

**East Pikeland Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting
February 5, 2019**

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Pikeland Township was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at the Township Building, 1158 Rapps Dam Road, Kimberton. Present were Chairman Ron Graham, Vice Chairman Rusty Strauss and Township Manager Kim Moretti. Supervisor Ben Campbell was absent.

Mr. Graham called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Minutes

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve the January 7, 2019 Reorganization meeting minutes and the January 2017, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes. Mr. Graham seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Correspondence

Request from French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust to sponsor the annual Iron Tour bicycling event. *Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve a \$250 sponsorship of the French & Pickering Creeks Iron Tour event. Mr. Graham seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Letter from Kris Jommersbach, Majority Inspector for township Voting Precinct 515 (Kimberton Fire Co.) informing the Board that the Kimberton Fire Co. has asked that the voting location be changed to one of the fire company out buildings. Kris asked the Board if they would ask Kimberton Fire Co. to reconsider this action. *Mr. Graham made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Strauss, to direct the Township Manager to contact the Kimberton Fire Company and ask them to consider keeping the voting location in the current location. Motion passed unanimously.*

Department Reports

Township Manager – Kim Moretti reported that January is a busy month in the office with year-end reports due to State agencies and auditors in the office working on the 2018 financial report. Among other reports, she prepared and submitted the annual Certified Local Government report to PHMC. She and Jim Garrison from the Historical Commission attended a site meeting with PennDOT on Merlin Road at the bridge over Pigeon Run that is scheduled to be replaced. The current bridge is one-lane and structurally deficient. Kim and Jim expressed their concerns with the bridge design and its impact on a Historic District, natural features and traffic safety. PennDOT will continue to communicate their plans to the township.

Public Works – Posted

Police Department – Chief Wilson provided Police Department Statistics for January, where they responded to 233 complaints, including 1 theft, 2 DUIs, 2 drug arrests, and 5 felony/misdemeanor arrests. There were 10 accidents and 15 traffic citations issued. Chief Wilson acknowledged the loss of former township police officer Bill Kelly, who passed away earlier this week.

West End Ambulance – Capt. John Osborne reported that they responded to 73 ambulance calls in January, which is up by 20 calls from last January. He announced the following training programs that would be offered, at no cost, to the public:

- CPR and Stop the Bleed training on February 19
- Stop the Bleed training on March 19
- CPR training on May 21

All training is held at Valley Forge Fire Company and begins at 6pm.

Open Space Report – Stock Illoway provided highlights from the Open Space Committee for 2018. Volunteers continue to reach out to property owners to explain the open space goals. A database of potential open space parcels has been created for better tracking of activity. Appraisals were obtained for several properties. Joint meetings were held with the Open Space Committee and the Park & Rec Board to discuss trails, parks, trail connections and preservation of natural areas. The committee discussed preserving the township-owned Graham property and investigated the viability of a municipal bond that would provide funding for possible acquisition projects.

Mr. Graham responded to the report by stating that currently 23% of land in the township is under protective easements, in large part due to the efforts of Stock Illoway, whom the township is fortunate to have as a resident.

Planning Commission Report – John Schott reported that Ed Cooley, long-time member of the Planning Commission has resigned. The Planning Commission interviewed three very good candidates to fill the vacancy and made a recommendation that the Board appoint Kersten Appler. Other activities include review of a minor subdivision plan on Church Road; review of a sketch plan for the Mattiola property on Merlin Road and input into the sidewalk plan for the 724 corridor. The Planning Commission has also had discussion on the LERTA district, the provisions of which expire in December 2020. Members met with the school district to discuss extending LERTA beyond 2020, but the school district has felt a negative impact from the tax abatement process due to a gap between plan approval and property reassessment at the County level. Mr. Graham stated that he feels it is critical that the township keep the 724 corridor in a LERTA district in order to promote redevelopment. He asked John Schott to keep him informed and offered to work with the Planning Commission on addressing their concerns with the Chester County Commissioners.

Old Business

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to approve a new three year Lease Agreement with Wheeler Aman to farm township owned property, commonly referred to as the Graham property.* Mr. Graham seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to enact **ORDINANCE No. 188**, amending the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map relative to the R-3 zoning district, contingent upon the Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee providing a positive review letter of the ordinance for compliance with the revised Regional Comprehensive Plan.* Mr. Graham seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to accept the resignation of Kersten Appler from the Open Space Committee, effectively immediately*. Mr. Graham seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Graham made a *MOTION to appoint Kersten Appler to the Planning Commission, effective February 1, 2019*. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Graham made a *MOTION to appoint Ron Hoinowski as the Alternate Representative to the Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee for 2019*. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Graham made a MOTION to approve RESOLUTION 2019-05, granting approval for a Minor Subdivision on Church Road. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion. Prior to a vote on the motion, the subdivision was discussed with John Schott and Adam Brower, engineer for the applicants. There was some question about whether the applicant agreed to the payment of a fee in lieu of open space, or a dedication of open space. Adam Brower thought the conditions for approval were agreed upon between the Planning Commission and the applicant in that they would provide a trail easement and a fee in lieu of open space. John Schott responded that all issues need to be nailed down before Board of Supervisors approval. That being said Mr. Graham withdrew his motion. The applicant must return to the Planning Commission to resolve this issue prior to returning to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Graham made a *MOTION to enact ORDINANCE No. 187, amending Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances to:*

- a. *Revise the speed limit on Pickering Road to 25 mph;*
- b. *Prohibit parking on a section of Hollingsworth Drive.*

Mr. Strauss seconded the MOTION and it passed unanimously. Public Works will be notified to post the appropriate signage.

Discussion

Kimberton Arts Alliance representatives, Jon Gayl and Guy McIntosh, were present to request that the Board approve the sale of alcohol at Kimberton Park during a music festival on June 29th. They stated that in order to conduct a music festival they need sponsorships. The best way to obtain sponsors is through beer and wine vendors, who then want to sell their products at the event. Without alcohol sales and sponsorship, they will be unable to hold a music festival. They expect about 1,000 people to attend and will put controls in place to manage the alcohol consumption. Another option they presented was to sell alcohol on the adjacent Kimberton Whole Foods property and allow it to be brought into the park from there.

Responses from the Board:

Mr. Strauss feels that no alcohol should be served the first year until there is a clear idea of the number of people who will attend this type of event.

Mr. Graham asked how much money they expect to raise from sponsorships. Jon Gayl responded that a one day event would require \$12,500-\$20,000 in sponsorships.

Mr. Graham stated that he is eager to support Kimberton Arts Alliance activities, and the use of the park/amphitheater for a music festival aligns with the township's objective for building the facility. He added, however, that the township ordinances say that no alcohol is allowed in the park. Guy McIntosh responded that the ordinance does allow for alcohol with approval from the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Graham suggested that the event organizers meet with Chief Wilson to discuss the controls they would put in place and then return to the Board of Supervisors in March for additional discussion.

Public Comment

Jim Martin of Central Drive thanked the Board for addressing his concerns about the overgrown stormwater basin behind his home.

Lyn Baker and Bob Terefenko of Meadow Lane were present to express their concerns about the loud music from the church located inside the former bowling alley on Schuylkill Road. Mr. Graham responded that the township noise ordinance is not designed to address this type of issue. Chief Wilson stated that they have occasionally had noise complaints about this property and have found the church members to be reasonable. She suggested that at the time the music is loud that the neighbors contact the police and they will respond. Mr. Terefenko stated that there is also a large pile of construction debris behind the building and he is concerned about it being a fire hazard. The Zoning Officer will be directed to follow up on the complaint.

Announcements

Mr. Graham stated that he and Mr. Strauss both attended a non-township meeting together and no township business was discussed.

Mr. Strauss announced that the Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee will hold a Public Workshop on February 27 at 7pm to present the updated Phoenixville Regional Comprehensive Plan. The meeting will be held at Phoenixville Borough Hall.

Mrs. Moretti announced that there are volunteer vacancies on both the Park & Recreation Board and the Open Space Committee and encouraged anyone interested in volunteering for the township to contact township staff.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Submitted by,
Kimberly Moretti, Township Manager