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Board of Supervisors Meeting Monday, January 23, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

In-person attendance: Supervisors – Elaine DiMonte, Ricki Stumpo, and Raymond McKay;
Mark Knightly, Public Works Director.

Public in-person attendance: 9

1. **Call to Order:** DiMonte called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. As a reminder, DiMonte offered that it is the policy of the Board to require the submission of collateral material and documents for all agenda items by the Wednesday prior to the public meeting. In addition, in accordance with Resolution 2018-8, public comment is limited to 2 minutes per person.
2. **Sunshine Announcements:** Supervisors met on January 6th with Peter Barsz, Treasurer, and Township Personnel. On January 19th, McKay attended Christina Watershed Municipal Partnership Conference on municipal stormwater and regulatory obligations. He noted that the County Planning Commission presented that the County population would increase by 140,000 in the next 20 years. McKay expressed that a good portion of Pocopson is eased open space but that traffic on Routes 52 and 926 may be affected.
3. **Announcements:** no Announcements.
4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Board responded to residents' concerns regarding the property adjacent to Lenape Forge Products on Pocopson Road. DiMonte reported that the Zoning Officer reached out to the landowner by phone and sent a certified letter today. There are numerous code violations and no record of submission of permit applications. Judy Lovell asked about the nature of the violations. Board noted that there are no permits to operate a commercial business at that location from what appear to be temporary structures. There are a number of impervious and setback compliance issues as well. Terry Gumpfer commented that the commercial boom truck, boat, and trailer are once again parked on the Clearview Drive property. DiMonte indicated that the matter is not closed and remains with the Township Solicitor and Zoning Official. Gumpfer commented that it appears PECO is trimming tree limbs in the community. Knightly responded that the Public Works Department is trimming the branches at the request of the school district and emergency service providers to improve site distances and safety clearances. The Department is cognizant of the utility lines and aware of lines belonging to PECO.
5. **January 18th Work Session Cancelled:** the Work Session was cancelled.
6. **Treasurer's Report – Resolution 2022 Budget Supplemental Appropriation:** DiMonte reviewed Resolution 2023-4 noting that overage for some accounts may be due to miscoding and not necessarily an overage. MOTION: DiMonte moved, McKay seconded, to adopt Resolution 2023-4 as recommended by the Treasurer following an analysis of the 2022 Budget to transfer monies to cover budget overages; motion carried.
7. **Request for Conditional Use Decision Extension, Tax Parcel 63-1-16, 20 North Wawaset Road:** Secretary indicated that on February 14, 2022, the Board granted a one-year extension to preserve the current Conditional Use Decision extending it to February 22, 2023. To date, the landowners have not submitted a building permit application, nor have they requested an additional extension. McKay noted that the landowners purchased an

adjacent property for a total of 40 acres, and they are considering constructing a barn as well. Secretary noted that any proposed change in the footprint or facades or use of the property including construction of a barn would require additional relief from the Township. No action by the Board at this time.

8. **Kennett Area EMS Commission:** McKay reported the Commission met on January 17th. Cuyler Walker was re-elected President. He has served for several years. Discussion included long-term planning to bring the financial health of companies into better order. By example, there has been no long-range planning for equipment purchases, with the exception of the purchase of one ambulance. Several pieces of apparatus must be replaced in the next 5 years. McKay informed attendees of the length of time it takes to purchase an ambulance and a pumper. Escalating costs are also factored into the proposal for any equipment purchase. For these reasons, consideration is given to the purchase of multi-use vehicles.

- a. Increase in County Appropriation - McKay reported that the Township requested the County to increase assistance in funding by one-third or \$154,844.91. On December 16th, the County approved the appropriation. DiMonte offered that this is great news and thanked McKay for his work in bringing the matter to the attention of the County, given the number of emergency calls to the County Prison and Pocopson Home. McKay noted that the municipal assessment to the Commission is based on population, assessed value of real properties, and call volume. McKay asked the Board to sign 2 letters he prepared to the County Commissioners: a thank you letter for the appropriation and a letter requesting the payment by April 1, 2023. He also offered that the County has indicated that the appropriation is not a commitment to continue this level of financial support. He reported that he will be meeting with Cuyler Walker and Robert Kagel, County Administrator, to identify a path forward for funding. PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Noon asked for the population of the Prison and the Aged Home. Board thought the number might be around 500 or 600. Terry Gummer asked if Longwood responds to non-emergency calls such as a broken hip. He is aware that in Delaware County, there is a separate contract for non-emergency ambulance service. McKay indicated that he was not aware of Longwood handling routine transfers. Judy Lovell asked about the number of ambulances in service. McKay indicated that Longwood has 2 ambulances to cover the area around the clock. Lovell asked about the number of calls in Kennett Borough given the recent construction of townhomes and apartments and given that they no longer have an ambulance service. McKay indicated that the coverage is slowed in part by the closure of local hospitals. He noted that ambulance service in Kennett Borough was not sustainable. Robert Landman asked for clarification of the Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support ambulance services. McKay briefly discussed the background on the ALS and BLS services as well as the current Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) supported by Longwood at this time.

9. **Public Works Report:**

- a. Installation of Hidden Driveway Signs/Route 52 - DiMonte reported that the Township received correspondence from PennDOT with the results of the speed limit study. Engineering parameters indicate that a reduction in the speed limit is not warranted. The correspondence included PennDOT approval for installation of a hidden driveway sign for 1348 Lenape Road. MOTION: DiMonte moved, Stumpo seconded, to install

hidden driveway signage in accordance with the PennDOT recommendation dated December 16, 2022; motion carried.

- b. West Creek Road Project – Knightly reported that the project will go out to bid sometime in March. Planning is on schedule for the work to begin at the end of the school year and for work to be completed by the start of the school year. PUBLIC COMMENT: Robert Landman asked if the scope of the work includes returning the road to 2 lanes. Knightly indicated that is the objective as well as the retaining wall. Judy Lovell asked to what extent will residents have access to West Creek Road. Knightly responded that every effort will be made to maintain access. However, residents will have to be patient. The other end of West Creek Road may be opened if need be. Karen Myers asked that the Township communicate the closures and limited access on an ongoing basis. Residents who work shift work will need to be aware of the construction schedule. Myers voiced concern with regard to deliveries and weekly trash/recycling truck access. DiMonte asked if an electronic sign with the daily schedule could be arranged. She expressed that the Township will do all that it can to over-communicate the construction timeline and work schedule, including notices on the website and sent out via the Constant Contact platform. McKay added that the Township will communicate directly with emergency service providers so that they are aware of the schedule. Attendees asked how the project will be funded. McKay responded that in February 2022, the Township applied for a Local Share Account Grant in the amount of \$900,000.00. Grants were to be awarded in November and January. The Commonwealth Finance Authority has yet to award any grants. He added that municipalities cannot rely on grants when there are so many delays in awarding them. MOTION: McKay moved, DiMonte seconded, to authorize the Treasurer and Secretary to initiate the securing of a loan in the amount of \$900,000.00 for the purpose of funding the West Creek Road Project; motion carried. DiMonte noted that the Treasurer is familiar with situations in other townships where the loan process has been initiated while waiting for the final grant decision. Alice Waegel publicly thanked the Board for their plans to repair West Creek Road.
- c. Pest Control Service Agreement – Secretary provided a pre-procurement request for pest control for 664 South Wawaset Road. MOTION: DiMonte moved, Stumpo seconded, to approve ZAP Proposal dated January 11, 2023 to provide pest control services for 664 South Wawaset Road through December 2023; motion carried. PUBLIC COMMENT: Hal Hoffman asked if the Township is considering pest control for the Barnard House. The Board is not considering coverage at this time.

10. Facilities:

- a. New Township Administration Building –
 - i. Update: DiMonte reported 3 outstanding issues – scratches on exterior of front door which occurred during construction; elevator panel is not installed properly in the lower level; a lower-level door is not flush with the door threshold.
 - ii. Review & Approval Applications for Payment – no action required.

11. New Business: no New Business.

12. Old Business:

- a. Eagle Scout Project for Barnard House – Hal Hoffman and Jim Noon, Representatives of Friends of Barnard Station, asked to be heard regarding the Eagle Scout Project for a patio for the Barnard House. Noon communicated with McKay and Knightly that the Scout, Patrick Clisham, was requesting use of a skid steer for excavation work and to

move large stones that will be used as steps. Noon asked if the Township would be willing to donate a cubic yard of $\frac{3}{4}$ gravel for the project. McKay asked where the stones are coming from and how would they be delivered to the site? For the benefit of attendees, DiMonte briefly explained the project that was approved by the Board during the June 2022 public meeting. She noted that the Board has a request from Clisham to reduce the length of the patio from 6 feet to 5 feet. Noon added that there is also a request to create a slope away from the patio which will make it easier to cut grass. Knightly has no objection to the requests. Noon will provide assistance in submitting the zoning permit application. MOTION: Stumpo moved, McKay seconded, to approve the change in patio length for the Eagle Scout Project for the Barnard House approved June 27, 2022 and as discussed with Jim Noon to include stone steps, a dirt slope, and use of heavy equipment; motion carried.

13. **Correspondence:** Board signed letters to County Commissioners under the EMS Commission agenda item 9. No additional correspondence.
14. **Treasurer Warrants:** DiMonte moved, Stumpo seconded, to approve the Bill Payment Lists for the period December 20, 2022 to January 23, 2023, recommended for payment by the Treasurer: General Fund 63 checks totaling \$153,706.22; Liquid Fuels Fund 2 checks totaling \$3,682.43; Township Facilities Fund 1 check for \$256.63; ARPA Fund 1 check for \$1,249.70; Open Space Fund 1 ACH transaction totaling \$2,929.20; Payroll Fund 5 transactions totaling \$63,279.27; motion carried.
15. **Approval of January 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes:** MOTION: Stumpo moved, McKay seconded, to approve the January 3, 2023 Reorganization Meeting Minutes; motion carried.
16. **Adjournment:** at 7:47 p.m., Stumpo moved, McKay seconded to adjourn the meeting; motion carried.


 Susan Simone, Secretary


 Elaine DiMonte, Chairwoman