

# Allen Township Supervisors

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Paul Balliet, Chairman  
Bruce Frack, Vice Chairman  
William Holmes  
Alfred Pierce  
Michelle Drzewiecki

Brien Kocher, P.E.  
B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq.  
Ilene M. Eckhart, Manager

## ALLEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, March 27, 2012**

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at 7:00 P.M. at the Allen Township Municipal Building, 4714 Indian Trail Road, Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chairman Bruce Frack.

**Roll Call:** Paul Balliet - Present; William Holmes – Absent; Alfred Pierce – Present; Michelle Drzewiecki - Present; Bruce Frack - Present; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq. - Present; Ilene Eckhart – Present; and Brien Kocher, P.E. - Present.

**Public Hearings:** No scheduled public hearings.

**Public to be Heard:** Ronald Choltofalsky, Melvin Choltofalsky, James Hower were present to voice concern of the removal of the park equipment at the Kreidersville Park. Mr. Ronald Choltofalsky felt that the equipment was being utilized. Mr. Balliet indicated that this was a unanimous decision of the Board as they felt the park was not being utilized. Mr. Ronald Choltofalsky felt the Board never really looked to see that the park was being used and that he lives immediately adjacent so he is well aware that it is used. Mr. James Hower further questioned how the level of use was determined. Mr. Balliet indicated that this was from people driving past. Mr. Hower indicated that this was the only park available in this area of the Township accessible within a walkable distance. Mr. Hower further questioned how the Township came to acquire the property to begin with. Mr. Treadwell indicated that the property was acquired from the Fire Company. Mr. Hower felt regardless of how it came to be owned by the Township – that in consideration of the current Township subdivision requirements there are provisions to set aside a specific density ratio of green space for recreational purposes. Mr. Choltofalsky felt that the Supervisors should have asked the people in the community that actually use the park and not just by driving by. On the question from Mr. Metro Leshak regarding what the Board planned to do with the property was – Mr. Balliet indicated that the consensus of the Board was to consider selling the property. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky felt that was wrong. Mr. Pierce indicated that there was a larger park available at the Covered Bridge. Mr. Pierce did not feel that the use warranted the value of the park. He felt that only the people that walked there used the facility and therefore it was really not justified. Mr. Hower felt that the equipment that was there were maintenance free and the facility was well

established. He further stated that he was appalled that the Township would go in reverse and take away from these citizens. He further stated that if it was a matter of money perhaps some of the park bellies should be removed from the table. Mr. Pierce further reviewed the amount of other recreational land available in the Township and felt that this ¾ of acre did not make a significant impact to what was available overall. Mr. Pierce felt the facility was underutilized and was basically a personal park. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky felt all the Township's park efforts were at Howertown. Mr. Pierce felt more was being focused at the Covered Bridge. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky felt the Covered Bridge was not in walking distance to the residents of Kreidersville. Mr. Leshak questioned the cost of maintenance for the Kreidersville Park. Mr. Ronald Choltofalsky felt the residents should have been notified. Mr. Choltofalsky indicated he found out about it from seeing the road crew at the site removing the equipment. Mr. Balliet indicated that the Wayne Grube Park is in the process of being developed and would soon be available. Mrs. Drzewiecki felt based on the input that the park is being utilized and for the fact that the Township still has the equipment – what would be wrong with putting the equipment back in place and continuing to own the park? Mr. Balliet indicated that the Board would revisit the matter. Mr. Ronald Choltofalsky felt that based on Mrs. Drzewiecki's point it should be maintained. Mr. Pierce questioned if any of the neighbors present ever noticed any abuse from older youth. Mr. Pierce was concerned of vandalism. Mr. Frack admitted he was told that it was not being used – but if it was being used the Board should reconsider. The Board agreed to further discuss the matter and possibly reconsider at the next meeting.

Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky further questioned that at times when he drives north on Indian Trail Road, he often passes the one Township truck going the opposite direction. He asked where this vehicle was going. Mr. Balliet responded that the Township maintains Indian Trail Road on behalf of PennDOT for winter maintenance. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky indicated he was aware of the PennDOT winter maintenance issue. Mr. Ronald Choltofalsky commented that this was an employee taking a Township vehicle home overnight. Mr. Ronald Choltofalsky questioned why the one pickup is driven home overnight – he indicated that he personally drives school bus and sees this vehicle at one of the employees homes each afternoon? Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky questioned why one employee gets to use a Township vehicle to go to and from work? Mr. Balliet indicated because the employee gets called out a lot in the evenings and is then able to directly respond. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky stated he understands this in the winter months but why is the vehicle being taken to the employee's residence all the time? Mr. Balliet indicated that he does at times get called out in the summer months as well. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky indicated that his past employer did not provide a vehicle for call outs even though his job was somewhat comparable – so why should the Township provide a vehicle along with the associated fuel etc. for use to and from work for one individual when he is being paid to respond when called. Mr. Balliet responded that this is only for the employee to travel between his residence and the Township but there are times when he is called out to accidents. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky questioned what the Township would have to do with accidents? Mr. Balliet responded that every time the Fire Company goes out that the Road Crew goes out to. Mr. Choltofalsky disagreed and indicated that was something new because he was involved with the Fire Company at one time. Mr. Balliet indicated the Township employees are involved because the Township has several employees that are also firefighters.

### **Unfinished Business**

A. Interstate Waste Service Inc. – CDRA Electronic Device Compliance: Ms. Eckhart indicated that Interstate Waste had approached her to perform CDRA Electronic Device Compliance for the dismantling, sorting and processing of this type of electronic recycling to meet the mandate. She

indicated Interstate Waste has to comply with Zoning in order to perform this use on the site because the use would be considered a Resource Recovery Facility (which is not permitted in this Zoning District). She briefly discussed the electronic waste mandate that would come into effect January 2013 regarding subletting for recyclers to handle certain items. Interstate Waste Services Inc. would like to operate this electronic recycling (as mandated) at the Howertown Road facility. She further noted that if Interstate Waste Services Inc. will need to apply for a use variance if they want to pursue the conceptual use.

B. PA DEP Act 902 Grant Application – curbside collection equipment: Ms. Eckhart indicated that a new grant round has opened and asked permission to apply on behalf of the Allen and Lehigh Township. She indicated that the grant round is open and the applications are due at the end of June 2012. She further briefly reviewed the criteria. Mr. Frack made a motion to authorize Ms. Eckhart to proceed with the submission of a joint application for shared equipment with Lehigh Township for the funding of curbside collection equipment pursuant the provisions of the open grant funding round; seconded by Mrs. Drzeweicki. On the motion, by roll call vote, all supervisors present voted yes. She further indicated she would return to the Board with specific costs prior to the June 2012 grant application deadline. Ms. Eckhart further noted that if a grant is awarded – they Board would not necessarily need to accept if another option would be available via the next bidding of the municipal waste and recycling contract.

C. Salt Brine/ Anti-Skid Usage Report: Ms. Eckhart provided the report of the use of materials as prepared by Mr. Uhnak. She noted that the breakdown provided for the brine for small squall-like storms seems to be beneficial. In addition, there is an additional 565 tons of road salt that needs to be acquired to comply with the COSTARS contract. She explained that the vendor offered to store the material at their facility along with a charge of \$2,000. In addition, she was concerned of the fuel surcharge that may be an additional cost if we take the route of vendor storage. In any case, the Road Crew is in the process of stockpiling the additional quantity on-site to avoid the excess cost for storage. Ms. Eckhart indicated that all of the municipalities are in the same boat. Mr. Frack indicated he was experiencing the same issue at his place of employment. Mr. Pierce questioned the estimate of the storage capacity at this point. Ms. Eckhart indicated that additional storage, which is usually used to stockpile stone, will be utilized and the salt will be tarped for the next winter.

Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky questioned the making of the salt brine on site. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky questioned the scraping of the roads after the salt was applied. He felt it was not given time to adequately work.

Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky questioned how many employees live within the Township? Mr. Balliet indicated two of the five full time workers live in the Township. Mr. Melvin Choltofalsky felt that there were people in the Township who would like to work for the Township and they seem to be passed over. Mr. Balliet felt all employees should have CDL with Hazardous Waste endorsement as a minimum.

### **New Business**

A. Howertown Park proposed fence improvements from Allen Township Youth Association: Ms. Eckhart indicated she received a proposal from the Youth Association to install additional fencing on the main field at Howertown Park. This would include additional fencing along the first baseline and the backstop area due to fly ball issues at the concession area. In addition the Youth

Association is requesting that the batting cage mesh material be replaced with chain link and that an additional batting cage be installed. The Youth Association proposes these items and will pay for them from their own funds. Mr. Pierce felt before the Board gives any type of permission as sketch should be presented to Mr. Frack and Mrs. Drzewiecki. In addition, Mr. Pierce would like the Engineer to review the exchange of the material in the batting cage from soft mesh to chain link. The Board agreed by consensus that these items should be reviewed as outlined by Mr. Pierce above and that a sketch of the additional fencing be submitted.

Mr. Gary Behler, questioned whether the batting cage was open to the public. The Board indicated that the facility was open to the public.

**Public to be Heard:** No comments from the public.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart  
Manager