

Richmond Township Board of Supervisors
Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2025
6:00 P.M. prevailing time

Vice-Chairman Sam Kemmerer called the Richmond Township Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. in the Richmond Township Municipal Building. The pledge of allegiance followed.

ROLL CALL

In attendance at this meeting were Supervisors Sam Kemmerer and Scott Brinker; Jennifer Galomb, Township Manager/Secretary-Treasurer; Chris Hartman, Esq., Solicitor; Scott Anderson, Township Engineer

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- AGENDA COMMENTS SESSION

Julia Keller was in attendance and wanted to discuss "Eminent Domain" of the properties on Kutztown Road that are being taken by PennDOT with the widening project. With her property, they are looking to take the land that contains the water and sewer for her apartments, leaving her with just a rental unit with no utilities.

Attorney Hartman recommended her reaching out to a lawyer who is knowledgeable with eminent domain proceedings with PennDOT and take the position that it is a total loss as half of the property is gone.

Ms. Keller stated that she is looking to see if after the property is taken, she is still able to have a septic system and water on the property, with the limited amount of space. It was discussed that Ms. Keller would need to get a plan/drawing of the property and share that with Kraft Municipal Group along with LTL Consultants to see if anything can be done.

Scott Anderson discussed that there are several other businesses that are asking the same question and unfortunately, there is no simple answer. It was discussed that each property that is affected will have to be evaluated individually.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Scott Brinker to approve the minutes from the December 09, 2024 Monthly Meeting, Sam Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Scott Brinker to approve the minutes from the January 06, 2025 Reorganizational Meeting, Sam Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Code Enforcement Report- Kraft Municipal Group

Jeff Fiant was in attendance and reviewed the report with the board.

330 Mine Road- another citation has been issued.

Kehl Drive- Discuss site distance results

Scott Anderson discussed that through the LTAP program, we were able to meet with a representative with Pennoni to discuss and measure the site distance at the entrance/exit of Kehl Drive at Moselem Springs Road. The report showed the site distance looking from Kehl Drive, to the right was 488 feet, which the minimum was 390 feet, looking to the left was 296 feet, which the minimum required was 406 feet. There is 1 bush, possibly 2 that are in the way on the left side that will need to be either cut back to the proper length or removed.

Sam Kemmerer asked Jeff Fiant to reach out to the neighbors, more aggressively, and see if we can't get a solution to this problem. A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to have Jeff Fiant share the site distance results with the neighbors; Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

SEO Report- LTL Consultants Ltd.

The Board reviewed the report and had no questions

Police Report- Fleetwood Police.

The Board reviewed the report and had no questions

Virginville Fire Company Report.

The Board reviewed the report and had no questions.

Walnuttown Fire Company Report.

The Board reviewed the report and had no questions.

Life Lion and Tipton Ambulance Reports.

No reports were available at the time of the meeting. Tipton Ambulance has invited a representative of the Township to their meeting scheduled for January 23rd at 6:00 PM, Sam Kemmerer stated that he would try and attend, if not Scott Brinker would.

Stacy Laucks- Fleetwood Area Community Organizations.

Stacy Laucks; President of the Fleetwood Area Community Organizations, discussed that in February 2024, Fleetwood Council of Community reorganized into 2 separate organizations. Fleetwood Community Carnival and the other being Fleetwood Area Community Organizations.

The purpose of FACO is to increase community unity, facilitate communication between community organizations and members and, share community resources and improve community quality of life and image.

An intern for the Fleetwood Area Public Library also spoke, discussing a flyer they would like to distribute thorough the community and was asking ways the Township had to distribute the flyer, whether it be mail, email or on the website. It was discussed that most of the information is put on the Township website for resident to view.

Discuss and review grant writing proposal.

The Board reviewed the proposal from Sarah Chudnovsky, which Robby Rarick has been working with to hopefully obtain a few grants for the Township "open space", hoping to build a park/playground. The Board had no questions.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ENGINEER'S REPORT- Scott Anderson

Solar Farm- Update

No new updates until the Spring. Scott stated he had received the decommissioning costs from the developer and needs to send them to Attorney Hartman to review.

Willow Crest

Scott discussed that they are working with Grande to finalize what is needed yet to finish the project as well as their part of the "open space".

Jen mentioned that she has emailed her contacts at Met-Ed regarding the lighting and is waiting on responses.

East Penn Manufacturing – Hazardous Waste Storage- Permit Renewal

They are reapplying for their hazardous waste permit through DEP and is asking the Township to respond if there are any comments or questions. Scott did review the application and did not see any issues with it. The Board had no comment.

PennDOT SR 222 Widening Project- Eminent Domain Opinion by the Township

It was discussed that there are questions from property owners in the area regarding non-conformity and what will happen with the PennDOT property taking. Attorney Hartman discussed that this is going to have to be looked at in a case-by-case instance as property owners may have to go before the Zoning Hearing Board in order to be in compliance.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Delinquent Sewer Report

Attorney Hartman reviewed the monthly report with the Board and stated that there was nothing that the Board needed to take action on at this time.

STECKBECK ENGINEERING- Scott Rights, P.E.

Nothing to report

Miscellaneous Business

None

ROADMASTER'S REPORT

Review monthly road work report

The Board reviewed the report.

Open Bids from Municibid on truck

Robby discussed the 2004 Chevrolet 7500 that was listed on Municibid and exceeded the \$12,000.00 reserve. The winning bid was for \$19,800.00.

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to accept the bid for \$19,800.00 Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

SECRETARY- TREASURER'S REPORT

A Motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to amend the agenda to take care of a time sensitive issue involving unpaid tax bills, Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AMENDED AGENDA

Berks County Tax Claim Bureau- Certification of Unpaid Tax Bills

The Township received the certification of unpaid tax bills on Monday, January 13th, just before lunch. The certification is to be approved by the Board and sent over to Berks County Tax Claim Bureau before the end of the day today. It was not received by our agenda posting deadline of the Friday before the scheduled meeting by 12:00 PM.

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to approve the certification, Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment of the bills

General Fund

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to pay Check #11774 to Check #11821 including the EFTs in the amount of \$192,362.30 Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

State Fund

No checks

Light Fund

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to pay an EFT in the amount of \$762.19 Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Richmond Township Sewer Fund

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to pay Check #3270 to Check #3278 including EFTs in the amount of \$30,801.23 Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Walnuttown Fire Escrow

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to pay Check #2186 & Check #2187 in the amount of \$2,168.00 Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Virginville Fire Escrow

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to pay Check #2188 & Check #2189 in the amount of \$2,168.00 Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Review 2024 Audit Engagement Letter

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to approve the engagement letter, Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss PSATS Municipal Government Training

Jen discussed that PSATS hosts a training seminar in May in Hershey that she would like to attend, with the Boards approval. The cost of the seminar is \$199.00 for members.

A motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to allow Jen to attend the seminar, Scott Brinker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT


Nothing to report

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

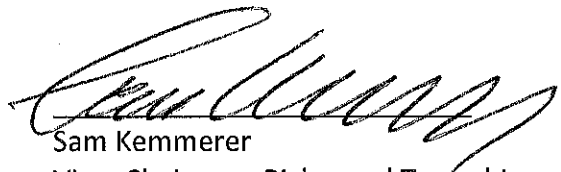
None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Sam Kemmerer to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 P.M. The motion was seconded by Scott Brinker. Motion carried unanimously.



Jennifer Galomb
Secretary-Treasurer, Richmond Township



Sam Kemmerer
Vice- Chairman, Richmond Township