



801 Burrows Run Road  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317  
(610) 388-1300 Fax (610) 388-0461  
Website: [www.kennett.pa.us](http://www.kennett.pa.us)  
Email: [Kennett.twp@Kennett.pa.us](mailto:Kennett.twp@Kennett.pa.us)

May 10, 2019

Dear Kennett Township residents, partners and friends,

The Board of Supervisors pledged to you to have an open and transparent government. In keeping with that pledge, we are writing today to inform you about a serious situation. Rest assured, the Supervisors are taking every step to safeguard the Township and our residents.

On Thursday, April 25, 2019, the Supervisors were notified by the Fraud Department of our bank that they had found a number of suspicious transactions on Township accounts.

We promptly and carefully reviewed these findings with our bank and legal counsel. At the direction of our counsel and our police, we immediately referred the matter to the Chester County District Attorney's Office for further investigation. We also took steps to make sure no further unauthorized transactions took place.

At present, we are constrained in what we can discuss about this case for two reasons. First, we don't want to hinder the investigation in any way or reveal information not yet verified. Second, we don't want to damage the reputation of any innocent persons.

The Supervisors are cooperating fully with the investigation, and have engaged forensic accountants and other professionals and experts in matters of this type. We also directed all township employees to fully cooperate with authorities and to refrain from speaking publicly until the matter is resolved.

The Township is bonded and insured against fraudulent activity and the Supervisors confirmed those policies are in full effect.

Again, because this is a complex investigation potentially involving many legal, criminal and ethical issues, we are unable at this early point to discuss other aspects of the investigation, including any individual(s) involved.

*Continued...*



Page 2 of 2

As Supervisors, we have a fiduciary responsibility to protect the Township, its citizens, its employees and every part of our government. We take that responsibility very seriously and we are working to do our duty quickly and in a fair and even-handed way.

We want to assure you that Kennett Township's finances are secure. As of now, the amount of the transactions in question is expected to be within our policy coverages.

We want to further assure you that all the normal and recommended financial controls and processes were in place and reviewed at appropriate intervals by our auditors.

We will write you again as soon as we know more. We recognize our obligation to keep you fully informed, within the guidelines provided by counsel. We are very confident in the good work being done by law enforcement, our attorneys and the outside experts directing the investigation. We are also very appreciative of the hard work of our Township employees in keeping everything functioning well during this challenging time.

Thank you for your support, understanding and patience. In order to be thorough and accurate, the process simply takes time to be completed. Rest assured, we will continue to diligently pursue every aspect of this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scudder Stevens".

Scudder Stevens  
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Leff".

Richard Leff  
Vice-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Whitney S Hoffman".

Whitney Hoffman  
Supervisor