

ELK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
February 5th, 2024

The Board of Supervisors February 5th 2024, meeting convened at 7:00 PM at the Elk Township Building. The following Supervisors were present: Chairman Albert Jezyk, Jr. Vice Chairman Estace Walters, and Member Milton Rudy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment.

DCNR Big Elk Creek State Park Oversight Committee Member Selections

Albert Jezyk explained to the audience that Elk Township is selecting two members as representatives for an Oversight Committee that will work with DCNR for the final planning phase of the Big Elk Creek State Park. Milton Rudy stated who the 7 Stakeholders were; Elk and Franklin Township, DCNR, Representative John Lawrence, Senators Carolyn Comitta and John Kane as well as the Chester County Commissioners. Albert Jezyk added that the purpose of Elk's committee selections would be to keep pressure on DCNR to develop plans with minimal impacts on Open Space, as well as the local roads and financial resources of Elk Township. Audience member Judy Jordan introduced herself to be considered as a potential candidate, she explained her extensive experience as a land use attorney and time involved with the Brandywine Conservancy and Elk Creek Watersheds Association. Melanie Ryan, Elk Township Planning Commission Member, stated that she wasn't thrilled with such a large percentage of political entities being named as Stakeholders.

Estace Walters motioned to Appoint Judy Jordan and Melanie Ryan as Elk Township's Oversight Committee Members, Milt Rudy seconded, the vote was unanimous.

Easement Robinson/Bowens Property to Martin Property

Milt Rudy addressed an issue regarding a possible paper road that allows access to the Martin Property, now owned by DCNR, from the cul-de-sac at the end of Dougherty Drive. Both Elk Township residents who live on either side of the small strip of land were in attendance to explain that people have been parking in the neighborhood and walking through to access the former Martin Property. Michael Corcoran mentioned that during the acquisition DCNR had stated they would not use or advertise the two access points from inside the neighborhood. Milt Rudy said he would follow up with Township Solicitor Winnie Sebastian on the next steps to hopefully resolve the issue.

DCNR/Martin Property Final Payment Received

Michael Corcoran announced that a final payment of \$75,430 had been sent to Elk Township from DCNR as part of the grant reimbursement he has been working on.

Borough of Oxford, Union Fire/EMS Workers Compensation Premium Expense Sharing

Albert Jezyk read the Premium Sharing notice received from Oxford Borough, stating Elk Township's obligation for 2024 is \$2068.04.

Sterling Court Case Update

Albert Jezyk read an email from Township Solicitor Max O'Keefe, stating that our next trial date would be February 29th at 11 AM in the Kennett Square Borough Court. Audience member Donna Ellinson asked which Judge was assigned. Estace Walters answered that it was Judge Iacocca.

Easement Discussion/Robbins Property

Estate Walters discussed with audience members Lin Klide and Melanie Ryan the ropes with No Trespassing signs blocking off the trail going through the old Robbins property. Estate Walters stated he would go to the property soon to remove the ropes and hopefully speak with the property owner. Michael Corcoran commented that the owner went through a Stormwater Management plan review last year so the township has his contact information, Michael will reach out to the land owner soon and make them aware of the Easement.

Annual PSATS Conference Registration

Albert Jezyk made a motion to approve sending Elk Township Voting Delegate, Michael Corcoran, to the 2024 PSATS Conference. Estate Walters seconded, the vote was unanimous.

STAFF REPORTS Secretary's Report

On a motion made by Estate Walters, seconded by Milt Rudy, the January 2nd, 2024, Organization Meeting Minutes and the Board of Supervisors' Meeting Minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

Michael Corcoran reported the totals of the bills to be paid for January. The Supervisors discussed the January Winter Maintenance Bill from Carter & Sons which totaled \$42,135. Estate Walters noted that there was some additional cost from needing to use Carter's Loader since Folk's was inoperable. On a motion made by Albert Jezyk seconded by Milton Rudy, the bills to be paid, except Roadmaster, were approved. The Roadmaster bill was approved on a motion made by Albert Jezyk, seconded by Milt Rudy. Estate Abstained.

Tax Collector

January 2024: \$.59

Planning Commission

Melanie Ryan stated that the Planning Commission members each took home a copy of Milt Rudy's Draft Solar Ordinance and it will be discussed at their February Meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board

No action.

Roadmaster

Estate Walters Reported that the Township truck was still not back from the mechanic, it needs glow plugs. Steve Snyder cut up a tree that fell onto Verizon lines on Camp Bonsall Rd. Chris Weaver and Estate went over the entire trail and cut everything back that fell after the storm. Estate also called PennDOT about the Strickersville Rd. Bridge and they came and got the trees out that were stuck underneath it, he also reminded them about the pothole and the big gully on the side of Strickersville Rd. Estate commented that he had gotten calls about snow removal, some thank yous and a couple of complaints. Estate started his trash detail for the Oxford Area Rec Authority. Dave Harlan came and fixed a pothole on Barren Rd.

Emergency Management Coordinator

Milt Rudy reported that January 10th AGREM meeting included a presentation by Kelly Tinsman, Deputy Director of Chesco EMS on the County report of weather preparation and hazard mitigation planning update. WEBEOC and Everbridge training is being planned. C.E.R.T. (Civilian Emergency Response Team) training is planned for March or later in the Spring. Local C.E.R.T. training is being considered. Training for Colonial Pipeline emergency response will be held on February 8th.

Oxford Area Recreation Authority (OARA)

Albert Jezyk read the budget report sent by OARA as well as a summary of their meeting minutes where they proudly noted their Winter Wonderland event broke even for the first time.

TRAILS REPORT

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Milt Rudy provided an overview of the January 19th Mason-Dixon Heritage meeting # 2: Peter Berton provided a 1-hour presentation of the completed Chesco Heritage Tourism plan. It emphasizes natural landscapes, cultural landscapes, and "thematic frameworks." A key point is that the interpretive sites must be publicly accessible.

NEW BUSINESS

Albert Jezyk stated that the Oxford Region Planning Commission would have its Kick-Off Meeting at Herr's on February 28th. Albert requested that members of the Elk Township Planning Commission attend the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Corcoran
Secretary/ Treasurer