

**SKIPPACK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**October 14, 2020**

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Franco D’Angelo-Chairman	Present
Paul Fox-Vice Chair	Present
Jeanene Michener	Present
Nicholas Fountain	Present
Tammy Dagostino	Present

**TOWNSHIP STAFF**

Christopher Heleniak, Manager	Present
Barry Miller, Esq.	Present
Joseph Zadlo, AICP	Present
Tim Woodrow, PE	Present
Joseph Clement, Esq.	Present

**7:30 PM**

**I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. D’Angelo announced that the Board held an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss potential litigation related to delinquent sewer accounts.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**A.** Emily Buenzle – Collegetown Road – This comment is in regard to the proposed trail expansion to connect Cassel Mill residents with Palmer Park. My family, neighbors and I have been voicing our concerns about this proposed route from the time we heard about the project back in the spring, and I would like to reiterate some concerns that I have regarding the negative effect this trail will have on my family’s farm, located at the corner of Landis and Collegetown Roads. First and foremost, I oppose the township’s proposal to take a large portion of farmland for this project. Doing so will negatively affect the fences that keep our farm animals contained and safe and the drainage that will cause damage to a field that we plant regularly. In addition, the proposed trail route will likely mean the removal of close to 20 mature trees which provide shade for our livestock. Planting new, young trees will not give them the amount of shade that they so badly need on hot summer days. I have major concerns about passersby who may try to touch, feed or harass our livestock, which would put the animals at risk—something that absolutely cannot happen. I also have major concerns about privacy. I do not feel safe having strangers walking up and down my property line on a daily basis, especially in light of the constant stream of loud, revving engines and strangers catcalling from their car windows on a regular basis as I do yardwork. I should not have to compromise my safety because the township has decided that it would be “nice” to put in a trail that goes up to 15 feet up my yard. My husband and I chose to live on this property for many reasons, and one big one was that there was little foot traffic compared to living in a development or other high-density housing situation. Safety is another issue. All day, every day, cars speed up and down Landis and Collegetown Roads, honking at one another when there are close calls whipping around the corner. Our property has had many speeding cars lose control while making the turn, leaving deep trackmarks and the occasional bumper in our front yard. This trail route would include four crosswalks, and with the way vehicles treat this stretch of road, pedestrians using

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the crosswalks would simply not be safe. I appreciate that members of the Board of Supervisors have listened to the concerns of myself, my family and neighbors, but it would seem as if our concerns are not making much of a difference. As Franco put it in a conversation with us earlier in the summer, “the trail is getting built one way or another.” I pay taxes in this township—and with almost 13 acres, it’s a lot of money, so I do think that I have a right to oppose a project that would negatively affect my land. I am the third generation in my family to care for and farm this property, and I am not willing to support a project that would destroy a portion of it because “a trail is getting built one way or another.” Thank you for your time.

- B.** Clint Buckwalter - Requested the BOS install cameras facing the baseball fields. There has been vandalism and people drinking in the park. There was also a car broken into in the parking lot. Mr. Buckwalter stated the sound system for the little league has been loud and requested the sound system be turned down. Mr. D’Angelo stated the Township is aware of the issue and have been speaking with PSP to add patrols in the park, especially at night. He stated we do have some cameras in the park and we are looking at the possibility of adding additional cameras. He requested Mr. Buckwalter contact the police if there are people in the park outside of the normal hours.
- C.** Cindi Veverka - Landis Road - Stated people have different opinions and that Tim has worked hard on this. She stated they have safety concerns for the trail, including flooding. Mr. D’Angelo stated we are looking to work with individual property owners as we progress with the trail. Mr. Woodrow stated there are some storm water improvements that will be necessary, but not the entire road.
- D.** Tim Golanka - Landis Road - Questioned who would be responsible for maintenance of the sidewalk in front of houses. Questioned the electricity in the walls at the foot of his driveway. Mr. Clement explained that the 2nd Class Township Code does require property owners to maintain sidewalks in front of properties, however there has not been a final decision on that. Further stated that the walls are in the right-of-way and should not be located there, but the Township will be having individual conversations with residents to address some of these concerns.
- E.** Bill Bondi - Landis Road - Thanked Tim, Paul and the Board for giving the residents the time to explore the Cassel Road option. He stated the Cassel Road option is the better option for connecting Cassel Mill to Palmer Park.
- F.** Lucas Mitsch - Collegeville Road - Stated he sent an email to the BOS and would like to hear from Mr. Fountain, Ms. Michener and Ms. Dagostino. Stated he believes Cassel Road is the better option and hopes the BOS doesn’t put the trail

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down Landis Road. Stated he hopes the BOS uses the funds for something other than the trail.

- G.** Linda Pugliese - Landis Road - Questioned whether a traffic count has been completed on Landis Road and Cassel Road. Stated there is more traffic on Landis than Cassel and that Cassel Road would be safer. Stated we should go down Cassel Road. Mr. Clement stated we do not have sufficient amount of legal right-of-way along Cassel Road, so we would need easements in order to run the trail on people's property on Cassel Road, while the right-of-way on Landis Road is much larger, so we do not need easements from anyone to install the trail. She further expressed concern with storm water in front of her property.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 MINUTES**

MOTION MADE BY MS. MICHENER TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 MINUTES. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOX. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. Letter From PECO Regarding Electric Reliability Improvements Affecting Skippack Township**

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS**

- A. Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2020**

MOTION MADE BY MR. D'ANGELO TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOUNTAIN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

- B. Interim Bills Paid on September 25, 2020**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>= \$ 42,481.14</b>
<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>= \$ 1,816.01</b>
<b>Parks/Open Space</b>	<b>= \$ 11,823.63</b>

MOTION MADE BY MR. FOX TO APPROVE THE INTERIM BILLS PAID ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2020. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOUNTAIN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**Bills for Payment on October 14, 2020**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>= \$ 99,410.62</b>
<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>= \$107,470.94</b>
<b>Parks/Open Space</b>	<b>= \$ 29,246.41</b>

MOTION MADE BY MR. FOX TO APPROVE THE BILLS FOR PAYMENT ON OCTOBER 14, 2020. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOUNTAIN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

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**VI. REPORTS**

**A. Engineer**

**1. Construction Masters Services – Garges Road/Edmondson Open Space Trail Project – Payment Request #2**

MOTION MADE BY MS. MICHENER TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION MASTER SERVICES—GARGES ROAD/EDMONDSON OPEN SPACE TRAIL PROJECT—PAYMENT REQUEST #2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,681.68. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOX. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**2. Stonegate Reserve – Taggart Subdivision – Escrow Release #6**

MOTION MADE BY MR. D'ANGELO TO APPROVE STONEGATE RESERVE—TAGGART SUBDIVISION—ESCROW RELEASE #6 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,025.92. MOTION SECONDED BY MS. MICHENER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**3. Authorization to Award Bid for Lenape Park Pavilion Site Work**

MOTION MADE BY MR. FOX TO AWARD THE LENAPE PARK PAVILION SITE WORK BID TO CONSTRUCTION MASTER SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,450.00. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOUNTAIN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**4. Authorization to Seek Bids for Landis Road Trail Project**

MOTION MADE BY MR. FOX TO AUTHORIZE SEEKING BIDS FOR THE LANDIS ROAD TRAIL PROJECT. MOTION SECONDED BY MS. MICHENER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**B. Solicitor**

**1. Acceptance of Dedication of Sanitary Sewer Line at 707 Collegeville Road**

MOTION MADE BY MS. MICHENER TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-25 ACCEPTING DEDICATION OF CERTAIN OFF-SITE SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES CONSTRUCTED IN CONNECTION WITH 707 COLLEGEVILLE ROAD. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOUNTAIN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**C. Planner**

**D. Manager**

**1. Authorization to Seek Bids for 2020-2021 Snow and Ice Removal Contract**

MOTION MADE BY MR. D'ANGELO TO AUTHORIZE SEEKING BIDS FOR THE 2020-2021 SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL. MOTION SECONDED BY MS. MICHENER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

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**2. Authorization to Advertise Budget Workshop – 7:00 P.M., November 11, 2020**

MOTION MADE BY MR. FOX TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING THE BUDGET WORKSHOP—7:00P.M., NOVEMBER 11, 2020. MOTION SECONDED BY MR. FOUNTAIN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.