

**West Vincent Township
Board of Supervisors
Special Meeting**

June 27, 2022 7:00 PM

Attendance: Bernie Couris, Chair, Sara Shick, Vice Chair, Dana Alan, Member, John Granger, Township Manager, Kathy Shillenn, Township Secretary

Chairman Couris called the Meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Presentations:

Public Safety Building Discussion - Mike Kelly, KCBA Architects was present to give an update of the Public Safety Building. He is giving a brief update on the site, the barn, the parking etc. if the construction project moves forward. Mr. Kelly explained that they focused on the best practices for the Police Department and go over their needs. Currently the Police Department is very undersized, and the focus is on getting the Police Department what they need. A short presentation was shown during Mr. Kelly's update.

Regarding the barn, the structural components are starting to deteriorate. The barn in its current state is struggling. No solar panels could be put on the roof; no equipment could be stored. The barn needs to be rebuilt. A discussion followed along with attendees' questions.

Karl Brachwitz asked if any consideration was given to building at the upper field off Malehorn Road, which is flat. Mr. Brachwitz also commented that the barn is not particularly important and should be taken down. The barn is structurally a challenge.

Jim Bergey, Birch Run Road commented in his experience adding an addition is much more expensive than building a new home. Mr. Bergey believes the barn should be knocked down.

Ken Alan, 21 Ivy Lane believes all good points have been made. There will be a challenge with parking for big events; is there the feasibility of taking the barn down to use for extra parking.

John Eldridge, 1634 Hilltop Road asked what the status was for the commitment to proceed with this project. He feels there should be some input from a citizen's committee. What is the justification for a police force of our township's size?

Julia Braendel, 2472 Flowing Springs Road agrees with a lot of what Karl Brachwitz and Jim Bergey said. Ms. Braendel believes the barn should come down. She also feels that the police building on St. Matthews Road looks horrible.

Kirk Reinbold, Green Lane stated that he does not see that there will any expansion for the administration building.

Kathy McDevitt, Barrington Lane commented that from a Clean Energy perspective it's better to design a new building, you can design any way you want with a green design in mind.

Ken Miller, Horseshoe Trail asked how far down the road the discussions have gone. Is there a projection on how big the Police Department will be in 10-15 years? Mr. Miller also feels that the barn should be torn down.

Karl Brachwitz also commented about the possibility of flooding when you build a building into grade. Mr. Brachwitz stated that the Historic Commission is violently opposed to taking down the barn.

Selection of Firm to Document the Barn - Mr. Granger suggested that this be postponed until the July meeting.

Ms. Shick commented that the township will be taking comments on the Bennett Property until July 21st. They will be discussed at the August 1, 2022 meeting.

Mrs. Alan commented that she would be interested in knowing how many residents are interested in the barn being taken down. Further discussion on the barn followed.

Mr. Couris feels that the Board of Supervisors need to rethink the issue of the barn thanks to Mr. Brachwitz and Mr. Bergey.

Mr. Granger asked if he has authorization to work with the architects to develop a scheme without the barn. The Board of Supervisors agreed.

There being no further comments or questions, the **MOTION** to adjourn was brought forward by Mr. Shick; second by Mrs. Alan. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Shillenn
Township Secretary