

**Elizabeth Township
Board of Commissioners
Monday, May 1, 2017
Commissioners' Meeting**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Roll Call- All Present

Executive Session Acknowledgement: President Beckowitz states that there was an Executive Session held at 6:00 to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Department Reports:

Code Enforcement- in addition to his written report he has provided the Board with copies of the latest zoning decision with Amerikohl mining. As of right now no blasting permits have been issued by the DEP, Township permits are still required before grading and a Zoning Certificate.

Engineer- in addition to written report Bryan Churilla states that the Boston Ballfield Dumpsite regarding illegal grading, KLH has gone through the process of obtaining the needed permits for this. Storm water issues are also discussed in regards to Chapel Drive. The 2017 paving project bids were opened last week, were just waiting on clarification on a portion of Scenery Drive and Forward Township. Dennis Drive is scheduled to start any day now. Commissioner Kuzma asks for clarification on Arrow Drive and what is going on there. Bryan Churilla explains how a French drain was installed at 122, however the neighbor's yard is a marsh. Bryan states that he is going to be looking into this as per Commissioner Kuzma. Commissioner Kuzma asks if we can put an RFP out for hydraulic testing to be done in regards to this. Bryan states that he must first put out a scope of work before this can happen.

Commissioner Kuzma makes a motion to put out for RFP for a hydraulic study to be done at 122 and 126 Arrow Drive contingent upon the Engineer's approval. Second: Commissioner Rhoderick All in favor: Motion carries.

Police- Chief Kerestes reads his report log of events and investigations.

Public Works- Johnny Castine states that they are working on fixing catch basins on roads that are scheduled to be paved. He also states the branch pick up has concluded for this season.

President Beckowitz addresses Bryan Churilla about a letter that was received and asks him to look at Valleyvue in regards to a cul-de-sac being on private property. If it is confirmed to be on private property, President Beckowitz asks Johnny Castine to go have this area dug up off of the private property and make it so the cul-de-sac isn't on private property.

Commissioner Kuzma asks Bryan Churilla about the holding tank in Buena Vista and if it is being scrapped or not. Bryan addresses concerns that have arisen and states that we must show to the DEP that we will not exceed flow rates if we scrap the holding tanks. Commissioner Similo states that a study has not been done yet and talks about costs and bonds. Bryan Churilla states that KLH does not get 20% of the construction cost. There is discussion about the itemization of costs from the Act 537 meeting. Commissioner Similo wants to meet with Bryan individually to have KLH's invoices explained in detail what we are paying for out of each fund. Commissioner Kuzma then asks about PennVEST funding. Bryan explains the process and how he has contacted DEP about granting more time for us to pursue this money. Commissioner Kuzma states that KLH should not have the obligation of finding funding that the Commissioners should have a meeting scheduled with the DEP immediately. President Beckowitz states that this is out of control. We have already had an approved Act 537 Plan that should have been followed through and we would have been finished by now. Commissioner Kuzma states that he is simply asking questions. President Beckowitz states that Commissioner Kuzma does have the right to ask questions. Bryan Churilla clarifies that Senate was hired and Senate was fired, Gateway was hired

and Gateway was fired. KLH has no bearing on this and he agrees that if the original plan was followed through with, we would have this project completed by now, but this is not the situation we are in. Bryan states that he is doing what he thinks is best for the Township and he is also trying to keep rates low.

Solicitor- nothing outside of items discussed in Executive Session

Sanitary-Veolia Water- Dennis from Veolia reads his sanitary written report that was also submitted to the Board.

Citizens to address agenda items:

Ray Lorince- blasting and fracking- Mr. Lorince is concerned about literature being distributed regarding strip mining on Mill Hill. He wants to know the status of this. President Beckowitz states that a letter will be sent to the DEP from the Township regarding opposing the mining. Solicitor Racunas clarifies that the Township has just received this notice as well 2 weeks ago and clarifies where we are with this matter and also encourages all residents who are concerned to reach out to the DEP bureau of mining and reclamation voicing their concerns. John Snelson states that the New Stanton Office handles mining for Allegheny County. Commissioner Saxon asks if something can be put on the website and Facebook page explaining this and how to contact the DEP. Commissioner Rhoderick asks John Snelson if he knows who is doing the survey. He states that someone is going door to door and asking residents for information. It is stated that this wouldn't be the DEP asking for this information. It would be a resident or someone else.

Ilene Fennel- voices concerns regarding fumes near her residence and mining. Ms. Fennel states that she has the number for Adam Snyder and if they get enough of the pre blast surveys they will not do the blasting.

Patty Hoffman- please call the Amerikohl Mining Company numbers that are on the letters. Call the DEP at the New Stanton Office at 724-925-5500 and the more calls they receive opposing it the more likely they will not do the blasting. Solicitor Racunas clarifies that there are false documents floating around that advise people to contact the Township. Do not contact the Township, we did not distribute those letters. Please call the DEP.

Patricia Honick- we are all responsible and accountable for what goes on and who is going to be responsible for all of our health when someone gets sick from the blasting and pollution. Solicitor Racunas states that the company would be responsible and that all concerns should be voiced to the DEP and that is why they do these surveys because if they receive enough surveys they will deny the blasting. Commissioner Rhoderick asks about noise ordinances and land clearing permit. Solicitor Racunas states that he is just in the beginning stages of looking into all of this.

Sandra Ginosky-most of my questions have been answered

Corrin Culhane- water issue on Arrow Drive. Ms. Culhane explains in detail the drainage issues on her property and the steps that she has taken to try and fix this.

Mary Jo Hall & Michelle Harris- letter was sent to the Board and wants to thank the Board for their time and consideration in this matter. Ms. Harris states that the issue with the cul de sac has been used publicly since the road was created and maintained by the Township. They are concerned if this cul de sac is blocked off due to being private property that people will turnaround in their driveway.

Resolutions:

1. Motion to adopt a resolution in support of the completion of the Mon Fayette Expressway Project from Route 51 to interstate 376. **Motion:** Commissioner Similo **Second:** Commissioner Evans
All in favor: Motion Carries
2. Motion to ratify Resolution # 2017-14 for the DEP Plan Revision for the Giran Subdivision.
Motion: Commissioner Similo **Second:** Commissioner Saxon
All in favor: Motion Carries

Items for Consideration:

1. Motion to approve the General Fund Bill Warrant dated May 1, 2017 in the amount of \$215,766.87.
Motion: Commissioner Saxon **Second:** Commissioner Blake
Roll Call Vote: All in favor, Motion Carries
2. Motion to approve the Sanitary Fund Bill Warrant dated May 1, 2017 in the amount of \$92,942.17.
Motion: Commissioner Blake **Second:** Commissioner Saxon
Roll Call Vote: All in favor, Motion Carries
3. Motion to approve Bond Requisition No. 47 in the amount of \$53,947.50
Motion: Commissioner Rhoderick **Second:** Commissioner Kuzma
Roll Call Vote: All in favor, Motion Carries
4. Motion to approve the renewal of the Pennsylvania Game Commission Hunter Access Program Cooperative Agreement.
Motion: Commissioner Saxon **Second:** Commissioner Evans
All in favor, Motion Carries
5. Motion to implement the sexual abuse and molestation policy for all Township Employees as recommended by Selective Insurance.
Motion: Commissioner Saxon **Second:** Commissioner Similo
All in favor, Motion Carries
6. **ADDED MOTION-** Motion to waive the fee for the Boston Ball Field Ron Wise Memorial Orioles.
Motion: Commissioner Evans **Second:** Commissioner Blake
All in favor, Motion Carries

Commissioner Similo states that he would like something added for the record. He wants to re-affirm a payment that was made at the last meeting. It was for a penalty in the amount of \$1,185.42 to the Internal Revenue Service. This needs to be shown and shown separately so the proper responsibility is assigned to the right people.
7. **ADDED MOTION-** Re affirm the payment that was made in the amount of \$1,185.42 to the Internal Revenue Service. **Motion:** Commissioner Similo **Second:** Commissioner Kuzma
Roll Call Vote: All in favor, Motion Carries

Citizens to address items:

Jamie Maksin-Highland Meadows Playground discussion regarding updating the dated equipment. Commissioner Similo states that if we do not receive Grant funding we will use money from the budget to replace the equipment at this playground and fix it up. Commissioner Saxon asks if John Castine can make a list of the equipment there. Bryan Churilla interjects that Lauren Zang was working on applying for a grant for these updates and is unaware if she has completed this process. President Beckowitz asks if he knows if it was filed and also states that we cannot access the computer to check. The grant information may be on the computer. Commissioner Similo states that we were left with little to no information on this grant. Solicitor Racunas states that we are working on gaining access to be able to look for this information.

Pat Talavinia-thanks to John Snelson and John Castine for her issue. She asks if the Township is going to continually pay to have this junk removed from the property. This is a constant issue and wants to know if the Township is willing to keep paying. Solicitor Racunas states that we can lien the property since we have taken the corrective actions. She references a red car that has been tagged. Chief Kerestes gives clarification on this issue and the process.

Tom George- speeding issue on Greenock Buena Vista Road. Voices complaints regarding speeding school buses, dump trucks, tandem trucks, 18 wheels, cars, trucks. Chief Kerestes explains to Mr. George that the Police Department has cited school bus drivers in the past and they are not excluded from speeding citations or other violations.

Lisa Kassler- lives on corner of Happy Hollow and 48. Ms. Kassler states that her neighbor has posted signs that are unsightly and asks if they can be removed. She is directed by Commissioner Rhoderick to give John Snelson the address and he will take a look.

Eris Ash- questions the changes in the administrative office staff. Mr. Ash states that he has noticed that we are short staffed over the last couple of weeks. Wants to know what the resolution is. President Beckowitz states that someone will be starting next week.

Carol Dailey- Ms. Dailey speaks of the curative agreement from Invenergy that was at the planning meeting and questions this procedure. Solicitor Racunas clarifies. Ms. Dailey then asks of a contract with PA American Water. Lastly, Ms. Dailey asks about a special exemption for Amerikohl mining. Solicitor Racunas explains this as well.

Megan McDonough-Food Bank. Ms. McDonough speaks about the local community food bank and how they have reached out to her with help in grant writing and she states that the trailers they currently use are insufficient. She asks if someone can come out and take a look at the property and tell her what permits they would need in order to better assist her in the grant writing process.

Frank Sabolcik- states that he heard the Board make a comment that they do not have current access to a Township Computer. He states that this is a personnel issue, but the Township needs to resolve it. They need to take the hit and fire her. President Beckowitz and Solicitor Racunas state that this is a personnel issue and cannot be discussed.

Andrew Monich- wrote a letter to the DEP regarding a farm that was strip mined twice. Mr. Monich explains the history of the mining here in that area. He also addresses Chief Kerestes regarding Jacktown Road and Mill Hill and that there are no speed limit signs there. Thirdly, he speaks of EQT purchasing the property across from him and the delinquent taxes weren't paid when purchased.

Emil Burack- Amerikohl mining concerns are discussed. He states that no one was there to fight for him and there was no backup help or support, so he doesn't want to hear it from everyone else.

Chris Thoma- thanks Commissioner Saxon and President Beckowitz for working the concession stand at the softball tournament over the weekend. He recognizes how far the complex has come over the last few years. Mr. Thoma also asks about 110 Grouse Drive and asks if President Beckowitz asks if she spoke to the Foreman about it.

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Evans

Second: Commissioner Blake