



Board of Supervisors Minutes

May 5, 2021 | 7:00 | Remote Meeting Via Zoom

Present: Dr. Richard L. Leff, Chairman; Whitney S. Hoffman, Vice Chair; Scudder G. Stevens, Supervisor; Eden R. Ratliff, Township Manager; Amy Heinrich, Finance & HR Director, Roger Lysle, Public Works Director; Matt Gordon, Chief of Police; Dave Sander, Solicitor

1. Call to Order

Chair Leff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., explained how this virtual meeting would proceed, shared the latest case counts of COVID-19, and urged all to continue to follow the appropriate precautions. Stevens commented about the concerns over the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, stating the risks for developing the concerned side effects are ten times greater if one were to get COVID-19 and urged everyone to get vaccinated. Hoffman reported that you can now text your zip code to 438892 to find a vaccination location near you. She listed several locations in the Kennett area and asked everyone to consider getting vaccinated if they have not yet.

2. Township Recovery Update

Manager Ratliff had no update at this time. Leff said that we are waiting to hear from the District Attorney's office.

3. Executive Session Announcements

There were no Executive Sessions to announce.

4. Meeting Minutes

a. April 21, 2021

(www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/4742)

Motion presented by Hoffman to adopt the April 21, 2021 Board of Supervisors Meeting minutes. Stevens seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

5. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

6. New Business

a. Consider May 5th Bill Voucher in the amount of \$667,911.77

(www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/4745)

Motion presented by Hoffman to approve the May 5th Bill Voucher in the amount of \$667,911.77 and approve total transfers in the amount of \$66,840.99. Stevens seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

b. Consider Grant Acceptance Letter

Motion presented by Hoffman to accept the 2021 Multimodal Transportation Fund award from PennDOT (Application Project ID 2021-15-193) in the amount of \$2,193,550 for the Five-Point Intersection Roundabout Project, and to authorize the Township Manager to execute the letter. Motion seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 3-0.

Discussion

- Ratliff explained how the Board of Supervisors have been working diligently over a number of years to improve the failing intersection locally known as the Five Points Intersection. After the Supervisors authorized another grant application last year, the Township was awarded the \$2.19 million grant from PennDOT with a 35% match, which is a little more than \$750,000. Ratliff then explained next steps and the reason for this motion and said we will have three years to execute this grant.
- Leff commented that if we get this, we will then receive more detail about engineering and design. Ratliff agreed and said the engineering is just starting as we only have concept drawings so far. Bringing out an engineer will be the next step. Stevens clarified that it is “when” we get this, not “if.”
- Leff asked for clarification about the match because the letter states a 30% match. Ratliff said that to make this application stronger, the Township agreed on a 35% match and the Township will be held to that. This would not be reflected in the standard form award letter received by the Township but will be in the grant award documents that will be sent once PennDOT receives the Township’s official acceptance.
- Stevens expressed his enthusiasm in accepting this and his thanks to PennDOT. Hoffman agreed and said this has been a long time coming.
- Leff thanked Ratliff for his guidance in increasing the match which may have made this a more attractive application to PennDOT, and also thanked the representatives who helped us earn this award.

c. Consider Appointment of Nick Popovich to the Historical Commission

Motion presented by Hoffman to appoint Nick Popovich to the Kennett Township Historical Commission for a five-year term ending December 31, 2025. Stevens seconded. Motion passed 3-0 after the following discussion.

Discussion

- Stevens thanked Popovich for his interest in the Historical Commission.
- Leff asked how this appointment came about and Ratliff answered that Popovich filled out and submitted the online “Volunteer Application.”

d. Discuss Emergency Broadband Benefit

Discussion

- Hoffman said that since she has been working on this broadband project, there has been a lot of legislation moving forward by the Federal Government. She then explained that this Emergency Broadband Benefit by the FCC is a rebate of \$50 a month and listed those who are eligible. She said more details can be found at www.getemergencybroadband.org and that this will be available for a about six months, or until the funds run out. Additionally, this will give a rebate of \$50-\$100 for an internet connected device (tablet, computer). Both rebates would come directly from their internet service provider. Hoffman then provided updates on the Digital Infrastructure Study for Southern Chester County, saying that the RFP should go out by June and she hopes they will have their list of proposals by the end of summer. She asked everyone to pass along this information if they knew someone who could use it.

7. Public Comment

Discussion

- There were no public comments.

8. Adjournment

Motion presented by Stevens to adjourn. Hoffman Seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eden R. Ratliff
Township Secretary