

**LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 10, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.  
Monthly Meeting**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

David Connors  
Stephen Zurl  
Christina Fanning  
Lee Irwin- Zoom  
Kevin Runey

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Ken Battin, Township Manager  
Shane Kinsey, Director of Public Works  
Dawn Maciejczyk, Township Secretary  
15 Audience Members

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Connors called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESS RELEASES/FUTURE MEETINGS**

Mr. Connors announced the next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on April 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., the meeting agenda deadline is April 7, 2021 at noon.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Connors called for Public Comment on agenda items. Mr. Leland Key, commented I wanted to take a moment to tell you what a great job the Township did with cleaning up the snow this year. Traditions at Inniscrone is where I live and you did a great job. Mr. Kinsey stated I will pass that on the crews Mr. Irwin commented on what a great job the Public Works Department has done this winter with cleaning up the snow. There were a lot of back to back storms and they stayed on top of it. Thank you.

**II. HEARINGS**

**Ordinance No. 218-Verizon Franchise Agreement**

Mr. Connors opened the hearing at 7:02 p.m. Mr. Battin explained the background with the Verizon Cable Franchise Agreement. He presented two exhibits.

1. T-1- Proposed Ordinance No. 218
2. T-2- Proof of Publication

M. Zurl asked, is this consistent with the Comcast Agreement? Mr. Battin stated yes. Mr. Connors closed the hearing at 7:04 p.m.

**Ordinance No. 218- Verizon Franchise Agreement Decision**

Mr. Connors asked if there was any further discussion needed. The Board commented no. Mr. Runey made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 218 as presented, seconded by Mr. Zurl and approved by a vote of 5-0.

**Russ Losco Email**

The Board received an email from Mr. Losco, unfortunately he had an incident at his house, where he had fallen on some ice and had an injury. The EMT's came from West Grove, and it was unsafe for them to move Mr. Losco due to the ice. The EMT's called Mr. Kinsey and he and Mr. Hughes stopped what they were doing and went over to assist. They were able to help get Mr. Losco safely to the ambulance and the attention that he needed. Mr. Losco stated, that he is eternally grateful to them and that these two employee should be recognized for this. The world needs more people like this. Mr. Connors stated, outstanding work Mr. Kinsey, above and beyond as always. Mr. Kinsey stated, that is what we are here for.

### **III. CORRECTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of February 10, 2021. Mr. Runey made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 10, 2021, seconded by Mrs. Fanning and approved by a vote of 5-0.

### **IV. REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY 2021**

#### **Inniscrone Golf Course**

Mr. Connors reviewed the year to date report. There were no questions. Mr. Battin stated that the course was snow covered for the month, but has just reopened.

#### **Code Department**

Mr. Connors reviewed the Codes Department report, prepared by Mrs. Zunino, Mr. White and Mr. Weer. There were no questions from the Board.

#### **Public Works**

Mr. Kinsey presented the Public Works Department report. There were no questions from the Board. The Board thanked Mr. Kinsey and his Public Works Crew for all the hard work they put in this winter with the back to back storms.

#### **Resolution No. 764- David Mattson Years of Service**

Mr. Connors announced that a longtime employee of the Public Works Department is retiring, and the Board of Supervisors as well as the Township would like to thank and congratulate him on his dedication to this Township. Mr. Connors read aloud Resolution No. 764 thanking Mr. Mattson for his hard work and dedication over the last 17 years. He then presented Mr. Mattson with a framed original of this Resolution. Mr. Zurl made a motion to approve Resolution No. 764, seconded by Mr. Runey and approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### **Host Municipality Inspector Appointment- Robert Weer**

Mr. Connors stated that with Mr. David Mattson retiring he was not only part of the Public Works Road Crew he was also the Host Municipality Inspector for London Grove Township at SECCRA. Mr. Battin stated that Mr. Weer is certified and willing to step in and take on that role. Mrs. Fanning made a motion to appoint Mr. Robert Weer as the Host Municipality Inspector for London Grove Township, seconded by Mr. Runey and approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### **Finance Department**

Mr. Connors reviewed the Financial Report for February prepared by Ms. Guenther. Mr. Zurl made a motion to approve the Financial Report for February as presented, seconded by Mrs. Fanning and approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### **Transfer of \$45,000 from Overflow Fund to the Golf Course Operating Fund**

Mr. Runey made a motion to approve the transfer of \$45,000 from the Overflow Fund to the Golf Course Operating Fund, seconded by Mr. Connors and approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### **Pennsylvania State Police Report**

Mr. Connors reviewed the Pennsylvania State Police Report for the month of January. There were no questions from the Board.

#### **Monthly Emergency Services Report**

Mr. Connors reviewed the Monthly Emergency Services Report. There were no questions from the Board. Mr. Connors suggested to the Board to look into sitting down with Avondale Fire Company again.

### **Southern Chester County Emergency Medical Services Report**

Mr. Connors reviewed the Southern Chester County Emergency Medical Services Report. There were no questions from the Board.

### **Monthly Right-to-Know Report**

Mr. Connors reviewed the monthly Right-to-Know report. There were no questions from the Board. Mr. Connors asked Mr. Battin to look into if a driver's license or proof of id is needed when requesting a right to know. Mr. Connors stated that he requested some documents from the county in a right to know and was told he had to submit a copy of his license.

### **DEP Odor Report**

Mr. Connors reviewed the monthly DEP Odor Report. There were no questions from the Board.

### **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Appointments: Mr. James Ambrose submitted a volunteer form for the Tree Committee. Mr. Runey made a motion to appoint Mr. Ambrose to the Tree Committee to fill the unexpired term of 1/1/20-12/31/23, seconded by Mrs. Fanning and approved by a vote of 5-0.

Vacancies: Golf Course Advisory (1), Twp. Auditors (2), EAC (3), UCC Board of Appeals (4), Agricultural Security Area (1), Planning Commission (2), Zoning Hearing Board Alternate (1), Historical Commission (3), Tree Committee (3).

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **Avon Grove Library 2020 Report**

Mrs. Sue Geiger, President of the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the trustees I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors again and again for all the support. It has really helped us not only the past year but before that as well. On a personal note, thank you for letting me be a representative of London Grove. I've been on the Board for 20 some years.

Mr. Walter Borys, also a London Grove Township appointee on the Avon Grove Board of Trustees, and I would like to thank the Township for your continued monetary support it is really a big deal for us. The library cobbles together funding much like the Township, from a lot of different sources. The library is funded by 6 Townships, 2 Boroughs, the State of Pennsylvania, Chester County, and we get some donations from patrons and some late fees from the books.

Mrs. Lori Schwabenbauer stated this report is combined 2019/2020 due to Covid. The commonwealth of libraries suggested a \$5.00 per capita and London Grove Township has always come up to that and we really appreciate it. Just this week alone 4/5 people have come to my office to talk about how happy they are that we are open. A London Grove resident sent an email to me and is allowing me to quote her, I want to extend a great big thank you for all of the services that the library offers to our community. During this time of Covid 19 and isolation I honestly don't know what I would have done to occupy my time without the services of your library. This is so wonderful to hear because we are making the difference that we want to make. We are offering things online that we've never done before. Programs over Zoom starting a YouTube Channel and we've received a grant for professional lighting and sound equipment so we can offer online video programs and story time. We really appreciate your support. Discussion continued...

A resident commented, I've lived in London Grove for about 6 years and I've used the library the most in the last year. It is a very valuable resource to have in our community. There has not been a book that I haven't been able to get yet.

Mr. Connors commented, the book drop off was a life line to so many people in our

community over the last year. It is really great that you are able to share your practices and still offer them at a critical time, especially when mental health is a serious issue, to be able to get a book and swap one out safely is really important. Thank you for everything that you do.

**Zoning Hearing Board- 284 Chatham Road- Jack & Helga Vaalburg**

The Board reviewed the Zoning Hearing Board application and decided they did not want to be a party to this hearing.

**Zoning Hearing Board- 325 E. Baltimore Pike- Felipe Cortes**

The Board reviewed the Zoning Hearing Board application and decided they did not want to be a party to this hearing.

**Open Space Discussion**

Mr. Battin reviewed the history of when the Zoning Ordinance was reviewed there was discussion on the language in easements. The Open Space Committee was tasked with reviewing it and coming up with some recommendations on the verbiage. Mr. David Sweet, consultant for the Open Space Committee stated that almost exactly a year ago the Open Space Committee looked at the existing language that is in the conservation easements that are primarily the ones sold by the land owner to the County/Township. A discussion ensued..... Mr. Connors will be attending the next Open Space Meeting.

**VIII. LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS:**

**Yeatman 90-day extension- June 17, 2021**

Mr. Zurl made a motion to accept the 90-day extension till June 17, 2021 for the Yeatman Land Development Project, seconded by Mrs. Fanning and approved by a vote of 5-0.

**IX. EXTENSIONS  
NO ACTION NEEDED**

Development	Application	Date Received	90 Day Expiration	Planning Commission Approved
Barbara Yeatman	Preliminary/Final	October 1, 2018	March 19, 2021	
Needham Farms	Preliminary	March 15, 2005	May 9, 2021	
Sycamore International	Preliminary/Final	February 24, 2021	May 25, 2021	

Development	Application	Date Received	5 Year Expiration	Planning Commission Approved	Board of Supervisors Approved
London Grove West	Approved Final	December 22, 2010	May 25, 2021	April 27, 2011	August 10, 2011
Marks Properties	Approved Final	February 26, 2020	December 2, 2025	November 18, 2020	December 2, 2020

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Connors called for Public Comment on non-agenda items.

Mr. Ed Markiewicz, president of Chatham Chase Homeowners Association, commented I want to ask with regards to Chatham and the now aggressive truck traffic as well as the jake brake issue. I had a conversation today with Rep. Lawrence. He was kind enough to reach out with a call and email to the State Police Avondale, and prior to that Sen. Dinniman had reached out. I wanted to

speaking with the Township back in January/February 2020 but because of Covid-19 the traffic died down. Unfortunately, that is not the situation right now. Looking at the signage and the number of trucks and the speed that they are running through, I'm asking if the Township would be so kind as to reach out to the State Police to ask them to have some visibility in Chatham. When I spoke with Rep. Lawrence today, we are asking for 365 days a year, we would just like 5:00 a.m. till like 7:30 a.m. I have neighbors that have China that rattling and breaking from the jake brakes. I was just down there on Monday afternoon sitting in the church parking lot with my iPhone and you would be surprised how fast once they see something that looks like their being taped they slow down. It's not stopping the jake brake issue though. I don't know how to proceed to ask for more help.

Mr. Connors commented I live on nearby and I hear them all the time. Mr. Zurl asked, is it because we reduced the speed at that spot? Mr. Connors commented, no, the speed has always been 35 mph. Mr. Zurl stated yes, but we didn't have those little islands and flashing lights and everything, no one wants to get that frowning face when they are going through at 65 mph....

Mr. Markiewicz commented, they are north bound, there is a sign about jake brake retardant way down the road. Whether they see it or read it... its small and when they get to the top of the hill, I don't think they pay attention to the sign. The smiling face, some of them slow down, but nowhere near enough and by the time they get down there is one sign that says you are entering Chatham. I don't know if that's the property line or not, but south bound on Route 41 there is a tenth of a mile up from the entrance of where the diner used to be on the right side, there is a sign that says brake retardants prohibited, that's working maybe a little better. I'm over towards the farm at the end of Chatham and at 5, 6, 7 a.m. and around lunch time and dinner time you hear them. There are two families that have PTSD and one of them is having a really hard tough time with those noises.

Mr. Connors commented, it's worse this time of year because there are no leaves and nothing to stop the sound. Mr. Zurl commented, there's a sign up and it's posted there is nothing wrong with asking for police presence up there every once in a while. Mr. Connors commented, not at all, and I'm almost wondering if we can get better signage. On the north side of Chatham by the time the truck gets down to where the sign is, they are going downhill and already using it.

Mr. Markiewicz commented, I have talked to the Department of Transportation and have an email from them stating that they would be more than willing to come in and discuss larger signs or even different color signs, whatever it may be and I can share that with you. We need help.

Mr. Connors commented, one of the things I remember from doing the Town hall meetings for the Route 841 intersection from the residents in Chatham is that they do not want a stop light because of... Mr. Markiewicz commented, the asphalt would be pushed and the ripple effect. Mr. Connors commented, right. I would be more than happy to reach out to Penn DOT and ask for better signage and also say help to our new LT. at Avondale State Police and ask for... Mr. Runey commented, if it makes a difference when residents call, we had a problem with speeders in Inniscrone.

Mr. Markiewicz commented, I've gone down twice and the prior LT. didn't even realize that it was there obligation to enforce the brake retardant signs and Rep. Lawrence didn't know either. Whatever you could do, it would show that we are actually trying to do something.

Mr. Zurl commented, I don't think it's a lot, I've been involved with motorcycling my whole life and we've always had to deal with people with modified pipes and I do really respect people property. I understand that people are trying to put kids to bed or whatever and not wanting to deal with that. Mr. Markiewicz commented, everyone is working from home now and you're on a conference call and all you hear in the background is the jake brake rumble. Mr. Connors commented, it shakes the house.

Mr. Markiewicz commented, that's my request. I appreciate you taking the time. Mr. Connors commented, thank you for coming and making us aware. Mr. Battin can we ... Mr. Battin commented, I will take care of that tomorrow. Mr. Connors commented, thank you.

Mr. Wayne DiFrancesco commented that there is a Community Shred Event sponsored by Serve Pro and West Grove Fire Company on Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. Can the Township add it to their website? Mr. Connors asked Mrs. Maciejczyk to add it to the website.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Zurl to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Fanning and approved by a vote of 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Maciejczyk  
Township Secretary