

July 10, 2014
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Kehoe. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

ATTENDANCE

Phil Kehoe, Chairman
A.W. Castle, III, Vice Chairman
Samuel M. Simmons, III, Supervisor

Michael Pykosh, Solicitor
Mark Bruening, Engineer
Greg Rogalski, Zoning Officer
Karen Lowery, Recording Secretary

SPEAKERS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Bob Kissinger and Brian Swift – South Middleton Township Municipal Authority (SMTMA) were present to discuss two matters. The first being the need of a road cut permit to cut into the cul-de-sac on Criswell to the manhole to install a new gravity line to the new facilities on the hill. The second matter is realigning the 8” force main at Leidigh. The realignment is needed to allow room for the new building. Mr. Kissinger thinks they found the line other than where they thought it was. His request is to provide the easement description at a later time on the “as-built” plans. Mr. Swift added that per the Ordinance section 306 errors can be corrected at the end of the project with the correct information. Mr. Kissinger’s request is to keep the project moving and not delay the contractor doing the work.

Mr. Pykosh asked if the force main has been relocated and what the urgency is. Mr. Kissinger said portions of the line have been relocated, but there are no connections to that portion of the line. The urgency is the bio solids processing.

Mr. Pykosh asked what the time frame for the amended plan and easement would be. Mr. Swift said the ownership of the line needed to be negotiated. He is thinking 3 months. He also needs to determine where the Criswell Drive right-of-way is to submit an accurate plan. Mr. Bruening added that we are unsure if a portion of Criswell Drive was legally vacated in the 1960’s or 1970’s. Researching the deeds at the Courthouse would need to be done to determine when or if vacated.

Mr. Kehoe said this seems like a lot to do after the fact. To clarify your opening remark on the Chesapeake Bay requirements this project is only 40% for compliance and 60% for expansion. We need to do what is proper for both of us.

Mr. Simmons said he is not sure why this was let go until the end. He feels like Monroe keeps giving and just getting stomped on. Why did the engineer firm let the pump station upgrade go instead of asking? This work needs to be done right or not at all. If Monroe had a member on South Middleton’s Authority Board we could have been part of the planning.

The Board of Supervisors agreed to move forward with the road cut permit once SMTMA paid the \$3,500 financial security to be held in escrow. Mr. Rogalski will leave the permit with Karen to be issued once money is received.

Mr. Kehoe feels that the solicitors and engineers need to discuss the easement and force main issues. We are attempting to be accommodating, but we need to understand the magnitude of the changes. Mr. Pykosh will also review the matter to see if the changes need to be taken to the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors. Mr. Swift will work on plans for Mr. Bruening to review.

Mr. Castle would like to encourage a harmonious relationship. He trusts Mr. Simmons to represent Monroe. We all need to work together, this is a big venture. There needs to be respect on both sides.

Eric Bricker, 1710 W. Lisburn Road Questioned the sign ordinance and why two his signs are gone. He doesn't understand, he is trying to make a living and the township takes his signs down. Is there anything something that can be done to protect the produce growers? His strawberries are only in season for 3-4 weeks.

Mr. Castle said that there were complaints that signs were too far from the businesses. We were not trying to hurt the farmers. Mr. Kehoe added that there were complaints that some of the signs were eye sores. These new rules were worked on for a year.

Mr. Rogalski said the Ordinance doesn't differentiate between temporary and permanent signs. He suggested that this matter be looked at when the yearly fee schedules are done by possibly adding a temporary sign annual fee.

Mr. Kehoe aksed to give Mr. Rogalski time to think about adding this, but he is not interested in opening a loop hole that would allow all types of signs. This could be a possibility for seasonal farmers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Kehoe announced that there will be an executive session held after tonight's meeting to discuss possible litigation issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by majority vote of the Supervisors, Mr. Castle abstained, it was duly RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2014 regular meeting, with several editorial changes.

On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by majority vote of the Supervisors, Mr. Castle abstained, it was duly RESOLVED to make changes to the draft minutes of the June 12, 2014 Audit workshop and vote at the next meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

On the motion of Mr. Simmons, and seconded by Mr. Castle, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to approve the Administrative Report.

ROADMASTER REPORT

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to approve the Roadmaster's report.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to approve the Zoning Officer's report.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to approve the Emergency Management report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MASTER PLAN FOR PARKVIEW LAND

Mr. Kehoe explained that we received proposals to put together a plan for grant opportunities. Barton and Loguidice provided an all-encompassing plan.

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to proceed with Barton and Loguidice's master plan with options put together by the end of the year.

JOSEPH SIMPSON LIBRARY

Mr. Kehoe explained that the Library is making a plea for assistance since the county has cut their financing. And Monroe Township resident's usage has increased. This matter could be reviewed in the 2015 budget process to increase the amount to \$3,000. We could supplement \$2,000 for this year if the Board agrees.

Mr. Castle said the libraries are suffering. Since we have new found resources of the franchise agreements, he is okay with increasing the yearly amount. The libraries benefit a lot of people.

Mr. Simmons said it is very foolish for the community not to utilize the library. There are many programs for children and adults.

On the motion of Mr. Simmons, and seconded by Mr. Castle, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to donation an additional \$1,000 to the library this year and look at budgeting \$3,000 for 2015.

LISBURN MEADOWS – SEWER CONNECTIONS

Mr. Kehoe stated the township is working with residents to try to have a single source road boring contractor. Mr. Bruening verified that Jeff Wilbur will hold his proposed contract price of \$14,480. Mr. Pykosh verified that the township can help with this, but cannot be a bank. If all 4 homeowners agree to the terms we can move forward with this.

Mr. Kehoe suggested having one of the residents be a liaison between the township and the other homeowners this process may go more smoothly. Doug Stouffer and Tharon Gilreath agreed to be the liaison's and contact their neighbors. They will then be in touch with Mr. Pykosh.

Mr. Stouffer and Mr. Gilreath asked how long they would have until they were required to connect to the system. They asked for some additional time because they have to pay an additional \$4,000 for the boring.

On the motion of Mr. Simmons, and seconded by Mr. Castle, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to have the Township move forward with agreements once the solicitor is satisfied with the items discussed. Agreements should be completed within 60 days and connections to the system must be made by October 31, 2015.

PERSONNEL MANUAL

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Kehoe, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to table the Personnel Manual discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

ZONING HEARING BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Kehoe said a list of seven interested individuals was given to the Board. They were impressed that this many people were interested in being involved. The Board will review the list to narrow it down to 3 or 4 people to have interviews with.

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Kehoe, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to table this discussion until the next meeting.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Mr. Kehoe asked if the facilities for Emergency Management were adequate. Mr. Schminky stated that they have space at the firehouse when needed.

On the motion of Mr. Simmons, and seconded by Mr. Castle, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to accept the Emergency Management Operations Plan for Monroe Township.

AQUA PA – RELEASE FINANCIAL SECURITY

On the motion of Mr. Simmons, and seconded by Mr. Castle, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to approve the escrow release for Aqua PA.

CELL TOWER REQUEST

Mr. Kehoe stated that we have been approached by Verizon to lease them land for a cell tower. We need to consider the social and zoning ramifications. This could be an opportunity to bring in non-tax revenue if it is done correctly. Mr. Simmons and Mr. Castle agreed. Mr. Rogalski will be in touch with Verizon to gather more information and see if they would like to attend a meeting.

FRANCHISE FEE

Mr. Kehoe presented the idea of creating a Capital Reserve Fund to deposit a percentage of the franchise fees into instead of depositing it to the General fund. This would be set up as a rainy day type fund. Mr. Simmons agreed.

The Board asked for Marge Metzger's input on how to allocate funds to a specific account.

CAPITAL REGION COG

Mr. Kehoe has been contact by the COG regarding MS4 matters. They are interested in creating a COG wide approach to address some of the MS4 requirements such as advertising. Mr. Kehoe said we could participate in this without joining the COG. Mr. Simmons and Mr. Castle liked the idea. Mr. Kehoe will contact the COG to see if they can attend the next meeting.

AUGUST MEETING RESCHEDULED

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Kehoe and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors it was duly RESOLVED to reschedule the August 14th meeting to August 7th at 7:00 PM.

Following up on last month's discussion, Mr. Kehoe raised holding a public workshop with the Fire Company to discuss the 2015 budget items on August 7th at 6:00 PM. Brad Robertson will check with other members to see if this will work and be in touch.

BILLS

On the motion of Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Simmons, and by unanimous vote of the Supervisors present it was duly RESOLVED to approve the bills as prepared.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Rogalski wanted to give the Board a heads up that a development in Silver Spring Township has triggered plans for 2 traffic lights to be installed. One of which is at the Trindle Road and Sinclair Road intersection. Silver Spring Township will make contact with us once they have more information together.

Mr. Simmons thanked the township employees and Karen Lowery for Community Day. It was a wonderful time.

Mr. Kehoe would like to the Board of Supervisor meeting summaries to be more summarized with results only – approved, not approved, tabled.

Mr. Kehoe mentioned the collection of sewer bills and working with the water company shut off the water. Would this need to be aligned with the sewer ordinance?

Mr. Pykosh said that we have an agreement with one of the water companies, but this would need added to the ordinance that shutting off the water is an option. He will look at the ordinance for the next meeting.

Mr. Simmons asked about shutting off the sewer. Mr. Pykosh could look into this. Mr. Bruening has never dealt with shutting off the sewer. Mr. Castle was concerned about the health and welfare of families.

Mr. Pykosh said we have collected a lot of outstanding debt. He will look at other legal options that may be available to the township and what the possible return would be.

Mr. Kehoe thanked the township staff, volunteers and Recreation Board for a great Community Day. The fireworks were fantastic.

Mr. Castle asked for the troops and their families to be remembered. The next meeting will be on August 7, 2014 at 7:00 PM. The trivia question was: What is the Statue of Liberty holding in her right hand, and the answer was a torch. The quote of the day was “It is only through labor and painful effort, by grim energy and resolute courage, that we move on to better things” – Theodore Roosevelt. God Bless America.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lowery
Recording Secretary