

Pocopson Township

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Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

1:30 PM

This meeting is the second Work Session for the 2015 budget.

In attendance were Supervisors Brutscher, Leonard and Stumpo, Treasurer Peggy Lennon, and resident Michael Hiro.

Stumpo called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM.

1. Appointment of Auditor to fill vacancy

Appointed auditor Dale Stratton has resigned due to a move out of Pocopson Township. After noting that two auditor positions will be up for election in November, 2015 (one 4-yr term and one 6-yr term); the Board moved to fill the auditor vacancy.

Motion: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve Resolution 2014-18 appointing Lise Borel to the vacant Auditor position. Approved unanimously.

2. Zoning Hearing Board Appeals:

a) Appeal No. 5-2014 – McKay/2055 W. Street Rd., Tax Parcel 63-4-145.7
Tabled as Board already made and approved a motion on this item at the Conditional Use hearing held the previous evening (October 20, 2014).

b) Appeal No. 4-2014 – Hiro/690 Red Lion Rd., Tax Parcel 63-3-101
Mr. Hiro has filed an application with the Zoning Hearing Board to install approximately 80 feet of fencing at his property at the corner of Red Lion and Lenape-Unionville Roads. Because the fence would extend 30-35 feet from the house frontage, a variance is needed.

Mr. Hiro provided information including photos, description of sight distances, setback requirements on state roads, locations of neighboring homes on their lots, and existing landscaping. After discussion of the aesthetic concerns associated with fencing, the Board entered Executive Session.

Motion: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, that the Board of Supervisors take no position on Mr. Hiro's application to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Unanimously approved.


3. Renovation of the Barnard House: Tabled until next budget session

4. Fire company and emergency services support

Longwood Fire Company has developed a "fair share" funding model wherein Pocopson Township has been asked to contribute \$144,611 for fire and \$108,271 for EMS in 2015. This figure is supported by the Township Task Force appointed by the Board in the Spring. Because a portion of the demand for those services comes from the County facilities located in Pocopson, the Board has asked the County to increase its annual contribution for 2015 from \$8,550 to approximately \$67,000.

The Board discussed what to do if the County's contribution does not increase to the requested level. Should the Township "make up" the difference so that Longwood receives the full amount of funding that has been requested? Initial reaction is no; the facilities serve the entire County and so no single municipality (Pocopson) should pay for any shortfall that may occur.

5. Tax scenarios: Supervisors reviewed tax scenarios projecting 2015 revenue from a higher property tax, higher Earned Income Tax, and combination of the two. Based on the anticipated \$17,000 gap in 2014 between income and expenses, and the likelihood that expenses will continue to outpace income, the Board decided that a tax increase will be needed for 2015. Treasurer will contact Township Solicitor for guidance on the mechanics of implementing a tax increase (advertising, resolution vs. ordinance, etc.)
6. Approval of minutes from 10/7 budget session: Tabled
7. Any other business which may come before the Board: None



Peggy Lennon, Treasurer



Ricki Stumpo, Chair