

**East Pikeland Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting
August 4, 2020**

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Pikeland Township was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was duly advertised and held electronically through the Zoom application via telephone and the internet. Present online were Chairman Ron Graham, Vice Chairman Rusty Strauss, Supervisor Ben Campbell, and Township Manager Kim Moretti.

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

Minutes

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve the July 7, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Department Reports

Township Manager – Mrs. Moretti reported that in July the township saw an uptick in the number of building permit questions and applications. She participated in webinars on residential stormwater management, partnering with police, and the impact of COVID on township revenues. She met with the archaeology consultant who had prepared the Phase 1 Archaeological survey of the Crouse property. The artifacts found on the property will be used for display and education purposes. She attended a virtual Valley Forge Sewer Authority meeting and a PennDOT pre-construction meeting for the Route 113/Coldstream Road intersection.

Mrs. Moretti announced the dates of two upcoming public meetings: September 9th will be a presentation of the master site plan for the Hidden River Park & Preserve (Crouse property) project. October 1 will be a presentation of the plans for the Ridge Road open space. The decision on whether to hold live or virtual meetings has not yet been determined.

Police Department – Sgt. Joe Heyman provided Police Department statistics for July 2020 including: 211 complaints, with 1 assault (domestic issue), 1 burglary, 2 thefts (with an arrest), 3 DUIs, 6 felony/misdemeanors, and 1 criminal mischief incident. They issued 3 traffic citations and responded to 13 accidents. Officers participated in training on racial bias, use of force, ethics and community relations.

West End Ambulance – Asst. Chief Osborne reported that ambulance calls are trending down as compared to 2019 with 67 calls in June and 62 calls in July in East Pikeland Township. Total calls for the year are 431. They have hired 3 new paramedics and 2 EMTs and have unfortunately stopped public education programs due to COVID. They are in the process of pricing out new ambulances. Mr. Campbell asked about the average number of miles on an ambulance before it is retired. Chief Osborne estimated 100,000 miles and can provide better data at the next meeting.

Kimberton Fire Company – Asst. Chief Doug Gable reported 41 fire responses for July, including: 20 in East Pikeland. The drive-by donut day on July 25th was a huge success with 968 dozen donuts sold out in just over an hour. They plan another sale on August 15th. Calls during the August 4th storm kept volunteers busy all day.

Environmental Advisory Council – Dennis Ray reported that the EAC is compiling trash hauler data to create a recycling education plan. They are reinvestigating the single trash hauler program and are discussing how to create a nature education program for the French Creek Trail. Dennis reported that several municipalities are collaborating to form the Phoenixville Area Clean Energy Alliance and plan to apply for a Chester County Vision Partnership Planning grant to hire a consultant to create an energy transition plan. The grant application is due at the end of September. The deliverables of the grant project would be: municipal energy audits and analysis, recommendations to municipalities on ordinance changes relative to renewable energy, stakeholder identification and interviews, and developing educational materials for stakeholders. The project is estimated to be \$80,000 with the cost to each municipality based on the number of municipalities that participate. To date no municipality has committed, but Schuylkill Township and West Vincent are strongly considering. If 3 municipalities participate the cost to each will be \$5,700.

After discussion, Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to authorize East Pikeland Township to proceed with a Vision Partnership Program grant application to fund an Energy Transition Plan conditioned upon a minimum of three municipalities' participation in the project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strauss and passed unanimously. Michelle Rubin explained that a formal grant resolution would be required in September if they can get other municipalities on board.

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to appoint Rusty Strauss and Dennis Ray to represent East Pikeland Township on the Phoenixville Area Clean Energy Alliance Oversight Board. Mr. Strauss seconded motion and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve **RESOLUTION 2020-12**, granting final approval to a revised plan for the **Flowing Springs-Rapps Dam Subdivision**. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve **RESOLUTION 2020-11**, authorizing submission of a **Bus Shelter Agreement with PennDOT** relative to the Route 724 Sidewalk Project. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to authorize execution of a **Sidewalk Easement Agreement** with Frederick Falini for 454 Schuylkill Road. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to authorize execution of a **Sidewalk Easement Agreement** with Electric Properties, LP for 450 Schuylkill Road. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Moretti explained that the three previous motions were all in relation to the Route 725 Corridor Sidewalk project and that there are only two easement agreements needed as most of the work will be done within the PennDOT right-of-way.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to authorize advertisement for a public hearing to consider a zoning amendment for solar and wind energy. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Discussion

The Low Impact/Sustainability presentation by the Planning Commission was tabled until the September Board of Supervisors meeting.

Altair Development, Kimberton Village – Adam Supplee, land planner representing Altair, had hoped to discuss the low impact development draft ordinance, but since the Planning Commission members put their presentation on hold for this meeting he informed the Board that Altair would like to see the ordinance move forward. Joel Bartlett echoed this comment and asked the Board what the next steps are for this ordinance.

Mr. Graham responded that they had hoped to hear from the Planning Commission and Ed Latshaw on this issue, but weather issues interfered with their presentation. It will be further discussed at the September 1st Board of Supervisors meeting. Until that time, no further action on the ordinance will be taken.

Public Comment

None

Announcements

Mr. Strauss announced that he has been contacted by the Phoenixville Area School District to serve on a committee to investigate how to provide widespread internet service throughout the district to support remote education.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kimberly Moretti
Township Manager