

West Earl Township Board of Supervisors, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508

In Attendance:

Chairman:	John Ford	Member:	Keith Kauffman
Vice Chairman:	Harold Keppley	Member:	David Thornton
Member:	Richard Stover	Manager/Secretary:	Candie Johnson

Call to Order

Chairman Ford called the July 9, 2018 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the Board had been in executive session to discuss a personnel matter prior to the regular meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Kauffman, second by Member Thornton to approve the June 25, 2018 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comment/Guests

**Don Feiler, 10 S. Church Street** – Mr. Feiler addressed the Board regarding his neighbor on East Main Street, Sam Yoder. Mr. Feiler said his neighbor has chickens and the R1 zoning district doesn't allow or disallow the keeping of chickens. Mr. Feiler said the chickens are noisy, create an odor and attract vermin. He said they've escaped their enclosure and scratched up his flower bed and mulch. Mr. Feiler asked the Board to consider revising the zoning ordinance to include regulations on keeping chickens in the R1 zoning district. He feels chickens are not appropriate for the R1 area.

Sam Yoder, 58 E. Main Street, addressed the Board and apologized to Mr. Feiler for any damage caused by his chickens. He said he enjoys being able to have the chickens but does not intend to have them any longer. He said he does still have some quail but keeps them in their enclosure. Mr. Yoder said he feels there are better ways to work out this issue rather than putting new laws on the book. He said adding more legislation doesn't help anyone.

Chief Brandt said there is legislation already in place to address these concerns in the Animal Ordinance and Nuisance Ordinance.

Curtis Miller, 111 E. Main Street, addressed the Board and said he also keeps chickens on his property and would not be in support of a broader ordinance. He said people need to be responsible for their animals.

**Don Reese, 17 Miller Road, Akron** – Mr. Reese was at the meeting to complain about the fees for non-residents to use the Township's compost site. He feels it's unfair to have to pay the increased fee of \$20 per trip rather than \$10. He said it's unfair for Township residents to only pay \$1 per trip. Chairman Ford said the compost site is operated principally for Township residents using taxpayer money paid by those residents. He also said the money that is currently being collected for the use of the facility does not cover the cost to operate the facility. Benita Gauthier, 110 Dane Drive, said as a taxpayer in the Township she's concerned about others abusing the site and the equipment getting damaged.

**Steve Gabriel, Rettew Associates** – Mr. Gabriel was at the meeting to let the Board know that he will be retiring from Rettew. Mr. Gabriel thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with the Township. The Board offered Mr. Gabriel their best wishes and thanked him for the work he's done for the Township. Manager Johnson also thanked Mr. Gabriel.

New Business

1. **Ordinance 243 Zoning Amendments** – Moved by Vice Chairman Keppley, second by Member Kauffman to adopt Ordinance 243. Motion approved unanimously.
2. **LASA letter** – Moved by Vice Chairman Keppley, second by Member Thornton to sign the letter to LASA. Motion approved unanimously.
3. **WESA connection notices** – Moved by Vice Chairman Keppley, second by Member Thornton to send out the notices for the Conestoga View Sewer Extension project area homeowners. Motion approved unanimously.
4. **MM Weaver plan withdraw** – Moved by Member Kauffman, second by Member Thornton to approve the withdrawal of the MM Weaver plan for 169 N. Groffdale Road. Motion approved unanimously.
5. **Employee resignation** – Moved by Member Thornton, second by Member Kauffman to accept the resignation of Jordan Levering. Thornton-yes, Kauffman-yes, Stover-yes, Ford-yes, Keppley-no. Motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote.
6. **LCCWC Grant** – Moved by Member Thornton, second by Vice Chairman Keppley to accept the \$7,000 grant from the LCCWC for the John Hoover pollutant reduction plan project. Motion approved unanimously.

Manager's Report

**Potter's House groundbreaking** – The groundbreaking will be Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Johnson is unable to attend and asked if one of the Board members could attend.

**Upcoming Farmersville bridge project** – Ms. Johnson was contacted by Ben Singer from PennDot about the upcoming Farmersville bridge project. She was told there are two plaques on the bridge and one of them has been promised to the property owner where the bridge is located. Mr. Singer was concerned that the Township might want the plaque. Ms. Johnson asked the Board for their thoughts on the matter. There were no objections to allowing the homeowner to keep the plaque.

Code Enforcement Officer

Brian Brandt reported that there are some issues with weeds in the Eagleview Development. He said the issue is they are located between Hawk Lane & Eagle Drive on a steep embankment. Mr. Brandt said it would be unsafe to try and pull the weeds by hand and it's too steep to mow. Mr. Brandt will be sitting down the HOA for the development to discuss this matter.

Public Comment

**Don Feiler** – Mr. Feiler said the weeds are bad at the corner of Church Street and 772. Ms. Johnson said she will contact PennDot to take care of it.

Payment of Bills

Moved by Member Thornton, second by Member Kauffman to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Supervisors' Comments

**Harold Keppley** – Vice Chairman Keppley said that Upper Leacock Township has been receiving West Earl's franchise fees from Comcast. Ms. Johnson will be working on this issue. Vice Chairman Keppley said he won't be at the next two Supervisors' meetings.

**Dave Thornton** – Member Thornton will not be at the next Supervisors' meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Member Thornton, second by Chairman Ford to adjourn the July 9, 2018 at 7:53 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.