

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KENNETT TOWNSHIP**

**801 Burrows Run Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317**

February 21, 2018

Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman, Scudder G. Stevens
Vice-Chair, Whitney S. Hoffman
Supervisor, Dr. Richard Leff
Township Manager, Lisa Moore
Public Works Director/Roadmaster, Roger Lysle
Chief of Police, Lydell Nolt

MINUTES

**Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes from February 7, 2018. Leff seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Managers Report:

Lisa Moore presented the Managers report for the Month of January, 2018:

Executive Session:

Lisa Moore announced that the Board of Supervisors meeting met this evening for an Executive Session to meet with committee members.

Rosedale Road Streambank Rehabilitation:

Work has been started and will continue and be completed hopefully by the end of the month on the Rosedale Streambank Rehabilitation.

Community Based Land Stewardship Volunteers

A new committee titled "Community Based Land Stewardship volunteers" is forming, their mission is to promote environmentally beneficial land management practices for properties of all types across the Township. Anyone interested can fill out the volunteer application on the Townships website. This committee is being chaired by Kathryn Freilich who does work with the Sustainable Development office.

Managing your Streambank Property:

Kennett Township along with Brandywine Red Clay Alliance will host a program titled "Managing your streamside property on Tuesday, March 6th at 7pm in the Township meeting room. This presentation is open to all but is geared towards residents who have either small tributaries or larger streams on or near their property to provide advice and learn best practices on keeping streams and groundwater healthy.

Kennett Public Library

Home & Garden Tour June 2nd.

Historical Commission Program:

The Kennett Township Historical Commission has announced its annual program: “THAT’S A FINE HORSE, I THINK I’LL TAKE HIM”- How local Quakers suffered because of their religious beliefs during the Revolutionary War- with guest speaker Chris Densmore. The program will be held on Tuesday, May 22nd at 7pm in the Kennett Township, Public Meeting Room.

5 Points Intersection:

Lisa Moore reported that the Board of Supervisors discussed the possible implementation of a Roundabout at the 5 points intersection during the February 7th Board of Supervisors meeting. The next step is to prepare for grant applications.

Economic Development:

Lisa Moore reported that the Board of Supervisors will meet jointly with Kennett Borough Council on April 30th at 6pm in the Township Public Meeting room to continue to review the joint Economic Development progress, the public is welcome to attend.

Office Hours:

Office Hours Kennett is back in session for a winter series, there is a special session tomorrow night 2/22 being held at Giordano’s grille at 5:30pm that will talk about the new tax code. On March 15th, the session will be held at The Market at Liberty places and will focus on “Borderless Marketing-Expanding your reach and Influence”. Registration is highly recommended by visiting the OfficeHoursKennett.com website.

Sewer Basin Inspections:

Homeowners and HOA’s that have Basins on their property will soon be receiving a letter in the mail from the Township with a baseline inspection report of their basins. Basin owners are required to fix any deficiencies listed in the report and have their basins inspected by a certified engineer every two years.

The Pines/Fussell House:

Stabilization work has begun at the Pines/Fussell house. We are working on stabilizing the foundation, replacing windows and doors, adding HVAC, replacing roof and stucco in an effort to stop the building from detreating any further until a use can be found for the building. There is no official plan on future use of the house nor are there any repairs or upgrades being done inside.

Landscapes 3 Public Meeting

County Landscapes 3 public meeting will be held at the Chester Springs Municipal Building on March 6th at 5:30 pm. Moore noted that she is on the committee and welcomed the Township Residents to attend.

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Lydell Nolt presented the Chief of Police Report for the month of January, 2018:

The Kennett Township Police Department in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Police provided police services to 433 police incidents in the municipality of Kennett during the month of January 2018. State Police Avondale Barracks provided police service to 57 of those incidents.

The department is pleased to announce the receipt of a grant from South Eastern Regional Task Force. The grant awarded the department \$21,384.00 which directly funded an ELSAG Automatic License Plate Reader System. The system was installed on a Kennett Township Police Department vehicle. This system will allow officers to use camera technology to systematically scan vehicle registration plates for, wanted subjects, stolen vehicles, suspended/revoked registration, non-compliant sex offenders, and protection from abuse violators.

The department is pleased to announce that Officer Elysia Simmons successfully completed her field training and is now assigned to regular patrol assignments.

The department is pleased to announce that the department body camera program is fully operational for all patrol officers. Officers reported successful interactions with the community when communicating the use of the body camera system. Officer's noted several interactions where community member thanked the officers for the use of the cameras as a commitment to integrity.

The department provided professional devolvement training for the following officers in January. Officer's, Call, Simmons and Juarez all received training on accessing the Regional Automated Property Information Database. This data base assists officers in locating stolen property that has been resold through public pawn shop dealers. Officer's also participated in a program called Bridges out of Poverty. The program is designed to identify the needs of individuals who struggle with poverty and the resources needed to the provide care.

The department participated in community policing events at Greenwood Elementary School and Church of the Advent.

Comments:

Leff asked if the plate reader is on one car or more. Nolt responded it is on one but he is working on applying for a grant for another. Stevens asked if it requires a separate computer in the car, Nolt responded no.

Leff asked what has been learned with the short time the department has had the body cameras. Nolt responded that it leaves a lot of the "muddy" or "grey" areas out of some incidents and people, both those being questioned and the officers are on better behavior when on camera.

Hoffman commented on the importance of the Bridges out of Poverty involvement.

Lysle asked if it reads multiple lanes, Nolt responded yes, it reads up to six lanes.

Leff confirmed the number of officers the Police department has on duty. Nolt responded the department has 7 full time and 1 part time officer.

Roadwork Report:

Roger Lysle presented the Roadwork report for the Month of January, 2018:

The Ashford pump station had an electrical issues with the Breaker box and also had pump problem with material jamming. Pump notices are being sent out to residents on the does and don'ts of what to flush.

A new sewer pump was ordered for Victory Gardens for a total of \$5328.79. The old one was eight years old and would have cost more to repair than the replacement.

We have been out searching for pot holes or problems areas that may blow out with all of the rain and cold temperatures. This is an ongoing though due to the weather. Please don't hesitate to call if you see one that might have been missed, they can pop up overnight!

The co-op had a bid opening for stream restoration on Rosedale road and awarded to Guardian Environmental services for \$114,425.00. They moved in and started on 2/15/18 and should be completed in two weeks, weather depending. Trimming is underway on days that the weather is good. We borrowed a bucket truck from one of our co-op members and started taking down several trees at the entrance of Greenwood Hills. We are working with the HOA on making better sight distance. We are doing most of the work but have one big tree that a crane is needed. Temporary Road and Lane closures are possible. The cost is being shared with the HOA. As spring approaches, the bank will be sloped back and seeded.

The new sign for the VFW was delivered and installed after donations were given to purchase it. The old sign had to be moved for the sidewalk project and was in such bad shape it fell apart.

After several complaints about the traffic signal at woodchuck way and Route 1 not working correctly, we had our contractor out to check. Everything is working per the permit. There may be times that it seems a longer wait due to the traffic on Rt. 1.

Millings are being hauled out to residents as requested. Also, millings were hauled out to Ways Lane by the railroad tracks to smooth surface for mail and fire safety.

Clean up after the rains has taken several days cleaning inlet and pipes along with wash outs in some areas.

The Yard waste pile is set to be ground any day now. The cost to grind is \$1500.00, this is the first time we have had to pay for this service.

We are working on a plan for the Barkingfield Park dog park and possibly adding mulch to one side of the dog park. This will have to be done when the ground is not saturated.

Comments:

Chris Burkett commented that he appreciates Lysle for his cooperation in working with the Greenwood Hills HOA to remove the trees at the entrance and helping with the sight distance.

Fire Company Report:

Bruce Mitchell representing Kennett Fire Company, presented the Fire Company report for the Month of January, 2018:

*48 Fire Calls
115 EMS Calls*

The will be a Borough Police and Kennett Fire Company fundraiser on March 3rd at Grain.

Board of Supervisors Meeting, February 21, 2018

The Fire Company has ordered a new Engine which was approved by the Emergency Services Commission, hopes for an October delivery.

NEW BUSINESS

Pay Bills

Leff made a motion to pay the bills for the month per the bill vouchers. Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Michael Hanford-EAC appointment

Lisa Moore introduced Michael Hanford, a Township resident who has interest serving on the Environmental Advisory Committee. Moore noted that Hanford has already attended EAC meetings and has been briefed of the committee's duties.

Leff made a motion to appoint Michael Hanford to the EAC. Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Police Association Contract

Moore presented the Board of Supervisors with the proposed 5 Year Police Association contract/collective bargaining agreement, presented an overview and asked that the Supervisors move to accept the contract as written and negotiated between the Association and the Township.

Hoffman made a motion to accept the Police Association Contract. Leff seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Nolt commented that typically you would see a three year contract and sees it beneficial on both sides that this contract is a five years. Leff confirmed that this contract gives the Chief flexibility of scheduling, Nolt confirmed. Moore clarified that the Chief of Police is not included in the contract nor involved in the negotiations.

Richard Stat asked if approved, when this contract would go into effect. Moore responded that it would go into effect immediately. Richard Stat asked if this contract was taken into consideration with the 2018 budget, Moore responded that it was.

Chris Burkett inquired if the association is essentially a union, Moore responded yes.

Burkett commented on the pension obligation of the municipality asking if a 401k contribution in lieu of a pension discussed. Moore responded noting that it was not discussed because most officers came from other municipalities and were already vested in the pension. Moore noted that the pension is included in the budget.

Burkett commented on the budget, tax increases and negotiations. Moore responded noting that the contract specifically was not the reason for a tax increase, the funding of a Police department resulted in the increase.

Stevens and Hoffman responded on the funding of the Police department and the Boards obligation of Public Safety.

The Board commented that the State police do a great job, but can only handle so much and typically can not responded as quick as the Township Police can due to the wide area that each of their barracks serve.

Burkett commented that he is not against funding the Police, but the Township needs to be careful about what else it funding.

Nolt commented on the pension fund and noted that using the State pension plan allows the Township to hire people already in that plan which already are experienced making them better suited to serve the community.

Michael Hanford commented on the pension plan and the States involvement in the plan noting that the Township needs to keep a close eye on the pension plan. Moore responded that the Township carefully tracks the pension and it is over 99% funded.

Leff commented that the Township had previously looked regional policing to see if it would save any costs and it doesn't but will continue to look at other ways to provide Police coverage while being fiscally responsible.

Motion passes unanimously.

Sewer Extension Grant Resolution

Moore presented a proposed resolution for a sewer grant that would extend the sewer along Creek road where four residents have to have their sewer pumped monthly due to failing systems. This grant is through the small water and sewer program. The Township would be responsible for a 15% match of the \$500,000.00 grant.

Hoffman made a motion to adopt Resolution #2018-5 to apply for the PA Small Water and Sewer Program grant. Leff seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Stevens commented on the difficulty of sewer service for these four homes due to the location of the properties with rock and the streambed and that the Township has been working to solve this issue for years and this could be the opportunity to do so noting that the Township has worked hard getting grants over the last several years to get things done.

Leff confirmed that the homeowners would still pay some hookup fees that would help defray some of the 15%. Moore responded yes and it would help defray about half of it.

Chris Burkett asked if these houses are in the flood plain, Moore responded that she believes at least two of the homes are. Burkett asked what the properties are worth.

Stat commented on the quarterly fee's and if it could help pay for the capital cost. Lisa Moore responded that that would have to be calculated afterwards.

Stevens commented on how septic is set up between the Township and Borough.

Motion passes unanimously.

SUBDIVISIONS

Stonehouse (Sweetbriar) Escrow Release 4

Lisa Moore presented Escrow Release #4 in the amount of \$260,815.00 for the Stonehouse subdivision with a remaining balance of \$1,490,195.69 which have been reviewed and approved by the Township Engineer.

Leff made a motion to approve Escrow release #4 in the amount of \$260,815.00 for the Stonehouse Subdivision. Hoffman seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Hoffman asked if the recent problems with run off and construction hours have been rectified. Moore responded yes, the Township Engineer and Conservation district both have been to the site and worked out these details.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Stat commented that at a recent supervisors meeting he was not end and used the Townships media center on the website to view the meeting live and it worked great. Stat also commented on the ease of obtaining information from the Township and thanked the Township staff for their assistance.

Richard Stat gave personal thanks to the Public Service employees for their dedication and sacrifice to the service that is provided by them. Moore and Nolt thanked Stat for his compliments and discussed the topic of Safety verses funding.

Richard Stat commented on the Chester Water Authority property on Norway Road and the case that is in front of the Zoning Hearing Board case, the opinion of the Zoning Officer pointing out that if upheld after an appeal would allow any use on the property in the future. Stevens responded that the Board of Supervisors can only watch from the outside and does not have a position on the case.

Randy Bishop and Stat commented on the legal representation of the Zoning officer and if the Zoning Officer was being represented by the Township or the Zoning Hearing Board. Moore responded noting that the Townships solicitor answered this question before noting that the Zoning Officer act on behalf of the Zoning Hearing Board and he would represent her in cases.

ADJOURNMENT

**Leff made motion to adjourn. Hoffman seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Brien
Recording Secretary