

Pennsbury Township Board of Supervisor Minutes

November 20, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of Pennsbury Township held a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7 p.m. in the township building. Present were Supervisors Aaron McIntyre, Wendell Fenton, Dan Boyle, Solicitor Tom Oeste, Engineer Matt Houtmann, Planning Commission Chair Dennis Smith, Historical Commission Chair Judi Wilson, and Road Master Patrick Yerkes. The minutes of October 16, 2024 were approved as submitted.

Special Exception for 455 Old Baltimore Pike (Lewis)

Applicant discussed his plans to modify his use of the property from a veterinary dental facility (which was granted pursuant to a Special Exception granted in 2018 which allowed the limited use of dentistry to animals) to include cardiac care for animals. He also wants to increase his “dog-runs,” add recover rooms, and offices. After discussion a motion was made to support the application which was affirmed by two supervisors. The third supervisor voted to remain neutral.

Review of Zoning Hearing Board Application for 1387 Parkersville Road (Johnston)

Mr. Johnston requests dimensional variances to build an accessory structure—a detached garage on his property. The proposed size is 960 square feet, which is greater than the 600 square feet that is allowed by the zoning ordinance. In addition, the garage proposed height is 16 feet, greater than the allowable 15-foot maximum height. The applicant stated that the location is in the wooded area behind his house and difficult to be seen by his neighbors. Mr. Johnston provided two letters in support of his application from his neighbors. The Planning Commission recommended supporting the application because of its location which virtually hides its visibility from the neighbors. A motion was made to support the application subject to it being used only as a garage with no water or septic associated with the structure, the motion was approved unanimously with no further discussion.

Preliminary Budget

A public meeting occurred earlier in the day whereby the Board of Supervisors came to a determination on the preliminary budget. It has been posted on the Townships website, as well as both inside and outside of the Township building, and local newspaper.

Historic Survey Update—Judi Wilson

Chairwoman Wilson stated that Jane Dorchester investigated the properties from 1940 to 1970, to categorize the architectural styles of the properties. Letters were sent to residents whose properties qualify as historic to determine if they wanted to be included in the historical

classification and survey. She indicated that Mrs. Dorchester would finish the survey and another letter would be sent to the subject residents to attend a public meeting in order to determine if they wanted to be excluded from the survey.

Professional Reports

Patrick, the Road Master, provided an update on road maintenance, including branch pick-up which produced six loads of wood chips (38 cubic yards) and still accepting bagged leaves. Also, working on the storm inlets.

Matt, the Township Engineer, reported on the Constitution Drive bridge project. He discussed how the streams has eroded away the concrete footings which will eventually lead to a failure if not addressed. He indicated that the stream will need to be bypassed while the concrete work is completed which will add to the cost. The Board voted to grant Matt the authorization to submit a public proposal for bids to complete the job.

Dennis Smith, the Chair of the Planning Commission, provided a brief update on the Commission's activities and upcoming meetings. The Commission has been working on the VPP grant.

The Board approved payment for a bill list dated November 19, 2024, numbering 2203 2240, State Fuel Funds 509 – 511, Cap. Reserve 176 – 177. The Board also reviewed the October bank reconciliation for the General Fund. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dan Boyle, Assistant Township Manager