

SPECIAL MEETING OF HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
GROUNDWATER SUPPLY
February 15, 2023 @ 7:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

The Highland Township Board of Supervisors ("BOS") met on this date @ 7:00 p.m., as publicly advertised, at the Highland Township Municipal Building at 3641 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Jason Stitt, Chair (Stitt); Gary Dingle (Dingle); Bill Baldwin (Baldwin)

Public: See sign-in sheet

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was made except as noted under the groundwater supply agenda item.

GROUNDWATER SUPPLY IN HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP:

- Randy Alexander, Alexander's Well Drilling, was introduced by Stitt and provided an overview of groundwater and his opinions on groundwater resources within Highland Township.
- Randy noted that Adams County, in general, has very good groundwater resources. 1/3 of the County is a diabase formation, which holds "loads" of water.
- Some areas are difficult to find water due to solid rock formations.
- Joe Bannak noted that Buckingham Township (eastern PA) had issues with wells running dry years ago. Studies were performed in that area that showed that sufficient resources were not available to support planned development. However, officials approve the developments anyway. This resulted in numerous wells going dry and the Township spent a great deal of funding to mitigate the issue. He does not want Highland Township to experience the same issues.
- Martha O'Bryant expressed similar concerns and asked that the Supervisors take a proactive approach. She wants more studies or expert evaluations of the groundwater situation in Highland Township. She is also concerned that developments in neighboring jurisdictions could impact Highland Township's resources.
- After much discussion, the following action items were agreed upon:
 1. Consult with a Hydrogeologist on what studies can reasonably be done to assess the danger to the Highland Township's groundwater resources. Randy Alexander and Stitt both know of a Hydrogeologist based in Westminster, MD that may be able to provide some information and cost data on a study.
 2. Consult with the Adams County Office of Planning on any information they may have.
 3. Verify if nearby development in Cumberland Township on Old Mill Road is on groundwater or municipal water.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Baldwin to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm and seconded by Stitt. The vote was unanimous. Next meeting is Monday, March 14th.

Submitted by:

Jason Stitt

Chairman and Assistant Acting Secretary/Treasurer Highland Township