



Pocopson Township

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Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes Monday, 7:30 P.M., September 8, 2014

In attendance: Supervisors – Ricki Stumpo, Georgia F. Brutscher, Barney Leonard; Mark Knightly, Public Works Director; Richard Jensen, Zoning Official; Steve Conary and Bruce Yelton, Fire Company Funding Task Force; Anthony Verwey, Esquire, Township Solicitor.

Number of citizens in attendance: 26

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 the directors of the County Facilities (Juvenile Center, Prison, and Aged Home) to discuss status of the roundabout project and maintenance of Township recreation facilities. She also discussed efforts on the part of the directors to remind employees and visitors to obey traffic signs on Township and State Roads. Brutscher indicated that the meetings were productive and going forward, Public Works will be included in discussions in 2015 to identify maintenance tasks for which the County will provide assistance. Board agreed that meeting with the directors will be an annual assignment. Leonard added that the Board should also include meeting with the State Police/Avondale Commander as well. Stumpo stated for the record that she did not lie about traffic counts on Denton Hollow Road and confirmed that the Township has not ordered a traffic count. She noted that the County traffic count in April was conducted during a period of heavy rain, including closure of the Route 926 Bridge due to flood conditions. For this reason, the Township chose not to share what was essentially misinformation.

3. Resolution 2014-14 Establishing Public Participation Policy: Stumpo stated that the Board, after reviewing a number of public participation policies, concluded that a participation policy provides for an efficient public meeting where everyone has an opportunity to participate. She introduced Verwey who provided the legal background with regard to public comment and noted that the Resolution is consistent with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and similar to resolutions adopted by other municipalities and school districts throughout the Commonwealth. Verwey reviewed the Resolution line-by-line providing comment and explanation for each point. Resident Bruce Yelton asked for the reasoning behind a 2 minute limit. Verwey indicated that the time allotment allows the business of the meeting to continue forward. However, it is the discretion of the presiding officer to extend the time allotment.

Motion: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve Resolution 2014-14 enacting and establishing a public participation policy for all Pocopson Township Public Meetings; motion unanimously approved.

Verwey was excused and exited the meeting at 7:56 P.M.

4. Public Comment: the following residents appeared before the Board - Tim Brennan, Locust Grove Road, requested “school bus stop” signage and speed control monitoring now that school is back in session. Vas Param and Santhosh Kanjula, both of Pratt Lane, asked if the Board plans to implement improvements to Pocopson Park as the facility is seemingly in need of upgrades and maintenance. Stumpo indicated that the Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee are working with the Public Works Department to install upgraded amenities by spring 2015. Thiru Banda, Pratt Lane and Yuliang Hu, Pratt Lane brought before the Board issues regarding the traffic islands installed at the entrance of the community. Hu, representing the Homeowners Association for The Preserve (HOA), noted that removal of installed island #1 would improve ingress/egress for adjacent properties. He also asked for confirmation that island #2 will not be installed as it could hinder snow and ice removal. Knightly indicated that he is aware of HOA discussions with Toll and the Township Engineer. Board indicated that installation of the improvements will move forward in accordance with the approved subdivision plan. The HOA may continue to discuss an amendment to the plan with Toll Brothers prior to dedication.

5. Fire Company Funding: Conary summarized a draft funding model for firefighting, rescue and emergency medical services for the Pocopson Home, Chester County Prison, and Juvenile Center facilities located in Pocopson Township. Current funding level is based on a 10-year old agreement with the County. The Task Force proposes requesting the County increase annual funding from \$8,550 to \$61,710 per year effective 2015. Longwood Fire Company representatives continue to work with the Task Force in completing a comprehensive review of their current and projected operating costs and distribution of a fair share basis to subsidize emergency services. The data should be completed in the coming days.

Motion: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to support the continued work of the Task Force to prepare a comprehensive review of emergency services funding for County facilities named and to include the Work Release Center, and to sign the letter of request to be submitted to the County as soon as possible; motion unanimously approved.

6. Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Report: Jensen reported an enforcement notice sent to a property owner who installed a privacy fence without a permit. Zoning Hearing Board will hear two appeals on September 23rd.

7. Public Works Report: Knightly reported the department is transitioning from spring to winter maintenance. Pothole repairs are underway on Locust Grove Road.

a. Denton Hollow Road Status/Studies – Board would like to survey Denton Hollow Road residents and surrounding properties for opinions on professional engineered studies. Sarah Mims supported polling residents to determine if a professional study should be done before implementing improvements. She also acknowledged that service providers for her property have been informed not to park equipment on the road. Board will consider sending a letter to all residents as a reminder not to obstruct roadways. Action tabled with regard to the traffic safety studies.

- b. Red Bridge Lane bridge scour project** – Secretary reported publication of the public bid notice dates as September 7th and September 11th. Bids will be due September 22nd.
- c. Resolution 2014-15 Snow Removal Policy and Resolution 2014-16 Chipping Policy** – action tabled.

8. Old Business:

- a. Lian Drive/Lot 6 Shared Driveway Agreement** – ***Motion:*** Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve and sign the Shared Driveway Agreement as reviewed and recommended by the Township Solicitor; motion unanimously approved.
- b. Deer Management Bylaws** – Board reviewed the draft Bylaws as submitted by the Deer Management Committee. Dave Ziegler, Cannon Hill, asked the Board to consider approval of written rules covering operating procedures that would supplement the bylaws. Leonard noted Ziegler's concerns but pointed out that Township Committees are empowered to self-govern, and with regard to hunting, the Pennsylvania Game Commission is the final authority with regard to hunting procedures and rules.
- Motion:*** Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve the Township Deer Management Committee Bylaws as submitted and reviewed by the Deer Management Committee during the August 27, 2014 public meeting; motion unanimously approved.
- c. Scaleby Farm Subdivision Plan Amendment** – Secretary indicated that the Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee are reviewing the trail relocation.
- d. Winterwood Subdivision Plan Amendment** – no action taken with regard to the stormwater management basin.
- e. Escrow Releases for The Preserve** – ***Motion:*** Leonard moved, Brutscher seconded, to approve the following escrow release requests: (1) On-Site Improvements (Non-Sanitary) Escrow Release #4, as reviewed and recommended by Vandemark & Lynch, Inc., letter dated September 6, 2014, in the amount of \$298,769.00, noting **the bond should be reduced to an amount no less than \$412,707.00**; and (2) Sanitary Sewer Improvements Escrow Reduction #4, as reviewed and recommended by Castle Valley Consultants, Inc., letter dated September 5, 2014, in the amount of \$193,109.55 as detailed, noting the Township shall hold the escrow account at the maintenance bond amount of \$302,410.76; motion unanimously approved.

9. New Business: no action required.

10. Correspondence: ***Motion:*** Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve signing the Vision Partnership Program Grant Proposal for the proposed creation of a historical overlay district as recommended in the Township Comprehensive Plan; motion unanimously approved.

11. Treasurer's Warrants: Leonard moved, Brutscher seconded, to approve the Bill Payment Lists for August 19 – September 8, 2014 recommended for payment by the Treasurer; **General Fund:** 23 bills paid totaling \$15,512.91; 5 debit card charges totaling \$466.89; **Highway Aid Fund:** 7 bills paid totaling \$156,873.05; **Township Facilities:** 3 bills paid totaling \$41,872.60; motion unanimously approved.

12. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Brutscher moved, Leonard seconded, to approve the Meeting Minutes dated August 18, 2014; motion unanimously approved.

14. Adjournment: At 9:06 P.M., Leonard moved, Brutscher seconded, to adjourn the meeting; motion unanimously approved.

Susan Simone, Administrative Secretary

Ricki Stumpo, Chair