

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

July 12, 2022

IN-PERSON /VIRTUAL MEETING

Supervisors Present: Jim Hopkins, Tony Matzura, Jim Nilsen, Pete Kade and Bill Ryker.

Also present: Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor) and Jason Wager (Township Manager).

Mr. Hopkins called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. He announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss real estate matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No comment was given.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Job Descriptions resolutions – The consensus of the Board was to table for a future meeting.

CONDITIONAL USE HEARING

Solicitor, Scott MacNair, Esq., commenced the continued conditional use hearing. The hearing was held in person at the Springfield Township Building and made available via Zoom, telephone call and radio broadcast. The Clean Air Council called two additional witnesses. Heather Lloyd testified that she resides at 1756 Salem Road which is adjacent to the proposed quarry property. She operates a non-profit corporation known as Tails of Valor from her property which trains dogs to assist with the physical and psychological issues affecting veterans and their families. Her dogs receive daily training at the facility. Veterans attend the facility and are matched with her dogs for emotional support, service or therapy. Ms. Lloyd expressed concern that blasting activity from the quarry may detrimentally affect the dogs and the veterans. Many of the veterans suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and blasting sounds may exacerbate their issues. Joseph LaFlamme conducted cross examination of Ms. Lloyd. Thomas Marino testified that he is the Chair of the Richland Township Park and Recreational Board. He testified concerning the Quakertown Borough Active Transportation Plan and specifically provided information concerning the importance of the Upper Bucks Rail Trail. He expressed concern that any closure of the rail trail due to quarrying activities such as blasting may deter use of the trail and result in people using Route 309 which would be dangerous. Mr. LaFlamme also conducted cross examination of Mr. Marino.

The Board of Supervisors announced that the next conditional use hearing would be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Building. The hearing was adjourned at approximately 9:55 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pete Jones, 1876 Salem Road, complimented the Township on the virtual meeting setup.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Matzura noted Richland Township Fire & Rescue's cheesesteak "Grab- and- go" event is July 15, 2022. Mr. Hopkins stated the BCATO Board will be sending a letter regarding the potential sale of Bucks County Sewer.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Nilsen seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jason A. Wager
Township Manager