

Board of Supervisors

REORGANIZATION Meeting

Minutes

425 Wells Road Doylestown, PA 18901 http://doylestownpa.org/ www.facebook.com/doylestowntwp

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Monday, January 6, 2025

Community Meeting Room

Board Members in attendance: Jennifer V. Herring; Nancy Santacecilia; Dan Wood and Judy Dixon. Barbara N. Lyons was present via Zoom

Township Staff in attendance: Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager; Andrea Mergner, Assistant Township Manager; Dave Tomko, Director of Operations; Chief Charles Zeigler and Sean Torpey, Township Engineer.

5:00 PM PUBLIC MEETING

Pledge to the flag

Ms. Herring welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment Agenda Items Only

No Comments

Announcements:

- 1. The Board of Auditors will hold their Reorganization Meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 10:00 AM.
- 2. The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM.
- 3. The Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2025 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- 4. Christmas Tree Drop-Off Trees can be dropped off at the New Britain Road entrance of Central Park anytime until January 31st.
- 6. Keep up to date with Township News/Events sign up for E-News at www.doylestownpa.org. E-News is sent out every Friday at 4:00PM.

REORGANIZATION

A. Organize the Board of Supervisors for 2025

Ms. Herring made the motion for Ms. Gallagher, Solicitor to serve as temporary Chairman and Ms. Mason to serve as Secretary, the motion was seconded by Ms. Lyons. The motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Gallagher asked for nominations for Chair for the 2025 calendar year. On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Mr. Wood, there being no other nominations. The motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Herring nominated Ms. Lyons for Vice Chairman for 2025, seconded by Ms. Dixon, there being no other nominations. The motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Herring called for nominations for the Director of Public Safety. Ms. Lyons nominated Ms. Herring as Director of Public Safety, seconded by Mr. Wood, there being no other nominations. The motion carried 5-0.

- B. Approval of Minutes December 17, 2024. On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon the minutes of December 17, 2024 were approved. The motion carried 4-0-1 with Ms. Santacecilia abstaining as she was not in attendance at the meeting.
- C. <u>Proposed Guidelines for Supervisors, Public Meetings, and Chairperson: 2025</u>
 Ms. Herring asked if everyone has read the Proposed Guidelines for Supervisors, Public Meetings and Chairperson for 2025.

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Santacecilia the Proposed Guidelines for Supervisors, Public Meetings and Chairperson were approved. The motion carried 5-0.

Developed in accordance with 65 Pa.C.S.A., Section 701, et seq. known as the "Sunshine Act" and Robert's Rules of Order providing parliamentary procedure for the conduct of meetings. These Proposed Guidelines incorporate the Supervisors Guidelines approved for 2024 (Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting, January 2, 2024).

Guidelines for Supervisors:

- I. Rights and Responsibilities of Members:
 - Receive notice of meetings
 - Attend meetings
 - Make and second motions
 - Be on time
 - Debate motions
 - Vote on motions
 - Know the meaning of the question being debated
 - Object when rules are violated
 - Not have to suffer personal attack
 - Have access to minutes of all meetings
 - Receive the treasurer's report
 - Receive all information available to facilitate decision making
 - Stay until the end of the meeting
 - Be informed
 - Be attentive
 - Be open-minded
 - Be prepared
 - Treat everyone with courtesy
 - Speak openly and allow others to speak openly
 - Follow the rules of debate
 - Make a point concisely
 - Attack issues, not people
 - Insist on law and order at meetings
 - Work to create dignity and decorum
 - Be familiar with the basic rules of parliamentary law
 - Serve as liaison to boards, committees, and commissions of the Township
 - Respect the rights of others
 - Abide by the final decision of the majority
 - Participate in committees

- Respect the chair's opinions and rulings
- Enhance the reputation of the Township

II. Socializing

The supervisors are encouraged to congregate at various times and socialize in order to engender a spirit of cooperation and camaraderie so long as the gathering is not used for the purpose to deliberate Township business or otherwise take any official action.

III. Protocol

- a. In order to promote efficiency and not incur unnecessary fees, the Supervisors will direct questions and requests for assistance to the Township Manager and not to other administrative staff or the professional support staff.
- b. Issues and concerns from residents must first be directed to the Township Administration for resolution as soon as is practical; issues or concerns that cannot be resolved by the Administration, or otherwise require Board consideration, must be listed as an agenda item.
- c. Issues or concerns concerning the administration of Township business must first be directed to the Township Administration for resolution as soon as is practical; issues or concerns that cannot be resolved by the Administration, or otherwise require Board consideration, must be listed as an agenda item.
- d. Items pertaining to Township business or otherwise require Board consideration as listed in paragraphs B and C above will be added to a meeting agenda by presenting the item(s) to the Manager on or before 10:00 a.m. the Friday immediately preceding the meeting.
- e. In the absence of the chair and vice chair, the senior-most member present shall preside as chair.
- f. Liaisons unable to attend their meetings will make every attempt to contact their fellow Supervisors for a replacement, so all committees will have a supervisor in attendance if possible.
- g. The Board shall meet in January of each New Year for reorganization at which time members may be appointed to serve as liaison to the following boards, committees, and commissions:

Agricultural Security Advisory Board Bike/Hike Committee Capital Campaign Committee Doylestown Twp. Municipal Authority Environmental Advisory Council Finance Committee

Friends of Kids Castle

Human Relations Commission

Local Traffic Advisory Committee

Parks and Recreation Board

Pension Advisory Committee

Personnel and Administration

Planning Commission

Public Safety

Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board

Roads and Bridges

Telecommunications Advisory Board

Veterans Advisory Committee

Guidelines for Public Participation in Board Meetings:

- Prior to addressing the board, all speakers should state their name, municipality and organizational affiliation, if any
- Questions and comments should be addressed to the entire board, not to individual members or to the chair
- Questions and comments should be confined to the specific topic under discussion
- Each speaker will limit his/her comments to two minutes
- Speakers are requested not repeat points already made by previous speakers
- It is expected that speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, and civility; resorting to personalities or the use of abusive, intemperate, or defamatory language will be ruled out of order
- Written statements will be received by the board in lieu of, or in addition to, oral presentation
- On controversial issues, speakers for and against a given topic may be recognized alternately by the chair

Guidelines for Chairperson- Chair's Responsibilities and Duties:

- Preside at all meetings of the Board of Supervisors
- Open the meeting at the specified time
- Help prepare the meeting agenda
- Make sure that there is a quorum
- Announce the business and the order in which it will be considered
- State and put motions to a vote
- Announce the results of all votes
- Conduct an orderly debate
- Apply the rules of parliamentary procedure
- Enforce the rules of decorum
- Avoid wasting time
- Make the business of the meeting run as smoothly as possible
- Declare the meeting adjourned when all business has been concluded

- Announce any known meetings of the Board of Supervisors at the beginning of each meeting
- Help members to follow parliamentary law
- Make sure that a motion has been made and seconded before discussion
- Encourage all members to participate freely in debate
- Consider only one main motion at a time
- Resolve each motion fully before moving on in the agenda
- Keep in mind that the person who made the motion is entitled to speak first
- Give one person the floor at a time
- Restrict debate to the motion on the floor
- Act in a tactful, fair, and polite manner
- Encourage people to identify themselves before they speak
- Check to make sure that everyone knows and understands the question being debated
- Make sure that personalities remain out of the debate
- Refer complex issues to committees for additional information beginning and end of each meeting
- End all meetings by 10:00 p.m.

D. <u>Designate Board's areas of responsibility for 2025</u>

Liaison defined: The Supervisor serves as liaison to a Township Board, Commission or Committee (B/C/C) as a representative of the Board of Supervisors and as a voice for the B/C/C before the Board of Supervisors. The liaison has no vote on the B/C/C, nor should the liaison try to influence action or inaction the B/C/C might recommend to the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Lyons made the motion that the liaisons remain the same, Ms. Herring included the exception of the Local Traffic Advisory Committee, Mr. Wood would be taking over for Ms. Dixon. Ms. Dixon agreed, and Mr. Wood stated that was the only change he would make. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wood. Ms. Lyons amended the motion by removing herself as Public Safety liaison.

The amended motion was agreeable to all.

Ms. Santacecilia stated that she would like to make a comment before the vote. She stated that elected officials take an oath when they are sworn in and the Board just voted to fulfill the guidelines for the supervisor, to be open minded, participate in committees and serve as liaisons to committees and commissions and not suffer personal attacks, follow rules of debate, respect the rights of others and attack the issues not the people. She has supported the Board as a sign of unity. At the 2024 reorganization the board obstructed her from fulfilling her duties as an elected official by blocking her from representing the Township on any committee or commissions. She feels it may be illegal and asks them to refrain from partisan politics. She feels that the Board silencing her and every Republican in Doylestown Township, she feels this partisanship disallows diversity of ideas, stifles debate and is not good governance. The people have chosen us to represent them. This applies to all constituents and committee members or people who are applying to be on committees who may have a difference of opinion, political party or view and should not be penalized for their belief, political party, creed, race, religion when volunteering. She feels last year political materials were focused on shutting down her

voice, she hopes the Board would not be partisan when assigning the committee positions tonight. By pushing this vote through, you have sent a signal to the rest of Doylestown Township.

Ms. Herring stated that being a liaison to a committee is not a voice on the committee, the purpose of having a liaison is to communicate between the Board and the committee itself. You aren't there to influence, sharing your opinion during these committee meetings, is not meant to be part of the liaison's job. As far as partisanship is concerned, Supervisor Santacecilia was not given committee responsibility as liaison prior to this Board when there was a Republican majority, so this is not a partisan issue, this is founded in prior acts.

Ms. Santacecilia stated this is a personal attack. Would you like to explain why she is not on any committee or commission.

Ms. Herring stated that this is not a personal attack, we have gone over this before. Ms. Santacecilia stated that she thinks the public would like to know, she gets asked all the time.

Mr. Wood asked Ms. Santacecilia what she tells them. Does she tell them that October 2021 she was caught on camera going into the Central Bucks School District abusing her privileges to deliver a letter that was considered anti-teachers union, anti- LGBTQ and also had headlines related to the Great Replacement Theory. On November 16, 2021 many residents came to Doylestown Township to voice their concerns about having her on the Board and asking her to resign for her views and continued to do so for months after. Several members of our committees were not comfortable having her as liaison. She is able to attend committee meetings as a guest just like all members of the Board whether we're liaison or not. Ms. Dixon stated that it has nothing to do with Ms. Santacecilia's party, all are welcome, it makes no difference, it is totally on actions that were caused and perpetuated by Ms. Santacecilia. It is intolerable what was done, the wake of it is still being felt, it is not acceptable which is why the line has been drawn.

Ms. Santacecilia stated that she is being personally attacked. Attack the issues not the person. She would state freedom of speech, freedom of opinion, freedom of thought. She did not break the law and did nothing wrong. You may not agree with me, she made her statement, she is very disappointed.

The above motion carried 4-1 with Ms. Santacecilia voting Nay.

	2025
 Agricultural Security Board 	Dan Wood will remain as liaison
2. Bike/Hike Committee	Judy Dixon will remain as liaison
3. Capital Campaign	Judy Dixon will remain as liaison
4. Doylestown Twp. Municipal Authority	Barbara Lyons will remain as liaison
5. Environmental Advisory Committee	Judy Dixon will remain as liaison
6. Finance Committee	Jennifer Herring will remain as liaison
7. Friends of Kids Castle	Dan Wood will remain as liaison
8. Human Relations Commission	Jennifer Herring will remain as liaison
9. Local Traffic Advisory Committee	Dan Wool will replace Ms. Dixon as liaison
10. Park & Recreation Board	Barbara Lyons will remain as liaison
11. Pension Advisory Committee	Jennifer Herring will remain as liaison
12. Personnel/Administration	Jennifer Herring will remain as liaison
13. Planning Commission	Dan Wood will remain as liaison
14. Public Safety	No liaison needed

15. Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board	Judy Dixon will remain as liaison
16. Roads & Bridges	Dan Wood will remain as liaison
17. Telecommunications Advisory Board	Barbara Lyons will remain as liaison
18. Veterans Advisory Committee	Barbara Lyons will remain as liaison

E. <u>Township Appointments – 2025</u>

On motion of Ms. Lyons to approve the Township Appointments items 1 - 21, seconded by Ms. Dixon. The motion carried 5-0.

1.	Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Zon	ing Officer	Stephanie Mason
2.	Police Chief		Charles Zeigler
3.	Police Lieutenant		Charles Zeigier
4.	Asst. Township Manager		Andrea Moraner
5.	Code Enforcement Director / Deput	h. Zonina	Andrea Mergner
٦.			Sinclair Salisbury
_	Officer/Emergency Management Co	pordinator	5
6. 7	Interim Executive Director, DTMA		Brent Eaton
7.	Director of Operations		Dave Tomko
8.	Director of Parks & Recreation		Karen A. Sweeney
9.	Finance Officer		Kenneth Wallace
10.	Fire Marshal		Fredrick Schea
11.	Parks Superintendent		Chris Mason
12.	Roads Superintendent		Paul Garr
13.	Water Superintendent		Brent Eaton
14.	Open Records Officers	(Admin)	Margaret M. Trageser
		(Police)	Chief Charles Zeigler
15.	Tax Hearing Officer		Stephanie J. Mason
16.	Solicitor		<u>2025</u>
			Michael Clarke
			Clarke Gallagher Barbiero Amuso & Glassman
17.	Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor		<u>2025</u>
	5		Thomas Panzer
10	Facility		High Swartz LLC
18.	Engineer		<u>2025</u> Sean R. Torpey, PE
			Pennoni Assoc. Inc
19.	Planning Consultant		2025
10.	riamming consultant		Judy Stern Goldstein, RLA, ASLA
			Gilmore Assoc.
20.	Bike Hike Engineer		<u>2025</u> Chris Stanford, PE
			Baker Engineering
21.	Traffic Engineer		2025
	3		Matthew Johnston, PE
			Pennoni Assoc. Inc

F. Appointments to Boards and Commissions for 2025

Ms. Lyons ask the Board to take out item #4 and moved to appoint Heidi Shriver as Chairman of the EAC/Shade Tree Commission, seconded by Ms. Dixon. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Ms. Lyons made the motion on items #1 - #18 in tandem for approvals to these Boards and Commissions.

Ms. Santacecilia requested putting item #16 Vacancy Board aside for a moment, she stated that she does not know that name and doesn't have any background information.

Ms. Herring stated that Ms. Casas was on the EAC and has been involved in the Township many years, she is a dean at Delaware Valley University, well respected in the community.

Ms. Lyons amended her motion to include items #1 - 15 & 17 - 18 for approvals to the Boards and Commissions, seconded by Ms. Dixon. The motion carried 5 - 0.

Ms. Lyons moved for the appointment of Tanya Casas to the Vacancy Board, seconded by Ms. Dixon. The motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Santacecilia stated that she has continued to ask if there is a conflict of interest for these boards moving forward, whether fiscal or professional, are they aware they have to abstain especially if there is budgetary impact with the Township, discuss in Executive Session. Ms. Lyons inquired if there was someone in particular, she was talking about. Ms. Herring stated that Executive Sessions are limited to certain topics, like real estate, law suits and personnel, very limited. There was continued discussion, but no further information was shared. Mr. Wood inquired if all of our volunteers have to fill out that state statement of financial interest form. Ms. Mason stated that only certain boards and committees fill out the statement of financial interest forms, Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, the Municipal Authority, consultants, as an example. The Boards and Commission have a Volunteer Handbook that everyone is given, it references if they have a conflict of interest to recuse themselves.

1.	Arborist (1 yr. term)	Robert McMullin
2.	Agriculture Security Area Advisory Council	Jeffrey Fehr
	(1 yr. term)	Marge Kohl
		3 Appointments Needed
3.	Bike / Hike Committee (3 yr. term)	Tom Kelso
4.	EAC/Shade Tree Commission (3 yr. term)	Chad Clem
		Marcello Mangano
		1 Appointment Needed
	Chairperson's Appointment	
	See attached memo	Heidi Shriver
5.	Finance Committee (3 yr. term)	1 Appointment Needed
6.	Friends of Kids Castle Committee	1 Appointment Needed
7.	Municipal Authority	Joe Van Houten
	(5 yr. term)	
8.	Historical Architectural Review Board	2 Appointments Needed

9.	Local Traffic Advisory Committee	1 Appointment Needed
10.	Park and Recreation (5 yr. term)	Joe Salvati
11.	Pension Advisory Committee (3yr. term)	
		Sinclair Salisbury
	Non-Voting Members (1 yr. term)	Bill Mokriski
		Stephanie Mason
		Ken Wallace
12.	Planning Commission	Jill Macauley
	(4 yr. term)	Michael Kracht
13.	Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board	Robert Repko
	(3 yr. term)	Robert Shaffer
14.	Telecommunications Advisory Board	Jean Laustsen
	(3 yr. term)	
15.	UCC Board of Appeals (5 yr. term)	Judy Hendrixson
16.	Vacancy Board (1yr. term)	Tanya Casas
17.	Veterans Advisory Board (1 yr. term)	Christopher Suessenguth
	· · · · ·	Joe Volk
		3 Appointments Needed
18.	Zoning Hearing Board (3 yr. term)	Samuel Costanzo

G. Set 2025 Administrative Office Hours and Meeting Dates

On motion of Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Lyons the 2025 Administrative Office Hours and Meeting Dates were approved, the motion carried 5-0.

Set Administrative Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:30AM - 4:30PM

Board of Supervisors – meetings held at 7:00PM - 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/13, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16

Budget Work Sessions - meetings held at 5:00 PM - 6/3, 9/2, 10/7, 10/21

Agricultural Security Advisory Committee - Scheduled as needed

Bike and Hike Committee –meetings held at 8:00am –1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/13, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16

Environmental Advisory Council – meetings held at 7:00pm – 1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/14, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12, 9/9, 10/14, 11/12, 12/9

Finance Committee – meetings held at 7:00pm - 3/26, 5/28, 10/22

Friends of Kids Castle Committee - Scheduled as needed

Historical Architectural Review Board - Scheduled as needed

Human Relations Commission – meetings held 2^{nd} Thursday @5:30pm scheduled as needed -1/9

Local Traffic Advisory Committee - Scheduled as needed

Municipal Authority – meetings held at 3:30pm – 1/16, 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, 5/15, 6/19, 7/17, 8/21, 9/18, 10/16, 11/20, 12/18

Park & Recreation Board – meetings held at 5:30pm – 1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/14, 6/10, 7/8, 9/9, 10/14, 11/12

Pension Advisory Committee – meetings held @ 4:30pm –2/10, 3/10, 5/12, 6/9 (opt.), 9/8, 11/10

Planning Commission – meetings held @ 7:00PM – 1/27, 2/24, 3/24, 4/28, 5/27, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25, 9/29, 10/27, 11/19, 12/17

Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board – meetings held at 5:00pm – 1/16, 3/20, 5/15, 7/17, 9/18, 11/20

Telecommunications Advisory Board – meetings held at 5:00pm - 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14, 8/11, 9/8, 10/6, 11/10, 12/8

UCC Board of Appeals - Scheduled as needed

Vacancy Board - Scheduled as needed

Veterans Advisory Committee – meetings held at 7:00pm – 1/23, 3/27, 5/15, 7/24, 9/25, 11/20

Zoning Hearing Board – Scheduled 3rd Monday & 4th Thursday – or as needed – 7:00pm

H. <u>Designation of Depository: Any official depository in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania</u>

On motion of Ms. Dixon, seconded by Ms. Lyons, the Board approved any official depository in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The motion carried 5-0.

I. Appoint Bucks County Tax Collection Committee Representatives

Stephanie J. Mason - Representative

Kenneth Wallace - Alternate

Jennifer Herring - 2nd Alternate

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board appointed representatives To the Bucks County Tax Collection Committee, the motion carried 5-0.

Proposed Resolution #2666

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved Resolution #2666 regarding the appointments to the Buck County Tax Collection Committee, the motion carried 5-0.

J. <u>Certify delegates to State Annual Convention and establish one voting delegate</u> On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Mr. Wood, Jennifer V. Herring was approved as Voting

Delegate for the PSATS Convention, the motion carried 5-0.

On motion of Ms. Dixon, seconded by Mr. Wood, the following were appointed as delegates to the PSATS Convention. The motion carried 5-0.

Jennifer V. Herring - Delegate

Barbara N. Lyons - Delegate

Nancy Santacecilia – Delegate

Voting Delegate (needed)

Dan Wood – Delegate

Judy Dixon – Delegate

Stephanie J. Mason - Delegate

Jennifer V. Herring

K. Appointment of Doylestown Fire Co. No. 1 – Fire Police

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved the Appointment of Doylestown Fire Co. No. 1 - Fire Police. The motion carried 5 - 0.

L. Resolution – Amendment to Fee Schedule

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved the 2025 Fee Schedule Resolution #2667. The motion carried 5-0.

M. Resolution – 2025 Compensation / Professional Services

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon the Board approved Resolution #2668 - 2025 Compensations/Professional Services. The motion carried 5-0.

N. Fixing Tax Rate for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved Resolution #2669 - Fixing the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025. The motion carried 5-0.

O. <u>Set Current IRS Mileage Rate - effective January 1, 2025</u>

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved the current IRS Milage Rate for 2025. The motion carried 5-0.

P. <u>Designation of Official 2025 Township Holidays - Township Building Closed</u> On motion of M.s Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon the Board approved the 2025 Township Holidays – Township Building Closed dates. The motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 20 - Monday
President's Day	February 17- Monday
Good Friday	April 18 – Friday
Primary Election Day	May 20 - Tuesday
Memorial Day	May 26 - Monday
Independence Day	July 4 - Friday
Labor Day	September 1 - Monday
Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day	October 13 - Monday
General Election Day	November 4 - Tuesday
Veterans' Day	November 11 – Tuesday
Thanksgiving	November 27 - Thursday
Day after Thanksgiving	November 28- Friday
Christmas	December 25 – Thursday
New Year 2026	January 1 - Thursday

Q. Police Affairs Committee

On motion of Ms. Dixon, seconded by Mr. Wood, the Board approved the following for 2025 Police Affairs Committee. The motion carried 5-0.

2025

Director of Public Safety – Jennifer V. Herring

Board Member - Barbara N. Lvons

Board Member - Dan Wood

R. Recommend Treasurer's Bond - \$3,000,000.00

On motion of Ms. Lyons, Seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Recommended Treasurers Bond in the amount of \$3\$ million. The motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Bucks County Association of Township Officials (BCATO) Resolution
 - a. Draft Resolution #2670 Senior Citizens Property Tax and Rent Rebate Assistance Program Resolution

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved Resolution #2670 – Senior Citizens Property Tax and Rent Rebate Assistance be submitted to our State Senator, Representative and BCATO for consideration. The motion carried 5-0.

b. Draft Resolution #2671 - Discrimination Protection Resolution

Ms. Santacecilia questioned if this overlaps with anything that is already in existence, she wants some background. Is there any other state that has this?

Ms. Herring stated that in 2023 the House of Representatives in Pennsylvania passed a similar law offering explicit protection for those classes, it has not cleared the senate. They have been trying for 22 years to pass this law in Pennsylvania. New Jersey & Delaware have similar laws. The Human Right Act for the state and the federal government mention sex as a protected class. Our governor has stated that these should be inclusive, but they are not listed in the law nor in the federal government, leaving it up to interpretation. The definitions are in this resolution for courts to follow. Pennsylvania is the only state in the northeast that doesn't have this explicitly stated.

Ms. Gallagher added that the case law is strong on the federal side but on the state side, they are attempting to close the gap.

After continued discussion Ms. Herring clarified that this resolution is asking us to submit this to state legislature and to BCATO consideration. BCATO will vote on this and if the county approves, it will go on to the state level at the annual conference at PSATS.

On motion of Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Dixon, the Board approved Resolution #2671 - Protections from Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Expression be submitted to our State Senator, Representative and BCATO for consideration. The motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment – All Items

Mr. Lahr, Resident – has a concern regarding pickup trucks parked on both sides of Nicklaus Drive in the Estates of Doylestown. Coming from Almshouse Rd. turning onto Nicklaus it is tough because the trucks are parked on both sides of the street. He has brought it to the attention of the Police Department who came out to check the situation. The police were able to get through the intersection, even with the trucks parked on both sides, there was enough room. Mr. Lahr doesn't want to see a potential accident, it's a clogged intersection. He thinks the Township could talk to the neighbors and tell them not to park their trucks so close to the stop sign / intersection. Is there someone that can look at this again?

<u>Chief Zeigler</u> stated that they can look at it, right now there is no prohibited parking areas on Nicklaus at all, we can't just say you can't park here. As long as vehicles are properly registered, inspected and lawfully on the road and parking is not prohibited, there is not much that they can do. They can look to see if it is creating a site issue to see if there are ways to remedy the situation. That will take time.

Mr. Lahr stated that he doesn't want to prohibit people from parking, he doesn't want to see a No Parking Sign at the corner. He doesn't want to see an issue since traffic on Almshouse Rd is getting heavier and trying to get out of Nicklaus Dr. is tough. He just wanted to bring this to your attention.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 5:38PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie J. Mason, Secretary