



**Dickinson Township**  
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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING**  
**JANUARY 6, 2014**

**PRESENT:** JONATHAN REISINGER, BOB WRIGHTSTONE, J.R. BARRETT - SUPERVISORS; Laura Portillo, Manager; Larry Barrick, Assistant Manager/Zoning & Codes Enforcement Officer; Denise Gembusia, Secretary/Treasurer.

**VISITORS:** Jim Hughes, Ivan Bretzman, Greg Bretzman, William Baker, Bob Livingston, Beth Kikla, Rich Kikla, Harry Snyder, Gerald Eby.

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Wrightstone called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm, directly following the organization meeting.

**OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Park and Recreation Committee is seeking volunteers to join their Board. If you are interested, please email the Township Manager. More information is available on the township website.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Barrett motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Supervisor Reisinger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. December 16, 2013 BOS Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chairman Barrett motioned to approve the December 16, 2013 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Reisinger and passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Supervisor Reisinger motioned to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Vice Chairman Barrett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with the following items approved:

1. Pay Bills
2. Ratify bill payments from December 31, 2013

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Wrightstone publically thanked Ken Giffhorn for his many years of service on the Planning Commission.

**PLAN REVIEW/CONDITIONAL USE HEARINGS** - No plans were reviewed.

**PUBLIC INPUT (non-agenda items)**

Harry Snyder thanked the Board for making a difficult decision and vote after the warehouse hearing from the December 2013 meeting.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT**

Greg Bretzman reviewed the 2013 fire call numbers. He noted that CO<sub>2</sub> detectors were available at the firehouse and that the Penn Township tanker is now in service. Citizens will be receiving their new truck in the spring.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. FSA County Committee Election Ballot.**

Manager Portillo explained that County committee members are an important component of the operations of Farm Service Agency (FSA) and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs, conservation programs, incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities, emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. Dickinson Township is eligible to vote because we are currently renting the Lindenwood Park land to a farmer who participates in the program.

The candidates in this year's election held for our area in Cumberland County are Cheryl A. Barrick, Francis R. Mains and Fred W. Widders. Mrs. Barrick, Mr. Mains, and Mr. Widders are all involved in both dairy and crop farming operations located in Cumberland County. Manager Portillo contacted the local FSA office, and they could not provide more information on the candidates. The ballot has to be postmarked by January 17, 2014.

Supervisor Reisinger said he knew that Mr. Widders is a Dickinson Township resident. Chairman Wrightstone motioned to vote for Fred W. Widders on the official 2013 ballot for FSA Committee Elections. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Barrett and passed unanimously.

### **2. Regional Municipal Authority – discussion only.**

Gerald Eby and William Baker, representing the Dickinson Township Municipal Authority (DTMA), addressed the Board. Mr. Eby talked about the increase in water contamination due to more septic failures as systems age. He said that Mr. Group, owner of the Woods of Barnitz, has discussed his interest in having sewers in the neighborhood. South Middleton Township already has sewer pipe up to the borough line on Pine Road. Mr. Eby discussed flow and how if the Mt. Holly water treatment facility were too full, excess flow could be diverted via the pumping station to South Middleton Township. Mr. Eby stated that Bob Kissinger of the South Middleton Township Authority has expressed interest in creating a regional authority with Mt. Holly and Dickinson. A brief discussion on how sewers would affect lot size ensued. Mr. Eby suggested forming a committee with representatives from Mt. Holly and South Middleton that could determine how to form a regional authority.

Harry Snyder suggested putting water under pressure for the Woods of Barnitz. Mr. Eby stated that the neighborhood is already slated for city water.

The Board gave Mr. Eby authority to begin discussions with other municipalities about forming a regional municipal authority.

Bob Livingston said that the original plan of the DTMA was to build sewers along Walnut Bottom Road. He recommended the Board give Mr. Eby an authorization letter with bullet points highlighting their plan.

Jim Hughes informed the Board of the history of the DTMA events leading up to this point in time. He asked the Board to consider the intermunicipal agreements that would need to be in place for a regional authority. Mr. Hughes stated that the first step should probably be to finishing updating the Township's Act 537 plan, which is outdated.

Bob Livingston suggested having Bob Reisinger finish the Act 537 plan. Manager Portillo noted that the Township is waiting for the Board to make a decision on whether or not to begin Phase 2 of the Act 537

plan update. Mr. Eby suggested getting Bob Reisinger to provide the Board with an estimate and plan on how to finish the Act 537 plan. The Board agreed and asked Manager Portillo to contact Mr. Bob Reisinger regarding the Act 537 plan.

3. **Possible donation of land to Township – discussion only.**

Representing The Woods of Barnitz, Attorney Jim Hughes discussed lot #88 of the Woods of Barnitz, which is adjacent to the Township Municipal building. There is a possibility of donating approximately 3.75 acres of the 4.67 of land to the township in lieu of the amended subdivision filing fees and review fees for the preliminary final plan of Phase 1 and lot 88 for the Woods of Barnitz. Attorney Hughes said the developer will need to refile the plan since he is requesting a narrowing of the roads from a 30 foot roadway to 22 feet. The current assessment value of the land is approximately \$125,600 with annual fire tax revenue on the property of \$10.50. After a brief discussion on storm water, the Board said they would be willing to entertain the idea of land donation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Zoning/Saldo Draft Ordinances – task force progress.**

There was nothing new to report on this item.

2. **Goodman Birtcher Application to amend Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance.**

A draft of the text amendment will be presented to the Township and the County Planning Commissions.

3. **DTMA dissolve.**

Manager Portillo asked to change this item to ‘Regional Authority – Act 537 Update’ in light of recent discussions. The Board gave consensus to change the item name.

4. **Master Stormwater Feasibility Study – Mountain View Road Drainage.**

There was nothing new to report on this item.

**MANAGER’S REPORT** - Manager Portillo had nothing to add to her report.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** - Treasurer Gembusia had nothing to add to her report.

**ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT**

The Zoning Officer noted that a Zoning Hearing Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT** - No report was submitted.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT** – The Solicitor’s report was submitted with no additions.

**SUPERVISORS’ REPORTS** - No reports were submitted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Barrett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm. Supervisor Reisinger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise Gembusia  
Secretary/Treasurer

