



# Board of Supervisors

## Regular Meeting

425 Wells Road  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
[www.doylestownpa.org](http://www.doylestownpa.org)  
Twitter: @DoylestownTwp  
[www.facebook.com/doylestowntwp](https://www.facebook.com/doylestowntwp)  
215-348-9915

~ Minutes ~

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Tuesday, May 6, 2014

7:00 PM

Public Meeting Room

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### I. 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

Members of the Board of Supervisors in attendance included Chairman; Barbara N. Lyons, Vice Chairman; Richard F. Colello, Supervisors; Ken L. Snyder, Shawn Touhill and Ryan Manion.

Township Staff in attendance included Township Manager; Stephanie J. Mason, Director of Operations; Richard E. John, Township Solicitor; Jeffrey P. Garton, Police Lt. Matt O'Connor.

Absent: Township Engineer; Mario Canales and Chief of Police; A. Dean Logan.

#### A. *Pledge to the flag*

#### B. Visitors/Public Comments

Mrs. Lyons began the meeting by introducing members of Boy Scout Troop #24

Residents; Bill Lahr of 329 Bunker Hollow Road requested Board assistance with clarifying he does own the bridge located behind his home. After flooding from recent rain storms, a nearby resident contacted the township and was informed the bridge was owned by Mr. Lahr. Mr. Lahr presented the board with paperwork and surveys beginning in 1995 indicating the back up under the bridge is caused by debris along Nicholas Drive. Mr. Lahr also indicated he will not remove the bridge as per the recommendation of Christian Voight of the Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection Agency.

Mrs. Lyons requested Mr. John to look into the matter to receive proper facts and information. Mr. Lahr offered his paperwork regarding this ongoing problem for reference. Mr. John agreed and reported he recently visited the site. Ms. Mason added upon her recent conversation with Mr. Voight, information other than what Mr. Lahr reported was provided. Mr. Lahr concluded, the problem begins with the water that travels underneath Nicholas Drive. There are two outlets where the water will rise up to 3 feet then backs up and unable to flow underneath the bridge.

### II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next meeting of the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014
- B. Doylestown Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 due to Election Day and Monday, May 26, 2014 in observance of Memorial Day.
- C. Annual Doylestown Township Golf Outing – Monday, June 2nd at Doylestown County Club. Registration deadline is Friday, May 16th beginning at 9:00am

- D. Home Run Derby Event will be held on Thursday, May 15th beginning at 5:00pm until dusk at Turk Baseball field. Pre-registration can be completed at [www.doylestownpa.org](http://www.doylestownpa.org) or visiting the Administrative Offices

**III. MINUTES APPROVAL: Board of Supervisors 4/1/14 and Road Inspection 4/24/14**

Mr. Snyder made a MOTION; seconded by Mr. Colello the April 1, 2014 Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors Regular meeting minutes be approved.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

Mr. Touhill made a MOTION; seconded by Mr. Colello the April 24, 2014 Doylestown Township Road Inspection minutes be approved

Resident: Lee Schwarz questioned are road inspections advertised since they are considered board meetings. Ms. Mason answered; all road inspections are advertised the same as board meetings.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 1 with Ms. Manion abstaining due to her absence.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCES**

- A. Edison Furlong Road – Truck Usage Concerns

Ms. Mason reported upon her recent conversation with Buckingham Township Manager regarding Senator Charles McIlhinney April 9, 2014 letter, where they are working on a response. All correspondence to Senator Charles McIlhinney will be shared with the township. Lieutenant O'Connor added the township police department had been notified and concerned with the township's liability. They believe the engine break causes the situation.

- B. Business Route 202 –Letter of Support from Chalfont/New Britain Business Alliance

Ms. Mason reported the Chalfont New Britain Association submitted a request to rename East Butler Avenue to Business Route 202 to better define and separate from East Butler Avenue and State Street along Chalfont and New Britain. At a recent meeting, Executive Director of the Bucks County Planning Commission (BCPC); Lynn Bush suggested various municipalities submit a letter indicating their approval of the name change. The BCPC will then assist in submitting an application to Penn Dot.

Mrs. Lyons questioned where the designation will begin. Ms. Mason indicated; the route will begin at New Britain Road near East Butler Avenue. At the consensus of the board, a letter will be drawn supporting a local street name change to Business Route 202.

**V. REPORTS**

- A. Solicitor

No report

- B. Police Chief

No report

- C. Township Engineer

No report

**D. Manager**

## 1. DART Update

Ms. Mason reported the Doylestown DART committee received a \$250,000 grant toward the DART transportation service. Additionally, Bucks County donated \$18,000 towards the service along with the township, Doylestown Borough and the Doylestown Business Alliance who all donated \$5,000. Bucks County Transport is also working with YMCA on programming with Tamanend Middle School and reaching out to various senior centers to encourage ridership and availability for Saturday services.

Mrs. Lyons reported the Board has been invited to participate at the DART Service meeting on May 16th, 12:00pm at Grundy Hall to introduce and explain the bus services.

## 2. Acknowledgement of Retirement– D. Kinder

The Board acknowledges with regrets, the retirement of Don Kinders after 25 years of service with the township.

**E. Supervisors**

Mr. Touhill reported that he attended the PSATS Convention and offered his time to anyone interested in discussing cell phone towers, storm water, grants, green building and alternatives fuels after tonight's meeting.

Mr. Snyder reported \$500,000 was budgeted towards bridge, road, guard repair and drainage. Of the \$500,000, \$320,000 will be spent for roads. With the second road inspection due to a difficult winter, an additional \$200,000 was identified. All roads scheduled for repair will be posted on the township's website [www.doylestownpa.org](http://www.doylestownpa.org). Also, upon a recent bridge survey completed, \$60,000 has been allocated to repair bridges under a higher priority category.

The Telecommunications Advisory Board (TAB) will hold their next meeting on Monday, May 12th. The topic will be mainly social media and how to better interact and communicate with residents. The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) will hold their annual summit on Thursday, May 22nd. The Central Bucks Regional Aging Task Force appointed a new Chairman; Kevin Jamison. Their next meeting will be held in June where the topic will be how to energize seniors with correct activities and DART.

Mr. Colello reported the Planning Commission reviewed land development plans for two developments. The first is the Pavilion at Doylestown where the plans were revised to include a CVS store within the township zoning requirements of 10,000 square feet. They are still having several issues to address, however progress has been made. For the Boy Scout troop in attendance, Mr. Colello explained the process of reviewing land development plans to ensure construction abide by the rules and regulations of township zoning requirements.

The Intelligencer Newspaper printed a front page Intelligencer article reporting that Doylestown Township is 75% higher than any other municipality in the state.

Mr. Colello then commented on the wonderful time he and his grandchildren had during a recent bird walk and their attendance at the Touch-A-Truck event.

The Board attended the April 4th Pennsylvania State Associations of Township Supervisors (PSATS) where Doylestown Township received the Governor's Award. Mr. Colello thanked Ms. Mason for a job well done.

Ms. Manion encouraged the public to view the Park and Recreation Summer Program Guide for a variety

of summer camps and programs to enjoy. Mrs. Lyons added she will be meeting with the school board next week to request the summer program guide be given to the students at each school three times a year.

Mrs. Lyons recommended the Board consider amending the current Doylestown Dog Park Committee resolution to provide at large members with voting privileges. The board agreed by consensus to have the township solicitor prepare a draft resolution and present it at the June 3rd Board of Supervisor Regular meeting.

As per a recent meeting with the Open Space Committee, Mrs. Lyons recommends board consider conducting annual Open Space inspections in the near future to ensure all land is being use as per the township's guidelines. For the troops in attendance, Mrs. Lyons explained in 2007 the county of bucks passed a referendum allowing approximately \$94,000,000 as a portion from all municipalities in Bucks County be allotted and hold open space land for enjoyment only and eternally. As part of township guidelines, nothing can be built on these allotted open space land.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Waiver Requests**

#### **1. Pebble Hill Church – Request for Building Permit Waiver**

Mr. Colello commented he disagrees with Pebble Hill Church request for a waiver of \$200 for building permit and \$50.00 for electrical, due to a lack of meeting resolution requirements showing cause for the health, safety and wellbeing of the township. Mr. Snyder agreed.

The board agreed by consensus to deny Pebble Hill Church request for a building permit waiver.

#### **2. The Ancient Order of Hibernians – Request Showmobile Rental and Fees waived**

Ms. Mason reported the Ancient Order of Hibernians representatives are present to request a waiver for snowmobile rental and fees associated with use, including the security deposit, staff support and stage extensions. The snowmobile will be used as part of a festival to raise money for Bucks County food banks.

Ancient Order of Hibernians representative; Patrick Cleary provided a brief background of the organization first devised in 1994 and currently has over 165 members. The main mission of the organization is to stock food pantries across the Bucks county area. The Irish festival is scheduled to be held on June 14th and will raise money on a county wide basis for four divisions, where 100% of proceeds will fill food banks throughout Bucks County. Mr. Cleary further explained the more money that can be saved will be more food that can be provided to all the pantries.

Mr. Touhill commented on the organization's great work and is in favor of granting a waiver. Mr. Colello explained the board has a fiduciary responsibility of spending residents' money prudently. He voiced concerned with applying taxpayers' money towards a cause that may not be favorable. Mr. Colello voted to deny a waiver request.

Ms. Manion commented the board should consider clarifying reasons for approving and or denying waiver requests.

Mrs. Lyons commented she doesn't see a problem and not making money off this event. However she agrees with Mr. Colello in where the outlay of costs should be re-worked.

A discussion ensued amongst the Board regarding several options in approving waiver requests

outside the current policy's guidelines.

Resident; Lee Schwarz questioned who is liable for damage of the showmobile. Ms. Mason answered; a certificate of insurance is required prior to renting the showmobile.

Ancient Order of Hibernians member; John Butler commented he hopes the board will take into consideration how many people will benefit, including several residents along his neighborhood from the organization's cause.

Mr. Snyder commented he would like to see a compromise where the township will cover at least half of the fees.

The board agreed by consensus to waive the rental and stage extension fees. However, wages for township staff support at the June 14th event will be the responsibility of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

**B. Penn Color Preliminary Subdivision – Review Extension**

Mr. Snyder made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors grant Penn Color an extension until July 15, 2014 to submit their land development plan.

MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

**C. Bucks County Open Space Program Resolution**

Ms. Mason provided for board's review the Bucks County Open Space Program revised resolution #1760, where Bucks County has approved the revisions made by the township. The resolution pertains to a property previously approved by the board. Upon approval the Resolution along with an application will be forwarded to the county on May 28th. Approval will indicate the township would like to utilize the municipal open space and monies will be applied to tax parcel 9-74201.

Ms. Manion made a MOTION; seconded by Mr. Colello the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors approve the Buck County Open Space Program revised Resolution #1760 be forwarded along with an application to Bucks County Open Space Committee.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

**D. Bids**

**1. Guard Rails**

Mr. Colello made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors award the 2014 Guard Rail bid to Long Fence Company in the amount of \$69,990 as per the recommendation of Richard John.

MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

**2. Bike/Hike**

Ms. Mason reported several bids were received for Destination Peace Valley, the Neshaminy Greenway and Sensory Trail. Among six bids received the lowest quote from Barwis Construction for all three trails. Neshaminy Greenway quote came in at \$323,144, Destination Peace Valley at \$179,244 and the Sensory Trail at \$49,944. Upon Chris Stanford of Baker Engineering review of Barwis Construction's previous municipal projects and ability to complete the trials, he recommends the township award all three bids. Additionally, the bid is within the township's budget for all three trails with the inclusion of

grants received.

Mr. Colello made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors award the 2014 Bike and Hike Trail bid to Barwis Construction in the amount of \$552,332 to construct Destination Peace Valley, Neshaminy Greenway and Sensory Trail as per the recommendation of Chris Stanford of Baker Engineering.

Bike and Hike Committee Chairperson; Tom Kelso reported the committee considered having the township staff complete the trails. However, due to the extraordinary winter it was deemed necessary to hire additional help. With several grants received, a decision was made several months ago to move forward. Mr. Kelso continued, the bid was competitive and references were checked. Upon completion the township will have three great trails unique in their own way with additional 2 miles added.

Mr. Snyder questioned; what was different about the Neshaminy creek in which several bids presented were conservative. Mr. Kelso answered; the Neshaminy creek trail is a difficult one to construct with limited access on both ends and currently extremely wet. Mr. Snyder then questioned if there is a concern a change in order may arise once the bid is approve due to the difficulty of the trial. Mr. Kelso answered; when references were checked the question was discussed with a mandatory pre visit of the site. Mr. Kelso is confident everything has been done to minimize additional costs. However issues may still arise.

MOTION CARRIED 5 to 0.

E. Bills List – May 6, 2014

Mr. Snyder made a MOTION; seconded by Mr. Colello the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors approve the Bill's Lists for April 22, 2014 in the amount of \$284,697.90 And May 6, 2014 in the amount of \$127,103.25.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

F. Treasurer's Report – May 6, 2014

Mr. Snyder made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors approve the May 6, 2015 Treasurer's Report.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

## VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Resident; James Binger at Turkey Lane in Furlong commented on Mr. Colello's report regarding the status of Pavilion at Doylestown (Grasso Tract) land development plan. He attended the April 28, 2014 Planning Commission meeting and noted no member addressed the issue of the impervious surface at

60% applied on the plan instead 40% as per township requirements. Mr. Colello responded; the impervious surface is a zoning issue and not to be addressed by the planning commission. Planning Commission Vice President; Mr. Kelso agreed and reported impervious surface was discussed and applicants were directed to the zoning hearing board to resolve the issue. He added it was the first time the commission viewed the revised sketch plan and will be a long road until the land development plan is reviewed. There were significant changes noted in a positive direction and everyone is going to a process the best they can.

Mr. Bingler voiced his concern to why the plan cannot be asked to be smaller rather than having the applicants continue submitting revised sketch plans. He doesn't believe by having the applicants increase the impervious surface will resolve the flooding issue along the area. Mrs. Lyons responded; the board is not in the position to respond at the present time with no documents to view. It will be beneficial to run through the process and let the planning commission and zoning hearing board complete their duties. The township has been very active making sure the zoning is upheld and will not change. Mr. Bingler reported the Grasso tract plans shows 80% of trees will be removed without replacing them. He also disagreed with Mr. Colello statement indicating all residents' questions were answered. Upon his impression, many of the questions were left unanswered. Mrs. Lyons responded; it's unfair to criticize Mr. Colello comments at tonight's meeting and suggested all questions and concerns be addressed during the plan development presentations. She added; Mr. Colello is very experienced and knowledgeable in the planning process and should be respected.

The May 6, 2014 Board of Supervisors Regular meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Stephanie J. Manson