

May 18, 2016

The Board of Supervisors of Pennsbury Township held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the township building. Present were Supervisors Fenton, Scottoline, McIntyre, Solicitor Oeste and Manager Howley. The minutes of April 20, 2016 were approved as amended.

**MANAGER'S REPORT** – Kathleen Howley reported the following:

1. Noel LaMonaco from Boy Scout Troop 31 gave a presentation on bat boxes. For his Eagle Scout project he proposes to construct 6 bat boxes to be positioned on trees around the Pennsbury Park pond. He said this will help keep the mosquito population down and also help to assure the conservation of these creatures. The project will take a year to complete from start to finish. The Board thanked him for the excellent presentation and approved his project. We look forward to hearing more about it over the coming year.
2. The Pennsbury Mill will have school tours on May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Unionville and Pocopson Elementary Schools will tour the mill and Pennsbury Preservation Group will help conduct the tours.

**Road Master Dave Allen** submitted a written report. Ms. Howley read the report which stated the roads to be resurfaced this summer are being prepped. The crew has been cleaning up tree limbs and a tree in the park that blew over. Dumpster disposal for the annual cleanup has been successful and the last dumpster will be removed for disposal this week.

**Springdale Farm** – Ms. Howley received a request from the applicant's engineer for a 60 day extension to act on the two lot subdivision. The Board moved to grant this extension to August 8, 2016 and all were in favor. The motion passed.

There have been property maintenance issues with this farm since the present owners bought it. John Smith, one of the owners, has been contacted numerous times in the past. The Township requested the clean up and boarding up of the historic structures so there would not be demolition by neglect. Several neighbors were present to express their concern with regard to the collapsed roof on the riding arena and deterioration of the old barn. The front of the house was boarded up but not the back of the house and now the front door is also open. Mr. Oeste went over the legal process of enforcing the township's Zoning Ordinance, which prohibits demolition by neglect of certain historical resources, and the property maintenance code. It has been difficult dealing with an absentee landlord. Mr. Drumheller sent him a letter requesting compliance with the zoning ordinance and property maintenance code, e.g. clean up the property but he has not heard from Mr. Smith. The Board directed Mr. Oeste to contact Mr. Smith by letter and request immediate action. If we do not hear back from Mr. Smith within a week of his expected receipt of the letter, then Mr. Oeste will start legal proceedings to get the property cleaned up and secured.

Planning Commission Chair Dennis Smith reported that members spent the last meeting discussing the proposed zoning for Longwood Gardens. They will be deciding a path forward for this document at their

next meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Also on that agenda is the Springdale Farm 2 lot subdivision at which time they should have another review letter from Matt Houtman.

Judy Herdeg stated she was driving over the railroad tracks on Hickory Hill Road recently when she became aware of a train almost at the road when she looked to her left. She did not hear any whistle and sight distance is very poor at this crossing. She now comes to a full stop before going over the tracks because of this incident. Ms. Howley reported that the railroad is working with PennDot to get funding for upgrades at the Hillendale Road crossing as well as the Fairville Road crossing. She will contact the railroad and ask them about future upgrades for Hickory Hill Road crossing.

A bill list dated May 18, 2016 numbering 16427-16498 and State Fund # 355, 356 was submitted and approved for payment by the Board. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Howley  
Township Manager