

WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
688 SUGARTOWN ROAD, MALVERN, PA
MONDAY, January 22, AT 7:00 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Willistown Township Board of Supervisors came to order at 7:00 PM. Supervisors Robert T. Lange, William R. Shoemaker, and Barbara L. Handelin were present. Also present were Chief John M. Narcise and Lieutenant Robert P. Klinger.

Supervisor Shoemaker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence for military personnel.

Announcements

Supervisor Shoemaker announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session before this meeting to discuss legal matters.

Supervisor Handelin moved to approve the appointment to the following Boards and Commissions. Supervisor Lange seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 3-0.

Zoning Hearing Board - Robert A. DeLuca – 3 years
Planning Commission – David E. Watt – 4 years
Planning Commission – Catherine Rubenstone – 4 years
Historical Commission – Warren I. Claytor – 5 years
Historical Commission – Jeanette Lindvig – 5 years
Historical Commission - Richard J. Mossback, Jr. – 5 years
Historical Commission – Bart VanBalkenburgh – 5 years
Parks & Recreation Board – Andrew L. Vaskas – 5 years
Recycling Commission – Ken Lehr – 2 years
Recycling Commission – Karl Malessa – 2 years
UCC Board of Appeals – Jerome Keough – 5 years
Open Space Review Board – Brookings D. Gardner – 5 years
Land Conservancy Authority – William R. Shoemaker – 5 years
Vacancy Board – Rita E. Reves – 1 year

New Business

Supervisor Handelin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 7, 2019. Supervisor Shoemaker seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 2-0. Supervisor Lange did not attend the January 7, 2019 meeting.

Supervisor Lange moved to approve the list of expenditures and interfund transfers dated January 22, 2019. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 3-0.

Chief Narcise reported on recent activities of the Willistown Police Department. Among other things, Chief Narcise noted that PennDOT has recommended that the Township install Right-Turn-Only signage

at southbound Dutton Mill Road at Street Road (Route 926). The Ordinance has been advertised for the Board's consideration on February 25, 2019. As background, the Chief noted that he sent a letter to PennDOT in 2009 asking the State to review the intersection. In addition, Traffic Officer Robert Will asked PennDOT to install a 4-way stop sign at the intersection. In September 2015, PennDOT installed advisory signage and pavement markings on Route 926 approaching the intersection. In 2018, after PennDOT advised the Township to have the homeowner on the southwest corner to remove the retaining wall to improve sight distance, the Township Traffic Engineer performed another study and asked PennDOT to install a 4-way stop sign at the intersection. The wall in question may be historic. The Chief also reports that, in interviews with drivers, the wall was not cited as the cause of the crash. PennDOT acknowledged that removing the wall was not feasible and advised the Township to install signage making southbound Dutton Mill Road at Street Road (Route 926) a Right-Turn-Only intersection. Chief Narcise provided crash statistics in recent years. PennDOT will not install a 4-way stop sign at this time. Instead, PennDOT asks the Township to try the Right-Turn-Only option, to see how it works. Chief Narcise reports that enforcement will be difficult and, in the long run, he feels that a 4-way stop sign is the way to go. The Board discussed this matter in great detail. David Traynor of Duffryn Avenue offered his suggestions on how to address the safety concerns at the intersection.

Chief Narcise also reported that PennDOT has informed the Township that the State intends to install stop signs on Sugartown Road at the intersection with Monument Road, making it an all-way stop. The Chief notes that Sugartown Road is a State Road. The Police Department will continue to monitor the situation.

Supervisor Lange moved to approve Resolution 3 of 2019, designating Emergency Services Providers and appointing Martin McKenzie as the Township Emergency Services Coordinator. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. Supervisor Shoemaker explained the purpose of the Resolution. There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 3-0.

Supervisor Lange moved to approve Resolution 4 of 2019, to appoint Robert A. DeLuca to the Zoning Hearing Board (Resolution required per MPC). Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. A resident asked what the MPC was. Supervisor Shoemaker explained it was the Municipal Planning Code which the Commonwealth passed to regulate how municipalities govern themselves. There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 3-0.

Supervisor Shoemaker stated the Board will table the following until the next meeting:

Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release between the Township, Kazanjian Associates, and Bank of America, N.A.

Acceptance of Deed of Dedication for Dovecote Lane, Firethorn Lane and Snowberry Lane.

Acceptance of Deed of Dedication and Easement for sanitary sewer lines, pump station and force main.

Supervisor Lange moved to re-open the Organizing Meeting which was held and adjourned on January 7, 2019 in compliance with the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code Section 602. Organization Meeting; Appointment of Secretary and Treasurer.-(a) The board of supervisors shall meet at a convenient time and place on the first Monday in January of each year. If the first Monday is a legal

holiday, the meeting shall be held the following day. The board of supervisors shall elect one member as chairman and another as vice-chairman, and it shall appoint a treasurer and a secretary.

Supervisor Handelin asked if such re-opening is permissible, Supervisor Lange reported having received legal counsel indicating that it was permissible; the township solicitor was not present at the meeting to confirm or advise. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion to re-open the Organizing meeting. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Supervisor Lange declared that he was voluntarily absent from the January 7 meeting due to a vacation trip to Cuba for bird watching and further expressed his disappointment that due to his absence he was not able to submit his vote to elect himself chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2019; he further noted that he should not be penalized for being absent from the Organizing Meeting. Supervisor Handelin asked Supervisor Lange to clarify whether he made a voluntary choice to be absent from the Jan 7 meeting which Supervisor Lange confirmed. Supervisor Lange further noted that it has been a common tradition in Willistown Township for a supervisor who will be running for re-election to be elected chairman for that year.

Supervisor Lange nominated himself as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Supervisor Shoemaker seconded the nomination, stating he effectively resigned as Chairman by seconding the nomination.

Kate Renalli of Woodview Way asked why the nomination was not postponed until tonight since Supervisor Lange could not attend the Organization Meeting. Supervisor Shoemaker stated that State Law requires the Board to reorganize on that specific day.

There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 2-1, with Supervisor Handelin voting no.

Supervisor Handelin nominated William Shoemaker for Vice Chairman. Supervisor Lange seconded the nomination. There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Citizens' Comments

John Ott of Forest Lane questioned the reasoning behind the sewer survey that was recently sent out. Supervisor Shoemaker explained that this was required by DEP and this was the first step to determine if sewers are required and the timing of the survey was not determined by the Township. He assured Mr. Ott that there is no one on the Board or Administration interested in building sewers. Chief Narcise stated that the Board and Administration are people of high integrity and care a great deal about the Township.

Richard Sharpless of Sugartown Road asked what the timeline will be if sewers were required. Supervisor Shoemaker stated all information will be on the Township Website or he can always call the Township.

Next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM at 688 Sugartown Road.

Adjournment

Seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David R. Burman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

David R. Burman, Secretary