Draft MINUTES of MEETING

Durham Township Board of Supervisors

Tuesday May 9th, 2023, 7pm

Township Building Meeting Room

Resident Participation in person and via GoToMeeting

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code:

378-322-613

United States:

+1 (872) 240-3212

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

Call to Order / Pledge to American Flag / Roll Call Attendance: Time:7:01pm

Present: Supervisor Bartley Millett, Chairman

 Kathy Gentner, Vice Chairman

 Richard Johnson, Treasurer

 Danielle Cox, Administrator/Secretary

 Peter Cox, Roadmaster

 Sean Duffy, Solicitor

Approval of Minutes from April 11th, 2023, . Motion by KG, second by RJ Vote 3-0-0 C. Klein questioned CO for Durham Springs. J. Klapperman questioned the repercussions for illegal property use.

Approval of Monthly Financial Report as of April 30th , 2023, Motion by RJ, second by KG

Vote: 3-0-0

Approval of Accounts Payable/Payroll as of May 9th, 2023 . Motion by KG, second by RJ

Vote: 3-0-0

Approval of Accounts Payable for Escrow as of May 9th, 2023 , Motion by KG second by RJ

Vote 3-0-0

Approval of Accounts Payable for ARPA funds as of May 9th, 2023, Motion by RJ second by KG Vote 3-0-0

**Motion to** approve ARPA Resolution 2023-04 Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0 L. Bucci asked what the ARPA balance was ($12,389.70).

**Motion to** approve Blooming Glenn Ag Security Resolution 2023-05 Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0. No objections from the public. Owner Tom Murtha introduced himself and thanked the board and residents for allowing him to join Durhams Ag Security District.

**Motion to** send the Timber Harvest Ordinance Review to the DT PC and BC PC. Motion by RJ 2nd by KG vote 3-0-0.Solicitor Duffy reviewed the changes he suggests making due to our current ordinance being invalid. E&S plan, buffer zones, clear cutting, financial security, and limit on trees are all considered to be unreasonable restrictions put on a logger. Attorney General recommends following the Penn State Practice. Solicitor Duffy discussed Road Bonding, unsure of all the requirements DEP guidelines should be followed, If violations are found by the zoning officer, we can impose a fine. Supervisor Gentner explained how the applications are processed and reviewed. D. Juall asked about BC Conservation district review, that can be done at the townships expense. J. Klapperman asked what is left of the original ordinance if all that is removed. C. Klein asked to view the original ordinance. Admin will post original and new amendments on the website. L. Oleska believes Penn State guidelines are outdated, and will we have an explanation why someone is clear cutting. J. Regan (via phone), forester who is challenging our ordinance introduced himself, stated changing the ordinance is a good thing, clear cutting is an acceptable practice. He will seek assistance from the Attorney General if needed. Due to poor telephone connection chairman Millett requested he make himself available to attend an upcoming meeting to give a presentation. Solicitor Duffy was asked if he is recommending the board sign the updated ordinance. Several residents asked about the types of clear cutting and what general forestry practices entailed. Several more discussions will be had before a decision is made.

**Community Day:** October 14th, 2023, 1 to 4 pm

**Durham Springs:** Chairman Millett informed the public no permits for any work have been submitted by Durham Springs at this time. Ed met with owners on May 4th (see zoning report). L. Bucci asked about mailing residents when work will be performed. C. Klein asked about viewing past zoning reports, Admin will post them under meeting minutes and forms. Chairman Millett and Vice Chairman Genter requested zoning reports be posted online and be included in the agenda packet emailed to residents. Admin reported that any work that has been done so far did not need to be permitted (dry wall removal etc.) J. Klapperman asked about variances, Solicitor Duffy informed everyone it will be an uphill battle. Sewage was discussed L. Bucci asked who is in charge of septic ( Bucks County BOH). Vice Chairman Genter explained variances and the ZHB process. Chairman Millett cautioned not to reach out to the ZHB as no permits have been submitted yet.

**Bridge #226:** Chairman Millett, Danielle Cox, Pete Cox, David Juall, Scott Mease attended preconstruction meeting. Several issues were addressed, and we are satisfied with their plan. Supervisor Johnson expressed concerns about turning on to Route 212 from Red Bridge, this was brought was brought to the contractor’s attention at the pre-construction meeting by the Admin.

**Utilities Discussion:** Senator Colman’s office will be setting up a meeting with Met Ed reps and local townships to discuss the lack of maintenance issues.

**Root Cellar:**  D. Oleska reports the professor from Mammoth Collage will be out as soon as school year is over.

**PSATS Review**: PSATS conference attend by Vice Chairman Genter, Administrator, and Roadmaster. Highlights were the decrease in Liquid Fuels funds, Solar Farms, Roads.

**EAC Appointment**: After discussing if a probationary period was needed a **Motion** made to nominate Blake Timochenko to a full member expiring 12/31/2024. There is still one open seat available and EAC Chairman would like to see it filled by a resident farmer. EAC ordinance states a supervisor should be on the board as well. Chairman Millett would consider it.

**Pete Cox, Road Master:**  AMS will be starting the week of May 22nd. Road prepping continues. Grant turned in to Dirt and Gravel for pipe replacement, hoping it would be on their June Agenda. Spoke with PennDOT about no Right turn off of 212 onto rattle snake road. Waiting for traffic study results of Durham Rd, will need to purchase signs. The colors of the pole barn will be red and white.

**Zoning/Building**: Report given by Administrator.

**Environmental Advisory Committee**: Report by Chairman Juall. 611 clean up done, Stutz Damn preconstruction meeting attended, Palisades high school STEM students will be giving a presentation at the Wednesday May 17th meeting. Outdoor maps are completed. Asked Roadmaster about road cut in on 611, access Rd by local farmer to access fields.

**Durham Historical Society** : Report by D. Oleksa. Amy Hollander working on cataloging artifacts. STEM students were given a tour of the mill. Presentations will be starting up soon. Members held a road clean up day.

**Riegelsville Library**: Report by D. Oleksa. Upcoming Events, Spring book Sale will take place 5/19,5/20 & 5/27. Dinosaur Expo June 10th, Grossology Event by Da Vinci Science Center July 15th August 2nd Magician

**Planning Commission**: No May meeting, open seat available

**PSA**:

* Thank you Timochenko family for donating the planters and flowers.
* Closed Tuesday May 16th for election day- Get out and VOTE!!
* Household Hazardous waste collection event at the Upper Bucks Vo Tech May 13th 8:30am to 2pm
* Library Events: Book Sale 5/19 5/20 and 5/27. Dinosaur Expo June 10th, Grossology Event July 15th,  Magician August 2nd

**Public Comments**:

R. Klapperman Pile of trees on mine hill Rd- Admin will have Z.O check into this.

J. Klapperman thanked the Board and Staff for hearing all of their concerns.

A. Mills UBREMS will be mailing their annual subscriptions soon. Still in dire need of financial support. APRA money will be coming from the county.

Chairman Millett thanked everyone for attending.

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

Time Closed: 9:20pm

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 Chairman Vice Chairman Treasurer