

**East Pikeland Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting
April 2, 2019**

A public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Pikeland Township was held on April 2, 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 7:03p.m.

Minutes

Mr. Campbell made a MOTION to approve the March 5, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Correspondence

Township received the 2018 Financial Statement and Summary Letter as prepared by township auditors, Barbacane Thornton.

Township received the Kimberton Fire Company audit reports for 2016 and 2017. Mrs. Moretti reported that the fire company has put internal controls in place in order to deter volunteer theft following the arrest of a volunteer who stole funds from the pool fill account.

Department Reports

Township Manager – Kim Moretti reported that the township will produce a new Community Map in 2019 which will be the project of a new administrative assistant who begins on May 1. She and Planning Commission members met with the County Tax Assessor for a better understanding of reassessment procedures relative to the LERTA program. She met with the transportation planner to discuss the 2019 Transportation Improvement Inventory; submitted data to PennDOT to support the request for left turn arrows on Route 23 at Rapps Dam/Mowere Roads; attended the CCATO Spring Convention; met with the township engineer to discuss the MS4 program and Pollution Reduction Plan; attended a PennVEST information session to learn about low interest loans for utility projects and attended a meeting in Phoenixville to learn about their Route 23 Corridor Study. Lastly, she reported that a smell of natural gas at the Rt. 23/Mowere Road intersection required a response from PECO. While trying to identify the location of the gas leak, PECO drilled many holes in the newly paved road and decorative crosswalk. Mrs. Moretti has spoken with the PECO Government Services representative to request that the damage be repaired.

John Colarusso commented that at the LERTA meeting with the County they learned that the 400 Westside reassessment will be \$46M. Mr. Graham responded that this is very good news for the 724 Corridor and the type of development that will benefit the township without a negative impact on the school district. Plus, the project cleaned up a delinquent property. He recently learned that with 91% apartment occupancy, that there are only 7-8 school age children living there.

Public Works – Posted

Police Department – Chief Wilson provided statistics for March: 205 complaints, including 7 DUIs, 3 drug arrests, and 9 felony/misdemeanor arrests. There were 14 accidents and 31 traffic citations issued. Officers participated in training for Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving, Checkpoint Training, Cell Phone Use in drug trafficking, and Traffic Collision training.

West End Ambulance – Posted. The next “Stop the Bleed” training program will be offered on April 16 at 6:30 at the Valley Forge Fire Company.

Valley Forge Sewer Authority Update – Bill LaPorte reported that VFSA currently has a project underway to identify infiltration and inflow into manholes along the sewer line that are impacting the flow managed at the French Creek Pump Station behind Redner’s. The goal of the project is to identify if any capacity can be made available for township use by stopping the I&I into manholes.

Bill also reported that the VFSA Board has had discussions about the process to borrow or rent capacity from the VFSA incorporated partners (East Pikeland, Schuylkill and Charlestown Townships) or from VFSA Partners (East Whiteland, Malvern, Willistown, Easttown and Tredyffrin). A Memorandum of Understanding has been distributed to each municipality for review. The VFSA Joint Board hopes to take action on the MOU at their meeting in May or June.

Old Business

Mr. Campbell made a *MOTION to approve Escrow Release No. 2 for Kimberton Glen, Phase 2 Conventional Lots, in the amount of \$381,856.03, as recommended by the township engineer.* Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell made a *MOTION to authorize Phase 2 environmental study of the Crouse Property.* Mr. Strauss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Doug Fitzsimons asked about the history of the property, to which Mr. Graham responded that it has been farmland.

Jon Gayl asked why a Phase 2 was being conducted. Mr. Graham responded that soil testing was recommended after the Phase 1 study because it had an agricultural-use history.

New Business

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to authorize Township Manager to advertise for a Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance that sets provisions for Meadows, as they relate to weeds and vegetation.* Mr. Campbell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Doug Fitzsimons asked for an explanation of the proposed ordinance. Mrs. Moretti explained that defining a “meadow” will allow the Zoning Officer to differentiate between growth of weeds and a managed meadow when addressing complaints from property owners about their neighbor’s tall grass.

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to hire Meghan Brumfield as part-time Administrative Assistance, effective May 1, 2019.* Mr. Campbell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to approve RESOLUTION 2019-08, authorizing the Township to purchase the real property known as the Crouse Farm, containing 115.34 acres, with Tax Parcel #s 26-1-36, 26-1-53.4 and 26-1-53, pursuant to the Agreement as presented by Special Counsel for the Township, in the amount of \$5,187,500, using the Township's Open Space fund, conditioned on revisions to the Agreement as acceptable to Special Counsel.* Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to authorize the Township to enter into a Settlement Agreement, as presented by Special Counsel, for the Township to terminate the litigation with Pikeland Glen LP, conditioned on revisions to the Agreement as acceptable to Special Counsel.* Mr. Campbell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Strauss made a *MOTION to approve RESOLUTION 2019-09, authorizing submission of an open space acquisition grant application to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Crouse Property Acquisition.* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Mr. Graham congratulated John Colarusso who was just named "Citizen of the Year" by the Phoenixville Chamber of Commerce.

Bob Terefenko of Meadow Lane issued a complaint about the construction debris on the church property behind his house. Mrs. Moretti stated that this is still an active construction site, however will ask the Zoning Officer to follow up with the property owners.

Doug Fitzsimons reported that the curve on Hares Hill Road, off of Route 113, has been the scene of several accidents. He asked if safety improvements could be made to this road. Mrs. Moretti reported Hares Hill Road, from Kimberton Road to 113, is scheduled for repaving this summer.

Announcements

Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Kimberton Park on April 13th at 10am sharp, with the Easter Bunny available for photos beginning at 9:30am. and a Tree Planting project along French Creek is scheduled for April 27 at 9am.

Mr. Strauss announced that a group of volunteers assisted in cleaning up the township-owned "Graham Property". It was an opportunity for the public to access this township property.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Submitted by,
Kimberly Moretti, Township Manager