

EAST PENNSBORO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 15, 2019

Regular Meeting

7:30 p.m.

A Regular Meeting of the East Pennsboro Township Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. at Northeast Fire and Rescue, Good Will Fire Station, West Fairview, Pennsylvania.

Those present were: Commissioners - John Kuntzelman, President; George Tyson, Vice President; Kristy Magaro, Charles Gelb and Raymond "Skip" Magaro; John Pietropaoli, Township Manager; Lisa M. Coyne, Esquire, Township Solicitor; John B. Owen, Assistant Township Manager; Jared Hockenberry, Township Engineer; Dearan Quigley, Housing & Community Development; Mike Dobson, Facilities Manager; Ed Myers, WWTP; Chief Mark Green, Police Department; and Erik Owen, Fire Marshal.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Kuntzelman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. A moment of silent meditation was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Kuntzelman thanked Goodwill Fire Station for hosting tonight's meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 1, 2019, was made by Ms. Magaro, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.

III. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Gary Zohn addressed the board regarding code enforcement. He stated he read the Urban Land Institute report and believes the report backs up what he has been arguing for the last 15 years. They mentioned lack of code and ordinance enforcement as a major problem. He believes code enforcement is severely lacking in the township, and residents have to point out problems. He urged the township to do better on code enforcement.

Mr. Quigley stated every complaint received has been investigated, and if there is no violation, then the township cannot proceed. If there is a violation, the township takes the appropriate enforcement action. If no remedy is forthcoming, a violation letter is sent. If the resident does not respond to the violation and correct the situation, a citation is issued. At the point of citation, it moves on to the district justice. The district justice may impose a fine, or can also reject it or hold a hearing. At that point, if a fine is imposed, then the township starts the process all over again and they pay the fine that constitutes that obligation, and then they start the process over.

The township has not had any yet that have had to go to citation because it tends to be taken care of beforehand. But for something like grass height in weather like this that is substantial, that is why the township is in the process of rewriting the ordinance to incorporate a higher initial grass height but shorter time period and more immediate action. The grass height currently is part of the Property Maintenance Code, which provides for a 30-day violation time period, which is substantial in weather like this. Mr. Zohn asked if it was supposed to be changed to 7 days sometime last summer. Mr. Quigley stated they have been working on that. It is part of a larger rewrite of the ordinances in general. From the standpoint of enacting new ordinances, there is substantial expense that goes along with that and it takes time for review and approval.

Mr. Tyson noted Mr. Zohn's comments are something a number of board members are aware of and have had discussions with the Township Manager, who has had recent conversations with the Codes Department to address some of these issues.

Mr. Zohn further noted the Motor Vehicle Code states if a vehicle is not operable on private property, eventually it should be towed away, and on Third Street there has been a car jacked up for about 6 or 7 years.

Mr. Zohn complimented the Police Department and the fire companies, who are doing an outstanding job.

Mr. Lawrence Stillions, 10 West Pine Street, Enola, noted if a car is stored on private property and not operating, eventually it can be towed away.

Mr. Stillions addressed the board about the garbage company in the township. He noted the current garbage provider has broken cans, and when they are called, they do not want to replace them. He had a \$300 can that they broke the lid and he has been fighting with them to replace it. He also observed them spilling trash on the street and leaving it there. He provided pictures to the Township Manager. Further, he heard the street sweeper on Enola Drive a few days ago but they have not been on the side streets.

Mr. Pietropaoli stated he met with the trash company today to discuss complaints from residents regarding the trash and recycling crews throwing cans and not emptying them. He acknowledged the street sweeping schedule is a little behind. They are on Enola Drive but will get to the side streets in town now that they are up and running again.

Ms. Kim Peters, 100 Ashford Drive, at the corner of Beaver Avenue and Ashford Drive, inquired as to paving plans for this summer. She noted where Beaver Avenue meets Ashford Drive in front of her house are two potholes that soon will be one large one. Mr. Pietropaoli will send staff out to look at it.

Ms. Peters also agreed with the complaints about the current trash service. She noted Waste Management cared more about trash cans and did not toss the cans like the current company does.

Ms. Peters also noted storm drains on Beaver Avenue are clogged. Mr. Pietropaoli noted staff is out right now cleaning storm drains with equipment and he will make sure they get to Beaver Avenue.

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IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

MOTION authorizing payment of invoices and payroll pending review of and signatures of Commissioners, was made by Ms. Magaro, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pietropaoli noted he received the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with East Pennsboro and Hampden Township as far as fire protection, which was sent to the Solicitor to review.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., was made by Ms. Magaro, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.