

**MINTUES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KENNETT TOWNSHIP**

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

March 20, 2019

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

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

MINUTES

Hoffman made a motion to adopt the minutes from the February 6, 2019 meeting. Leff seconded the motion.

Motion passes unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Township Manager:

PSATS Communication Award:

Moore announced that the Township won an award for its outstanding efforts and achievement in citizen communication, recognizing the Townships website.

Clifton Mill Bridge:

Moore reported that work on the Rt. 82/Creek Road (Clifton Mill Bridge) has begun and PennDOT expects the work should be completed this summer.

Open Space, Trails and Parks Master Plan and Needs Assessment Public Workshop:

The Townships open space committee held a public workshop before this meeting tonight.

Office Hours Kennett:

Moore announced that Office Hours Kennett is back for 2019! The first session was held on January 24th at the Creamery and were titled "Social Media Prioritized" with presenter Nancy Dibert, Program Director and Chief Instructor for the University of Delaware's Certificate programs in Social Media Marketing as a

presenter and about 60 people attended! The second session reviewed new tax laws and how they relate to small businesses which was presented by Doug Kook of Bumbers and Company.

Next up:

Chief Nolt will present on “Crime in the Workplace” on March 28th ...4pm. Be sure to register on the officehourskennett.com website.

Community Based Land Stewardship Program-“Managing Invasive Vines on Residential Properties” was held on February 13th with Presenters: Carl Hutchinson and Tim Zador of The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County.

Next up in this series is:

Saturday, March 23, noon-3pm *“Invasive plant ID, removal, and replacement”*

An informational program at Barkingfield Park.

PA Master Gardeners will show you how to identify invasive plants, give advice on managing them, and will bring some great native plant replacements for you to see.

Gardening Naturally: Small Steps for Big Impact! Wednesday, April 10, 7pm Kennett Township Public Meeting Room. Join Eileen Hazard, Audience Development Coordinator for Mt. Cuba Center, and learn how taking small steps in your yard can positively impact our environment.

County Ordinance Review:

The Township continues to work with the Chester County Planning Commission on a comprehensive review of Township Ordinances. Work will be done during the planning Commissions monthly work sessions which are now the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the Townships public meeting room.

Trails:

The Township is going out to bid for the refurbishment of parts of the Parish, Pennock and Whittle trails, work is expected to begin in the Spring/Early Summer.

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Lydell Nolt presented the Chief of Police Report for the month of February 2019:

The Kennett Township Police Department provided police services to 456 police incidents in the municipality of Kennett during the month of February 2019.

The department is beginning a new focus in 2019 to engage the faith based community within the township. Officer Simmons will be reaching out to church leaders in the coming weeks to discuss the opportunity to improve the safety of the church events and the church buildings. We encourage anyone interested in joining this discussion for your associated church to please contact the department.

The department is continuing its traffic safety (Public Service Announcements) PSA activities. We will be using Facebook as outlet to educate the public on a host of different traffic safety concern in the coming months. February focused on “the move over law” which requires motorist to move over when passing emergency vehicles along the roadway.

The department hosted an Opiate Awareness presentation at the township on March 13th. The presentation provided education on the dangers opiates present to our community. As follow up to the presentation the department is hosting a

Drug Take Back Event on April 27th from 10am to 2pm. The public can drop off unwanted prescription medication during the event.

The department provided professional devolvement training for Detective Wenrich in investigating financial crimes involving seniors. Sergeant Gordon received specialized training in hostage negotiations.

The department engaged in 17 community policing events in February 2019. This reaffirms our commitment to community through police and community engagement programs.

Discussion:

Leff commented on the important takeaways from the Opiate Awareness presentation. Leff asked Nolt how many times officers have used Narcam this year, Nolt responded that he believes the number is 4 year to date.

Chief Nolt discussed the easy access of Narcam noting that it can be purchased over the counter at Drug Stores and prices continue to decrease.

Public Works Director Report:

Roger Lysle presented the Public Works Report for the month of February 2019:

Bids were open for material through our co-op and the low bids were recommended for acceptance. This covers fuel, line painting, stone, blacktop, Road oil.

Bid numbers for summer paving and sealing programs were put together and will go out to bid in April.

Spring cleanup is set for March 30, 2019 from 8 AM to noon. Bags, Gloves, and vests are provided. Many people have called to volunteer already. As supplies arrive we will contact everyone to assign them a spot where you can pick your own if you have an idea of where you want to pick up from.

Trees were taken down on Bayard road at the entrance of the maintenance garage. These were dead trees and posed a safety hazard to powerlines in route traffic. A temporary road closure was done due to having a large bucket truck in the roadway, the truck was borrowed from the co-op.

Several trees came down during storms including route 82 and Marshals Bridge and Kaolin road. These were closed due to trees poles and wires down. The public works department close the roads for the fire department.

Our spring sweeping is set for the week of April 8-12. Our subdivisions will be done at this time. Also any yard work that needs to be fixed from our winter plowing will be done at this time.

No parking signs are installed on Skyview Drive and a 25 mph speed limit sign was installed on Pierce Lane.

The sewer line on E. Cypress St. was worked on, it had to be located and exposed. Oh man holes were opened and clean, markers were installed to mark the location.

Trimming is being done on roads that will have paving in service treatment done on them this summer. Along with other areas in the township where needed.

Barkingfield Park has been used very heavy throughout the winter. The large dog park is in bad shape, it will be closed in the coming weeks for re-seeding. We've cleaned up the parking lot from the winter plowing. New bird boxes were installed in the large center hayfield. Also a large owl box was installed in the trees.

The yard waste pile is very busy and filling up fast. Grinding will be set up within the next few months. Many residents are calling for wood chips for the spring start. We are doing these deliveries late in the day and then on Fridays.

Skin patching of roads will be done with a contractor starting the week of April 15. This is done in areas where there is bad cracking and on roads that will be paved and sealed this summer.

Leff asked Lysle to talk about the Sewer Camera that was purchased. Lysle reviewed the abilities of the camera noting that it is 250' that will help with identifying issues with main sewer and stormwater lines.

Discussion:

Alan Dubleman who lives on Creek Road and asked when sewer will be run down Creek Road. Moore responded that the only way to add sewer is to go down the side of Creek road and the Township is looking to apply for a grant to cover the \$550k to extend the sewer line to 4 homes.

Kennett Fire Company Report:

Bruce Mitchell representing the Kennett Fire Company presented the Fire report for the month of February:

Township Fire Calls: 9 of 23 total (49 calls year to date)

Township EMS Calls: 34 of 77 total (183 total for the month including other municipalities)

NEW BUSINESS

Pay Bills

Hoffman made a motion to pay the bills for the month per the bill vouchers for February and March. Leff seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Audubon Resolution

Moore introduced proposed Resolution 2019-12 which would make Kennett Township an official bird town. Moore read the proposed resolution to the audience.

Hoffman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-12 recognizing Kennett Township as an official Bird Town. Leff seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Leff commented on the benefits of becoming an Official Bird Town.

Stevens commented giving a personal experience with the habitat on his personal property and the importance of promoting the health of the habitat.

Leff asked if there was any financial commitment, Moore noted that there was a membership/sign fee.

Joy Davies commented that she supports the resolution.

Leigh Altadonna representing Audubon Pennsylvania made comments congratulating the Township on becoming a bird town and presented a congratulatory letter from the National Audubon Society.

Motion passes unanimously.

Hillingham/Stephens Gardens Discussion

Joy Davies representing residents of the Hillingham Townhome community read a prepared statement regarding their dissatisfaction with their neighbor's property known as Stephens Gardens. Davies described the ongoing maintenance issues with the property noting that the Township Codes department has been notified of the issues and issued fines but there is still lack of progress and more needs to be done to rectify the situation. A copy of the statement read by Davies was submitted and is attached to the Minutes.

Stevens thanked Ms. Davies for her presentation and ensured her that it is certainly a great concern for the Supervisors.

Lisa Moore responded to the Hillingham residents giving an overview what the Township has done, can and cannot do. Moore noted that for a while, the owners of the property had shown progress, although minimal and since they were showing progress, the Township had limited options. Moore noted that recently, the Township learned that the owners have abandoned the property. Moore stated that she will be meeting with the Codes official and speak with the Township Solicitor to find out the next steps and will follow up with the HOA president by the end of the day Friday.

Hillingham residents asked that since there is chemicals on the property if this is something the EPA could be asked to evaluate the property?

Monahan encouraged the Supervisors to walk the Hillingham property to look at the view from their side. Davies asked that the Police increase their monitoring of the property, Chief Nolt responded that he will advise the officers and asked the residents to call the police (911) if they see people in there.

Stephens asked Moore to find out if there is current Bankruptcies and the status of liens.

Hoffman noted that she agrees to get additional information from the Township solicitor involved is the next step.

Leff commented that the Township will look into the next proper step.

Moore confirmed that Monahan is the point contact for the group that she should be responding to.

Stephens noted that the Board of Supervisors is taking this issue seriously and although the process is not as quick to resolve as anyone would like, he promised to continue to work on finding resolution to the issue promising that the Board of Supervisors will not ignore this problem.

Landscapes 3 Resolution

Moore presented proposed Resolution 2019-11 which if adopted would endorse the Landscapes 3 county planning documents. Moore read the Resolution to the audience.

Hoffman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-11 supporting Landscapes 3. Leff seconded the motion.

Discussion:

It is a very neat, thorough document and pointed out the new, Kennett Library in the document.

Motion carried unanimously.

Trails and Sidewalk Committee Ordinance amendment

Moore presented proposed Ordinance number 283 that amends and defines the number of members and qualifications for the Trails and Sidewalk Committee.

Hoffman made a motion to adopt Ordinance number 283. Leff seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Road Maintenance Material- Co-Op Bid

Lysle presented that at a meeting held on Thursday, February 21, 2019, the Municipal Cooperative of Southern Chester County accepted bids for road maintenance materials, services, and supplies. The Purchasing Committee of the Cooperative made recommendations as to the lowest acceptable bidder in each category. The following bids were recommended for acceptance:

Dixie Land Energy - Diesel/Gas – Total Contract: \$34,160.00

Alpha Space Control Company, Inc. – Line Painting – Total Contract: \$26,227.50

New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. d/b/a Martin Limestone - Stone – Total Contract: \$41,077.00

Allan Myers d/b/a Independence Construction – Black Top - Total Contract: \$18,031.00

AMS – Road Oil – Total Contract: \$37,900.00

Hoffman made a motion to approve the recommended Road Maintenance Material bids to the lowest bidder as presented by Roger Lysle, Public Works Director. Leff seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Leff asked how the prices compared to last year. Lysle commented that it is in line with last year with minor adjustments.

Motion carried unanimously.

SUBDIVISIONS

Meadows/Marson

Moore presented the application for lot line change for Meadows/Marson noting this project consists of two (2) properties located on Sills Mill Road identified as tax parcel numbers 62-4-190 and 62-4-190.1. The property owners are proposing to create a lot line change of to redefine the common lot lines. The Planning Commission recommended Final Plan approval to the Board of Supervisors on March 14, 2019.

Moore recommended that the Supervisors approve the Final Lot Line Plan for the Marson/Meadows Properties prepared by Register Associates, Inc. dated 1/31/2019 consisting of 1 sheet with approval of the requested waivers SALDO Sections 206-403B-L given that no earth movement or construction is proposed with this application and DEP Planning Module waiver be approved.

Leff made a motion to approve the Final Lot Line Plan for the Marson/Meadows Properties prepared by Register Associates, Inc. dated 1/31/2019 consisting of 1 sheet with approval of the requested waivers SALDO Sections 206-403B-L given that no earth movement or construction is proposed with this application and DEP Planning Module waiver be approved.

Discussion:

Hoffman asked why the lot lines are being changed. David Meadows described the lot line changes and why the changes would be advantageous for both property owners.

Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred McCarthy commented that he finds it offensive that the Township Police Department uses the Crime Watch program which posts offenders photos noting that posting photos is not doing any good and it hurts the community and family members of those being posted. McCarthy commented that he did research and found the creator of the website himself if a convict. Chief Nolt commented that the point is well taken and noted that he does see value in the Crimewatch program/process. Nolt noted that there are different websites with the name "crime watch" and believes he is stating the creator of one that the Township does not use. Discussion with the Supervisors, Chief Nolt and McCarthy ensued. Richard Gaw asked if the Township is legally bound to post the photographs, Nolt responded "No". Gaw asked if there is value to posting photos in order to deter crime, Nolt responded yes.

Fred McCarthy thanked the Police, Fire and Township for their work noting that the Township is a great place to live.

ADJOURNMENT

Hoffman made motion to adjourn. Leff seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael O'Brien
Recording Secretary

GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS JOY DAVIES. I LIVE AT 1004 HILLINGHAM CIRCLE IN KENNETT TOWNSHIP. OUR DEVELOPMENT IS KNOWN AS HILLINGHAM. WE ARE A TOWNHOME COMMUNITY OF 26 HOMES LOCATED ON RT. 52 JUST SOUTH OF RT. 1. WE ARE, UNFORTUNATELY, LOCATED NEXT TO THE NIGHTMARE KNOWN AS STEPHEN'S GARDENS. FOR YEARS NOW OUR RESIDENTS HAVE APPEALED TO KENNETT TOWNSHIP TO TAKE STEPS TO HAVE STEPHEN'S GARDENS CLEAN UP THEIR GROUNDS AND STOP DUMPING CHEMICALS WHICH LEECH ONTO HILLINGHAM'S PROPERTY POISONING OUR SOIL AND KILLING OUR TREES. THESE TREES WERE PLANTED, AT GREAT EXPENSE TO TRY TO SHIELD OUR VIEW FROM WHAT HAS BECOME A REPLICA OF AN EF-5 TORNADO. A FEW YEARS AGO THE TOWNSHIP MADE A TOKEN EFFORT TO FINE STEPHEN'S GARDENS. FROM HILLINGHAM'S PROSPECTIVE THAT DID LITTLE OR NO GOOD. THE PROPERTY CONTINUES TO GROW MORE UNSIGHTLY EVERY DAY. WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME PICTURES OF THIS EYE SORE SO THE PANEL HERE TONIGHT CAN SEE AND HOPEFULLY UNDERSTAND THE ENORMITY OF THIS PROBLEM. HOW WOULD YOU LIKE THIS IN YOUR FRONT YARD? THERE IS CURRENTLY A HOME FOR SALE IN HILLINGHAM. IF YOU WERE AN OWNER WOULDN'T YOU BE CONCERNED THAT UPON ENTERING OUR PROPERTY THIS IS THE FIRST THING THAT A PROSPECTIVE BUYER WILL SEE. THIS HAS TO EFFECT OUR PROPERTY VALUES.

FOR YOUR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THE RESIDENTS OF HILLINGHAM HAVE SIGNED A PETITION REQUESTING THE

TOWNSHIP TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 168-25, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE, ITEMS A THRU G OF THE KENNETT TOWNSHIP CODE, TO REMOVE THE TRASH, BROKEN GLASS, TIMBER, RATS, FISH TANKS FILLED WITH DIRTY WATER, BARRELS FILLED WITH WHO KNOWS WHAT , PROPANE TANKS, ETC. THE TOWNSHIP NEEDS TO STEP IN, NOT THE OWNER OF RECORD, AND CLEAN UP THIS UNSIGHTLY, UNHEALTHY JUNK YARD. THE RESIDENTS OF HILLINGHAM HAVE BEEN FORCED TO LIVE WITH THIS FOR FAR TOO LONG IT NEEDS TO BE CLEANED UP NOW.

WE KNOW THAT THE PROPERTY IS UP FOR SALE. AS WE ALL KNOW IT COULD BE A VERY, VERY LONG TIME BEFORE THE PROPERTY IS SOLD, ESPECIALLY GIVEN ITS CURRENT CONDITION. THIS HORRENDOUS MESS CANNOT WAIT ANY LONGER FOR CLEAN UP. IT MUST BE DONE NOW!!!! IT DOES WONDER US THAT GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE TOWNSHIP WAS AWARE OF THE CONDITION OF THIS PROPERTY THAT NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION TO REMEDIATE THE PROBLEM BEFORE IT BECAME SO MUCH WORSE. DOESN'T ANY ONE OF THE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS CARE ENOUGH ABOUT KENNETT TOWNSHIP TO FIX THIS PROBLEM? IS THIS HOW YOU WANT OUR TOWN TO BE VIEWED?

ROUTE 52 IS A PATHWAY FROM I-95 TO LONGWOOD GARDENS. NOT A GOOD REPRESENTATION OF OUR TOWN. AGAIN, WHAT ABOUT PROPERTY VALUES? THE IMPACT CAN'T BE GOOD. WHAT IS THE TOWNSHIP THINKING TO ALLOW THIS TO

ESCALATE TO THIS PROPORTION . WHY HASN'T THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER BEEN RIGHT ON TOP OF THIS? AND WHAT ABOUT INSURANCE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD? A PROPERTY THAT IS ADJACENT TO A VACANT LOT OR PROPERTY OR JUNK YARD COULD HAVE ISSUES WITH THEIR INSURANCE COMPANY INSURING THEIR TOWNHOME. SEVERAL YEARS AGO THERE WAS A HUGE FIRE AT STEPHAN'S GARDENS. THERE WAS A BIG EXPLOSION CAUSED BY CHEMICALS OR PROPANE TANKS STORED ON THE PROPERTY. HILLINGHAM HOMES WERE ROCKED BY THIS EXPLOSION EVEN TO THE POINT THAT PICTURES FELL OFF THE WALLS. AT ONE POINT IT LOOKED LIKE THE FIRE WAS GOING TO JUMP INTO OUR DEVELOPMENT. WE SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECTED TO LIVING WITH THIS ANY LONGER. SO IT IS NOT ONLY THE APPEARANCE OF THE JUNK BUT THE POSSIBLE DANGER IT PRESENTS.

BECAUSE HILLINGHAM IS A NON-DEDICATED COMMUNITY WE GET VERY LITTLE FOR OUR TAX DOLLARS WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN COLLECTING FOR ALMOST 35 YEARS...WE GET NO PAVING, NO SNOW PLOWING, STREET REPAIR, LIGHTS, ETC. IT IS TIME FOR THE SUPERVISORS TO STEP UP TO THE PLATE AND SPEND SOME OF THOSE TAX DOLLARS TO REMEDIATE THIS PROBLEM....NOW.....NOT NEXT WEEK OR NEXT MONTH, NOW!!!!!!

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO OUR REQUEST. WE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE AND ACTION ON YOUR PART TO ADDRESS THESE CONCERNS.