

May 6, 2019

A scheduled meeting of Milford Township Supervisors was called to order at 7 P.M. by Chairman Gary Clark, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation. Also present were Vice-Chairman Penney Luhrs, Supervisor Gary M. Williams, and Assistant Secretary Shahana Shamim.

A motion was made by Gary M. Williams, seconded by Gary Clark, and passed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Receipts since last meeting: Hickory Hills POA rent \$25.00, Zoning Permits \$125.00, Sewage Permit \$400.00, Building Permits \$47.27, Variance Hearing \$900.00, Investment account interest \$10.28, Consolidation of Snyder Estate \$150.00, 2019 Taxes collected \$159,240.62 (805 of 962 properties were paid at 2% discount)

Roadmaster:

Gary M. Williams reported that the road crews had been cutting brush and fixing potholes. He added that the 750-truck had to be fixed, as the oil pan became rusty. He asked for permission for putting bids for paving and 400 tons of salt in newspaper for the June meeting.

Building and Zoning:

Accessory structure and a pavilion in Fire Tower Road.

Public Participation:

Rachel questioned the decisions of the Township, as it kept changing its decisions about her Right-to-Know requests. Rachel Hendricks pointed out that part of her Right-to-Know requests to Milford Township minutes (unapproved) and ethics information were partly denied for being exempt. She added that those records were admitted as public records after she had filed appeals for her requests. Gary Clark replied that the financial interest documents had included employees' Social Security Numbers (SSN) in the past, and the Township wanted to secure its employees' confidential information, as identity thefts happen from such information leakages. Gary Clark added that Harrisburg had changed the financial interest disclosure form, which does not include the SSN and banking information anymore. Rachel Hendricks also said that her request for the correspondence with Carson Helfrich was denied, and it was granted after she had filed an appeal. She also inquired why the public participation after the decision of the Planning Board Members was not in the agenda. Gary Williams said that the Planning Board Members were given a public hearing. All three Supervisors said that they believed that they had made the right decision about Planning Board Members.

Correspondence:

Pike County Area Agency on Aging, Pike Co. Humane Society, information and invitations, PSATS, Pike County Conservation, Tick population control, and Municipal Leaders' Conference

Old Business:

- a. Kennel Ordinance: Gary M. Williams made a motion to advertise for adopting changes to the Kennel Ordinance for the next Supervisors' meeting, Penney seconded, and it was passed unanimously.
- b. Addendum to the Ordinance for Sewage Extension: The Supervisors declared that Matamoras wanted to be included into the Intermunicipal Agreement of Sewage Extension. Penney Luhrs made a motion to sign this Amendment, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it was passed unanimously. The Supervisors signed the Addendum.
- c. GAIT: Ms. Martha Dubenski from GAIT said that she needed the Supervisors' permission to rebuild a new 24' X 12' shed for horses, as the existing one was falling apart. She added that she needed to change the location of the rebuild. Ms. Valerie Pedone said that she lived right next to GAIT, and she was concerned about the location of this proposed rebuild. Ms. Dubenski assured that it would be 50' away from Valerie's driveway and 75' from the road. Another neighbor, who owned 40 acres right next to GAIT property, wondered if Martha got the permit for the original construction of the shed. Gary Clark said that Martha obtained her permission for the original construction a few years ago when Don Quick was the Chairman. Mr. Clark added that Ms. Dubenski just needed to replace it with a new one. Penney said that sheds need to be replaced when they wear out, as worn out sheds can be very dangerous. Gary Clark said that the Zoning Officer was unable to attend the meeting, and hence they were unable to make any decisions about this rebuild. He told Martha that he would contact the Zoning Officer and her.
- d. Building Use by Hickory Hills POA: Gary Clark made a motion to allow this Association for their meeting on May 30, at 7 P.M., Penney seconded, and it was passed unanimously.
- e. Sewage System – Mark Spatz: Mr. Spatz introduced himself as the Engineer of HRG for the Sewer Authority of Westfall Township, and said that he was there to answer to public questions about the Sewage Extension for Westfall Township, Milford Township, and Milford Borough. He said that they were ready to do the feasibility study for this Extension. The 537 Plan will include what it will look like, and where it will go. The cost of this study will be presented to the Supervisors, and a public hearing will be advertised in the newspaper for public comments, and they will explain their study to the public in that hearing. Mr. Spatz informed that the planning would take at least a year, and Westfall Township had already started extending their sewage lines towards Milford Township. The other Engineer said that the cost and alternatives will be part of their study, and they will collaborate with the Municipal Leaders for their study.

New Business:

Planning Commission Workshop: Mr. SeChrist, the Chairman of Milford Township Planning Board, asked for permission to conduct a Planning Board workshop on every second Monday of each month. He explained that he wanted to discuss the build-out analysis, and other Zoning terms with Engineers and Community Planners. Gary M. Williams made motion to approve Mr. SeChrist's request, Gary Clark seconded, and it was passed unanimously. Shahana said that she would advertise for these workshops in the Pike County Dispatch. One of the residents inquired if public participations would be allowed in these workshops. The Supervisors replied 'yes'. Gary Clark said that Engineers and Planners would be invited to these workshops whenever needed. Mr. SeChrist said that the Members of the Planning Board would discuss the current subjects

under discussion in these workshops, but no decisions would be made. All the decisions would be made in the regular Planning Board meetings.

Public Comments:

One of the residents of Milford Township inquired why the sewage line was being extended down by the river, and whether it was for the purpose of pumping. The Engineers replied that that was not part of the plan as of then, and added that they were looking at all the alternatives for making the sewage and implementation as cheap as possible, and they were looking for all the alternatives. Mr. Weber from Milford Borough inquired if the sewage would reach its capacity when Matamoras Borough is added to the sewage. Mr. Spatz replied that there might be a capacity question at some point, and a special study would be needed for increasing the capacity, as rooms are available for increasing the capacity. Penney Luhrs and Gary Clark said that we will not have this problem here, as we have the National Park Service. The Engineer informed that 130,000 gallons a day of disposal is required, whereas the plants have the capacity to handle 374,000 gallons a day. Currently, it was handling only 80,000 gallons a day, and these numbers were provided by the Water Authority. Gary Clark said a capacity of 785,000 gallons per day was declared when the wastewater treatment plants were installed. Mr. Spatz replied that the number went down from regulatory requirements, as the waste has to be treated. Mike from Milford Borough asked who would qualify to hook up to this central sewage system. The Engineer replied that anybody would be able to connect with a tapping fee. This resident further inquired if this extension of sewage would allow an increase in density. The Engineer replied that this increase will depend on the Municipality's Zoning Ordinance. This resident of Milford Borough said that the Municipal Leaders might be pressured to update their Zoning Ordinance when the sewage is extended.

Tabatha Clark inquired the Engineers that there was a rumor that they were feeling pressured by the Supervisors of Milford Township to extend the sewage, as these Supervisors wanted to pass a Zoning Ordinance of density increase. Mr. Spatz said 'no', and added that the sewage extension was initiated by Westfall Township and Milford Borough, and then these two Municipalities had asked the Supervisors of Milford Township to allow the extension to pass through their Municipality. Christine from Milford Township asked if those Engineers were being paid from the residents' taxes. Penney Luhrs replied that County funds were available for this feasibility study. Gary Clark said that their goal was not to raise residents' taxes. The Engineer said that their fee for this feasibility study was \$140,000, which would be paid by the County. He assured that the Municipalities were not going to pay a dime. Gary Clark said that Milford Township and the nearby towns needed central sewage, as these towns had been infiltrating their sewage ground for centuries.

Matthew Contreras' expressed his concern about the increase in density with the Sewage Extension. Mr. Spatz replied that the density increase is controlled by Zoning Ordinances of the municipalities and other township documents, such as the Comprehensive Plan. He added that these township documents would be considered for making the 537 Plan. One of the residents from Dingman Township inquired who was paying for this feasibility study. The Supervisors replied that the County and the SRCP were paying for this study. Rachel Hendricks inquired the Engineers to describe their principle for how to make the Sewage Extension as cheap as possible. Mr. Spatz replied that they would consider the equivalent dwelling unit (EDU), available grants,

and loans for this estimate. Rachel Hendricks inquired if the residents would be mandated to hook up once the central sewage was done. Mr. Spatz replied that demands would be part of the feasibility study. Gary Clark told the audience that the central sewage money would not come out of taxes, as the sewage would not traverse the whole town. Don Quick inquired if the Apple Valley Restaurant would be included into the sewage extension study. The Engineer replied 'yes', and added that the study area included up to wooded areas.

One of the residents of Milford Township asked if the increase of the area requirement in Kennels Ordinance would allow the owner of the Kennel to expand her property. This resident added that that Kennel was right behind his property. Gary Clark replied that the adoption of Kennels Ordinance was set for the next meeting on May 20, and he could ask questions on that day. The Supervisors added that they did actually believe that Kennels should be in the DD Zone only, as Kennels are businesses.

There were no other businesses or executive sessions needed, so a motion was made by Gary Clark to pay the bills and adjourn. Gary M. Williams seconded to it, and it was passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 9:00 P.M.