

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF KENNETT TOWNSHIP

801 Burrows Run Road

May 17, 2010

Chairman Falcoff called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with Vice-Chairman Elling and Supervisor Hammaker both present.

Mr. Elling moved that the minutes of the April 19 and 28, 2010 and May 5 and 12, 2010 be approved as distributed. Mr. Hammaker seconded the motion and it carried with all Supervisors in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

- 1) Mr. Falcoff presented the public safety information data, gave the May 2010 Accident Summary as follows:

Accidents (through March, 2010):

- During March, 2010, there were 19 accidents vs. 11 during March of last year.
- Year to date there has been 45 accidents vs. 43 last year, YTD, for a 4.7% increase. This is the 1st time in at least the past 18 months where we have had an increase in YTD data.
- There were 2 accidents on Kaolin Rd., with 1 at the Chandler Mill and the other at the Marshall Bridge intersections
- There were 2 accidents at the Rosedale and McFarlan intersection. This is one of the 4 intersections we will be modifying the line striping at.
- There was an inordinate no. of accidents on Rt. 1, with 5 at the Rt. 52 intersections.
- On *May 11* there was a severe 3-vehicle accident at the Rosedale and Bayard Rd. intersection. It is noted this month because of the frustration I feel regarding our inability to control driver actions and to prevent accidents at an intersection with good sight-lines. I hope to follow this accident up with more detail after the police investigation is complete.

Miscellaneous:

- We met with the PA State Police regarding our being removed from their monthly incident reporting system. Their legal counsel has ordered them to no longer share this document. As such, we will continue our present data collection work-around. PennDOT, however, is willing to share detailed information on “*reportable*” accidents. (These are accidents where there is injury or a vehicle must be towed. Reportables are the only type data forwarded to PennDOT). This information will include location, date, time-of-day, road conditions and cause. However, the loss of non-reportable accident

information is a great blow to all municipalities of the Commonwealth as these are the predictors of future severe incidents.

- Our police department will depend on personal contact with the Avondale barracks to keep tabs on State Police crime incidents and their locations within the Township.

Kennett Township Police activity (March, 2010)

- 84 calls responded to from Chester County Police Radio, as follows:
- 3 criminal investigations.
- 65 routine assignments.
- 13 alarm activation calls.
- 3 automobile accidents responded to.

These calls resulted in 4 traffic arrests.

- 2) Mr. Falcoff announced that the Speakman property Conditional Use Hearing will be held on June 16, 2010 at 1 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Elling presented Ordinance No. 190 enabling Kennett Township to establish a Land Conservancy. He read a press release with the intent of the Ordinance and the possible creation of a Land Conservancy. **Mr. Elling moved to adopt Ordinance No. 190 as presented. Mr. Hammaker seconded the motion and it carried with all in favor. Mr. Hammaker moved to have the Township Solicitor proceed with Kennett Land Conservancy. Mr. Elling seconded the motion and it carried with all in favor.**

ROADWORK

Mr. Elling stated that the road crew completed skin patching, J-mar counts are being done, the Township is up to 21 yard waste dumpsters this year, road repairs are in process, spraying of weeds and mowing road backs are being done, woodchips are being hauled to residents that request them, drainage work was done on Bayard Road, coop bids are out for advertisement, the roadcrew assisted with the Kennett Run and drainage work will begin on Greenwood Road.

SUBDIVISIONS/LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Extensions:

Mr. Hammaker moved to accept the following extensions: 1) Chandler Family Farms property until 8/31/10; and, 2) Kendal property until 8/16/10. Mr. Elling seconded the motion and it carried with all in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Per Capita Tax

Mr. Hammaker moved to accept the Per Capita Tax removals per memos dated April 20 and 29, 2010 and Per Capita Tax Additions per memos April 21 and 29, 2010. Mr. Falcoff seconded the motion and it carried with all Supervisors in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elsie Johnson, resident, asked why a new Land Trust was being created and Mr. Elling replied that open space needs to be actively pursued, the current Land Trust is not in Kennett Township and the Township has an open space tax for open space preservation and the existing Land Trust does not give the Supervisors any control over the spending of the money nor a position on their board. Tracy Elliman, resident and employee of the Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County/the Kennett Township Land Trust questioned the cost of the new Land Conservancy and why the Township does not give leads to the existing Land Trust. Mr. Elling replied that the costs will be minimal since there will be no employees. He stated that the existing Land Trust is no longer located in Kennett Township, has not brought forth any viable easements in the last two years and has high operating costs. Eva Verplanck, resident, asked if there have been any conversations with the existing Land Trust and Mr. Elling replied that the Supervisors had discussions with them. Anne Verplanck, resident, stated that a new resource should not be created. Chet McCabe, resident and Zoning Officer, stated that a new Land Conservancy should be created in order to give the Supervisors control over the tax money being spent. Bill Hewton, resident, stated that the Planning Commission wasn't given enough time to review the Ordinance, asked how residents will be informed of this new Ordinance and asked the Supervisors to postpone adoption. Mr. Elling replied that the Ordinance was advertised as required and given to the Planning Commission one week prior to the publication as a courtesy to review since it is not required. Bob Listerman, resident, asked if the new Land Conservancy will be less or more expensive than the current Land Trust. Mr. Elling replied that it will be considerably less expensive. Pam Stefani, resident, asked for the balance of the open space funds, which was provided to her. Steve Kuter, resident, wanted to know the system for land evaluation and the Supervisors stated that they do have specific criteria. Margot Taylor, resident, asked for the open space fund balance which was provided and stated that the property owners should be able to work with any Land Trust organization they choose and the Supervisors agreed. Tom Nale, resident, stated that he has his land in an easement with the existing Land Trust and is very much in favor of open space. He agrees that a new Land Conservancy is prudent since the existing Land Trust is no longer in Kennett Township and has members on their board from other Townships.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Falcoff acknowledged receipt of the financial statement for the prior month. **Mr. Falcoff moved that the bills be approved for payment, seconded by Mr. Hammaker with all Supervisors in favor.**

The meeting adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Moore
Township Manager/
Secretary-Treasurer

