

**East Pikeland Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting
October 1, 2019**

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Pikeland Township was held on October 1, 2019 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 7:00p.m.

Minutes

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve the September 3, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Department Reports

Township Manager – Kim Moretti reported that the annual Liquid Fuels Audit was conducted by the Auditor General’s office, with no findings. In September she submitted the annual MS4 stormwater report to PA DEP; attended several workshops; met with DCNR representatives for further discussion on a Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for acquisition of the Crouse property; held a meeting with Altair representatives; attended a Kimberton Glen site meeting to discuss Crossover Blvd maintenance; and participated in another Steering Committee meeting for the Crouse Master Site Plan. Mrs. Moretti explained that she has been trying to work with the Adelpia Pipeline representatives to attend a public meeting in the township, but they have refused several times. On the same date as this meeting Adelpia held their own meeting in Collegeville with only impacted property owners invited to attend. The township, as an impacted property owner, could not attend.

Mrs. Moretti announced two upcoming public events:

- Community Visioning Workshop for the Crouse Property Master Plan project – November 6 at 7pm at the Kimberton Fire Co.
- Family Movie Night – Saturday, October 5 at Kimberton Park.

Public Works – Report from Al Cushman was posted.

Police Department – Sgt. Heyman provided statistics for September: 240 complaints, including 3 DUIs, 1 drug arrest, 4 thefts, 1 assault, 1 burglary and 7 felony arrests. There were 13 accidents and 7 traffic citations issued. Officer Corbo held a well-attended “Refuse to be a Victim” program; Officer Weaver participated in a Fall Fest at Yeager’s Farm and attended training on “Care Under Fire” that provided physical and mental training for an active shooter incident.

Sgt. Heyman reported that a speed study had been done on Mowere Road over a two-week period in response to complaints. 30,985 cars were counted going westbound and 27,604 were eastbound during that period. The average speed was 31.3mph on the 25mph posted road. 4% of the drivers were clocked at over 41mph. The Police Department will post the sign board on the road to continue the study and will follow up with enforcement.

Resident Don Szabo responded that the police used to sit on Mowere Road on a regular basis and that seemed to help with the speeding. He suggest the police park a spare car there to deter speeding.

West End Ambulance – Report from John Osborne. 79 calls in September for a total of 670 for the year, which is 35% higher than 2018. West End is participating in Fire Prevention Week programs and will hold a Stop the Bleed program at Kimberton Fire Co. on October 15 at 7pm.

Valley Forge Sewer Authority Update – Bill Laporte, township representative to the VFSA Board of Directors, reported that the Infiltration and Inflow Project (I&I) is on-going in the French Creek Basin. This includes manhole inspections to identify deficiencies and then creating a plan for repairs. They will also work with the township to make sure there are no illegal connections to the sewer system, including rainspout or sump pump connections. On September 5 representatives from VFSA, East Pikeland Township and Schuylkill Township held a meeting at DEP to discuss sewer needs. The VFSA Treatment Plant Agreement allows for use of a rental pool to address sewer capacity needs. DEP suggested that the township undertake a Special Study to outline current needs.

Jon Gayl asked Bill if the I&I project will result in extra capacity. Bill responded that some extra capacity will be made available, but not a lot.

Old Business

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to enact **RESOLUTION 2019-23**, adopting a revised ACT 209 Traffic Impact Fee in the amount of \$1,520. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Carol Thompson asked for an explanation of Act 209. Mr. Graham responded that it is a fee charged to developers based on traffic flow. The funds are earmarked for certain intersection improvements.

Don Szabo asked if Toll had to pay this fee. Mr. Graham responded that Toll improved the intersection of Routes 23 and 724 in lieu of the fee.

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve **Escrow Release No. 2 for Kimberton Glen Phase 2** Active Adult Community in the amount of \$1,049,003.07, as recommended by the township engineer. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell made MOTION to authorize the Township Manager to advertise to hire Barbacane, Thornton & Co. to prepare the 2019 annual financial report. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to appoint Bruce Wunderley to fill a vacancy on the Park & Recreation Board, with term expiring 12/31/20. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to appoint Heidi Ferry to fill a vacancy on the Park & Recreation Board, with term expiring 12/31/19. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve **RESOLUTION 2019-24**, approving a PA DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module application for a small flow treatment facility with discharge to a perennial stream for 1806 Pickering Road. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to enact **ORDINANCE No. 190**, amending Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances to provide for agricultural related activity exemptions from stormwater regulations. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Don Szabo and Ted Barnett complained about mosquitos at the Toll project and how West Nile Virus has been discovered in Chester County. Mrs. Moretti responded that she spoke with Toll representatives about this issue and that they have a contractor treat the stormwater basins on a regular basis. Ted Barnett is concerned about whatever chemical they are using getting into his well water.

Don Szabo also asked why the basins at Toll are not fenced. Ed Latshaw responded that the subdivision plans detail fencing requirements and that all fencing may not yet be installed.

Dave Howard stated that he read an article in InCommunity magazine about right-of-way. He asked who is responsible for inspecting shrubs and trees that are growing in the ROW. Mrs. Moretti responded that the township does not drive around looking for violations. The Zoning Officer relies on the Public Works Crew to let her know the problem areas and then she follows up with enforcement notices. He also said there is a walnut tree on Hares Hill Road that drops walnuts on cars and he feels this is a safety hazard.

Wendy Higgins of Peter deHaven Drive complained about the condition of the roads in her neighborhood due to the tar and chip process. She said there are still a lot of chips and sticky tar that is unsatisfactory. Mrs. Moretti responded that the tar and chip process is a cost savings for the township as opposed to blacktopping and that tar and chip has been used in the township for 10 years. Given time the chips are compacted into the tar and the road will look the same as a blacktopped road. The Public Works Department could rent a roller to further compact any chips. Mr. Graham further commented that different techniques are used on different types of roads in order to spread out maintenance over a longer period. It is an economically good deal. Mrs. Higgins further complained that the neighborhood was given no notice. Mrs. Moretti explained that the contractor arrived to do the job when he was between other jobs and very little

notice was given to the township. All agreed that signs should have been posted in the neighborhood before the project took place.

Greg Doebling of Viola Road reported several issues in his neighborhood, including high grass and parking in the wrong direction on Valley Dell Blvd. Mrs. Moretti will have the Zoning Officer follow up.

Ron Hoinowski ended the meeting on a positive note by thanking the township staff for the Art & Music Festival event on September 28th.

Announcements

Mr. Strauss announced that the November Board of Supervisors meeting has been moved to the second Tuesday of the month, November 12th – due to Election Day.

Jon Gayl announced that there will be a blue grass concert on October 6th at Kimberton Park.

Don Szabo announced that there will be a town hall meeting with nine State Legislators on October 27th in Wyomissing (Reading) area. The topic is HB76, a school property tax elimination bill that would help senior citizens by reducing their tax burden.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Submitted by,
Kimberly Moretti, Township Manager