



Bucks County Association of Township Officials

BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held via Zoom on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS:

- *Joseph DiGirolamo, Bensalem Township
- Maggie Rash, Buckingham Township
- Barbara Lyons, Doylestown Township
- Ken Lichtenstein, Plumstead
- David Nyman, East Rockhill Township
- *Kathy Babb, Haycock Township
- William Jones, New Britain Township
- Dick Weaver, Newtown Township
- Ruth Schemm, Warrington
- *Judith Algeo, Warwick Township
- Chester Pogonowski, Wrightstown Township
- Terry Clemons, Clemons Richter & Reiss, P.C.
- Vince Deon, Northampton Township
- Fred Gaines, Warrington Township
- Tom Cino, Upper Makefield Township
- Jim Hopkins, Springfield Township
- Stacey Mulholland, Executive Director

*NOT PRESENT

1. Call to Order: President Maggie Rash called the Executive Board Zoom meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Guest Presenters: Evan Stone, Executive Director, BCPC, and Erik Clare, Executive Director BCHG. Director Stone presented an overview of housing across Bucks County highlighting the shortage of attainable housing units in Bucks County. Approximately 70% of the residential zoning in Bucks is strictly for single-family homes. The generation of millennials looking to buy into housing, simply can't afford the price point for a single-family home in Bucks County. The lack of attainable housing is causing a drain on our workforce. We are losing qualified applicants for teaching, police, EMS, and other front-line workers even impacting the responsibilities of Second-Class Townships to provide for public safety such as EMS. Supervisor Lyons pointed out that the land in certain municipalities such as Doylestown Township is simply too costly for homes outside the higher target price range. Solicitor Clemons stated the number of copies of plans that need to be submitted to the township for land development contributes to driving up costs for developers. Can the County make recommendations to streamline submissions? The board was heavily engaged on this topic and looks forward to the panel discussion at the 2023 Annual Convention where the discussion will continue.

2. Approval of the Minutes – of October 21, 2022.

MOTION: A motion by Ms. Rash and seconded by Mr. Nyman to approve the minutes of October 19, 2022; Motion carried unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report – October 2022:

Mr. Weaver presented the October financials for review and noted he will have the Draft 2023 budget available for our December meeting.

MOTION: A motion by Mr. Deon, seconded by Mr. Nyman to approve the October 2022 Financial Statements; Motion carried unanimously.

4. President's Report

A. 2023 Annual Convention Resolutions and Nominating Committee Reminders- Mr. Rash informed the board that she has begun outreach to members of the Audit and Nominating Committees noting the Resolutions Committee members are also on

the Executive Board. Ms. Rash also reminded the board of the deadlines for nominating committee members and resolutions as per the bylaws.

5. Executive Directors Report

- A. **BCWSA Consortium** - Ms. Mulholland informed the board that she participated in a meeting with the current consortium members. The current members are looking to continue with efforts to protect municipal water and sewer operations from privatization efforts. A larger meeting is being planned for municipalities involved in the recently thwarted BCWSA sewer assets sale.

- 6. Solicitors Report-** Solicitor Clemons presented a draft resolution amending Act 12.

- 7. Legislative Business-** Mr. Nyman reported on several EMS-related bills that have been signed into law. Act 104 helps fire and ambulance companies recruit and retain personnel. It provides funding for tuition and loan assistance for higher education as an incentive to students who volunteer for fire and EMS services. Act 155 also signed into law allows Junior Firefighters to be completely trained before turning 18 years old. It was also noted that the RADAR bill that BCATO supported did not proceed further in the legislative process than passing the Senate.

8. Other Business

- A. Mr. Gaines informed the board of highlights from the recent inaugural Infrastructure Committee meeting. Mr. Gaines and Solicitor Clemons led a discussion regarding a resolution to Amend Act 12, drafted by Solicitor Clemens. It was the consensus of the board that Mr. Gaines share the resolution with the PSATS Municipalities Greater than 10,000 Committee and Ms. Mulholland may present the resolution at the upcoming Consortium meeting.

- 9. Adjournment** With no further business, a Nyman/Jones motion carried out to adjourn the Zoom meeting at 1:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Mulholland, Executive Director