

The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:17 P.M. Attending were Chairman Tony Kuklinski, Supervisor Alan Keiser, Supervisor Joshua Stouch, Solicitor Robert Brant, Josh Hagadorn of G&A, Chief Templin, Pete Hiryak, Andrew Duncan, Cynthia O'Donnell, Mike Heydt, and approximately 29 residents.

Mr. Kuklinski led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence for the families involved in Hurricane Florence. Mr. Kuklinski announced that there was an Executive Session this evening involving personnel issues, no decisions or votes were taken. No reporters were present at this evenings meeting.

Mr. Kuklinski asked if there were any additions, corrections, or comments to the minutes of the August 20th, 2018 Board of Supervisors Meeting, none were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Stouch to approve the minutes of the August 20th, 2018 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Kuklinski asked if there were any questions, comments, or corrections to the September 17th, 2018 Board of Supervisors Agenda. No changes, corrections, or additions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the September 17th, 2018 Board of Supervisors Agenda as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Gilbertsville Ambulance Report-Garry Schmoltze

August 2018 GACAS Report: 115 calls for service. 74 transports, 6 public assists, 7 cancelled (no patient contact), 9 cancelled (prior to arrival at scene), 10 patient evaluated no treatment/transport required, 9 patients refused treatment/transport. Calls for Service: Douglass 44, New Hanover 34, Upper Pottsgrove 6, Pottstown Borough 4, Pennsburg 2, Boyertown 9, Colebrookdale 11, Douglass Berks 1, Lower Frederick 1, Upper Frederick 1, Washington Twp 1, and Bally 1. Admission Summary: Pottstown-Tower Health 56, Lehigh 9, Phoenixville-Tower Health 2, Reading 3, Grandview 3, and St. Luke's 1. Mr. Schmoltze announced that they were inspected today and received their 3-year license for ALS. Routine maintenance continues on the vehicles, and ongoing online training with McNeil. Copies of the GACAS 2017 Audit were distributed to the BOS for their review. No questions or comments were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept the Gilbertsville Ambulance Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Fire & Rescue Report – Chief Rick Smith

Chief Smith gave the Fire & Rescue Report for August 2018: 1 vehicle fire, 9 fire alarms/CO2 alarm, 2 EMS assists, 2 vehicle accidents, 2 vehicle rescues, 6 investigations, 2 special service, 2 fire police, and 10 assist other depts for a total of 36. At one point there were 8 calls in an 8hour period. We held our first food truck event which was a big success and we held our annual bike night – the turnout was good in spite of the weather. Currently we are finalizing specs to replace our traffic unit which is a 2000 Chevy Utility (previously converted brush truck). Upcoming events: Fire prevention display at Weis Markets On October 11th, Boyertown Halloween parade with fire police, Bally Halloween parade with fire police, and our first Trunk or Treat event on October 21st. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the Fire & Rescue Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Police Department Report – Chief Templin

Chief Templin read the Statistics for August 2018: 424 incidents reported, 5 reportable accidents, 11 non-reportable, 12 criminal investigations, 11 criminal arrests, 106 traffic citations (paper), 8 E-Citations, 11 non-

traffic citations, and 0 parking tickets. No questions or comments were given. Chief Templin stated that on August 28th our police department went live with e-citations through United Public Safety as part of our new records management system, A.L.E.I.S. We can now electronically file traffic citations to the District Court from the patrol vehicle at the time of the vehicle stop. Defendants are also provided a hard copy of their citation at the time of the vehicle stop. On August 31st we ran our DUI Checkpoint in the area of 1050 E. Philadelphia Avenue. Results were as follows: 1 DUI arrest, 1 drug arrest, and 8 traffic citations were issued. I would like to thank our neighboring police departments for their assistance as well as Gilbertsville F&R, Boyertown Salvation Army, and Conrad's Auto Body. On September 9th we attended a service/picnic at St. Lukes Church for their First Responders Sunday event. Our police department joined many others in Montgomery County in getting the word out about the Montgomery County District Attorney's latest program, Operation Safe Homes. This program allowed residents to drop off unwanted guns and have the guns safely destroyed. This program looks to prevent accidental death of children by guns in the household and to reassure residents that these guns do not end up on the streets in the hands of criminals. On September 12th 4pm-8pm and on September 15th 9am-1pm residents were allowed to drop off unwanted guns at six designated locations throughout Montgomery County, the closest for our community being the Pottstown Borough Police Department, the results of this drop off program will be forthcoming. On September 19th we will be joining Gilbertsville Cub Scout Pack 36 for their Recruitment Night event to be hosted by Gilbertsville F&R. If you know any youngster wanting to join the scouting program, this would be a great introduction to the program. On September 29th 8am-12noon our police department along with Gilbertsville F&R and GACAS will be holding Child Safety Seat Check Program as part of Pennsylvania's Child Passenger Safety Week. Gilbertsville F&R will be hosting the event. Appointments are encouraged but are not required for this event. You can make an appointment by contacting the Douglass Township Police Department at (610)367-0466. In October we hope to have a Drug Take Back Program scheduled with the Giant Food Store. No comments or questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept the Police Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Engineer's Report – Josh Hagadorn, Gilmore & Associates

Douglass Park Improvement Update/Change Order/Payment Request #3 – Mr. Hagadorn stated that he received a request for payment #3 from Floyd G. Hersh in the amount of \$90,239.67. The Board tabled this decision until the next Board of Supervisors Meeting to allow the contractors payroll documents to be reviewed and a schedule for completion of work is received.

Flooding Issues – Mr. Hagadorn stated that he and Township Staff inspected several areas of flooding & poor drainage in the Township, looking for options, looking for easements and right of ways, and looking at budget numbers for the next few years. At this point Mr. Kuklinski asked for residents to wait until the public comment portion of the meeting to address their individual flooding issues. A resident from Second Avenue complained about waiting until the public comment, Mr. Kuklinski stated that he is trying to get through the business portion of this meeting first and then we will hear everyone's concerns and comments concerning flooding.

Stafy Tract Escrow Release Request #1 (\$143,091.80 BOS Approval Required) - We found that the reduction request submittal was reflective of the work performed to date. The value of the work performed to date is \$127,760.54. Adding Contingency, Engineering/Inspection and Administrative/Legal (contingency items) and subtracting retainage of 10% of the value of the work performed to date well as the amounts previously released results in an amount of \$143,091.80. Mr. Hagadorn stated that we (G&A) recommend reduction of the escrow by this amount, leaving \$226,869.49 remaining in escrow. The Township is aware of a drainage concern in this area and we are working with the Stafy engineers to correct any issues.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Keiser to authorize the release of Escrow Release #1 for the Stafy Tract, based on the recommendation of the Engineer, in the amount of \$143,091.80, with \$226,869.49 remaining in Escrow. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the Engineer's Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Solicitor's Report – Robert Brant

Master Traffic Ordinance – September 2018(Pending). Mr. Brant is looking for Authorization for Advertisement at an October meeting.

Proposed Lockbox Ordinance Draft – Mr. Brant is also looking for Authorization for Advertisement at an October meeting.

355 Cross Road Tax Assessment Change – Mr. Brant stated that he received a letter from Charles Garner concerning a townhouse development currently under construction in Upper Pottsgrove Township on a parcel that is presently located in both Douglass Township and Upper Pottsgrove Township. 95% if this property is in Upper Pottsgrove, and the remaining portion is located in Douglass Township, prior to the current development, the only structure that was located on the property was a barn that was in Douglass Township and as a result the assessor's office in Montgomery County assessed the property in Douglass Township. The barn has been demolished and all the townhomes will be built in Upper Pottsgrove therefore, the assessment should be in Upper Pottsgrove. Mr. Brant stated that it is consistent with the law that the assessment/taxes should be in Upper Pottsgrove and he asked for authorization to write a letter conveying this to the Montgomery County Board of Assessment Appeals.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Keiser giving Mr. Brant authorization to write a letter to the Montgomery County Board of Assessment Appeals stating that the 355 Cross Road Development should be entirely assessed in Upper Pottsgrove Township. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

No questions or comments were given on the Solicitor's Report.

Applications which are pending but inactive:

Danny Jake – Hallowell - inactive 2 years

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept the Solicitor Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch. Motion passed.

Open Space/Recreation Meeting – Randy Romig

Mr. Romig thanked Roger Updegrave, Judy Wills, and Bernie Sell for attending the meeting tonight. Mr. Romig stated that the Trout Rodeo will be held on April 27th, 2019. He stated that Mr. Mashintonio already has the hot dogs and hamburgers and the cooks lined up for that day. Mr. Mashintonio said that the Gablesville Social Club will be donating the hamburgers and hot dogs and Friendship Hook and Ladder will be doing the cooking.

Highway Report- Mike Heydt

Mr. Heydt stated that the road crew cleaned the debris from the rainstorms, graded dirt roads, cleaned ditches, repaired washouts, replaced piping on Buchert Road & Cross Road and performed inlet work on Brian Road. Mr. Saltarelli of Windward Drive asked when it is going to be blacktopped, Mr. Heydt stated that we have 150 feet of drainage work before we can pave the road. Mr. Saltarelli drains are getting beat up because you hit them with the plows, you are creating more damage. Mr. Heydt stated in June, July, and August we had 20" of rain accumulate, when am I supposed to pave. The resident then asked when are you painting the lines, Mr. Heydt stated that there is a waiting list for line painting and we are on that list. Mr. Houseknecht stated that he is a retired PennDot Supervisor and knows from experience that the latex paint used in line painting needs several consecutive dry days before you can apply the paint to the roads. The resident also asked about the Welcome to Douglass Township signs on Niantic and Hoffman Roads, Mr. Heydt stated that he wants to change the signs but doesn't know the type of signage he wants to use yet. No other questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept the Highway Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Recycling Report – Andrew Duncan

Mr. Duncan announced that on September 22nd there is a hazardous material drop off location at Spring Ford High School, this is the closest remaining drop off sit this year. Mr. Duncan asked for two part time seasonal leaf collection workers to be hired @ \$14.00 per hour (Matthew Hoffman & Cody Whitfield) starting on the last week of October.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to authorization the hiring of two part-time seasonal leaf collection workers (Matthew Hoffman & Cody Whitfield) at \$14.00 per hour. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

A resident asked how much does it cost to get rid of an air conditioner at the recycling center, Mr. Duncan replied that residents pay a fee of \$18 per Freon item if dropped off at the recycling center. No other questions were given.

Treasurer's Report – Cynthia O'Donnell

The Treasurer stated that the total bills to be paid for August 2018 total \$256,285.72 and asked for authorization to pay the August 2018 bills. No questions were given on the bills.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Stouch for authorization to pay the August 2018 Unpaid Bills in the amount of \$256,285.72. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. O'Donnell asked for the approval of the 2019 Budget Calendar Schedule as given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the 2019 Budget Calendar Schedule as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the Treasurer's Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Manager's Report - Pete Hiryak

1. The Manager reviewed the upcoming meetings as follows: Monday, October 1st, 2018 BOS Meeting @ 7pm, BOS Agenda Meeting @ 6:30pm, Thursday October 11th, 2018 P/A Meeting @ 7pm, P/A Workshop – Act 209 discussion, and Mixed Use Overlay for 650 Englesville Road Proposal.
2. BMMA Projects – Montgomery Avenue will be paved this week, and the Grosser Road main sewer line replacement work will finish up this week with the overlay scheduled mid-October.
3. PennDot Bridge Update - there will be a presentation by PennDot next month. It will be a 6 to 8 month complete bridge replacement with a walking path. The bridge will be higher and wider to allow water to flow better. Mr. Brumwell commented that the creeks are not cleaned out and he was told you cannot disturb creeks because of environmental concerns.
4. Aqua Water Company – Notice of Transfer from Superior Water to Aqua Water in Douglass Township, New Hanover, Lower Pottsgrove, Upper Pottsgrove, and Upper Frederick Townships in Montgomery County - A copy of the notice was given to Mr. Brant for review.
5. Building/Zoning Department August 2018 Report – Mark John stated that there were 18 permits (including 10 building permits 2 solar panel permits, and a natural gas station at Waste Management) the total construction value was \$741,687.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept Building/Zoning Department Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

6. Advanced Disposal – Recycling Issues (BOS Meeting 10/01/18). A Presentation will be given by Ron Carlson to address these issues.

7. Landscaping Ordinance MCPC Presentation to BOS (to be scheduled) – The P/A has revised the ordinance and MCPC will make the presentation to the BOS. A resident asked what the Act 209 is all about, the Manager stated new proposals must have traffic counts taken and fees are calculated for intersection improvements based on increased traffic generated by the new development. No other questions were given on the Manager’s Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept the Manager’s Report as given. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye. Motion passed.

Public Comment

Mr. Sell announced that he received a call from the Pottstown Cancer Center that he has been chosen to be receive the “Caretaker of the Year Award”. Mr. Sell stated that he will be a guest speaker. Mr. Sell also commented that this was the fourth time he was nominated however the first time to be honored with this award. Mr. Kuklinski stated that he should keep the Board up to date on this, Mr. Hiriyak will get more information from Mr. Sell. The residents from Second Avenue (4 properties) complained again about the flooding of their properties, they previously met on-site with Township Staff on August 29th. The property owners stated that the Township had 2-1/2 weeks to come up with a plan to resolve this issue and nothing has been done. Staff replied that there is no way to come up with an engineered plan in that amount of time and that they were told that staff would look at the situation to see what might be a feasible solution but not a full blown engineered plan. Mr. Hagadorn showed a rough drawing that he had been working on involving the 4 Second Avenue properties and stated that this is not an engineered plan just a rough drawing showing the area an possible options. Mr. Hagadorn stated that easements would be needed before you could do anything and one just one option would cost around \$120,000 just for stone, pipe, and installation. We had a 100 year storm and a 50 year storm hit us in August. Mr. Brant added that even if we did this it would still cost additional money for private easements and right of ways. Ms. McGonigal said she sued the Township in 2004 and now you are telling me the same thing. I no longer have a dip in my yard it is now a hump, we took out the drywall in my house. Mr. Brant stated that the legal issue is what is the municipality’s obligation in this matter. The Board must decide if the municipality is obligated to fix this issue, we did have an extreme amount of rain in a short period of time. A resident asked what the ratio is of water in your calculations with this sketch, it shouldn’t take much to determine inch per hour. Mr. Hagadorn stated 20 minutes from point A to point B with 4-1/2 inches of rain. Mr. Brumwell commented that he has battled this for 30 years, no fault of the Township. These developers build developments – where does the water go? Stop it in the beginning, you should be planning for 100 year storms. Mr. Brant stated that to expect an engineered plan in 2 weeks is not a reality. If there is not a municipal liability your problem does not go away then you privately fix it. It must be analyzed if it is a legal responsibility. A resident asked how long it would take to determine if it is a legal responsibility, Mr. Brant stated that he will go over the paperwork to see if it is a municipal obligation. Another resident complained that all the work done here at the park and office created more water issues, seems to be from soccer fields. Mr. Brant commented that he works with 10 other municipalities and every one of them has people coming in complaining about flooding issues this year. The Board authorized a work meeting between Mr. Brant, Manager Hiriyak, Mr. Heydt, and residents involved in Second Avenue flooding complaints. Mr. Hagadorn addressed the Oak Street flooding situation stating than an option would be to install new pipe and junction box into New Hanover, the Township would need permission from New Hanover Township, possibly having larger pipes installed to swale on Ash Street. The objective is to try to get water leaving in a controlled manor. New Hanover Township and Gambone need to be contacted to clean out that area. Mr. Brant stated that this is the same issue as Second Avenue, we must determine if there is a municipal obligation. The Board gave authorization for a meeting between Mr. Brant, Manager Hiriyak, Mr. Heydt, and Oak Street residents affected by flooding. Mr. Houseknecht addressed the Board about flooding at Ammon Avenue and Route 73. Mr. Houseknecht said that the storm water from the expansion of the Veterinary Hospital doesn’t go anywhere but across Ammon Avenue flooding his property. Mr. Houseknecht asked to not allow that parking lot to be paved until this issue is corrected. The Board stated that the Township will hold escrow until this is corrected. The Board directed the Manager to set up an on-site meeting with everyone involved to look at the

problem. Mr. Link added that water also comes from Swamp Pike Colonial Manor causing water issues in Aspen, Ash, and Oak Streets. No other comments were given.

Old Business/New Business

None given.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Keiser to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. Keiser-Aye, Kuklinski-Aye, Stouch-Aye.

The next Board of Supervisor's Meeting will be held on Monday, October 1st, 2018 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marcy Meitzler