

**East Pikeland Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting
September 1, 2020**

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Pikeland Township was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was held electronically through 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 7:10 p.m. following a public hearing on a proposed Solar and Wind Energy Ordinance.

Minutes

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve the August 4, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Correspondence

Mrs. Moretti reported that numerous letters, both pro and con, have been received by the township relative to the proposed Kimberton Low Impact Development ordinance. Mr. Graham commented that he appreciates the thoughtful comments; however there is no plan to discuss the ordinance at this meeting.

Department Reports

Township Manager – Mrs. Moretti reported that she will be working on the following projects in September: annual MS4 stormwater report, Liquid Fuels audit, 2021 budget preparation, sewer needs analysis, and a low volume road grant for streambank restoration on Pickering Road. She is working with the township engineer on a project to repair a stone arch bridge on Kimberton Road. She reminded the public to complete their 2020 Census questionnaire by the September 30 deadline; the Township currently has an 81% response rate. She announced that a company, White Tail Disposal, had been in the township soliciting for new customers, but had not obtained a solicitation permit, plus they are not a registered trash hauler in the township at this time.

Mr. Graham asked if the proposed repairs to the Kimberton Road bridge will impact the aesthetics of the historic village and whether a walkway could be considered on the bridge. Mrs. Moretti responded that the repair work will be done underneath the bridge and that the stone walls will be rebuilt/repointed. The only way that a walkway could be incorporated into the bridge is if the bridge is made one-lane, which may have a negative impact on traffic back-up into the Hares Hill Road intersection.

Police Department – Sgt. Joe Heyman provided Police Department statistics for August 2020 including: 241 complaints, with 2 thefts, 1 drug arrest, 3 DUIs, 5 felony/misdemeanors, and 1 criminal mischief incident. They issued 4 traffic citations and responded to 10 accidents. Sgt. Heyman cautioned the public about being more diligent as one of the thefts occurred at Planet Fitness when car keys were stolen out of an unlocked locker. Officers participated in de-escalation training during the month. The speed trailer/sign board has been sent out for repairs.

Luke Crisafulli and Angela Moore of West Seven Stars Road commented that they appreciate the increased police presence on their road.

West End Ambulance – Asst. Chief Osborne reported that there were 204 dispatches in August with 75 of them in East Pikeland Township. Total calls for the year are 1283. They hired 2 new paramedics and 1 EMT, all part-time. Their Board of Directors approved the purchase of a new ambulance. A fund drive mailing will be sent out in November.

Kimberton Fire Company – Asst. Chief Doug Gable reported 62 fire responses for August, including 29 in East Pikeland. Calls during the August 4th storm kept volunteers busy all day. The second drive-by donut day was another success with 1848 dozen donuts sold. A fund drive mailing will be sent out in October. Lynn Schmitt asked if the fire company personnel had received the sample fundraising letter that she submitted. Asst. Chief Gable acknowledged her assistance and said the Board had received her letter.

Planning Commission Report – John Colarusso reported that the Planning Commission has provided comments to Spring City Borough on a proposed subdivision on Hunsberger Road, which is a shared road that East Pikeland Township has traditionally maintained. The Planning Commission is recommending that Spring City Borough take on responsibility for maintaining the road after the subdivision is complete due to the impact of that project on the road. Likewise, the Planning Commission provided comments to Phoenixville Borough on the Odessa tract project that will impact Township Line Road. Additionally, there is concern about the Odessa projects failure to provide road alignment with Crossover Blvd.

Old Business

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve the **2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension Fund** in the amount of \$125,767. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve the **2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation** for the non-uniform pension plan in the amount of \$14,376. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed.

New Business

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to authorize advertisement for bids to repair the bridge on Kimberton Road. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion with unanimous approval.

Based on discussion during the public hearing on the proposed Solar and Wind Energy Ordinance, Mr. Strauss made a motion to table enactment of the ordinance until the Board's October 6, 2020 meeting in order to allow time for additional comments and discussion. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion to table action on the proposed ordinance and the motion carried.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve **RESOLUTION 2020-13**, authorizing a Certificate of Appropriateness for a roof replacement project at 2121 Kimberton Road. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a MOTION to approve **RESOLUTION 2020-14**, authorizing a Certificate of Appropriateness for a commercial sign at 2102 Kimberton Road. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion

John Colarusso made a presentation on Planning Commission activity regarding Sustainability. They have reviewed existing township ordinances to gauge what sustainable provisions are already in place. A previously published sustainability study that listed 50+ regulatory items was used as the guiding principle. The township ranked well relative to the study and set priorities for improvement, including: adoption of a wind/solar power ordinance, amending parking lot provisions, reviewing mixed use (commercial/residential) provisions, and considering a low impact development ordinance for the Kimberton zoning districts. The next steps are for the Planning Commission to continue to compare existing ordinances to the list of 50 sustainability principles, support affordable housing initiatives and promote green building opportunities.

Ed Latshaw added that the Planning Commission has made good progress in identifying sustainable regulations and what might work for the Township. John Schott added that the Planning Commission considers items that have a positive impact on the entire township; not just small sections or limited properties. Examples are the solar/wind ordinance and parking lot regulations.

John Colarusso further explained that the Planning Commission had spent many hours amending the Kimberton zoning in order to make those areas more attractive to developers or existing property owners. The types of uses were expanded and natural feature provisions were relaxed. The proposed Kimberton Low Impact Development ordinance overlay would allow more units in exchange for less impact. At the end of the day, the Planning Commission felt this particular ordinance would have been too extreme.

Rusty Strauss asked if the proposed Kimberton Low Impact Development ordinance could be amended to include the entire township. John Schott responded that the provisions do not apply to other residential zoning districts. Ed Latshaw further responded that there are significant sustainable measures already in place in township ordinances that apply township-wide and he gave the examples of ag preservation, cluster-zoning, conservation development and open space preservation. The KLID was targeted towards having measurable sustainable qualities that could allow for denser development and these provisions would not be appropriate township-wide.

The meeting was then opened for questions/comments. Mr. Graham cautioned meeting participants that the discussion is not specifically about the Altair development or the proposed low impact development ordinance and that comments should be geared towards the sustainability presentation.

Residents Angela Moore, Tom Schmitt, Lynn Schmitt, Kathy Frisco, Lynn Regan, John Vondercrone, and Ed Lochner commented that the proposed low impact development ordinance would have a negative impact on the character of the area due to higher density and decreased property values.

Joel Bartlett, Jane D. and Martha Napolitan commented in favor of the ordinance and the proposed Altair development due to the low environmental impact, preservation of open space and positive impact to the Kimberton business community.

Adam Supplee implored the Board of Supervisors to be a leader in sustainable development by considering the proposed low impact development ordinance. He understands that density is a concern, but the proposed ordinance presents a balance with benefits in energy saving opportunities, low impact on schools and walkability.

Other residents commented that the virtual meeting format is restrictive for providing public input. Mr. Graham responded that public “attendance” at Zoom meetings has been higher than in-person meetings and that for the safety of the community, the virtual meetings will be continued.

Mr. Graham commented that he agrees with most of what was presented by the Planning Commission but does not feel that every planning decision has to benefit every part of the township. Kimberton Village is unique in that historically people have lived, worked and shopped all in one area. The push for years has been to make Kimberton more walkable and it should be given special consideration. Since the Planning Commission has stated that they will not further consider the low impact development ordinance he asked fellow Supervisors to provide their input on whether they would like to see the ordinance advance. Mr. Campbell responded positively to advancing the ordinance. Mr. Strauss commented that the township’s future needs to have a focus on low impact and that the ordinance should move forward. He cautioned the audience that the ordinance and any development application are two different actions and that ordinance approval is not approval of a development.

Public Comment

Dale Hinds said that he has heard rumors that local police departments are being told to “stand down” if any social unrest were to occur. Mr. Graham responded that he is not going to discuss police response to a hypothetical situation in a public meeting.

Announcements

Upcoming Public Meetings via Zoom:

- September 9, 7PM – presentation of Hidden River Park & Preserve Master Plan.
- October 1, 7PM – presentation of Ridge Road Dog Park plan.

ZOOM connection information can be found on township website.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by,
Kimberly Moretti
Township Manager

TOWNSHIP MANAGER MONTHLY REPORT

September 2020

During this month the administrative staff handled the following issues on the phone, via email or in-person: Responded to 19 complaints, 40 questions on zoning and/or subdivisions, 27 requests to purchase items, 382 general requests for information, 77 building permit questions and/or applications, responded to 4 Right-to-Know requests and prepared 25 New Resident packets.



General Administration:

1. Prepared for Board of Supervisors monthly meeting.
2. Continuous monitoring of County and State regulations re: pandemic
3. Participated in webinars on: Chesco Fire & EMS Strategic Plan; Managing Hostility in Public Discourse; Solar Energy – Ordinance Considerations
4. Annual Safety Committee Training with HA Thomson representative
5. Participated in Chester Co. Manager's Consortium Meeting with guest speaker on virtual meetings.
6. Researched grant opportunities for 2021 and created schedule for application due dates.

Financial:

1. Coded bills for payment and checks for deposit.
2. Processed bi-monthly payroll and payroll reports.
3. Prepared monthly budget report
4. Liquid Fuels Audit conducted virtually
5. Preparation of 2021 budget.

Historical Commission:

1. Virtual meeting with PHMC for a Certified Local Government Assessment.

Park & Recreation:

1. Hidden River Park & Preserve Steering Committee virtual meeting
2. Public Meeting to present Hidden River Park & Preserve Master Plan.
3. Summer Concert Series held on August 20 with social distancing and about 200 attendees.
4. Date Night Movie Night held on August 29 with social distancing and about 200 attendees.

Subdivision/Land Development:

1. Participated in virtual Planning Commission meeting
2. Review of subdivision plans in EVT for project abutting East Pikeland Township road.
3. Virtual meeting with representative for Phoenixville Workforce Housing project.

Public Works:

1. Kimberton Road Bridge project – pre-bid meeting
2. Pickering Road streambank restoration project – site meeting with CCCD. Started Low Volume Road grant application for this project.

Miscellaneous:

1. VFSA Needs Analysis prepared for discussion with Planning Commission.
2. MS4 Annual report submitted to DEP.

**EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2020**

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITY

- PAINT STOP BARS AND CROSSWALKS (172 STOP BARS- 6 CROSSWALKS)
- MOW AND MAINTAIN CROSSOVER BLVD & FARM PARK
- REPAIRS ON PLAYGROUND & KIOSKS AT PARK
- SET UP FOR PARK EVENTS
- MULCH/PREP FLOWER BED AT ADMINISTRATION BLD
- TRAIL MAINTENANCE- CUT TREE/LIMBS & FILL IN WASH OUTS
- PA ONE CALLS RESPONDED TO: 75
- MULCH/COMPOST DELIVERIES TO DATE: 248

WEATHER RELATED INCIDENTS

- N/A

CALL INS & OT

- N/A

NOTE: VERMEER GRINDER IS DOWN FOR REPAIR. ITS CURRENTLY AT VERMEER NORTH ATLANTIC IN LUMBERTON NEW JERSEY. REPAIR TIMETABLE IS APPROX. TWO WEEKS

BUILDING, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

- GRINDER REPAIR (VERMEER)
- TRUCK #7 INSPECTION
- OIL/AIR FILTER CHANGE ON POLICE CARS #1 #3 #4
- MOWER MAINTENANCE- JD 757/EXMARK/ JD 955
- GREASE- GRINDER, BACKHOE, LOADER & MOWERS
- ELECTRICAL WORK ON POLICE GARAGE AND PARKING LOT LIGHTS

ROAD CREW ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND TASKS

- TRUCK MAINTENANCE CHECK LIST- ALL TRUCKS/DAILY
- PARK INSPECTIONS/ FACILITIES/PLAYGROUNDS INSPECTIONS- WEEKLY
- CLEAN INLETS- BEFORE/DURING RAIN EVENTS
- GRIND DEBRIS INTO MULCH- TURN PILES- WEEKLY
- SIGN UPGRADING AND/OR REPAIR- WEEKLY
- TRASH COLLECTION- PARK, BRIDGES AND TRAIL TWICE A WEEK

Respectfully

Alex D Cushman

Public Works Director

EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP
POLICE DEPT
Monthly Incident Comparison Report

2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Total # Complaints	214	229	175	161	169	240	211	241	190				1830
Assaults	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0				4
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0				1
Theft	0	5	3	1	3	1	2	2	3				20
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Criminal Mischief	0	1	2	1	3	2	1	1	0				11
Drugs	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1				6
DUI	2	3	1	0	0	0	3	3	2				14
All Other Crimes	7	11	4	2	1	1	2	2	4				34
Traffic Citations													
	21	25	4	0	0	0	3	4	11				68
Arrests, Adult:													
Felony/Misdemeanor	2	7	2	0	1	1	6	4	5				28
Summary Citation	2	6	0	0	3	1	0	1	0				13
Arrests, Juvenile:													
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Accidents:													
Reportable	8	3	3	4	3	7	3	4	10				45
Non-reportable	5	10	7	4	6	10	10	6					58

Kimberton Fire Company

Kimberton, PA

This report was generated on 9/30/2020 7:38:28 PM



Incident Type per Municipality for Date Range

Start Date: 09/01/2020 | End Date: 09/30/2020

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
Municipality: BIRDSBORO	
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	1
# Incidents for Birdsboro:	1
Municipality: CHARLESTOWN (TOWNSHIP OF)	
140 - Natural vegetation fire, other	1
143 - Grass fire	1
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	1
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	1
# Incidents for Charlestown (Township of):	4
Municipality: EAST PIKELAND (TOWNSHIP OF)	
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	1
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	1
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	2
600 - Good intent call, other	1
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	1
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	3
900 - Special type of incident, other	3
911 - Citizen complaint	1
# Incidents for East Pikeland (Township of):	14
Municipality: EAST VINCENT (TOWNSHIP OF)	
112 - Fires in structure other than in a building	1
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	1
# Incidents for East Vincent (Township of):	2
Municipality: SCHUYLKILL (TOWNSHIP OF)	
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	1
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	1
# Incidents for Schuylkill (Township of):	2
Municipality: WEST VINCENT (TOWNSHIP OF)	
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1
# Incidents for West Vincent (Township of):	1