

**MINUTES OF THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD MAY 14, 2018**
(Approved June 11, 2018)

The Board of Supervisors held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 14, 2018. The following Supervisors were present for the meeting: Vice-Chairman, Anthony Duffy (presiding over the meeting in the absence of Chairman W. Atlee Rinehart); Ray Kolb, Michael Albert Moyer, and Karen Nocella. Also present were Bernard A. Rodgers, Township Manager and Mark A. Hosterman, Township Solicitor.

Vice-Chairman, Anthony Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Duffy administered the Fire Police Oath of Office to Patty Coin.

Mr. Hosterman advised that, preceding this meeting, the Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss a potential real estate acquisition and personnel matter.

1. ORDINANCES

There were no Ordinances to come before the Board.

2. MINUTES

April 9, 2018, Meeting Minutes

Mr. Duffy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2018 meeting. Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Karen Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried 4-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sandy Bauers, 169 Sawmill Road, asked for an update on the proposed JJ Kane facility on Fricks Lock Road. She stated she attended the April Planning Commission meeting and has not been able to locate the meeting minutes on the website. Township Engineer, Brady Flaharty, replied the Planning Commission has not met since then to approve the meeting minutes for publication. He stated there is nothing new to report at this time; the Township has not received any resubmittals from JJ Kane representatives.

George Kleck, 30 Country Lane, informed the Board he is experiencing motorbike noise at his residence and motor bikers are riding along the power line. He stated he notified PECO about the bikers and PECO instructed him to call the Police because they are trespassing. Mr. Duffy replied a motor bike noise solution in that area is to be discussed a little later in the meeting and he urged Mr. Kleck to contact the Police Department immediately upon witnessing motor bike riders along the powerline.

Bob Bauers, 169 Sawmill Road, asked if the Township has an “official” relationship with the YMCA in Pottstown. He explained he is working with a local group to advocate for the YMCA to remain in its present location in Pottstown. Mr. Duffy replied the Township does not have an “official” working relationship with the organization.

4. REPORTS

Township Manager’s Reports

Special Fire Police Services Request.

Township Manager, Bernard Rodgers presented an application for Special Fire Police Services

requested by Chief Kevin Smith of Owen J. Roberts High School for graduation ceremony traffic control assistance at 981 Ridge Road from 5:30-9:30 p.m. on June 8, 2018.

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the request as presented; Michael Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Escrow Release #1 Whispering Woods.

Citing the letter of authorization from Township Engineer, Brady Flaharty, dated May 29, 2018, Mr. Rodgers recommended the Board of Supervisors approve the request by CalAtlantic Group, Inc. for Escrow Release #1 in the amount of \$613,036.22.

Michael Moyer made a motion to approve the request by CalAtlantic Group, Inc. for Escrow Release #1 in the amount of \$613,036.22. The motion was seconded by Ray Kolb. Mr. Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of Authorization for Public Fire Hydrant, Phase 1, Whispering Woods. Mr. Rodgers presented the PA American Water Application for Public Fire Hydrant and plan submitted by CalAtlantic Group, Inc. for Whispering Woods subdivision. Mr. Rodgers stated PA American Water Company installs and services the hydrants and the Township is responsible for paying an annual hydrant maintenance fee to the water company which is part of the rate schedule approved by the PUC. Mr. Kolb requested the Township Engineer clarify the number of hydrants to be installed.

Mr. Kolb made a motion to authorize the signing of the hydrant application for the installation of all hydrants. Karen Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Duffy called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Township Engineer's Report

Township Engineer, Brady Flaharty, reported the MS 4 stream cleanup in April was very well-attended and participants were successful in collecting a significant amount of trash from Pigeon Creek.

Mr. Flaharty asked the Board to consider a motion to approve a waiver of Stormwater Management Ordinance §9-106.2.A to allow the proposed pickleball court to be designed and constructed in accordance with the Simplified Stormwater Management Approach as a cost savings measure to the Township. He stated a sketch plan of the proposed simplified stormwater management design has been provided to the Public Works Director so that pricing could be obtained.

Karen Nocella motioned to approve the waiver of Stormwater Management Ordinance §9-106.2.A to allow the proposed pickleball court to be designed and constructed in accordance with the Simplified Stormwater Management Approach. Ray Kolb seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of approving reports from various departments and committees

Karen Nocella asked the Board to approve the appointment of Jason Stouch as a voting member of the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Committee. Michael Moyer made a motion to approve Jason Stouch as a voting member of the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Committee. Ray Kolb seconded the motion. Mr. Duffy called for and vote on the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Duffy called for a motion to approve the various department and committee reports and the Township Engineer's report. Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the Township Engineer and all department and committee reports. Karen Nocella seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried with 4-0 vote.

5. SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

Consideration of Resolution 2018-08. Approval of Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision – 886 Vaughn Road. Township Solicitor, Mark Hosterman presented an overview of Resolution 2018-08 noting there are three waiver requests; he stated the owner will post escrow with the Township. He also related an inter-municipal agreement will be made with North Coventry Township and he noted the condition prohibiting the use of the existing motor bike track on the property once the subdivision is recorded.

Mr. Duffy asked what would happen if the track continues to be used. Mr. Hosterman replied the Township would move to enforce the agreement between the Township and the property owner. Mr. Duffy asked if there is an anticipated construction date. Mr. Hosterman replied the approved subdivision plan is to be recorded within 90 days.

Mr. Nick Feola, with Bursich Associates introduced himself to the Board as a representative for the property owner. Mr. Feola stated the inter-municipal agreement is in process, he has spoken with North Coventry within the past two weeks regarding the agreement and they did receive plan approval from North Coventry Township. He further related Mr. Eckhardt is not planning on developing the property himself, he intends to sell it.

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-08 granting approval of the Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision at 886 Vaughn Road. Michael Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Duffy called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

Consideration of Resolution 2018-09. Approval of Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision at 68 and 72 Christman Court. Mr. Hosterman reported the proposed subdivision is essentially a lot line change requiring deeds of consolidation at the end.

Michael Moyer made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-09 granting approval of Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision plan at 68 and 72 Christman Court. The motion was seconded by Ray Kolb. Mr. Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried 4-0.

6. ZONING HEARING BOARD APPLICATIONS

There were no applications to come before the Board.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution 2018-10. Township Manager, Bernard Rodgers informed the Board that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation requires a signed agreement between it and municipalities in order to access their electronic Engineering and Construction Management System.

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-10 authorizing electronic access to the PA Department of Transportation's Engineering and Construction Management System. The motion was seconded by Michael Moyer. Mr. Duffy called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

8. EXONERATIONS

There were no exonerations to come before the Board.

9. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Karen Nocella made a motion to approve the payment of bills as presented. Ray Kolb seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

10. INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

Michael Moyer called attention to repeated instances of excessive mud on the roadway at the East Coventry Elementary school site; he stated he has received numerous complaints from residents in the area. Township Engineer, Brady Flaharty stated the instances of roadway mud were referred to DEP and an inspection was made by a county representative. He stated the contractors and school district have been notified of the issue as well.

Michael Moyer suggested the Township write a strongly worded letter to the School District Superintendent requesting an end to the problem. Mr. Rodgers asked where the enforcement occurs in this situation. Mr. Flaharty replied under DEP Regulations and Stormwater Management.

Michael Moyer made a motion directing the Township Solicitor to write a letter to the School District Superintendent requesting the roadway at the school construction site be kept clean and if not done so, the Manager is directed to charge the School District for charges incurred for the Township Solicitor's services in mitigating this problem. The motion was seconded by Ray Kolb. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

Karen Nocella pointed out the need for trail crossing signs on Schoolhouse Road to facilitate safe passage of trail users across the roadway. She stated there are grant funds the Township has applied for and asked if the Township should wait until they are awarded in late summer. Mark Hosterman asked if temporary signs could be installed in the interim. Mr. Rodgers stated the Township could install the trail crossing signs before then.

Ray Kolb reported PennDOT was out today patching potholes on Bethel Church Road.

Ray Kolb made a motion to approve the casual dress code policy for the Board of Supervisors during the months of June, July, and August. Michael Moyer seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried 4-0.

Township Manager, Bernard Rodgers, referenced the McMahon proposal he distributed to the Board earlier. He stated he met with representatives from McMahon Associates last week regarding previously proposed multi-modal transportation improvements at Peterman Road and Highway 724 and potential new 70/30 grant funding for the improvements. He noted 70% of the cost would be covered by the grant and the Township's cost share would be 30% of a proposed 1.6 million-dollar project. The grant submittal is due at the end of July and the grant is administered through the Community Finance Agency. Mr. Rodgers asked the Board to consider a motion accepting McMahon and Associates' proposal to update the grant application for Resolution.

Michael Moyer made a motion to approve the McMahon and Associates proposal to update the multi-modal transportation improvements for a grant application Resolution. The motion was seconded by Ray Kolb. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for a vote and the motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Rodgers asked Mr. Kleck if he received an answer to his question regarding the motorbike noise at his property. Mr. Kleck responded he did and asked if the Township has a decibel meter in use. Mr. Rodgers replied in the affirmative and noted there is a certain duration of time for the noise to occur before using the decibel meter.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There was no other business to come before the Board. Vice-Chairman Duffy moved to adjourn the monthly meeting at 7:38 p.m. and Michael Moyer seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Duffy called for the vote and the motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard A Rodgers
Township Manager