



Dickinson Township  
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## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING August 19, 2024

**PRESENT:** ROBERT LINE, III, ROB KOLE, JEN DEGAETANO - SUPERVISORS; Marjorie Bear, Assistant Manager/Secretary/Treasurer; Glenn Kelso, Public Works Director; Laci Hockenberry, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Abigail Miller, Zoning & Codes Enforcement Officer; Matt Boyer, Solicitor.

**ABSENT:** Jason Reichard, Engineer

**VISITORS:** Diane Gill, Loren Newswanger, Don Isabella

### **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Kole called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

### **OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The DTWP Park and Recreation Board is seeking a volunteer to serve on their Board. Please contact the Township Office at (717) 486-7424 if you are interested in serving.
- The Board of Supervisors held an executive session on August 7, 2024 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM to discuss RFP Interim Manager/Consultant.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Supervisor DeGaetano and seconded by Vice Chairman Line and unanimously passed to approve the agenda.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Line asked for a period to be added on page 4, New Business, fourth paragraph, first sentence after the word "good" and then begin a second sentence with the word "They".

A motion was made by Chairman Kole and seconded by Vice Chairman Line and unanimously passed to approve the July 15, 2024 meeting minutes, as amended.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Supervisor DeGaetano and seconded by Vice Chairman Line and unanimously passed to ratify the bills for July 23, 2024 and August 5, 2024, and to approve the bills for August 19, 2024.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairman Kole reported that he met with Lieutenant Henneman of the Pennsylvania State Police concerning the issues expressed by Matthew Heckman at the last meeting. They reviewed some body camera footage and denied the claims and stated they are untrue. It is a neighbor dispute. Mr. Heckman is welcome to file a report with Internal Affairs with regard to the State Police acting appropriately and has not contacted him to discuss any issues.

Chairman Kole visited the property of Clayton Lynch to discuss the concerns of the road construction project and his septic system. A plan was made to address the concerns and the matter is moving forward in a positive direction.

Chairman Kole attended the Cumberland County Municipal Advisory Board meeting on July 29th. The County budget had a shortfall of \$14 million, which they used ARP funds to close the gap. The budget is reported to be flat right now. The P25 radio tower project was discussed, which is an expensive project. There are 11 towers complete at this time. Chairman Kole said he reported on the FPR Coalition and North Middleton Township expressed interest in joining.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT** None

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT (non-agenda items)** None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

**PLAN REVIEW/CONDITIONAL USE HEARINGS** None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Award Bid for Trash/Recycling Contract

Public Works Director Kelso gave an overview of the two bids that were received from Apple Valley and Waste Management. Apple Valley rates are considerably lower than Waste Management, and are even lower than the current rates being paid for both the toter and bag/tag options. There is no proposed change in the level of service provided currently with the toter system, bag/tag system, weekly recycling, and one large item per week. The new contract will begin on April 1, 2025. A flyer will be provided to the residents explaining the transition process of switching the service to Appley Valley and exchanging the old toters from Waste Management with new toters from Apple Valley. A bag will be provided as opposed to a tag that is currently in place for the bag/tag option. The Township does not have to get involved with the billing process.

**A motion was made by Chairman Kole and seconded by Supervisor DeGaetano and passed unanimously to award the bid for the trash/recycling contract to Apple Valley under Option #1.**

Don Isabella, representative from Waste Management, stated he will continue to work with the Township through the end of the current contract and wished the Township well with Apple Valley.

2. Appoint Diane Gill to the Park & Recreation Board (term to expire 12/31/28)

Diane Gill was present and stated she has lived in the Township for 38 years. She is impressed with the depth of the Park & Recreation Board and was impressed with the Public Works Director's report of what is being done with the two parks. She is interested in helping on the Board.

**A motion was made by Chairman Kole and seconded by Supervisor DeGaetano and passed unanimously to appoint Diane Gill to serve on the Park & Recreation Board, with a term to expire 12/31/28.**

3. Newswanger Financial Security Reduction Request

Public Works Director Kelso explained this was a land development plan that was submitted several years ago for three chicken barns with a large stormwater basin. Everything is in place, has been inspected, is stabilized, and PennDOT has signed off on the portion involving Walnut Bottom Road.

**A motion was made by Vice Chairman Line and seconded by Supervisor DeGaetano and passed unanimously to approve the Newswanger Financial Security Reduction Request as submitted.**

Mr. Newswanger thanked the Township for all they have done and said it has been a privilege to work with them.

4. Resolution to Transfer Funds from F&M ICS to General Fund

A motion was made by Supervisor DeGaetano and seconded by Vice Chairman Line and unanimously passed to adopt Resolution 2024-08, which transfers \$600,000 from the F&M ICS to the General Fund.

5. Ridge Road Discussion

Public Works Director Kelso gave an overview of the status of Ridge Road, the work that has been done and paid for by DCNR, Mt. Holly Borough's involvement and approval of a right-of-way for their portion, the portion in Dickinson Township that needs work done and a right-of-way considered, and the portion in South Middleton Township that has not been discussed. This is an on-going matter that will be followed up on and progress reports provided. This road is used to access numerous cabins, the tower where the Township radio system is located, and Michaux State Forest. Concerns include maintenance in the future, health & safety and emergency services access. If the various government agencies do not accept the right-of-ways, the access would go back to the property owners who could potentially gate off the access to the public. He will continue to work through the process with the various agencies, look at funding opportunities, and continue to update the Board. This matter will be moved to Old Business on the agenda. Chairman Kole directed the Solicitor to contact South Middleton concerning their input for the section of Ridge Road in that Township.

6. Composting Facility Discussion

Public Works Director Kelso gave an overview of the efforts he has made, conversations held, and potential options available to the Township to provide composting services. He has had discussions with Shippensburg Borough, Mt. Holly Borough, South Middleton Township, and Cumberland County. Options include joining in with another municipality and sharing the costs, paying our way to be able to use another municipalities facility, starting our own facility by purchasing the school property on the south side of the Township, which could also be used for storage of road equipment and supplies or also recreational needs. He will continue the discussions and provide updates.

Supervisor DeGaetano will make some contacts with Carlisle School concerning the potential purchase of the property on the south side of the Township. This matter will be moved to the Old Business on the agenda.

7. Peach Glen Road project – Request for Payment #1, Contract #1

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Line and seconded by Supervisor DeGaetano and passed unanimously to approve the request for Payment #1, Contract #1 for the Peach Glen Road project in the amount of \$315,990.96.

MANAGER'S REPORT Nothing additional to report

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT Nothing additional to report

TREASURER'S REPORT Nothing additional to report

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT Nothing additional to report

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director Kelso reported the Peach Glen paving is done and the shoulder work will be completed this week. Then in about 2 weeks the Township will clean up everything and complete the project.

ENGINEER'S REPORT Nothing to report

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Boyer reported that with regard to the Agriculture Security Area request, he spoke with Ben Wilson about his willingness to agree to a condition of approval that he would not spread FPRs. Mr. Wilson was not receptive and provided a number of reasons why, which included that he doesn't want to get involved in the FPR fight in general, he doesn't spread FPRs now and has no plans to spread FPRs in the future, a condition would result in a deed restriction which he does not want, and a denial of his request would be turned over in court. Mr. Wilson felt the Township should have interest in the agriculture security use so the land is not used for housing. He just wants to preserve the land and is not trying to sneak something in.

## **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Supervisor DeGaetano reported that the FPR Coalition is moving forward but the proposed legislation is dead. The Coalition is regrouping and is trying to get as much attention on the issue as possible and will continue to push the message forward, but must be patient.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Agricultural Security Area – Resolution 2024-07**

The Board held a lengthy discussion on the request. Supervisor DeGaetano is concerned with setting a precedent when many residents came with questions and concerns. It is hard for her to put something in ASA when we don't know the full intentions of the land which is located across from the school, what is being spread, the health issues, and complaints received. The applicant going over the Township's head doesn't mean it is with the Township's blessing. Land in the agriculture security area is treated differently with regard to nuisance regulations. Legislation is needed to help with the FPRs issue and we must all work together for responsible farming. Her denial is because the applicant has the opportunity to spread FPR. Vice Chairman Line was concerned that a denial would jam up the farm land preservation program because every farm that expresses interest in the program will be faced with the same questions. Putting a property in agriculture security doesn't change anything with the FPR issue. That must be done with legislation and DEP having stricter regulations and updating policies, and working with the Cumberland County nutrient management plan, so he questions what is achieved by stopping farm land preservation. The end result is losing a farm that could be preserved. He does not feel the Township should be an obstacle to preserving farm land. It is a trust issue. Chairman Kole mentioned his desire to support farm land preservation and was interested in looking at a program where the Township could provide financial support to the program, but since then has heard from many residents with concerns that this land is located across from the school, the toxins and water system exposed to chemicals, health issues, contaminated water, decreased real estate values, respiratory concerns with the children at recess, it is a no win situation. He would like to see as much green farm land as possible. It is part of the Comprehensive Plan as what the residents want, but now the residents don't want this approved so there is a conflict.

Diane Gill mentioned she lives in that neighborhood and expressed her trouble with breathing and is glad the Township is looking into FPRs. She would like to see the farm land remain.

**A motion was made by Chairman Kole and seconded by Supervisor DeGaetano and passed by majority vote to deny the Agricultural Security Area request from West Cumberland Partners, LLC (Resolution 2024-07). Vice Chairman Line voted no.**

### **2. RFP Interim Manager / Consultant**

The Board discussed the proposal received from Keystone Solutions to provide an Interim Manager (rate of \$135 an hour), Recruitment (\$12,000), and Targeted Strategic Management Planning (\$35,000). A discount is provided if all three steps are selected. The Board acknowledged the effort of the staff over the past five months and taking on more responsibility and the extra time invested due to the vacancy. This new service could provide assistance where needed and provide breathing room until a replacement for the Manager position is found. The specific list of duties, services and number of hours to be provided must be further defined. The Board and staff will provide input for a final determination prior to finalizing the agreement. The person proposed to provide the service will also be interviewed to determine the proper fit prior to engaging the services. The Strategic Plan is for the purpose of identifying areas for improvement, or ways to enhance best practices, and to see what may be needed and how to accomplish it. Vice Chairman Line noted that he has worked with McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC on a business level in the past and wanted that to be known.

**A motion was made by Chairman Kole and seconded by Vice Chairman Line and passed unanimously to accept the Keystone Solutions proposal conditionally with the understanding that the specific services and responsibilities to be provided must be further defined and that the proposed person to provide the service be interviewed and acceptable prior to a final decision being made.**

### **3. Food Processing Residuals (FPRs) and Biosolids update** – Update provided by Supervisor DeGaetano under Supervisors report.

4. Future of Barnitz Mill Discussion - Nothing to report

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Supervisor DeGaetano and seconded by Vice Chairman Line and passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:28 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie E. Bear*

Marjorie E. Bear

Asst Manager/Secretary/Treasurer

