

June 17, 2015

The Board of Supervisors of Pennsbury Township held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2015. All members were present as well as Solicitor Tom Oeste, and Manager Kathleen Howley. The minutes of the May 20, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Manager Report** – Kathleen Howley reported the following:

1. Jim & Lula Mae Sears Service Award – Chairman Scottoline read a resolution citing all the volunteer work done by Mr. & Mrs. Sears over the past 20+ years. Their names have also been added to the service award plaque in the Harris Room. The township is grateful and lucky to have residents like Jim & Lula Mae who have served the township in numerous capacities and continue to do so. We are grateful for their service. The Board moved unanimously to pass the resolution. A copy will be included in the minutes and sent to Mr. & Mrs. Sears.
2. Zoning Hearing Board meetings were held for the Brezski and Mortazavi applications. Mr. Brezski was granted a variance with conditions for impervious coverage for his deck and Mr. & Mrs. Mortazavi was granted a variance with conditions for impervious coverage for their deck and pool.
3. Mr. & Mrs. Quillen were present to explain to the Board why they are seeking a variance for the construction of a garage on their property. They live at 24 Conestoga Court and their lot goes to the edge of Chandler Road. This gives them two front yards and they are seeking a variance to place the garage in the front yard along Chandler Rd and will be over 300 ft from that road and is buffered by heavy vegetation along Chandler Rd. This happens to be the only reasonable place to put the structure. The Planning Commission voted to recommend support of the application. Mr. Scottoline moved to support the application and Mr. McIntyre seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ms. Howley will contact Ed Foley, solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board, with this decision.
4. A resolution to amend the township personnel policy regarding health insurance costs was submitted for approval by the Board. This change would grant a monthly allowance to an employee whose spouse incurs a cost for health insurance coverage by having the employee included as a dependent on that policy thereby eliminating the direct and higher cost to the township for insurance from the township. Mr. Fenton is in favor of this policy change if in fact it does not go against the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Oeste will further research this and report back to the Board. With the condition that Mr. Oeste finds no conflict, the Board moved to accept the resolution. All were in favor and the motion passed.
5. A resolution explaining the disposition and disposal of personal property was submitted for consideration. The recently purchased Toll Bros property and the Hope House which is located on that property by the township has items that need to be disposed of either through a sale or if having no value, given or thrown away. The township hopes to have this sale take place in the fall and it will be announced at a public meeting and put on our web site. With no further discussion, the Board moved to pass the resolution. All were in favor and motion carried.
6. There have been several recent requests to ask PennDot to do a speed study along certain stretches of Route 1 in our township which is posted 55 MPH. Vehicles far exceed this limit. Ms. Howley has written a letter to PennDot requesting this study. Results will be shared when received.

**Library Update** – Library Director Donna Murray along with Pennsbury board members, Susan Mackey Kallis and Carolyn Mohr were present to give an update on library happenings. Ms. Murray reported the following:

- There have been substantial renovations to the entry way of the library.
- Superhero's is the national theme for libraries and the summer reading programs are well underway.
- Staff member Ivy Weir is getting national recognition as an emerging leader. They are very lucky to have her there working.
- They are starting the feasibility study for a capital campaign and hope to start building within 5 years.
- Mr. McIntyre commented on the improvement made being digitally connected to the library. He also noted that Pennsbury Township has kept up with library contributions and Ms. Murray thanked the Board for this.
- Mr. Fenton recommended Ms. Murray contact the director of the Wilmington Library who recently conducted a study for their library. They may be able to use their study information to help with their plans.

The Board thanked them for their presentation and look forward to hearing more about their capital campaign.

**SECCRA** representative Scott Mengle was present as well as township rep Fred DeVries to ask the Board to sign a resolution allowing the SECCRA municipal authority to function another 50 years. SECCRA was founded in 1968. According to their bylaws they must have their charter amended and signed by all 24 municipalities served. Mr. Mengle gave a history of the organization which serves 24 municipalities, 105,000 people and revenue for 2015 of 8 million dollars. He also stated that recycling is not cost effective but they do it because it helps to keep the landfill from filling up. Mr. Fenton moved to pass the resolution and Mr. McIntyre seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion carried. Ms. Howley will send a copy to SECCRA.

**Parker Preserve** – The supervisors met with Mr. Dambro and Mr. Mikkelson last week regarding the recent land disturbance done on the HOA lands behind Mr. Mikkelson's lot. It was agreed that Mr. Mikkelson will put together a landscape plan for replanting that area with native trees and plants. This will be submitted to the township and the residents of Parker Preserve will have an opportunity to review the plan at the township building and submit comments. The plans and resident comments will be reviewed by the township landscape architect and then make recommendations to the Board regarding any changes and implementation. Planting should take place in the fall. Ms. Howley will follow up with Mr. Mikkelson for the plan.

**Hunting Hill 2 lot subdivision** – Mr. Elser, attorney for the applicant, was present to request final approval of the plans. The properties are owned by three sisters; Parker, Leisering and Laird. This is a subdivision of a 50 acre lot for estate planning only. No construction is planned. There is also an existing conservation easement on the property. Comments from the County Planning Commission have been received as well as the Township Planning Commission. Mr. Oeste prepared a motion for approval with four conditions. The motion is attached to the minutes. With no further discussion Mr. Scottoline moved to approve the plan and Mr. Fenton seconded the motion. Motion carried. The first

sheet of the plan needs to be revised. Mr. Elser will follow up and get a revised set of plans to the Board for their signature.

Mr. Fenton stated that the Brandywine Conservancy along with input from the Pennsbury Land Trust will be putting together a draft conservation easement for the property recently bought by the Township from Toll Bros. This should be completed by year end.

During the course of a year, residents may appeal their tax assessment for a reduction. If a reduction is granted by the county, the effective date is the following tax year. A question came up as to refunding taxes already paid by residents for the current year. A policy motion was made by Mr. Scottoline to follow the official effective date for tax assessment changes and hence property taxes, which would be the following year. Therefore, there would be no refund of property taxes for the current year. Mr. Fenton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bob Crandell, Vice Chair of the Planning Commission was present and reported members have reviewed the Hunting Hill subdivision, recommended support of the Quillen variance request, completed the first draft review of the SALDO, reviewed suggested changes to Village Residential area and bulk regs and started reviewing information on water exportation.

A bill list dated June 17, 2015 numbering 15619 - 15980 was submitted and approved for payment by the Board. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Howley  
Township Manager