perkiomen Township and Fire Company Audit at the January 2020 Board of Supervisors' Meeting. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

3. Grinder Pump Ordinance: Kevin Conrad explained the PADEP clarified its position regarding mandating the designation of the use of a single grinder pump for those residents that install said pumps. Based upon the input from PADEP, the Municipal Authority Members are in the process of creating a broader policy on the use of grinder pumps by the residents of the Township. This policy would change the requirements and the standards details which would govern a property owner's installation and use of a grinder pump besides the hydromatic pump. This change in policy will require adoption, by the Township, of a new Ordinance governing the procedures for the installation, use and maintenance of grinder pumps. David Allebach, Solicitor for the Perkiomen Township Municipal Authority, has prepared a new Ordinance for the Board's attention. Ms. Daniel explained to the Board that the propose Ordinance needs to be advertised for consideration at the November Meeting. Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock authorizing the advertisement of Ordinance No. 233 titled – Establishing Procedures for the Installation, Use and Maintenance of Sewage Grinder Pumps and Associated Force Mains or Low-Pressure Laterals. This Ordinance will be considered by the Board at the November 6, 2019 Meeting. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

There being no further business, the October public meeting was adjourned upon motion of Vivian Schoeller and seconded by William Patterson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cecile M. Daniel

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Township Manager