

**PENN FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2010 STATE ROUTE 903
JIM THORPE, PA 18229**

MEETING MINUTES

July 6, 2021

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Penn Forest Township Board of Supervisors is being held at Penn Forest Township Municipal Building, 2010 State Route 903, Jim Thorpe, PA.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Meckes asked that all in attendance stand and recite the "Pledge of Allegiance".

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Meckes called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.; Roll Call by Township Secretary.

Members: **Roger Meckes, Chairman
Christian Bartulovich, Vice Chairman
Judith Knappenberger, Supervisor (by phone)
Scott Lignore, Supervisor
Thomas Cross, Supervisor (absent)**

Office Staff: **Dana Vitale, Secretary**
Solicitor: **Thomas S. Nanovic (absent)**

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (3 Minute Limit)

Peg Dusablon- Dollar General on Old Stage & Route 534. There was a company doing some type of drilling, do they need a permit? Supervisor Bartulovich replied no they do not need a permit to drill a well. I was actually corrected on this it is being investigated in the normal matter. Mrs. Dusablon state is Granicus up to speed? Supervisor Bartulovich stated yes. Mrs. Dusablon stated at what point we would be able to start working with them. Supervisor Bartulovich stated I would say work with me and I will work with them. The mobile permitting should be up and running shortly. Mrs. Dusablon states as far as going back to the Carbon County Tax. Is there going to be a link with them as well, so that they're saying okay these people have a license. Supervisor Bartulovich stated it is the County Hotel Tax and it is a requirement the county will give them the form.

Wilbert Johnson- Waiving of \$25.00 late fee for garbage permit. I was away in Georgia and my neighbor was picking up my mail. Supervisor Lignore stated my son is paying the late fee. Supervisor Bartulovich stated we do not want to set precedence. Supervisor Meckes stated unfortunately if we do for one then we have to do for others.

Larry Dusablon- American Rescue Fund- you were talking about some of the ARF going to digitize the township records. Supervisor Bartulovich and Supervisor Meckes stated we haven't received it yet but yes that was one of things that everyone talked about there is limits on what you're allowed to do with it. Something that is related to COVID. We have been working with the County on with tax records and created a report/spreadsheet that has all of County information which should have the number of bedrooms. Larry Dusablon asked Granicus is going to be doing a lot of the research regarding the bedrooms? Is there a way that the community can review this information? Supervisor Bartulovich stated we can create print outs.

Kelly Hall-Tompkins- Dollar General Development - I haven't seen the BOS since January, as you may recall, myself and my husband started a petition to oppose the Dollar General in Albrightsville. Since we have seen you last we have over 700 signatures. It is important for you to know that all of the homeowners are opposed to having this development in the middle of a residential area. Now I understand that we're going to hear later this evening about request for a waiver to for the idea of putting in a driveway. I would like to echo that by saying the discussion as I understand it is moot because it has just recently been brought to our attention that this entire proposed development is in conflict with Carbon County's Comprehensive Plan which is more recent than the Zoning that is being used to propose this development. Carbon County's Comprehensive Plan has marked the area on 534 and Old Stage Road as rural not commercial and this development would be in direct conflict with that. It has been referenced by someone present there is in fact digging or drilling going on in the site. Dollar General applied for a variance they were denied that variance in April, and then they had 30 days to appeal and somehow and appeal became an extension. I don't understand we're prepared to take action on all of these things. I confirmed with the township this morning no building permit has been issued, but there is damage in the parcel. We fully intend to keep that parcel unharmed and forest as it is rural as Carbon County designated it but right now there is irreparable damage done to that lot.

Sal Caiazzo, Hanover Engineering- Dollar General Development – They have since removed the subdivision so it's all going to stay on acre lot. As a result of their traffic impact study we recommended that they move the driveway as far away from the intersection as possible and that they make some shoulder improvements on Old Stage Road on their side of it and that they put in a safe distance easement that will provide for clear sight distance at the intersection in both directions. As a result of the traffic impacts that he gave realigned the redesign the project basically said that the previously the parking for this offloading of the trucks was directly behind like seven or eight parking spots. So those parking spots will not be able to exit properly. The study was done by the developer and it was reviewed by us, so the things that they included in that study were our recommendation. We are waiting to hear back from Carbon County Planning Commission and it will come to light if it is not in accordance with the County Comprehensive Plan and they will certainly make that comment. Supervisor Lignore stated we have to wait until we hear from the CCPC.

Jacob Vargas- Dollar General Development- I live on Pawnee Trail so I literally can look at the trucks that are doing what they're doing from my deck and it's my first time ever doing something like this. I just wanted to voice my opinion I got myself on a timer so I'm looking at my three minutes. Just a couple of things just in general, pleasure to meet you folks. Let's just say there eight minutes from where I live, there's one to my left and there's one my right 8 minutes in either direction that all I'm saying, I don't know why there's a need for another one. They're not that great to begin with, that's my opinion. Supervisor Bartulovich stated I think there business model is 1 Dollar General every seven miles. Mr. Vargas stated, yeah that's insane to me so to put one in a residential neighborhood I think it's a little unnecessary, but once again that's just my opinion. I don't know if you guys ever come across people of this nature, but myself personally seen people nodding out in the parking lots of Dollar General not saying that's every Dollar General but the one in Effort actually quite notorious for a lot of junk traffic and a lot of drug meetings and I don't know if that known on a scale of that nature. I just don't want that in my backyard that's another one that's personal we could do some research; I'll do some on my own. We just opened up a convenience store right across the street and there are a lot of items that they sell there. I mean can we do something better with the property, if we were going to do something with that, instead of Dollar General like a Youth Center something a little bit more useful for the youth or something. Once again, these are just ideas that I'm throwing out there that are all. Supervisor Meckes stated it's like Sal said it's in a Commercial Zone in our Township and as long as everything goes by the rules. Sal Caiazzo, Township Engineer recommended that they attend the Planning Commission meeting on July 26th.

Jeanie Nealson- when you say that you want to wait and see what the County has to say who are you referring to? Supervisor Bartulovich stated the Carbon County Planning Commission. The County meets the first or second Wednesday of the month that's the County Planning Commission, but we are also saying the Township Planning Commission you can ask certain things of them. Township Engineer stated if you're an adjoining property owners and you would like a buffer there and would like some trees planted. If the property owners have a specific request that's where you bring it out and it doesn't cost them that much more money. Jeanie stated it just you know you've got 700 residents that are totally opposed to this and what do we have to do? Township Engineer stated as long as it's in accordance with all the regulations and the sub regional involving Ordinance and the Zoning Ordinance.

Joseph Tompkins- If there is a discrepancy between the Carbon County Commission and the Township whose regulations would supersede the other and secondly, is it the intention of the BOS to contact the county or is we supposed to as citizens contact the county and ask them to contact you? Township Engineer states the CCPC submits their comments to the Township Planning Commission, so the Township is always copied on any comment letters that they get reviewed by. Sal Caiazzo stated there is no Carbon County Zoning there's planning. The Township rules and regulations are predominant. Mr. Tompkins stated, so the Township has zoned it as a commercial space regardless of what the county recommended? Supervisor Meckes stated a long, long time ago many years. Mr. Tompkins stated the last was 2015 done by the County so it's been clear for eight years. Township Engineer stated I don't think anyone's here representing Dollar General. I think everyone is aware that no one wants the plan to go through. But there's nothing literally nothing we can do today, so I think they should attend the Planning Commission meeting and that's where they're talking about making changes to the plan that you'd like to see, so definitely continue to attend the PC meeting until eventually approved of the plan and that point it comes before the Supervisors.

Mandy Rogers- was sworn in by Chairman Meckes as Fire Co. #2 Volunteer.

Resident inquired who sets the road weight for Township Roads. Supervisor Meckes stated as far as I know there isn't a weight limit. Supervisor Meckes stated yes if you have super heavy truck traffic and all the roads are state approved. Township Engineer stated you would have to have a traffic study to post the road weight. We would have to see what is in the Township files what was paved on that road. Supervisor Lignore stated when the roads are frozen the developments let us in but when it thaws TT shouldn't allowed. Engineer stated when a bridge is in need of repair they usually set a weight limit. Supervisor Bartulovich how would we monitor the weight?

Todd Fox, Chairman PFT Park & Recreation- Pump Track Proposal

Supervisor Bartulovich stated this would need to go out to bid based on the cost. The next steps would be selecting a RFP since you are most acquainted with the project. Township Engineer stated we would need all the specifications of the project. Supervisor Bartulovich stated would the board be comfortable to have Todd Fox work with Township Engineer. Todd Fox asked about the LED sign that was discussed for the park. Supervisor Bartulovich stated that would have to go out for bid since the cost is over the threshold. Supervisor Knappenberger stated that the Ordinance does not allow for Motor operated vehicles. Todd Fox will get some specs.

B. MEETING MINUTES:

1) REGULAR BOS MEETING ON JUNE 7, 2021

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to approve the BOS Meeting Minutes from JUNE 7, 2021.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

C. SECRETARY: ACKNOWLEDGE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1) LOWER TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP- FIRE POLICE REQUEST- COUNTY FAIR

Lower Towamensing Township is requesting Fire Police services from PFT to assist with traffic control at the Carbon County Fair from August 9th-14th, 2021.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to **APPROVE** PFT Fire Co. #1 & #2 to provide Fire Police Services for the Carbon County Fair held on August 9th-14th.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

2) RESIDENT CONCERN REGARDING INTERSECTION RTE. 903 & OLD STAGE

3) PENNEAST/UGI PIPELINE PROJECT UPDATE- 6/30/2021- (NO MOTION)

4) THANK YOU LETTER – DRAKES CREEK ROAD- (NO MOTION)

Anthony Price, President , Rhodo Mountain Estates submitted via email a letter of appreciation for the recent road work completed on Drakes Creek Road.

D. TREASURER’S REPORT:

(a) MAUCH CHUNK TRUST COMPANY (Statement balance as of 6/30/2021)

Township General Fund:	\$ 2,151,068.14	State Liquid Fuels Fund:	\$ 319,668.14
Sanitation Fund:	\$ 277,235.50	Payroll:	\$ 34,098.73
Septic Fund:	\$ 306,942.45	Debit Card	\$ 6,008.50
SALDO:	\$ 79,972.68	Fire Escrow:	\$ 23,349.00
Rent :	\$ 50.28		
TOTAL:			\$3,198,393.42

(b) MAUCH CHUNK TRUST COMPANY – Certificates of Deposit (as of 6/30/2021)

Account Ending: #1841 -	\$ 3,500,361.01	(3 month CD)
#5851 -	\$ 258,993.04	(6 month CD)
#1301 -	\$ 2,048,034.98	(13 month CD)
TOTAL:	\$ 5,807,389.03	

(c) JIM THORPE NEIGHBORHOOD BANK – Certificates of Deposit (as of 6/30/2021)

Account Ending:		
#0064 -	\$ 105,606.40	
TOTAL:	\$ 105,606.40	

TOTAL FUNDS ON DEPOSIT: \$ 9,111,388.85

1) **MOTION** made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to accept Treasurer’s Report for JUNE 2021 (Subject to Audit).

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

2) **PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR MAY 2021**

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Lignore to pay the bills for JUNE 2021.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

E. NEW BUSINESS:

ROGER MECKES, CHAIRMAN

1) **RATIFY THE MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY FRYCKLUND**

To represent the Township for the 586 Stony Mountain Road UCC appeal.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Lignore to **RATIFY** the motion to **APPOINT** Attorney Robert S. Frycklund to represent the township in this matter.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

2) PFT VACANT UCC BOARD OF APPEALS REPRESENTATIVE

Any interested parties should email Township Secretary. Kathryn Forry, BIA has made a suggestion for Secretary to reach out to Terry McLean, Architect, McLean Design Group.

3) SHIFFER BITUMINOUS QUOTE- PATCHING TOWNSHIP ROADS

Two loads of patching \$3,200.00.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to **APPROVE** the quote received from Shiffer Bituminous for up to 2 loads for the patching of township roads.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

CHRISTIAN BARTULOVICH, VICE CHAIRMAN

1) DISPOSAL OF OLD TOWNSHIP COMPUTERS

MOTION made by Supervisor Bartulovich, Second by Supervisor Lignore to **AUTHORIZE** Carmine from UnderDog to dispose of old township computers.

ROLL CALL: JK-No; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

2) GOVERNMENT / MUNICIPAL / PUBLIC FUNDS BANKING RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 19 of 2021----Authorization of Signatures for new account- American Rescue Plan.

MOTION made by Supervisor Bartulovich, Second by Supervisor Lignore to ADOPT Resolution No.19 of 2021-Authorization of Signatures for new account –American Rescue Plan.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

ADDITIONAL MOTIONS REQUIRED- add to agenda

MOTION made by Supervisor Bartulovich, Second by Supervisor Lignore to sponsor 2 holes for PFT Fire Co.#2 \$50.00 each.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

MOTION made by Supervisor Bartulovich, Second by Supervisor Meckes to sponsor 1 hole for PFT Fire Co.#1 \$100.00 each.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

F. PFT PARK AND RECREATION

1) RATIFY THE MOTION TO PURCHASE WOOD CHIPS – WALSH CONSTRUCTION

\$10.00/Load X 42 = \$420.00. Chairman stated there was a miscommunication on how much wood chips were required.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to RATIFY the motion to purchase wood chips from Walsh Construction, total cost of \$420.00.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

2) RATIFY THE MOTION- EMERGENCY REPAIR BASEBALL SCORE BOARD

Sign posts for the baseball score board needed welding repair from Shawn McGill Welding, total cost of \$613.20.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to RATIFY the motion to **APPROVE** the welding repair for the Baseball Score Board sign posts, total cost of \$613.20.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

G. REPORTS:

ROGER MECKES, ROADMASTER

ROADMASTER REPORT FOR JUNE 2021

Road work is completed on Meckesville & Drakes Creek Road.
In about 2 weeks the concrete pads will be done.
We have been mowing grass at the park.

TRANSFER STATION

1) BULK AMOUNT for JUNE 2021---\$ 974.00 Year to Date Total: \$ 4,717.00

2020-2021 Commercial Permits	(1)	350.00
2020-2021 Residential Permits	(5)	150.01
2020-2021 Pro-Rated Permits	(10)	40.32
2021-2022 Commercial Permits	(4)	1,400.00
2021-2022 Residential Permit	(1,505)	<u>225,481.00</u>
TOTAL DEPOSITS		<u>\$228,395.33</u>

2) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS –

A) RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUESTS FOR JUNE 2021-

Administrative & Financial Requests: (See Attached Lists)

Submitted: 53 / Responded: 53/ Total Hours: 33 hrs.

Zoning & Septic Requests: Submitted: 53 / Responded: 53

H. ZONING DEPARTMENT

- Kathryn Forry submitted Zoning Report for JUNE 2021.
House permits are coming in, not slowing down and we are keeping up with everything.

INDIAN MOUNTAIN LAKE CIVIC ASSOCIATION - EXTENSION LETTER

Time extension (90-day) authorization for Indian Mountain Lakes Land Development-Maintenance Facility until October 4, 2021.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Lignore, to **GRANT** the 90-day extension for the Indian Mountain Lakes Land Development until October 4, 2021.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

DOLLAR GENERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT & MINOR SUBDIVISION (12A-51-A2.02)

The Planning Commission recommends the waiving of the following SALDO requirements at their June 28, 2021 meeting. Storm water Detention (464.322), Plan Scale (311.1), Preliminary Plan Natural Features (314.22).

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Bartulovich to **GRANT** the waiver for **SALDO Sections**, Storm water Detention (464.322), Plan Scale (311.1), Preliminary Plan Natural Features (314.22), recommended by PC.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

TRANSFER STATION SUBDIVISION

The Planning Commission recommended waiving SALDO requirements at their June 28, 2021 meeting.

MOTION made by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Lignore, to **GRANT** the waiving of **SALDO** requirements as recommended by the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:20 P.M.

MOTION to adjourn meeting by Supervisor Meckes, Second by Supervisor Lignore

ROLL CALL: JK-yes; SL-yes; CB-yes; TC-absent; RM-yes **MOTION PASSED**

REMINDERS:

- 1) ***The Next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held Monday, August 2nd, at 7:00 p.m.***
- 2) ***The Park and Recreation will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, July 15th, at 6:00 p.m.***
- 3) ***The Planning Commission will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, July 26th, at 6:00 p.m. (If needed).***
- 4) ***Electronic Recycling will take place at the Transfer Station on July 17th from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. (or until trucks are full) for Penn Forest Township Residents ONLY.***

DANA VITALE
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY

ROGER MECKES
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS