



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP  
MINUTES FOR May 9, 2023 - 7:00 PM**

The written minutes are a summary of Board of Supervisors meeting. For a complete video visit the Township’s website, [www.warringtontownship.org](http://www.warringtontownship.org).

This meeting was held hybrid both in person at the Township building and via Zoom link. The recorded meeting can be viewed the day after through the Township’s website, [www.warringtontownship.org](http://www.warringtontownship.org)

Supervisors: Chair, Fred Gaines; Vice Chair, Ruth Schemm, Member; Michael Diorka, Member; Vanessa Maurer, Member; Andrew Macaulay, Member

Staff present: Barry Luber, Township Manager; Christian Jones, Assistant Township Manager; Vicki Kushto, Esquire, Clemons Richter Reiss, Township Solicitor; Tom Zarko, Township Engineer; Jeannine Fielding, Executive Assistant to Township Manager/Board Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mr. Gaines called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

There were a total of 41 people who attended both in person and via Zoom. The meeting is also “streamed” on the Warrington Township TV channel, so other interested parties are always welcome to watch the meeting using this option.

3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mr. Gaines reported that there was an Executive session to discuss a real estate issue.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (*The Board will hear from any interested resident or taxpayer who would like to comment on an item not on this evening’s agenda. Respondents are asked to keep their comments to 3 minutes. Please sign in.*)

None

5. **PRESENTATION** – Swearing in new Police Officer William Pettis – Chief Daniel J. Friel and Judge Stacy Wertman
6. **OLD BUSINESS:**

**a. Consider approval of the Minutes from the March 28, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting (Previously Tabled)**

Ms. Maurer made a Motion to untable the Minutes from the March 28, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting; Mr. Diorka seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Maurer made a Motion to approve the Minutes from the March 28, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting; Mr. Macaulay seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

**b. Consider approval of the Minutes from the April 4, 2023, Vacancy Board meeting (previously Tabled)**

Ms. Maurer made a motion to untable the Minutes from the April 4, 2023, Vacancy Board meeting; Mr. Diorka seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Maurer made a Motion to approve the Minutes from the April 4, 2023, Vacancy Board meeting; Mr. Diorka seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

**c. Consider purchase of 2 radar signs to be deployed at multiple locations on Stuckert and Warwick Roads.**

Mr. Luber gave a brief explanation of this item that came from the Ad Hoc Traffic Calming Committee. He indicated that after identifying speeding concerns at Stuckert and Warwick Roads, using the guidelines outlined in the Traffic Calming Handbook, the committee is moving forward with these options to address the speeding. If these do not work, then the committee will review other options after several months.

Ms. Maurer made a Motion to approve the purchase of 2 radar signs to be deployed at multiple locations on Stuckert and Warwick Roads; Mr. Macaulay seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

**Mr. Rich Alsdorf, 1591 Stuckert Road** and member of the committee asked if the data would be captured. Mr. Luber indicated yes. Also, he continues to be concerned about the curve on Stuckert Road with an incident identified tonight.

Mr. Diorka asked for the cost of these signs – Mr. Luber indicated they cost approximately \$2,000 each. They have both solar and battery backup.

Mr. Macaulay asked for the lifespan of these signs. Mr. Zarko indicated they would have a lifespan of at least five years.

**d. Continued discussion regarding format of Board meetings (work sessions and business meetings)**

A discussion was held concerning the Board having enough time to fully vet agenda items and the back-up materials. Mr. Luber indicated that whenever possible any item that looks like it will be a lengthy discussion will be placed on a workshop agenda first as a discussion only item. It will then be placed on an upcoming agenda for the Board to take action (or could be placed on an upcoming agenda for more discussion with no action taken).

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Consider for approval a Resolution to Amend the Sterling Act to Require that up to one percent of earned income by non-residents to the City of Philadelphia and Collected under the Requirements of the Philadelphia Wage Tax be remitted to the Municipality in which the taxpayer resides**

Ms. Schemm addressed the destabilization of Philadelphia if this were to pass and the need for an entire re-do of Pennsylvania taxes. Mr. Luber shared that this could be an uphill battle and said, if the City of Philadelphia falters, the whole area falters. Ms. Maurer added that we can only control what happens here and if Philadelphia has problems, they will also end up here in Bucks County and Warrington Township.

Ms. Maurer made a Motion to approve a Resolution to Amend the Sterling Act to Require that up to one percent of earned income by non-residents to the City of Philadelphia and Collected under the Requirements of the Philadelphia Wage Tax be remitted to the Municipality in which the taxpayer resides; Mr. Diorka seconded. Ms. Maurer voted in favor, Mr. Diorka voted in favor, Mr. Gaines voted in favor; Ms. Schemm voted against, Mr. Macaulay voted against. The motion passed 3-2.

- b. Resolution for grant for Palomino Outfall Project Grant DCED through Watershed Restoration Program**

Mr. Zarko explained this project.

Ms. Schemm made a Motion to approve the Resolution for the grant for Palomino Outfall Project Grant DCED through Watershed Restoration Program; Ms. Maurer seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

- c. Discussion concerning requests from residents offering private roads for township dedication**

Mr. Jones gave a presentation regarding the development of a procedure that the Board could adopt for both Homeowners Associations (HOAs) and individuals for the Township accepting dedication of private roads. Discussion ensued. If the township took dedication, it would create substantial ongoing maintenance costs forever. The township has not done this in the past. Mr. Jones will draft a Resolution memorializing the terms for further discussion.

- d. Consider canceling one of the meetings in July and August**

The Board will cancel the first meeting in both July and August.

## 8. SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

**Mr. Macaulay** – 1) Thanked Mr. Luber for the New Supervisor Orientation and thanked the Department Heads for providing depth of knowledge. In particular, Mr. Greenberg, who provided information about the limited resources/differences between the Part-Time and Full-Time firefighters/risks for first responders/electric vehicles and the challenges in fighting fires; Mr. Knox, who shared the large amount of money the township saves the taxpayers by using in-house staff and sharing equipment with other municipalities; Ms. Frescatore for the Human Resources Policies and Risk Management, as well as working on staff development and measured success. 2) Solar Panel update – as of April 8, 2023, we have used 8,018 Kilowatt hours or \$1,100 energy savings with 8 SRECS in the amount of \$230. So, the amount the township saved using the solar panels on the Police Station are approximately \$1,500. We are not yet selling the SRECS, but will be researching this with Mr. Luber as a future action item.

**Mr. Diorka** – 1) Mary Barness Community Pool Steering Committee held its meeting and the pool will host its Open House on June 2, 2023; staffing is complete; Swim Team schedule posted; and membership is up. 2) Farmer's Market will start this Friday, May 12, 2023. 3) Parks and Recreation Board interviewed three candidates for its two vacancies and is recommending two of them to the Board of Supervisors at this meeting; Liaison Reports were presented, including Open Space and Land Preservation, which is hosting its Annual Day of Community Service on May 20<sup>th</sup>. 4) Public Comment – would like to be informed when the public question has been completed. 5) PennDOT discussions with Dominick's on County Line Road – would like to learn next steps. 6) Staff presenting new ideas to other committees – would like to be informed.

**Ms. Schemm** – 1) Special Equestrians held its Golf Outing – was very successful with 114 golfers; recently applied for a grant regarding fragile youth. 2) Emergency Services Committee is working on the Station 78 Expansion and received preliminary proposals. 3) Open Space and Land Preservation will be hosting its lecture series at 7:00pm on Live Staking - with the meeting to follow at 7:30pm. 4) Reiterated the EAC is hosting its Annual Day of Community Service on May 20<sup>th</sup> with plenty of projects; can call Ivy Ross or Fred Suffian. 5) Bucks County Tile Fest will be held at the Mercer Tile Museum on May 20 and May 21<sup>st</sup> in Doylestown. 6) Bucks County Co-Responders program has hired two staff members. They are Christopher Dohaney and Melinda Murphy, already beginning to service people in other municipalities.

**Ms. Maurer** –

1) Shout out to Public Works – updating the lap pool – was some water under the liner, but were able to divert; concrete sidewalks powerwashed; new plaster in family pool; ready to open the pool on May 29<sup>th</sup>; stormwater tops on Folly Road; Public Works worked with Special Equestrians to

create a better outside storage area for them; rear of Police Department some minor issues related to stormwater drainage.

- 2) Trail Groundbreaking Ceremony went well.
- 3) Last week, Sergeant Kevin Stebner was honored at the Hubert H Humphrey Building, Office of the US Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C., and was awarded the Inspector Generals' Award for Excellence in Fighting Fraud, Waste and Abuse of Prescription Medications.
- 4) She attended a Symposium at Delaware Valley University and met with a variety of groups and individuals who work in this field and commented on their collaborating efforts. The title of the event was, "The Violence Toll of Addiction, Why the Community Should Care and How We Can Be Part of the Solution."

Some of the key areas of the Symposium:

- Incidents of violence was 6% and now closer to 30%; largely people who were not violent, but now are violent due to accessibility and purity of drugs
  - This is a public health crisis, a public safety crisis and a top priority of the Office of Attorney General
  - Speakers included: Michelle Henry, Pennsylvania's Acting Attorney General
    - Brenda Foley, Medical Director of Doylestown Hospital Emergency Department
    - Kevin Keller, Licensed Professional Counselor with Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)
    - Matt Weintraub, Bucks County District Attorney
    - David Fialko, Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist, The Council of Southeast PA, Inc.) are providing solutions and working together
- 5) PSATS – We met a lot of people who turned out to be local and only a few miles up the road from Warrington Township; provided great opportunities to talk about shared overlap regarding a variety of problems – volunteer firefighters was a big issue and police resources; BCATO suite was a great way to meet with others from Bucks County and to share ideas and provide professional growth and opportunity to learn; also spoke with a Township Supervisor who was a retired psychiatrist who coached professionals and she asked him about the responsibility of the decision-making as a Supervisors for a township; he shared with her that we are all hard on ourselves; and being a Supervisor can be a thankless job. However, he found that it brings out the best in us and most Supervisors are deeply concerned about the citizens and want to contribute to the betterment of the community. His best advice to all Supervisors is to, "give yourself some grace, and remember you are making the best decisions given the information and knowledge you have at the time. Also, supervisors tend to hold themselves accountable for the actions of others and there is only so much we can have control over." And, remember there is only so much you can control.

**Mr. Gaines** – 1) Bike and Hike completed its Fishing School Event with 13 attendees. 2) Planning Commission is reviewing at any recent issues related to the SALDO Ordinance and will be scheduling a series of meetings to discuss any upgrades to the Ordinance. 3) After the active-shooter training with Board member and staff, he had asked Human Resources to research the life insurance policy for Supervisors who might be killed while providing their duties as a Supervisor. Action: Mr. Luber will follow up with Ms. Frescatore. 4) Barry Jacobsen completed his Eagle Scout project with a Chimney Swift House in Barness Park. 5) PSATS – at the General Session, approved the Resolution suggesting that the state legislator

open up Act 12 and extend the requirements for public participation that previously did not exist; our objective is to get them to open it up – other things might come up for discussion. 6) Co-Responder Program is moving forward. The Police Department hired staff who will be servicing Warrington, Warwick and Warminster. The Supervisors will get a chance to meet them. 7) ARLE the contractor has submitted final revisions and Mr. Luber is working with the Chief on this project. They will provide a brief summary and be available to answer questions at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

## 9. MANAGER'S REPORT:

### a. Water and Sewer Consortium

Formed a Consortium to try to get amendments to Act 12 for the sale of public utilities. Up to 14 municipalities which have signed Resolutions. Will have Kick off meeting within the next few weeks to determine next steps.

### b. Bucks County Manager Consortium

Four Presidents of Montgomery, Delaware and Chester County Consortiums – resurrect a group of the four counties who met regularly; will have a Kick Off meeting June 7<sup>th</sup> with Dick Vermeil to speak on leadership and motivation. Heavy topics:

**Bucks - Sterling Act**

**Chester - Employee retention efforts and incentives**

**Delaware – Retention and hiring of firefighters**

**Montgomery – Expanding purchasing for all four counties**

Will briefly discuss: Act 299 OSHA Standards

Future meetings might include topics such as:

Mercantile Business

Stormwater Authorities

Local universities and Master's of Public Administration programs – not enough young people are going into public administration as careers; maybe offer internships (Villanova and West Chester University)

Further discussion regarding cooperatives with Department of Transportation – filling potholes – our Public Works do the work on state roads and being reimbursed.

Discussion ensued regarding cameras on street sweepers and police cars. Action: Mr. Luber will communicate with Public Works and Police Department to alert the township if they notice pot holes while on their regular rounds of the township.

## 10. ENGINEER'S REPORT:

- a. **Access Driveway Project** - some problems regarding utilities – shallow utilities and had to do some relocations (electric, Verizon, Comcast and PECO). Also a well-related issue. Will work with the utilities and resume work as soon as possible. Mr. Luber thanked Mr. Zarko and CKS Engineering for their communication with Home Star Realty.

**11. SOLICITOR'S REPORT:****a. Recommend to amend the agenda to include these two items:**

Mr. Macaulay made a Motion to amend the agenda to include the two items below; Ms. Mauer seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

- i. Motion to Amend the Agenda to include consideration of the acquisition of a temporary construction easement and necessary right-of-way through a Deed in Lieu of Condemnation from property located at 2138 Street Road at the total cost of \$30,000.**
  
- ii. Motion to acquire a temporary construction easement and necessary right-of-way through a Deed in Lieu of Condemnation from property located at 2138 Street Road at the total cost of \$30,000.**

Mr. Macaulay made a Motion to approve items 11.a.i and 11.a.ii; Mr. Diorka seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

**12. CONSENT ITEMS:**

Mr. Gaines asked to pull out item 12.e.

Discussion ensued regarding the ability of Committees and Boards to hold Executive Sessions. This should have been a public meeting. If anyone on the committee is uncomfortable discussion candidates for vacancies, they could be asked to leave the room. But, all interviews and discussions must be held in a public meeting. Action: This topic will be included on the agenda for the Committee Congress on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

- a. Consider approval of Minutes from the April 11, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting**
  
- b. Consider approval of the Bill List for April 12, 2023 to May 9, 2023 in the amount of \$1,950,202.42**
  
- c. Consider change order in the amount of \$5,718.60 to R.E. Pierson for replacing topsoil with stone to stop washouts along a lower section of the trail**
  
- d. Consider change order in the amount of \$4,630.00 for the Municipal Complex Access Driveway for the relocation of the Homestarr Realty sanitary sewer lateral which was in conflict with the storm sewer.**
  
- e. Consider approval of two members to the Parks and Recreation Board to fill two vacancies – Carl Doerr and Teri Taylor**

Mr. Gaines made a Motion to approve Consent items a-d; Ms. Schemm seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Mauer made a Motion to approve Consent item e; Mr. Diorka seconded. All in favor, the Motion passed 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted

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Jeannine Fielding, Board Secretary