



Pocopson Township

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Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes Monday, November 10, 2014, 7:30 P.M.

In attendance: Supervisors – Ricki Stumpo, Georgia F. Brutscher, Barney Leonard; Mark Knightly, Public Works Director; Richard Jensen, Zoning/Code Enforcement Official.

Attendance: 8.

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

2. 2015 Budget: Stumpo reported that the Board held three publically advertised meetings regarding the 2015 budget. She noted the approval of the October 27th motion to authorize advertising of an EIT/NPT Ordinance Amendment increasing the EIT/NPT in 2015 from 0.2% to 0.5%. The last tax increase was in 2010. Leonard's presentation focused on the projected shortfall of the 2014 budget due in part to the severity of the past winter, deteriorating roadways, need to address complex legal issues, and the rising emergency services costs. The rural fabric of the Township is being replaced by the challenges of a suburban community. The 2015 budget reflects the desire of the Board to preserve the unique character of the Township and to manage the transformation for many years to come. Stumpo announced that the next public budget work session will be held on Wednesday, November 12th at 5:30 p.m. She also noted the receipt of written comments from Sean Rafferty. Board will draft a written response to Rafferty.

3. Announcements: On October 29th, Leonard and Emergency Services Task Force Member Steve Conary met with County Commissioner Terence Farrell to discuss an increase in the County contribution for emergency services. The County could decide on the fair share contribution by December 15th. Brutscher noted a meeting of members of the Barnard House Steering Committee on November 6th to confirm the 2009 color scheme. Brutscher and Leonard attended the Chester County Association of Township Officials Convention on November 6th. Stumpo read a letter of appreciation from a resident on Cannon Hill thanking the Public Works Department for their work in providing the chipping service.

4. Public Comment: no Public Comment.

5. Brandywine Trail – Sheila E. Fleming, ASLA, Brandywine Conservancy: Fleming attended the meeting at the recommendation of the Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee (PRT). PRT supports the concept of relocating the trail away from public roads to locations closer to the Brandywine Creek as depicted on the map. Fleming's presentation to the Board was for informational purposes at this time. Board agreed that

the proposed trail is consistent with the Township's trail planning schemes and installed trails and voiced support for this initiative by the Brandywine Conservancy. The focus of the Brandywine Conservancy in 2015 will be to identify preferred trail alignments and to negotiate with each landowner (public or private) as to easement agreements.

6. Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Report: Jensen is investigating a potential zoning concern located on a property on Route 926 that may include numerous makeshift structures for which no permits have been issued. There may be a zoning concern on Pocopson Road regarding an inflatable display. One or two issues need attention at the Wickersham property with regard to 2015 Halloween festivities. Vendors for the Barn at Spring Brook Farm continue to submit plans and permit applications in order to come into compliance with the Conditional Use Decision. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled for the driveway modifications.

7. Public Works Report: Knightly reported that the Red Bridge Lane bridge scour project is nearly complete. Final grading and restoration work will be completed November 21st.

8. Subdivisions:

a. Scaleby Farm Dedication, Resolution 2014-22 – MOTION: Brutscher moved, Stumpo seconded, to approve Resolution 2014-22 accepting dedication of Scaleby Lane as identified in the Deed of Dedication and as recommended by Township Consultants; motion unanimously approved.

b. Winterwood Escrow Reduction Request – Board reviewed the Township Engineer Review and Comment Letter dated October 24, 2014, recommending approval of a partial escrow release. Scott Megill reported that the stormwater management basin work is not complete. Given that the onset of cold weather precludes construction work on the basin, a contingency amount is included in the escrow so that a decision can be made in the future whether to keep the basin (established over the past 10 years) "as is." Megill anticipates submitting an offer of dedication in spring, 2015.

MOTION: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve Winterwood Escrow Release #12 in the amount of \$36,630.74 as recommended by the Township Engineer; motion unanimously approved.

9. Old Business:

a. Municipal Engineer RFP Task Force Report – Leonard indicated that there will be a meeting with the Task Force to discuss their findings and to identify a shortlist of candidates.

b. Route 52 Roundabout Bridge Colors – Board reviewed photographs of the bridge and the color chart from which they chose castle gray as the color that enables the bridge to blend in with surroundings. Knightly will review the maintenance agreement for the roundabout to identify the Township's responsibility with regard to bridge maintenance.

10. New Business:

a. Resolution 2014-21, Appointment of CPA to audit Township's 2014 Accounts –
MOTION: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded to approve Resolution 2014-21 appointing

Barbacane Thornton, CPA to replace the elected auditors as examiners of all Township accounts for Fiscal Year 2014; motion unanimously approved.

11. Correspondence: no correspondence submitted; no action required.

12. Treasurer's Warrants: Stumpo moved, Brutscher seconded, to approve the Bill Payment Lists for October 28 – November 10, 2014 recommended for payment by the Treasurer; **General Fund:** 24 bills paid totaling \$25,737.05; 7 debit card charges totaling \$138.66; **Highway Aid:** 2 bills paid totaling \$883.44; **Historical Committee:** 1 bill paid for \$25.00; **Township Facilities:** 1 bill paid for \$1,620.00; motion unanimously approved.

13. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve the Meeting Minutes dated October 27, 2014; motion approved.

14. Adjournment: At 8:35 P.M., Leonard moved, Stumpo seconded, to adjourn the regular meeting and convene an executive session; motion unanimously approved.

Susan Simone, Administrative Secretary

Ricki Stumpo, Chair