

May 17, 2023

The Board of Supervisors of Pennsbury Township held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Township building. Present were Supervisors McIntyre, Fenton, Boyle (by phone), Solicitor Tom Oeste and Manager Howley. The minutes of April 19, 2023 were approved as submitted.

**Manager Kathleen Howley** reported the following:

1. State Police Lt. Dan Steele from the Avondale Barracks was present to report on activity in the township. The station covers 17 townships and there are 70 troopers which represents 90% capacity. Lt. Steele noted it is tough recruiting and there is a shortage of candidates. In 2021 there were 941 calls covered, 2022 964 calls. There is one trooper assigned to Pennsbury Township at all times. He also noted there is an uptick of crashes and the Pennsbury falls in the middle as to number of calls covered compared to other areas. It is relatively quiet and the western part of southern Chester County has the most activity. Response time for our township is less than 10 minutes from Avondale.
2. Tom Oeste reported he had drafted an amendment to the “no parking” ordinance repealing the signs along Constitution Drive which have been taken down and added a “snow emergency route” sign going up at Chadds Ford Knoll at certain intersections. He will advertise this change and have it ready for the Board’s June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.
3. Resolution 2023-05-17 Disposition of Records was approved and signed by the Board. The resolution lists all records to be disposed of following the guidelines of the Municipal Records Manual.
4. Contracts with John Milner Architects and Margo Leach were submitted for approval and signing by Mr. McIntyre. The contracts are for the restoration of the historic John Hope House which is next to the township building. Mr. Oeste reviewed the contracts and all was in order. This will be for work in 2023-2024. The Board moved to accept the contracts and a vote was taken. All were in favor and the motion passed.
5. Judi Wilson, Chairperson of the Historic Commission and gave an update on their work. Ms. Howley reported the township has been granted a Vision Partnership Program grant for work that will be done updating the Historic Resource regulations in the Zoning Ordinance. Members will be working with a county consultant. The grant is for not more than \$5000. Ms. Howley will sign the contracts when received from the County Planning Commission. Mr. Oeste drafted a letter that Mrs. Wilson can send out to property owners in the Twin Bridges Historic District advising them that the district will be reviewed by our Historic Commission members and inviting their comments.
6. The annual Peony Festival will take place off Cossart Road starting May 18<sup>th</sup> through May 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Road Master Dave Allen** reported the following:

1. Met with Matt Houtamnn and inspected McFadden Road.
2. The Co-op opened bids for road work. Asphalt Industries was low bidder for oil and chipping and fog seal at a cost of \$3.75 sq yd. this is a 40-cent increase from last year.
3. The crew is mowing road banks and getting roads ready to be oiled and chipped.

Drummond Solar CU application – 1676 Waterglen Drive. Mr. Oeste gave a description of the application which had solar panels on the front roof of the home. The applicant failed to demonstrate the panels would not be seen from the road and there was effective mitigation. Supervisor McIntyre stated the panels clearly were visible from the road and he could not support the application despite neighbor's support for the panel installation. A motion was made to deny the application and adopt the decision. The motion was seconded and a vote taken. Supervisors McIntyre and Boyle voted yes and Supervisor Fenton voted no. Motion carried and the decision was signed. Since Supervisor Boyle was not present, Mr. Oeste was authorized to sign the decision for Supervisor Boyle.

**ZHB Hillendale School** – a request for a special exception to erect an outdoor classroom (pole barn) open on 3 sides and closed on one side, was submitted to the Township. The hearing is scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>. Messrs. Whitesel and White from the school were present as well as the school district attorney, Loren Szczesny, to explain to the Board what they intend to do and why. The school recently was awarded a "green ribbon" national award for their science/environment programs. The structure will be close to the Kissell Farm which is cited on our historic survey. It does not appear to adversely effect the farm according to the Historic Commission. Mr. Oeste asked that township engineer, Matt Houtmann look at the plan for storm water management and Ms. Howley will send ZHB attorney, Ed Foley comments from the Historic Commission. After much discussion Mr. McIntyre moved to support the application and Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion carried. The vote will be conveyed to Mr. Foley.

**Atkins Subdivision** – the extension expired May 26<sup>th</sup> for review of these plans. Mr. Oeste noted the Board has given numerous extensions and Mr. Atkins has not submitted revised plans as requested. After much discussion the Board suggested he consult with his engineer to revise the plans showing compliance with our ordinances. Mr. Atkins submitted a request for a 60-day extension. The Board moved to grant the extension. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion carried. Expiration date will now be July 26, 2023.

Mr. Atkins asked about the inspection of McFadden Road by the township and what was the outcome. Supervisor McIntyre reported he did talk to Mr. Houtmann who will submit a written report to the Board at which time he will get back to him and Mr. Moro about the findings and recommendations.

Dennis Smith, Chairperson of the Planning Commission reported at their April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting members reviewed the Hillendale School ZHB application. Their next meeting will be May 23<sup>rd</sup> and on their agenda is a 2-lot subdivision review for McAnally/Darlington as well as a CU application for 1301 Brintons Bridge Road for a bed & breakfast and Brandywine Battlefield overlay district. Mr. Smith asked the Board for some guidance as to how the members should review the application since it is somewhat complicated. It was decided that Mr. Oeste will attend to help guide members in their review. He is not available on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and a new date for their meeting will be decided and posted.

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A bill list dated May 17<sup>th</sup> numbering 1635-1670, Capital Reserve #161 was submitted and approved for payment by the Board. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Howley  
Township Manager