

**Board of Supervisors**

**MINUTES  
February 11, 2025  
IN-PERSON MEETING  
BOS WORK SESSION**

**Supervisors Present:** Pete Kade, Jim Hopkins, Dave Long and Bill Ryker.

**Also present:** Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director) & Scott MacNair Esq. (Township Solicitor)

Mr. Kade called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. There will be an executive session to be held after the meeting to discuss personnel and protection of public safety.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Jim Nilsen, UBREMS, handed the Supervisors a handout. Mr. Nilsen stated it shows dispatches for UBREMS. Ms. Barbara Stebulis was present as well. One of the other municipalities recently paid for the last two years and ahead for this year. Mr. Nilsen said all the municipalities now have contributed for last year. Mr. Hopkins said there is a lot of data to sort through and they understand the situation in front of them. Mr. Nilsen said Central Bucks could possibly move to Revere station and work with UBREMS. Ms. Stebulis stated the cost the same whether they do it or other companies do.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Request for Fire Police –** Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and approved 4-0 to authorize the use of the Springtown Fire Company Fire Police, a division of Palisades Regional Fire Company, at the Plumstead Township Volunteer Fire Company Blaze of Glory 5K Run event on Saturday March 22, 2025.

**Location of Meetings –** Mr. Pursell stated with the building renovations starting we will need to find a place to hold the Supervisors and Planning Commission meetings. Mr. Jeff Mease, brought up last year that they would like to be paid for the use of the Springtown Fire House which would be \$200.00-\$250.00 per meeting. Mr. Pursell has reached out to Springfield Elementary School for the possibility of using their location for our meetings during the building renovation. The cost for the use of Springfield Elementary School would be \$50.00/Hr. He has also reached out to The Passer Community Center. This will be discussed at their Board meeting on Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup> and we will hear back from them after. Mr. Hopkins has mentioned the possibility of having one meeting a month during the construction. Mr. Pursell said this would be the best option for the Supervisors unless something pressing comes up. Mr. Kade advised he thinks that can be doable. Mr. Kade said Springtown Water Authority will hold their meetings back at Springtown Fire House.

**Admin/Zoning Vehicle –** Admin/Zoning is currently using a 2013 Tahoe that was previously the Police Chief's vehicle. In the 2025 budget, \$33,000.00 was budgeted for a new Admin/Zoning vehicle. Mr. Pursell reached out to Koch 33 which is a co-star's dealer and the price they gave on a new Escape is \$31,583.00. If the Board moves forward with the purchase, Mr. Pursell would like to get the vehicle undercoated to help prolong the life of the vehicle. The cost of undercoating would be \$1,000.00. Mr. Pursell said he investigated Ms. Yearwood's comments about a hybrid. He said Ford doesn't make 4-wheel drive hybrid. Toyota does with their Rav4, and the cost is \$37,500. Mr. Pursell said regarding a pre-owned vehicle, that would cost around \$24-27k. Mr. Kade said that can sometimes be buying someone else's problems. It was also discussed that buying used would require it going out to bid. Mr. Kade said he thinks we should be

done purchasing used vehicles. Mr. Long asked how many miles roughly a year this vehicle would put on and Mr. Pursell said about 5-8k miles a year. Mr. Long said that it wouldn't be worth it regarding a hybrid vehicle. Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Long and approved 4-0 to purchase a 2025 Ford Escape from Koch 33 with a price not to exceed \$33,000.00: additionally authorizing the Township Manager to sign all necessary paperwork for the purchase.

**Property Injunction** – Solicitor MacNair stated he has spoke to the Supervisors previously about the activity that is happening at 876 Passer Road, Coopersburg, PA. Solicitor MacNair summarized what has happened thus far. He said the resident has two uses happening on the property - G3 contractor services use and another G6 manufacturer use. He said they are operating a tree service company off the property. He said there is no permitted driveway permit so there is an issue with mud and dirt on to the road. Solicitor MacNair stated the Township got the Bucks County Conservation District involved and some inspections were done but they don't seem interested in pursuing any enforcement action. Solicitor MacNair stated a non-traffic citation was issued for failure to apply for a driveway permit and the Township pursued a Notice of Violation for operating G3 and G6 use which is not permitted in the RP District. There was no appeal of the NOV then proceed to district court. Solicitor MacNair stated he filed a complaint with the district court, however the property owner avoided service, and it got delayed. There is now a default hearing scheduled for next week. Solicitor MacNair stated there was a summary trial for the non traffic case. He said he got to cross-examine the property owner. She confirmed everything that is happening on the property. The Judge found in favor of the Township and issued fine \$5k but would reduce it if within next 60 days get property into compliance. The residents applied for the driveway permit but the application was deficient and doesn't propose or assert driveway standards. They were also advised to submit a zoning application and that was denied as it is not permitted in the RP district. Solicitor MacNair said the Townships' efforts are being ignored and the property owners have not followed through. Solicitor MacNair said Township has an option to pursue an injunction essentially seeking a cease and desist. He said he can file a complaint and preliminary injunction at the Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Long asked who the injunction gets put upon, such as the owner of the property of the gentlemen running the tree business. Solicitor MacNair said the owner is allowing the use and thus is in violation. Mr. Ryker asked if the audience member was present to discuss this item. An anonymous neighbor on Passer Road was present to discuss the issues. He provided his name and address to the board but for retaliation purposes he would like to remain anonymous in the minutes. The Board agreed. He said signs on telephone poles are for Adam's tree service. He said they opened up almost an acre of the land there to run this large-scale business. He said he went in there to get the name of the place and Adam threatened his life. He said the front is wide open that used to be woods and there is a makeshift gate. He said they are working out of there 7 days a week and making noise early morning and late in the evening. He said he doesn't want to call the cops every time. He said the driveway comes out to a blind hill. He said there will be an accident eventually. Everyone needs to run a business the correct way and it's not fair. There is also concern for mud on the road when it rains and safety of drivers on Passer. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and approved 4-0 authorizing Solicitor MacNair so move forward with complaint and filing of preliminary injunction related to 876 Passer Road.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jim Nilsen, Pleasant View Road, stated there are other non-profits such as churches that can help with being a meeting place for the Board.

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Hopkins reminded everyone about the BCATO conference on 2/22/25 and Palisades STEM will be given an award then.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Kade announced there will be an executive session to be held after to discuss personnel and protection of public safety.

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded Mr. Ryker, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart  
Secretary

