

EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 03, 2019

The June 03, 2019 Regular Meeting took place in the Township meeting room at 566 Beaumont Road, Devon. Supervisors present included: Betsy Fadem, Chair; Christopher D. Polites, Vice Chair; James W. Oram, Jr.; and Marc J. Heppe. Also attending were Dan Fox, Township Manager; Eugene C. Briggs, Jr., AICP, CZO, Assistant Township Manager and Director of Planning and Zoning; Dave Obzud, Police Chief; Don Curley, PE, AICP, Public Works Director; Kate Jones, Administrative Coordinator; and Andrew D. H. Rau, Esquire, Township Solicitor.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Fadem called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance. Mrs. Fadem announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the public meeting to discuss matters of litigation, personnel, and real estate.

BOARD MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Consideration of the Recommendation by the Parks and Recreation Board Regarding Walking Path Behind Spring Knoll Pumping Station

Mr. Curley updated the Board on this item. On Wednesday May 22, 2019, the Parks and Recreation Board met and discussed the issue of the prospective walking path behind the Spring Knoll Pumping Station. The Parks and Recreation Board members unanimously tabled the motion, indicating in their recommendation comments that the Township should evaluate the concerns that were expressed by the public at both of Parks and Recreation Board meetings in April and May.

Mrs. Fadem stated that the Parks and Recreation Board have recommended tabling the Spring Knoll walking path for a number of reasons, including that it is asking the Board for direction and seeking funding for site-specific surveys and studies. She then stated that, after having attended the related meetings in the past two months and hearing resident concerns, she proposes that the project not move forward.

To begin the discussion, Mrs. Fadem made a motion that the Board of Supervisors not agree to the Parks and Recreation Board's conditions for tabling the proposed walking path behind Spring Knoll Pumping Station and instead discontinue the project. Mr. Polites seconded the motion. Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the Board.

Mr. Polites began by saying that municipalities acquire land because there is a need to preserve open space. Open space contributes to the quality of life on a community and prevents future development. The open space behind the Spring Knoll Pumping Station is an asset and belongs to all of the citizens of the Township. However, he continued, he is against all development on this site other than maintenance

associated with sewer infrastructure and does not want it promoted by any organization as a recreational location.

Mr. Heppe stated that the Township relies on its volunteers and their respective advisory boards to provide input on projects and that he cannot take action until there is a formal recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Board to consider.

Mr. Oram stated that the Board has a history of considering recommendations given by its volunteer advisory boards and that he is uncomfortable taking action without a formal recommendation. A discussion ensued regarding the justification threshold required to fund the studies being requested by the Parks and Recreation Board to complete its formal recommendation.

Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the public.

Tom Toscani and Margaret DePiano spoke on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Board.

The following residents expressed opposition to the proposed walking path: Vijai Gupta, 816 Newtown Road; Robert Lake, 876 Saratoga Road; Glen Marshall, 1006 Gwilym Circle; Robert Zelinsky, 808 Newtown Road; Kathy Anderson, 933 Ethan Allen Road; Diane Warner, 872 Llewelyn Road; Diane Ward, 1036 Beaumont Road; Richard Bearinger, 1105 Waterloo Road; Rick Herman, 822 Newtown Road; and Jane Bearinger, 875 Llewelyn Road.

After public comment, Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed three to one with Mrs. Fadem, Mr. Polites, and Mr. Oram voting in the affirmative.

CU 103 – 105 Lancaster Avenue – Conditional Use Hearing

Chairperson Fadem adjourned the public meeting for the Public Hearing. The transcript is on file at the Easttown Township Building.

Mrs. Fadem called the public meeting back to order and asked for a motion. Mr. Oram made a motion to approve Conditional Use Application 103 for Centric Bank, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the Applicant comply with the commitments in Brian L. Nagle, Esquire's letter dated May 07, 2019.
2. The Applicant shall comply with the Township's development and permitting requirements, including but not limited to, posting the necessary financial security for the proposed public and quasi-public improvements and obtain all necessary permits for the development.
3. The Applicant shall reimburse the Township for all outstanding fees and charges incurred by the Township in processing and considering the Conditional Use Application, including but not limited to legal, engineering, and consulting review fees.

4. The proposed use and development, and intensity thereof, shall be consistent with the testimony and evidence provided at the Public Hearing.

Mr. Polites seconded the motion. Public comment was taken during the Hearing. Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administration: Mr. Fox outlined the contents of his memo, dated June 03, 2019.

Public Works: Mr. Curley outlined the contents of his memo, dated May 28, 2019.

Mrs. Fadem asked Staff for an update regarding a resident concern over the state of Waterloo Road on the south side of Hilltop Park. Mr. Curley stated that his department has investigated the concern regarding illegally dumped items and found none at this time. Mr. Briggs added that the fence in question is the responsibility of PennDOT as it is in the right-of-way of a state road.

Mrs. Fadem then opened the floor to the public and Michael Wacey, of 1049 Beaumont Road, and Jay Hughes, of 874 Llewelyn Road, asked Mr. Curley questions regarding miscellaneous aspects of his report.

REGULAR TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

Minutes

To begin the discussion, Mrs. Fadem asked the Board for a motion. Mr. Oram made a motion to approve the Board of Supervisors meeting minutes of May 20, 2019. Mr. Polites seconded the motion. Mrs. Fadem noted an addition to the minutes and opened the floor to the Board and there were no comments. Mrs. Fadem then opened the floor to the public and there were no comments. Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously, with Mrs. Fadem's addition.

Authorize Payment of Bills

To begin the discussion, Mrs. Fadem asked the Board for a motion. Mr. Oram made a motion to authorize payment of the bills totaling \$455,754.38, date ending May 30, 2019. Mr. Heppe seconded the motion. Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the Board and it questioned the staff on miscellaneous aspects of the bills. Mrs. Fadem then opened the floor to the public and there were no comments. Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

There were no comments from the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Fadem read the following announcements:

Easttown Township has partnered with Curb My Clutter – a convenient service that picks up clothes and electronics right at your doorstep. For more information, please visit www.curbmyclutter.com/easttownpa.

The following public meetings will be held at the Township Building unless otherwise stated:

- Planning Commission on Tuesday, June 04, 7 pm
- Parks and Recreation on Tuesday, June 04, 7 pm at Hilltop House
- Policy Committee on Monday, June 10, 5:30 pm
- Citizens Advisory Committee on Monday, June 10, 6:15 pm
- Municipal Authority on Tuesday, June 11, 7 pm
- Devon Center Task Force on Wednesday, June 12, 7 pm
- Historical Commission on Wednesday, June 12, 7 pm at Easttown Library
- Next Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, June 17, 7 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

Louise Story, of 2060 Buttonwood Road, stated that she believed the Parks and Recreation Board did not have enough time to provide a formal recommendation to the Board for the proposed walking path.

Arlene Riddle, of 31 Central Avenue, expressed various concerns regarding parking and traffic safety concerns on Bridge and First Avenues. Staff stated that it would investigate these concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Jones
Assistant Township Secretary