



Pocopson Township

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Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes Monday, 7:30 P.M., August 18, 2014

In attendance: Supervisors – Ricki Stumpo, Georgia F. Brutscher, Barney Leonard; Mark Knightly, Public Works Director; Richard Jensen, Zoning/Code Enforcement Official; Christopher Conaway, Chair, Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee (PRT).

Number of citizens in attendance: 41.

1. Call to Order: Stumpo called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Announcements: Brutscher met with Birmingham Township Supervisor John Conklin on August 14th to discuss proposed traffic signal at Route 52 and Pocopson and West Creek Roads. Birmingham Township Supervisors are not in a position to negotiate a contract to provide traffic control for Pocopson. On August 15th the Supervisors attended the H. William Sellers memorial dedication in Pocopson Park sponsored by the Township Historical Committee.

3. Public Comment: The following Township residents were called from the sign-in sheet: Lisa Borel, Corinne Road - requested that the Board consider traffic calming study for Corinne Road. She noted that vehicles appear to speed through the intersection with South Wawaset and offered that, for the most part, this occurs during shift changes at the County facilities. Board agreed to contact the County and request assistance in reminding employees and visitors to obey speed limit and stop signs when navigating routes through residential areas. Tim Terrey, Denton Hollow Road – in attendance for the Denton Hollow Road discussion. Andy Murphy, Lenape Road – requested that the Township contact PennDOT to mow and cut back the vegetation along Lenape Road (Route 52) as the overgrowth is a hazard to the traveling public.

4. Station Commander, PA State Police, Troop J: Lieutenant Richard H. D'Ambrosio attended to report on police activity and incident responses for the past 90 days. At the request of the Township, he researched crashes on Denton Hollow Road. In the past 3 years, 0 crashes reported on the roadway and 1 vehicle crash incident on private property. He noted the challenges with regard to running radar and other enforcement measures on all the roads in the Township. The safety of the troopers on patrol is paramount. He reported that patrols will be stepped up in Pocopson due to the detours. However, Troop J is responsible for police coverage for 25 municipalities so resources are stretched thin at times. Residents in attendance offered locations to station patrol cars. Discussion ensued regarding responsibility for adjustments to the Tullamore entrance intersection with

Denton Hollow. Finally, he noted that false alarm response calls remain an issue with no clear resolution to eliminate such calls.

5. Route 52 Roundabout: The following individuals attended to discuss the status of the Roundabout – Ted McKenna and Sean McKenna (contractor/Road-Con); Michele Dougher (CMC Engineering); Scott Jeunger, P.E. and George Gumas, P.E. (PennDOT); Megan Fallon, P.E. (Gannett Fleming); Traci Plunkett (representing Representative Steve Barrar). Jeunger acknowledged that all parties are concerned with the work stoppage which is due entirely to the scheduling by the utility companies to relocate the poles and lines. He noted that various contract and union rules restrict PECO, Verizon, and Synesis from working on site at the same time thus further complicating coordination of moving lines. Road-Con reached a point in the project where they can do no more work until the utilities relocate their facilities. The utilities are their own entities and they are not charging the project for the relocation costs. Jeunger could not provide a date certain for ultimate completion of the project. Plunkett noted that Barrar’s Office has taken an active role in pushing the utilities to adhere to an aggressive schedule so as not to further delay the project. Jeunger noted that typically the end of October is the target date to complete paving for all PennDOT projects. In this case, anticipating having to work beyond that date, accommodations will be made for the contractor to work beyond the 40-hour work allocated in the contract. The worst case scenario for completion is December 1, 2014.

6. Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Report: no action taken.

7. Public Works Report: Knightly reported the completion of paving for Locust Grove Road and the Lenni Heights community.

a. PennDOT 5-Year Agreement (Renewal): Stumpo noted the Agreement provides for the Township to receive payment for snow removal of PennDOT roads. In turn, Township crews are then able to reach Township roads in a timely fashion in order clear them.

Motion: Leonard moved, Brutscher seconded, to approve Resolution 2014-13 approving and authorizing the Chair to sign the PennDOT 5-year Municipal Winter Traffic Services Agreement; motion unanimously approved.

8. Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee (PRT):

a. Park Regulations – Conaway reported that during the August 14th meeting, PRT reviewed proposed permitting process. The proposed measures will be discussed during the September 11th PRT meeting.

b. Scaleby Trail Report for Board Approval –Conaway reported that an agreement was reached with the Township Engineer and Developer to relocate the trail accounting for the limits of paving. Developer Megill will submit a revised final trail plan for PRT approval. The revised plan will also include adjustments to access maintenance easements.

9. Old Business:

a. Ebling/Bowie Shared Driveway Agreement: **Motion:** Leonard moved, Brutscher seconded, to approve and authorize signing of the Shared Driveway Agreement for the Ebling/Bowie property located on Brooks Road; motion unanimously approved.

b. Plowing and Chipping Policy Resolution – Secretary submitted a draft of proposed resolutions to be acted upon by the Board.

c. Deer Management Committee – Leonard reported that he continues to work with residents Don Lane and David Ziegler to formalize the process for the Township sponsored program. He emphasized that it is the desire of the Board to have a formal process in order to ensure the operation of a safe hunting program on Township-owned land, as well as inform residents via the website of hunting locations, dates, etc., and obtain written permission for hunting privileges on private land. Recognizing that the deer hunting season begins mid-September, it is the Board’s intention to review and approve the adoption of bylaws during the September 8th meeting. Hunting on private land in the Township is a separate matter and will not be addressed in the program operations.

10. New Business:

a. Vision Partnership Program (VPP) Application – Leonard met with Chester County representatives as authorized by the Board to obtain information on making application for a grant to from a historic commission as recommended in the 2014 Comprehensive Plan. He noted that of the 73 townships in Chester County, 62 have historic commissions in place as a measure to protect historic resources. While the Township Historical Committee completed an informal survey a few years ago, a formal resource survey is required as the first step in formation of a commission. Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission Standards will be addressed in the formal survey that must be completed by a certified historian. The VPP program will cover 75% of the cost of the survey. The estimated Township portion will be approximately \$30,000. The deadline for the application is September 10, 2014.

Motion: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve submission of Chester County Vision Partnership Program Grant Application for the purpose of research for formation of a historic commission; motion unanimously approved.

b. Email Service Provider – no action taken at this time.

c. Resolution 2014-12: Motion: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve Resolution 2014-12 authorizing submission of an Application for Traffic Signal Approval by PennDOT for the intersection of Route 52 and Pocopson and West Creek Roads; motion unanimously approved

d. Public Comment Policy – Brutscher requested and the Board agreed to undertake the steps necessary to draft a policy regarding public comment. The policy will include media requests.

11. Correspondence: no action required.

12. Treasurer’s Warrants: Motion: Brutscher moved, Stumpo seconded to approve the Bill Payment Lists for July 29 – August 18, 2014 recommended for payment by the Treasurer; **General Fund:** 20 bills paid totaling \$28,938.94; 7 debit card charges totaling \$87.08; **Escrow Fund:** 1 refund issued for \$10,800; **Highway Aid Fund:** 3 bills paid totaling \$1,327.46; **Parks, Recreation & Trails:** 2 bills paid totaling \$446.28; **Township Facilities:** 1 bill paid for \$2,842.96; motion unanimously approved.

13. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Leonard moved, Stumpo seconded, to approve the Meeting Minutes dated July 28, 2014; motion unanimously approved.

14. Denton Hollow Road Status:

a. Traffic Calming Proposals – Stumpo reported that the Township received technical assistance regarding traffic studies at no cost to the Township through the PennDOT LTAP program. The Board reviewed the frequently asked questions fact sheet distributed with the agenda. Stumpo noted that municipalities must follow the PennDOT Traffic Calming Manual when implementing control measures. She noted that a verifiable survey showing 70% of residents with addresses on the road supporting a traffic study is required. In addition, the Township will be required to enact an ordinance. Leonard noted that temporary speed bumps removed for winter maintenance might be an option.

b. Recommendations by Denton Hollow Road residents - Sarah Mims thanked the Board for their efforts to date but cites the 1300% increase in traffic volume as determined by the count completed by Chester County at the location of the County bridge as indicative of implementation of safety measures for the road. Conaway asked the Board to consider vacating the road and making it a private road. Board noted this would not be an option as the bridge is owned by the County. Denton Hollow Road resident Ralph Miller and Joanna Mulholland from Bittersweet stated that they were not in favor of vacating the road, designating it one-way, or making it a private road. Discussion ensued regarding the installation of a stop sign at the Tullamore entrance. Coordination with Pennsbury Township would be required.

15. Adjournment: At 9:35 P.M., Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to adjourn the public meeting and convene an Executive Session regarding a personnel matter; motion unanimously approved.

Susan Simone, Administrative Secretary

Ricki Stumpo, Chair