

August 25, 2011

The Board of Supervisors of Pennsbury Township held a regular meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2011. Messrs. Fenton, Scottoline, McIntyre, Oeste and Ms. Howley were present and the minutes of July 20, 2011 were approved as amended.

Manager Kathleen Howley reported the following:

1. So. Chester County Cooperative Amendment was approved and signed by the Board. The document was amended to authorize their secretary to execute documents on behalf of the Co-op.
2. Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2012 for our pension fund is estimated to be \$13532.

Road Report – Dave Allen

1. The road crew has cleared culverts and inlets from recent rain storms. Brintons Bridge Road had a wash-out, tree down on Fairville Road and Chandler Road had a road bank wash-out. In response to a question from the Board Mr. Houtman said the culvert on Chandler Road between Rt. 1 and West Pennsbury Way was cleared.
2. Railroad crossing and stop bars have been painted by the road crew. We are waiting for the line painting contractor to start their work in the township.
3. Met with Matt Houtman to go over road work for the remainder of the year and for 2012.
4. Ms. Howley reported on the upcoming hurricane and stated the crew will be coming into work if there is flooding and trees down. The supervisors confirmed that they all would be available over the weekend.

Engineer Matt Houtman reported on his investigation of the Jurich invoices for the work on Brintons Bridge culvert. It appears we may owe the contractor an additional \$30,000. He will report to the Board on his final determination. He also reported on his meeting with Dave Allen. Mr. Allen will go over the road work schedule and give input to Mr. Houtman. Mr. Houtman will update the schedule and give a copy to the Board for their review. A resident commented about the poor condition of the old swales along the road near his home in the Knoll. Ms. Howley stated this is being looked into and folded into the road work schedule.

Bob Kasowski was present to discuss with the township his concern with Penn East Railroad. He said the following: the railroad is requesting he pay an upfront fee to cross its right of way in order for him to get to his pasture on the other side of the tracks. He has been using this crossing for many years without incident or request for payment. If he is denied access, his property would be landlocked. The railroad would also want an annual fee paid to it. He indicated that he does not intend to pay them. Mr. Oeste said he believes this matter is between the railroad and Mr. Kasowski. The Board suggested that he might have vested rights since he has used this crossing for many years ever since he bought the property but the Board also indicated that this was a private matter. It was also suggested he might want to talk to other property owners along the tracks to see if they are also being asked to pay the railroad.

Park Committee – Kendal Reynolds reported the following:

- Gave the Board an update on the Bark Park. Phase I is complete and the Eagle Scout project completed by Drew Smallacombe was a great benefit to the township. The bark park is being used consistently and volunteers are increasing. Dave Allen and the crew have been very helpful. Next step is “mud rooms” for Bark Park. The Board expressed a concern about the use of Facebook as a social media to aggressively promote the park , as opposed to promoting the park directly to Township residents, e.g. via the Township Newsletter. It is the Township residents that have to pay for improvements and the operation and maintenance of the park. Ms. Reynolds acknowledged this concern and will discuss this with the Park Committee and get back to the Board. The Board also said it would be happy to meet with the Committee to further discuss the use of the park.
- Ms. Reynolds suggested that once the property next to the township building starts to get developed, any earth moving might benefit the park by leveling out any potential future playing fields.

The Board thanked the Committee for its work. The Board expressed a concern about the use of Facebook as a social media to advertise the park. Concerns expressed were: The public may believe it is a Township website when in fact the site has not been approved by the Board as a Township entity. Content of information received and disseminated from the site is not developed, approved nor monitored by the Township. This may create potential liabilities and potential for abuse; efforts put into the site may not be an effective use of resources to focus upon the needs of Pennsbury residents as a first priority. The Board also expressed a concern about the signage placed on Township property. Ms. Reynolds acknowledged their concerns and will discuss this with the Park Committee and get back to the Board.

Sewage Easements for Pennsbury Village Associates – The Board approved the documents and Mr. Fenton signed as Chairman of the Board. The sewage easement grants to the Township the right to use the rear portion of Mr. Becker’s properties, located along Rt. 1, to dispose of sewage effluent. A new hi-tech sewage plant is planned to be located on Chadds Ford West property.

Bob Crandell reported the Planning Commission reviewed the latest letter from Anne Walters on the Penns Village landscaping plan. They also discussed possible ordinance regulating solar panels and windmills. The draft of the new zoning ordinance handles this under supplemental regulations and as a conditional use. Members will provide additional input on this topic.

Ms. Forsyth gave a written update on the Byway Commission work for funding the bikeway grant.

A bill list dated August 25, 2011 numbering 12427-12492 and 12505, State Fund #269 was submitted and approved for payment by the Board. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Howley
Township Manager