

P.O. Box 1, Pocopson PA 19366
Office: 610.793.2151 Fax: 610.793.1944
www.pocopson.org

Board of Supervisors Meeting
Monday, June 26, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

In-person attendance: Supervisors Elaine DiMonte, Ricki Stumpo and Raymond McKay.

Public in-person attendance: 1

1. **Call to Order:** DiMonte called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Sunshine Announcements:** on May 26th DiMonte and McKay attended a municipal insurance presentation; Board met with Treasurer Peter Barsz and Anita Swayne on June 23rd.
3. **Announcements:** no announcements.
4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Hal Hoffman offered his thanks to the Roadmaster for recent roadside repairs on his street.
5. **June 21st Work Session:** DiMonte noted cancellation of the work session.
6. **551 Crestview Lane Update:** McKay reported that on June 1st the District Justice found in favor of the Township and against Mr. Siravo for violations of Township Code Sections governing Home Occupations, specifically regarding illegal operation of an in-home business. The District Justice decision included an award in the amount of \$16,546.70. Township is pleased with the award which is a substantial increase over the \$1.00 judgment awarded previously. McKay offered that the award indicates the District Justice recognized the severity of the concerns perpetuated on the neighborhood by blatant violation of the Township Code. It is unfortunate that taxpayer dollars have to be spent to resolve the matter through the courts. If Mr. Siravo does not pay the judgement, the Township will follow the advice of the Solicitor on next steps. McKay attended the hearing and noted that Mr. Siravo was admonished strongly by the District Justice. DiMonte noted that the Township will continue to monitor activity and work with the Solicitor for a resolution.
7. **Yuntao Zhu & Huajun Zhou Final Minor Subdivision Application; 1040 Ballintree Lane; Tax Parcel 63-5-159:** DiMonte reported that Comment and Review Letters have been received from Township Consultants and that the Application will be listed on the July 24, 2023 Board meeting agenda.
8. **Kennett Area Fire/EMS Commission ("Commission"):** McKay reported that since the last Board meeting, he met with Robert Kagel, County Administrator and Cuyler Walker, Commission Administrator, to discuss the County EMS contribution. Walker is working on calculations for a formula that will adequately reflect the County financial contribution on behalf of the County agencies in Pocopson receiving Fire/EMS services. Consideration may be given for the County to make direct payments to the Commission, or the County may continue to pay Pocopson Township as they do now. DiMonte offered that a direct payment to the County may be beneficial rather than a transaction to the Township which in turn pays the Commission. McKay commented that a County payment to the Township is confirmation of their contribution. McKay attended the Kennett Square Borough Public Meeting on June 5th during which time a consulting firm retained by the Borough presented a study on the Borough's continuing in the Fire/EMS Commission. The consulting firm recommendations identified areas for improvement and varied approaches to emergency services. Recommendation included continued preferential treatment for the Borough; special arrangements with Kennett and Longwood Fire Companies; the Borough working solely with Kennett Fire Company with a return to EMS Basic Life Services serving only the Borough; start a new fire company. Following what appeared to be negative public comment, the Council adjourned the meeting without passing a Resolution to withdraw from the Fire/EMS

Commission. Fire/EMS Commission Borough Representatives did not discuss the June 5th public meeting during the June Fire/EMS Commission meeting. During the June meeting, the Commission discussed a 5-year plan for purchasing equipment. There is an assumption that any increase in municipal contributions this year will be for equipment. Commission continues to banter about the notion of hiring an administrator. McKay offered that Cuyler Walker is doing an excellent job administering the work of the Commission and doing so without compensation.

9. Public Works Report:

- a. West Creek Road Project Bid Opening Update – DiMonte reported the bid opening was June 21st. A Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, July 10th at 2:00 p.m. to award the project. Consultants are reviewing a range of bids. The Township may not need to obtain a loan if the bids in the lower range are responsible bids. McKay noted that for this type of project it is to be expected that there were a small number of bidders.
- b. Easement Agreement/Milliner – MOTION: DiMonte moved, Stumpo seconded, to authorize signing the Second Amendment to Agreement for Right-of-Way and Grant Easement with Milliner Family Trust as recommended by the Solicitor with such easement strictly limited to use for emergency access; motion carried.

10. Facilities:

- a. Barnard House Pre-procurement Request for Repairs – McKay reported that there is work that needs to be completed to stop water infiltrating the porch and lower windows. Siding needs to be replaced. An exterior door to the rear of the el-addition needs work to keep animals out of the building. John Young, Inc., recently completed the interior work and has submitted an estimate for this exterior work. Board reviewed the John Young, Inc., Estimate dated May 23, 2023 which is below the bidding threshold. DiMonte noted the 2023 budget allocation of \$22,000.00 for the Barnard House. Treasurer asked to determine status of the 2023 allocations to date. MOTION: McKay moved, DiMonte seconded, to approve the Estimate dated May 23, 2023 submitted by John Young, Inc., for exterior work to be completed on the Barnard House in an amount not to exceed \$11,500.00; motion carried.
- b. Review and Approval of Applications for Payment for New Township Building – DiMonte reported that front doors will be replaced on July 5th. Final bill can be paid following replacement of the front doors.

11. Township Planning Commission June 22, 2023 Meeting: DiMonte noted the regular public meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 5th.

12. Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee ("PRT"):

- a. November Fair/Event in Pocopson Park Sat., November 4th – Stumpo reported as the liaison for the PRT that the November event will be discussed during the July PRT public meeting. Status of the event to be provided at the July Board meeting.

13. New Business:

- a. Operation and Maintenance Agreement for Sewage Holding Tank ("Agreement") for 3 Cabin Club Lane, Tax Parcel 63-4-102.1B – Stumpo reported that Township Sewage Consultant recommends Board approval. Board noted that the Cabin Club Community has endured a great deal since Hurricane Ida in 2021. MOTION: Stumpo moved, McKay seconded, to authorize approval by signing of the Agreement as recommended by the Township Consultants; motion carried.

- b. Municipal Liability Insurance Renewal Update - DiMonte reported Township insurer Assured Partners provided a proposal for the annual renewal. An alternate proposal was sought from USI Insurance Group. DiMonte and McKay attended presentations by both insurance carriers along with Township personnel and the Township Treasurer. Annual renewal period is June 5th. Based on presentations, the Treasurer's comparative analysis of the proposed coverage, and a significant savings in the annual premium, the Board agreed to authorize and appoint USI Insurance Group as the provider for municipal liability insurance coverage.
- c. Darlington (Hillhurst Farm) Easement Agreement - McKay reported that the executors of the Darlington Estate are making adjustments to the properties but not necessarily to provide for additional construction. DiMonte noted this is a concurrent request to Pennsbury Township given the location of the lots. She noted the Solicitor recommends moving forward with the request. McKay abstained from the motion given his affiliation with the family. MOTION: DiMonte moved, Stumpo seconded, to authorize and approve by signing the Consent and Joinder to amend and modify Original Grant in accord with previous amendments to the Deed of Conservation and the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions; motion carried.
- d. SWM BMP Operation & Maintenance Agreement for 40 Bragg Hill Road; Tax Parcel 63-1-43.2 - Stumpo reported the document remains under review by Township Engineering and it is tabled to the July 24th meeting.
- e. TMDL Pocopson Creek Restoration Joint Permit Form for Signature - McKay reported the creek restoration work is on the Township Wawaset Road site. The project requires review by the DEP and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. Board authorized signing of the Joint Permit Form as recommended by McCormick Taylor Township Engineering.

14. Old Business:

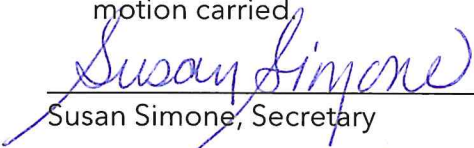
- a. Friends of Barnard Station ("FoBS") Federal Grant Application/Owner Concurrence Form - McKay noted that FoBS will be applying for grants through the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Grant Program. The Township is not a party to the grant applications but as owner of the Barnard House, must sign the Owner Concurrence Form giving permission to FoBS to make application. Board authorized and approved the request to sign the form.

15. Correspondence: no correspondence.

16. Treasurer Warrants: MOTION: DiMonte moved, McKay seconded, to approve the Bill payment Lists for the period May 23, 2023 to June 26, 2023, recommended for payment by the Treasurer: General Fund: 66 checks totaling \$337,125.99; Liquid Fuels Fund: 4 checks totaling \$7,735.63; Township Facilities Fund: 0 checks totaling \$0; Parks and Recreation Fund: 8 checks totaling \$3,100.88; ARPA Fund: 1 check totaling \$960.00; Open Space Fund: 1 ACH transaction totaling \$2,929.20; motion carried. McKay noted that the General Fund total includes a check written to transfer funds to a recently established Fire and EMS Account.

17. Approval of May 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes: Stumpo moved, DiMonte seconded, to approve the meeting minutes as reviewed; motion carried.

18. Adjournment: at 7:29 p.m. Stumpo moved, McKay seconded, to adjourn the meeting; motion carried.


Susan Simone, Secretary


Elaine DiMonte, Chairwoman

MINUTE BOOK PAGE 61

Pocopson Township Board of Supervisors Public Meeting June 26, 2023