Draft MINUTES of MEETING

Durham Township Board of Supervisors

Tuesday March 14th, 2023, 7pm

Township Building Meeting Room

Resident Participation in person and via GoToMeeting

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code:

671-553-501

United States:

[+1 (872) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212,,671553501)

\***6 to unmute to make a public comment when appropriate**

Call to Order / Pledge to American Flag / Roll Call Attendance: Time:7:00pm

Present: Supervisor Bartley Millett, Chairman

Kathy Gentner, Vice Chairman

Richard Johnson, Treasurer

Danielle Cox, Administrator/Secretary

Peter Cox, Roadmaster

Moment of silence in honor of resident Loretta Hammerstone, Chairman Millett spoke of her many contributions to the township over her 64 years in Durham.

Motion to amend the agenda to add Timber Harvest review Motion by RJ 2nd by KG Vote 3-0-0

Approval of Minutes from February 14th, 2023, . Motion by KG, second by RJ Vote 3-0-0

Approval of Monthly Financial Report as of February 28th, 2023, Motion by RJ, second by KG

Vote: 3-0-0

Approval of Accounts Payable/Payroll as of March 14th, 2023 . Motion by KG, second by RJ

Vote: 3-0-0

Approval of Accounts Payable for Escrow as of March 14th, 2023 , Motion by RJ second by KG

Vote 3-0-0

**Motion to** award AMS the contract for Sheres Hill and Funks Mill Road Project in the amount $290,398.95. Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0 KG asked about total budget allocated for road work.

**Motion to** hold Durham Day on October 7th, 2023, from 1to4pm. Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0.

**Motion to** participate in the Bucks County BOH Mosquito Control Program . Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0. Admin will post as soon as notice is given on dates for spraying. Info packets are available at the front desk.

**Root Cellar:** An approx. 6x12 limewashed root cellar was discovered by Peter Cox during the storm water management study for an equipment shed. Chairman Millett is looking for ideas on the best way to preserve it while keeping the public safe. Currently we are thinking that repairing the damage to the roof and installing steps, removing the debris inside and installing an iron gate is a good course of action. D. Oleska has two professors he will be contacting to see if they can tell us exactly what type of structure it is since we are not 100% sure. . L. Oleska discussed the steps. B. Timochenko asked if lidar was used. L. Timochenko asked if it’s possible it was used for the underground railroad, we don’t believe its deep enough for that. Inside we have found, wire fencing, glass jars, a barrel, miscellaneous metal pieces.

**Motion to** have Solicitor Duffy review and update our Timber Harvest Ordinance due to complaint received that it violates the ACRE law. Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0. Zoning officer Ed Childs as well as the EAC and Planning commission should also review the ACRE law and any changes that solicitor Duffy recommends. D. Juall asked if applicant was a farm and reported the attorney general has a link to review township timber harvesting ordinances in respect to the ACRE law. B. Timochenko asked if the homeowner/harvester submitted an application yet, they have not.

**Equipment Shed:** Bid packets ready, will be advertised starting this Friday 3/17. Storm water study was completed.

**Durham Springs:** Chairman Millett informed the public no permits for any work have been submitted by Durham Springs at this time. D. Juall informed the board Durham Spring bought a neighboring property.

**Bridge #226:** D. Juall advised that the contract was on the 3/15/23 10:30 am commissioners’ meeting agenda to be awarded. Supervisor Johnson spoke about concerns brought to him by property owner M. Royack that the center column design may cause debris to back up and cause worsening conditions. L. Oleska spoke about bridge construction issues and how slow water treatment works. D. Juall informed the board they are looking into a full watershed stream study/project that will be paid for by grant money however it could be a two year project. K. Clark asked if the board could intervene and ask the county commissioners not to vote on the project at their 3/15 meeting. A **motion** to amend the agenda a 2nd time was made by KG and 2nd by RJ and the board added the following agenda item. Solicitor Nelson or Solicitor Duffy contact the county commissioner and request they postpone or decline awarding the contract for Bridge #226 allowing us more time to research. Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0. The administrator will reach out via email immediately following the close of this meeting and follow up 1st this in the morning.

**Utilities Discussion:** Senator Colemans office will be reaching out to Met Ed. Admin is compiling a list of pole numbers and locations.

**Blooming Glen Farms Ag Security:** Motion to send application to Durham Township PC and BCPC to review after no objections received **Motion** by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0

**Pete Cox, Road Master:**  Working on grants from dirt and gravel for pipe replacement on spring hill and new pipe install on red bridge rd. Future grant projects may include cross pipes on dogwood lane. Road crew will start preparing roads for AMS contract, working on tree trimming and ditch cleaning. We ordered 2 loads of salt however have yet to use any. 2 loads of tires approx. 92 were taken to swamps for disposal. Mostly car and truck a dozen tractor trailer.

**Zoning/Building**: Report given by Zoning Officer

**Environmental Advisory Committee** Chairman Juall reported mapping going well. 31% of the land in Durham is protected or preserved in some way. Instagram account was created. There will be an inspection of the Stutz Damn scheduled at the end of April, A request to approve resident B. Timochenko as a full member will be added to the April Agenda. Outdoor map should be finished soon. Concerns over large amount of trash at 611/32 property. Zoning Officer to send letter to new property owners.

**Durham Historical Society** : Presentation by Amy Hollander will be broken into 5 parts to distribute to schools.

**Riegelsville Library**: Reorganized into small groups and is working on ideas to raise more funds.

**Planning Commission**: No meeting.

**PSA**:

* Covid tests available in the office if anyone needs.
* Route 611 Clean up by the EAC is scheduled for 9am on March 25th, 2023.
* Large Item Clean-up Day April 22nd 8am to 12pm
* PRFR Fish Fries at Riegelsville Station 42 held every Friday from March 3rd to April 7th 5-7pm
* Cooks Creek watershed Clean up Saturday April 1st 9am to 4pm

**Public Comments**: A.Mills UBREMS is critically low on funds and may be out of funds by 2023, public referendum being discussed at their meetings as well as how to update their subscription service. K.G recommended he attend a school board meeting and advise them of the issues.

L. Bucci asked if the army core of engineers has ever inspected Bridge #226, yes at least 25+ years ago.

B. Timochenko asked about graffiti at 611 warehouse. Violators will be prosecuted by owner if caught trespassing/vandalizing. Surveillance is in place. Zoning officer will reach out to the owners.

Chairman Millett thanked everyone for attending.

Motion to Close by BM second by RJ Vote 3-0-0

Time Closed: 8:50pm

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Chairman Vice Chairman Treasurer