



Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting Via 801 Burrows Run Road & Zoom

June 1, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Richard L. Leff, Chairman; Scudder G. Stevens, Vice Chair; Geoffrey Gamble, Esq., Supervisor; Eden R. Ratliff, Township Manager; Amy Heinrich, Finance & HR Director; Diane Hicks, Planning & Zoning Director; PJ Groff, Public Works Interim Director; Matt Gordon, Chief of Police; Dave Sander, Solicitor

1. Call to Order

Chairman Leff called the meeting to order at 7:14pm after a slight technical delay.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

In honor of Memorial Day, Supervisor Gamble shared historical information on Colonel Charles Frederick Taylor, a native of Kennett and the youngest colonel in the Union Army. He was killed at age 23 defending Little Round Top at the Battle of Gettysburg. A stone monument today marks the spot.

** Motion to amend the agenda to include item 6. d., ratifying a confidential settlement agreement, which was agreed to by the Board in May, was made by Stevens and seconded by Gamble. Motion passed 3-0.**

3. Embezzlement Recovery Update

Leff shared the following statement:

The Township and Barbacane had a bona fide dispute regarding potential claims arising out of Lisa Moore's embezzlement of Township funds and Barbacane's auditing of the Township. The parties attended two days of private mediation to resolve that bona fide dispute. Without admitting or conceding any liability or wrongdoing, the Parties have determined that it is in their best interests to resolve this dispute. As part of that settlement, Barbacane agreed to have its insurance carrier pay the Township a sum of seven hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars (\$735,000).

Public Comment: Whitney Hoffman commented that she was glad to see this resolved. Gene Pisasale (via Zoom) asked where that leaves the Township in becoming whole. Ratliff explained that to date, the Township expenses are \$1,529,201 (\$1,288,725.71 spent on forensic accountants, recovery attorneys, and PR counsel plus \$240,475.29 in mismanagement expenses related to the fraud such as IRS fines, pension corrections, etc.) in addition to the \$3.2 million that was embezzled. The total recovered to date is \$3,442,000. Conversation continued about the restitution still owed by Moore and her recovered pension amount. Richard Gaw asked if there would be a press release about this and Ratliff said that there would be a Township-wide email sent out after the meeting. Hoffman added that it is incredibly rare to recover this much in cases like this.

4. Executive Session Announcements

Solicitor Sander announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session earlier on June 1, 2022 regarding a matter of real estate and a matter of litigation.

5. Meeting Minutes

a. May 18, 2022

www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/5659

Motion to adopt the May 18, 2022 Board of Supervisor meeting minutes was made by Gamble and seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 2-0, with Leff recusing himself as he was not present at that meeting.

6. Business Items

a. Consider June 1, 2022 Bill Voucher

www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/5660

Motion to approve the June 1, 2022 Bill Voucher in the amount of \$126,028.00 and to approve total transfers in the amount of \$72,393.24 was made by Gamble and seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 3-0.

b. Consider In-Place Paving Bid Award

www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/5661

Motion to award the In-Place Paving to Long's Asphalt in the amount of \$407,818.35, and the In-Place Oil & Chip to Asphalt Industries in the amount of \$103,093.36, and to authorize the Township Manager to execute the agreements was made by Gamble and seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 3-0.

c. Consider Ordinance 297 - 2018 International Property Maintenance Code and 2018 International Fire Code

www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/5662

Motion to enact Ordinance 297, adopting the 2018 International Fire Code, including Appendices B, C, D, and J, and the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code with amendments was made by Gamble and seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 3-0.

d. Ratify Settlement Agreement

Motion to ratify the presented settlement agreement was made by Gamble and seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 3-0.

7. Police Security Presentation

www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/5677

In light of recent shooting events in Buffalo and Texas, Police Chief Matt Gordon shared a presentation on some of the policies and procedures of the KTPD specifically with Greenwood Elementary. That presentation can be watched back on the video found at: <https://jmp.sh/pgSVfPi> starting at 19:50.

8. Public Comment

Gene Pisasale (via Zoom) asked if the paving awards made after a multiple vendor bid, which Porterfield explained yes they were put out to bid per the Southern Chester County Co-Op who then made recommendations to the townships involved. Heinrich added that the full details can be found on the website under Public Meeting Documents.

Ryan Cell (via Zoom) stated, "Good evening. I would like to have on record that I request to have my questions answers concerning the Ashford Septic billing issue. My questions are in the body of my latest email from May 27 including two attachments from this evening's email. Kennett Township folks on the email include Amy Heinrich, Eden Ratliff, Geoffrey Gamble, William Maslanka, and the Kennett Finance email. I would like to say that I have been in discussions with Amy since December 2021 and she along with her team are hardworking trying to rectify our situation. However, we do not have any answers at this time on what happened in the past, how our current situation will be resolved with breaking out what the \$541 quarterly payment entails, and what future actions will be taken. There are no milestones, timelines, deadlines, etc. Thank you." Ratliff provided some updates and said they are still working diligently on this. Gamble, Heinrich, and Hoffman discussed the history of this issue and next steps.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Gamble and seconded by Stevens. Motion passed 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eden R. Ratliff
Township Secretary