

**East Pikeland Township  
Board of Supervisors Meeting  
August 15, 2017**

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Pikeland Township was held on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at the Township Building, 1158 Rapps Dam Road, Kimberton. Present were Chairman Ron Graham, Vice Chairman Rusty Strauss, Supervisor Ben Campbell and Township Manager Kim Moretti.

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

**Presentation**

Chairman Graham presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Eagle Scout Mark Less, from Troop 158 Kimberton, and thanked him for his hard work on the French Creek Trail.

**Minutes**

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve the July 11, 2017 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Correspondence**

Mrs. Moretti reported on the following correspondence:

- Letter from PA Attorney General Josh Shapiro in response to Resolution 2017-13 expressing his support for congressional redistricting.
- Letter from resident Robert Patton asking the township to address site distance safety issue at Merlin and Coldstream Roads.

Mrs. Moretti informed the Board that both Merlin and Coldstream Roads are State roads and PennDOT would need to grant permission to install stop signs at the intersection. She suggested that the East Pikeland Police Department conduct a traffic study prior to making a request to PennDOT. Mr. Graham added that site distance is a problem at this intersection and should be addressed by asking the corner property owners to remove more foliage.

- Notification from the PA Liquor Control Board of an application for a Brewery License from Rebel Hill Brewing LLC. No action required by the township.

**Department Reports**

**Township Manager** – Mrs. Moretti reported that she has been working with the new Community Resources Coordinator, Michelle Stewart, to orient her on open space, park and recreation, and environmental projects in the township. The annual Historic Walking Tour was held on August 3rd with about 200 participants. The Kimberton Park amphitheater will be the site of a rain garden. A rain garden workshop and planting day will be held on October 21 with the public invited to participate. September 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date of the Outdoor Movie Night and also an Electronic Recycling Day to be held in conjunction with East Vincent Township. Emergency Management has asked that farm gates be installed on Pickering Road to prevent vehicles on the road when flooded.

Mrs. Moretti is applying for a grant for those gates. The summer intern from West Chester worked on the MS4 program – including producing GIS mapping; preparing a mailing about streambank erosion along the Stony Run that was sent to homeowners along the waterway; preparing a mailing to HOAs on inspection of stormwater facilities and preparing environmental education packets to send to teachers. Mrs. Moretti also reported that she and members of the Planning Commission have been attending Route 724 Coalition meetings organized by the Chester County Economic Development Council to discuss the needs of municipalities along the corridor relative to attracting business and redevelopment.

Mr. Strauss commented that the French Creek Trail requires maintenance – to address ponding on the trail and vegetation management. Mrs. Moretti will follow-up with Public Works.

#### Public Works Report – Posted.

Police Department – Chief Wilson reported that during the month of July the Police Department responded to 283 calls, including 1 burglary, 4 motor vehicle thefts, 1 criminal mischief calls, and made 2 DUI arrests. They issued 16 traffic citations and responded to 11 accidents. Chief Wilson clarified that the calls reported figure does not include alarms, vacation and business checks or motor vehicle stops.

The Kimberton Fair was held the last week of July and the police responded to 3 incidents there, including response to fights and intoxication incidents. The Police Department participated in an Emergency Responders Log Sawing Contest and came in second to the Fire Police.

Phoenixville Regional Planning Commission Report – Rusty Strauss reported that the PRPC is continuing to work on updating the regional comprehensive plan. A public meeting was held in June with presentations on different aspects of the plan and encouraged public input. He also reported that the PRPC reviewed a plan for Eland Village to demolish the existing commercial use and construct an apartment complex. The plan was found to be inconsistent with the regional comp plan, however the PRPC is advisory only. Since the property is in Phoenixville Borough they will ultimately decide how the property can be redeveloped.

Jon Gayl asked what the PRPC feels is an appropriate use for Eland Village based on reduced need for retail space and increased need for residential uses. Mr. Strauss responded that the PRPC does not look at the appropriate use; they measure a project against the regional comp plan. This is a mixed-use area in the comp plan where an apartment complex alone was determined to not be appropriate.

#### Old Business

Mrs. Moretti reported that the public comment period is open for the renewal of the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement. She has worked with the township solicitor and Comcast representatives to draft a new 10-year agreement. The Board of Supervisors will consider approval of the agreement at their September meeting.

## **New Business**

Linda Cluck, engineer with LTL Consultants, provided a presentation on the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and the submission of a Pollutant Reduction Plan for the Stony Run watershed. The MS4 program is mandated through Federal and State Clean Water Act regulations. If stormwater is discharged into any waterbody it must be done in a managed way. The Stony Run is considered an impaired stream because of a high concentration of sediments; and therefore requires a Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) be created and implemented within five-years of plan approval by PA DEP. The PRP for the Stony Run will require the township to reduce the sediment load by 10% within that five-year period with the installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that control/manage stormwater. The PRP proposes two types of BMPs – one is a wet bottom pond in an existing wetlands area on Ridge Road in the open space linked to the Kimberton Meadows Subdivision, and the other BMP is 75' of streambank restoration on properties in the northern part of the township with direct access to the Stony Run.

Mr. Graham asked how a wet bottom pond in the proposed location would positively benefit the Stony Run. Linda Cluck responded that there is a tributary of the Stony Run in Kimberton Meadows. The proposed pond would filter stormwater and sedimentation through the wetlands prior to reaching the Stony Run tributary.

Jon Gayl asked if the Kimberton Meadows HOA will need to provide their consent for this proposal. Mrs. Moretti responded that the township will have to take dedication of that open space prior to designing the BMP. Mr. Graham responded that the HOA will be involved in the discussions.

Mr. Strauss asked if BMPs could be included in the proposed Phoenixville Crossing Subdivision. Linda Cluck responded that the calculations used for stormwater facilities on an existing NPDES permit are not as favorable as proposing a new facility.

Ed Cooley asked who would do the work to install BMPs and who would be responsible for the cost. Linda Cluck responded that the MS4 program is an unfunded mandate from the State and Federal governments. There are grants available that may assist, as well as watershed associations that can be helpful. Simple projects can be installed by volunteers or the Public Works Department. Streambank restoration on private properties will require cooperation of the property owners.

Bill LaPorte asked about maintenance requirements and the on-going cost of a wet pond. Linda Cluck responded that there is a maintenance plan provided in the PRP, proposing inspections for erosion and proper drainage and sediment removal every few years, if needed. A wet pond should be low maintenance if built properly. Streambank restoration would also require inspection and maintenance.

Mr. Graham asked for the cost to install these BMPs. Linda Cluck responded that a wet pond, depending on size and design, can cost between \$75,000 and \$150,000. Streambank restoration is estimated at \$1M per mile.

There being no further discussion, *Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to authorize advertisement for a 30-day public comment period for the MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plan for the impaired Stony Run.* Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

Lynne Bakker from Meadow Lane asked that the township take more action on getting the overgrown vegetation removed from the Clark's Auto property at the corner of Schuylkill Road and Mowere Road. She is an adjacent property owner who has met with the township zoning officer and the property manager; but the owner has been unresponsive. Mr. Graham directed the zoning officer to issue a citation to the property owner, with 30 days to comply or the township will do the job and put a lien on the property, which is currently up for sale.

Chris Seruby of West Ruth Avenue asked the Board for some attention to the ineffective swale on Frog Hollow Road that is flooding properties with mud and rocks. Mrs. Moretti commented that the mud and rocks are coming off of a farm field on Ridge Road in East Vincent Township and that East Vincent and the Chester County Conservation District have been made aware of the problem. She will follow up with CCCD for a copy of any report. Mr. Graham stated that he would like to conduct a site visit and asked Chris to call him to set it up.

Bob Terefenko of Meadow Lane reported that while fishing in the French Creek in April and June he noticed muddy water discharging from Mowere Creek into French Creek. Mrs. Moretti reported that the township was made aware of the discharge from the Toll Brothers property, the Conservation District was contacted, and the situation was addressed with additional silt fencing. She will notify the township inspector of the Toll property to insure that controls remain in place.

Tom Schmitt of Sunset Lane expressed concern to the Board about a letter the Kimberton Village Business Association sent to the Board relative to the EcoVillage proposal. He asked if the threat of litigation impacts how the Board of Supervisors will make a decision on the Altair proposal. Mr. Graham responded that the Board of Supervisors bases their decisions on recommendations of the Planning Commission and the health, safety and welfare of the township residents.

Matt Chripto of Sherwood Lane reported that his well water has tasted different since the Toll Brothers project started and is concerned that the construction has contaminated his well. The Board of Supervisors suggested that he have the well water tested. He also expressed concern about the blasting at the Toll site and its impact on the existing gas line. Mr. Graham responded that blasting is heavily regulated and controlled.

### **Announcements**

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Submitted by,  
*Kimberly Moretti, Township Manager*