

Schuylkill Township  
Board of Supervisors Public Work Session  
Thursday May 21, 2020 6:30 p.m.

The Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors held their virtual public work session on Thursday May 21, 2020 via GoToWebinar . This is an informal meeting to discuss township related business with the public without making any motions or voting on any discussed items. The work session was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Board Chair Martha Majewski.

The work session agenda consists of discussions on a proposed pet waste ordinance, a proposed amendment to the traffic and parking ordinance, a proposed municipal park & open space use ordinance and MS4 education. In attendance were Supervisors Martha Majewski, Fred Parry, Susan Guerette and Bob Cooney. Mark Donovan, Susan Guerette, Martha Majewski, and Fred Parry. Also attending were Township Manager, E.J. Mentry and Township Secretary, Madeline Harbison.

Supervisor Majewski announced that an executive session was held immediately prior to this evening's meeting to discuss potential litigation matters.

Mr. Mentry gave a brief overview of the virtual meeting protocols and reminded attendees that question and comments could be submitted at any time during the meeting via the question submittal box on the webinar dashboard. The submittals would be read aloud at the appropriate time in the meeting.

Pet Waste Ordinance – Mr. Mentry advised the Board that under its MS4 permit, the Township is required to have a pet waste ordinance. The draft ordinance in front of the Board is also proposing an update to the Township's nuisance code. Our current code only covers noise nuisances , i.e., barking. The proposed ordinance expands the nuisance code to include specific pet nuisances, for instance, pet noise, damage to persons or property, maintaining animals in unhealthy or unsanitary conditions, etc. If the Board elects to keep to adopt the new ordinance, the existing section of the Code will have to be repealed. The other change is fines levied. The existing code carries a fine of between \$100 and \$1,000. The proposed ordinance fine structure is a first offence fine of \$50 and all subsequent fines are to be \$300. There being no questions or comments from the Board or the public, it was the consensus of the Board that this be placed on the June 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

Stop Sign/Speed Limit Ordinance – There being no questions or comments from the Board or the public, it was the consensus of the Board that this be placed on the June 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

Municipal Parks/Open Space Use Rules & Regulations – Supervisor Majewski told the Board that the Township Solicitor has created an Ordinance incorporating the rules, regulations and enforcements discussed at the May 6th Board meeting. The fine structure was revised to a “fine of not more than \$600” rather than a range. There being no questions or comments from the Board or the public, it was the consensus of the Board that this be placed on the June 3, 2020 agenda for consideration.

MS4 Education: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination - Mr. Mentry advised the Board that his is one of the Township's minimal control measures under our MS4 permit which we must satisfy every year under the Education Outreach requirement. This information must be made available to residents via a public meeting, on our website and handouts in our lobby. Mr. Mentry then provided a summary of the control measures outlined in the brochure.

### Additional Business

Supervisor Parry requested that the Township Manager investigate future directions for the Township in various areas such as virtual meetings and services offered by municipal departments and service providers to get our residents' perspective on use of Township funds. He suggested that this might be a good use of one of our country club meeting dates.

Valley Park Municipal Park – Supervisor Majewski informed the Board that she would be mapping the natural trail with the assistance of Mary Ellen Heisey, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Council. Supervisor Cooney indicated he was interested in joining them.

Traffic Impact Fee Advisory Committee (“TIFAC”) (Act 209 Study) – Mr. Mentry advised the Board there is still a vacancy on the TIFAC and because of the way the Act is written, it must be filled by a developer/builder representative. During a conversation with Chad Dixon of McMahon, the Township’s Act 209 Study consultant, he asked if an engineering consultant such as Wilkinson Associates, engineer of record for Pulte Homes Valley Greene development currently underway in the Township, would be a viable candidate. Mr. Dixon said he believed that fulfilled the requirement provided it was not a traffic engineer. Mr. Dixon would confirm this for Mr. Mentry. Mr. Dixon elaborated that if the Township could get someone directly from Pulte, that would be a “slam-dunk.” Mr. Mentry asked the Board for their preference on which company to approach, Wilkinson or Pulte. It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Mentry should first approach Wilkinson, then Pulte.

Single-Use Plastics – Supervisor Donovan informed the Board that a representative from Penn Environment reached out to him regarding their opposition to the preemption of local municipalities ability to ban or regulate single-use plastics. Penn Environment is requesting a letter of support in this opposition campaign. Supervisor Donovan will provide additional information to the Board. The Board requested that the Township Manager include this topic on the June 6<sup>th</sup> agenda. Mr. Mentry suggested the EAC be involved; it was the consensus of the Board that this was not necessary.

Supervisor Cooney requested that the Township Engineer selection be discussed. References for the various firms and what areas of expertise are the highest priority to the Township were discussed. The Board reached a consensus on a preferred candidate and instructed the Township Manager to include the Appointment of the New Township Engineer on the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

### Announcements

- The Township is closed for Memorial Day, Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The Environmental Advisory Council is meeting virtually on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Instructions on how to attend have been published on the website and via email.
- The Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee is meeting virtually on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Instructions on how to attend have been published on the website and via email. The implementation agreement to bring West Pikeland Township onto the PRPC has been finalized.
- June 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Primary Election; the municipal building is a polling location. The common areas and meeting room will be cleaned and disinfected on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. No staff will be present on either day.
- Chester County is appealing to the Governor that it be moved to yellow status based on revised metrics drawn up by the County.

- Completion of PEMA applications for emergency expenditures reimbursement will be required soon. This will be a priority task for Township staff.
- PennDOT has instructed the Township to put all Green Light Go Grant project activity on hold, except active construction work, pending further communications from PennDOT. .

Public Participation

Nothing to report.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next work session is scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline Harbison  
Township Secretary