

PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

August 22, 2017

Meeting Minutes

The public meeting of the Plumstead Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plumstead Township Municipal Building, 5186 Stump Road, Plumsteadville, PA

Present:

Dan Hilferty

Stacey Mulholland

Nick Lykon

Brian Trymbiski

Jonathan Reiss, Esq.

Carolyn McCreary

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Township Solicitor

Township Manager

Absent:

Frank Froio

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Hilferty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Veterans Ad Hoc Committee meets on August 23. The Trail Steering Subcommittee meets on August 28. The Board of Supervisors Worksession Scheduled for August 31 is cancelled. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for September 11 is cancelled. Mr. Hilferty commented on the public attendance and number of agencies present for Law Enforcement Night at Hanusey Park that was held on August 21.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Lou Tenaglia, 5456 Old Easton Road, followed up on his comments to the Board at their prior meeting about the increased tractor-trailer traffic on Old Easton Road. He asked if 'no thru truck traffic' signs could be installed from Ferry Road to Route 611. Kathy Quinn, 5561 Tollgate Road, spoke to the Board about speeding on her road and asked why the speed limit is not posted when adjacent roads have posted lower speed limits. She also spoke about a property near her that has 12-15 vehicles parked on site, noting she filed a complaint with the Township about this in a residential area.

Mr. Hilferty addressed those in attendance from Central Bucks Athletic Association (CBAA) about the increase in field use fees for Hanusey Park, and how and why the decision was made by the majority of the Board to raise them. He stated that given the amount of people present they had several options in how to share their public comments, including limiting all comments to 30 minutes, appointing a spokesperson or allowing the Township to take this up again at a future Worksession, and the next one is scheduled for September 28.

Michael Harte, President of Plumstead Baseball Association (PBA), stated he liked the idea of a Worksession and appreciates the challenges with the lights. He cited PBA's relationship with the Township, noting the work PBA has done at the ballfields in conjunction with the Public Works staff. Deb Daley, a resident of Buckingham Township asked if the Worksession was held could CBAA still pay the old fees. Mr. Lykon read his comments from the May 9 public meeting, noting his concerns at the time related to changing the fees in May when he believed fall soccer registration was already underway. Gene Walker, a resident of Buckingham Township asked is the fees could revert back to the original ones from earlier this year until

January and asked if the Township had reached out to CBAA before raising them. Joe Lozon, 5626 Timberly Lane, stated that the Township changed a trail plan and hurt his neighborhood by removing a section of a proposed trail connector, and now they are affecting athletics in the community. Donna Destefano, a member of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee stated that part of the Committee's role is to make recommendations about fees and she would like to see them be included in any discussion. She asked if the fees could be back-dated, giving the Committee time to discuss this. Becky Barlow, President of CBAA Soccer spoke to the Board about the origin of the lights, stating they could not be installed at CBAA's Herbst Field and how CBAA has the first right of scheduling Hanusey Park. She stated that if sports management is a problem for the Township then CBAA can offer assistance, but they cannot afford the increase in a season where registration was already underway. Mr. Lykon suggested the Board consider a motion to rescind the fees. Ms. Mulholland spoke about the park and the community building, citing the input the Township received as fees were reviewed in the past and how the Township delayed raising them because of registration already being underway. Ginny Blokker, 2219 Sunrise Way (Warwick Township), asked if fees were raised without Park & Rec. input and how the increase was communicated to CBAA. Christopher Harrison, 5451 Richie Court, stated he would like to see the increases rescinded until January 1 so CBAA can bring in additional funds in order to pay for the increase next year. Matthew Razzano, 3980 Landisville Road, asked the Board to waive the increase until January since the Township cannot expect an organization to know the fees as they go into a season. Mr. Trymbiski read from prepared remarks, stating the amount of fields has grown for the community as a whole. He cited the dramatic increase in the Parks & Recreation budget, the costs for mowing Hanusey and the costs for the well and irrigation with the intention to irrigate all the fields there. He discussed how the Board had looked at what other communities are doing and found that there are other communities that do not even have lit sportsfields. He spoke about his calculations concerning the fee increase and stated the Township is still subsidizing a significant cost for the fields used by an organization with participants who are residents and nonresidents. He stated he would like to see everyone work together to produce positive outcomes for our youth. Mr. Trymbiski stated that he has no problem delaying the fees until 2018, as the increase was not built into the Township's 2017 budget. **Motion** by Mr. Trymbiski, seconded by Mr. Lykon to rescind Resolution 2017-11 and the increase to the fees for Hanusey Park field use until January 31, 2018 and to reinstate the prior fee schedule until another fee schedule is formally adopted. With no additional comment, the vote was 3-1 with Mr. Hilferty dissenting. The Board agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee on October 9, which is the normally scheduled monthly Committee meeting. They also stated that pending the outcome of that meeting they would use their October Worksession scheduled for October 26 for additional discussion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT, Jonathan Reiss, Esq.

- 1. Public Hearing: Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance Amendment:** Mr. Reiss presented Ordinance 2017-03 that would reference the Township's Master Trail Plan and require applicants to show if there any proposed trails are in the area of their property. He noted the ordinance had been properly advertised and made available for public inspection. Mr. Hilferty opened and closed the hearing with no public comment. **Motion** by Mr. Lykon seconded by Ms. Mulholland to adopt Ordinance 2017-03. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
- 2. Public Hearing: Intermunicipal Cooperation Ordinance – Recycling Grant:** Mr. Reiss presented Ordinance 2017-04 that would authorize the Township to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with Dublin Borough, Hilltown Township and East Rockhill Township to contract with Hough Associates to prepare the Act 904 recycling grant applications through 2021. He noted the ordinance

had been properly advertised and made available for public inspection. Mr. Hilferty opened and closed the hearing with no public comment. **Motion** by Mr. Lykon, seconded by Ms. Mulholland to adopt Ordinance 2017-04. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

DEPARTMENT AND FIRE COMPANY REPORTS: On File

- 1. Public Works:** Mr. Blead sought Board authorization to place a number of items on the Municibid website, and reviewed the details of the list provided. **Motion** by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. Trymbiski to authorize the sale of the items on the list dated 08/15/17. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
- 2. Public Works:** Ms. McCreary reviewed the details of the 2018 proposed infrastructure projects, and noted the funding source for each. After responding to questions from the Board about the projects there was Board consensus to include them in next year's budget.

COMMITTEE MINUTES: On file

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT, Carolyn McCreary, Township Manager

- 1. Authorization Vouchers – Owls Nest Park Subdivision:** Ms. McCreary presented authorization voucher no 3, dated 08/14/17 in the amount of \$89,238.37 for work related to the retaining wall, stabilization E&S, signage and the basin fence. **Motion** by Ms. Mulholland, seconded by Mr. Hilferty to approve the authorization voucher. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0. Ms. McCreary presented authorization voucher no. 4, dated 08/14/17 in the amount of \$124,127.14 for release of the contingency. **Motion** by Mr. Lykon, seconded by Mr. Hilferty to approve the authorization voucher. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
- 2. General Fund Year to Date Revenue and Expenditures:** Ms. McCreary provided the Board with an update on projected revenue and the impact it would have on the use of the fund balance that was projected as part of the 2017 adopted budget. She noted that based on year-to-date earned income tax collections the Township is \$250,000 ahead of where it was on 07/31/16. She also pointed out that there has been stronger activity in the residential resale market resulting in more transfer taxes being received than expected. Ms. McCreary also identified specific capital projects and expenditures totaling \$185,700 in 2017 that would be completed and not part of the budget going forward. This would result in \$320,000 still being needed to covered the expenditures in the General Fund relating to normal operations.
- 3. Owls Nest Park Maintenance Period:** Ms. McCreary reviewed the details of Mr. Lykon's communication to them concerning the meadow that was part of the project involving removal of invasive species and replanting. He reminded the Board that the maintenance period will expire in mid-December. Mr. Lykon recommended that the Board hire a professional to evaluate the meadow and pollinator garden. He noted that the language on the plan indicates a professional should make the evaluation given the specifics of how a successful invasive eradication and reseeding is determined. Board consensus was for Ms. McCreary to get quotes from local botanists and report back at the next meeting.
- 4. Proposed Wawa Plan Extension:** Ms. McCreary informed the Board that the Township had received an extension for the review of the proposed land development plan until 11/30/2017.
- 5. Metropolitan Public Water Plan:** Ms. McCreary advised the Board that she was attempting to schedule another meeting among the participants and was informed by the representative of Arbor Estates that they were no longer interested in pursuing a connection to public water because of what their share of the \$5 million cost would be.

- 6. Camp Plumstead:** Ms. McCreary advised the Board that she and the Parks & Recreation Coordinator would be making recommendations concerning some aspects of Camp Plumstead including what was paid to the counselors.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: **Motion** by Mr. Trymbiski, seconded by Mr. Lykon to approve the bills list dated 08/22/17 and addendum dated 08/22/17 subject to audit. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0. The amounts reported on the bills list are as follows: General Fund - \$141,021.87 and addendum of \$600.00, Water Fund - \$27,183.27, Local Services Tax Fund - \$2,410.49, Open Space Fund - \$77.50, Capital Reserve Fund - \$47,077.15, Flood Mitigation Grant Fund - \$780.00, State Liquid Fuels - \$4,466.71, Developers' Escrow Fund - \$28,348.16, Construction Escrow Fund - \$4,400.00, Zoning Hearing Board Escrow - \$318.26

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Motion** by Ms. Mulholland seconded by Mr. Lykon to approve the minutes of the 08/08/17 public meeting. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Old Easton Road Change Order:** Ms. McCreary reminded the Board that as part of their approval of the changed order she was instructed to have the contractor report the total hours spent on the additional work. She noted a memo outlining the hours and work performed was included in their packets.
- 2. Police Pension Plan:** Ms. McCreary stated that the Board had tabled a decision on the proposed changes to the plan's actuarial assumptions until Mr. Trymbiski had time to review the data further and speak to her about it. She advised that the plan's actuarial consultant was recommending an update to the mortality table currently being used and a changed to the assumed interest rate for the plan. The Board discussed the implications of both assumptions to the annual Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) and the opportunity to make changes in two years when the next valuation is required to be performed. **Motion** by Mr. Trymbiski, seconded by Mr. Lykon to change the mortality table used. With no additional comment, the vote was 3-1 with Ms. Mulholland dissenting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed 2018 Capital Projects: Ms. McCreary sought Board input on any initiatives or projects for the coming year, stating that this is an opportunity to ensure there is consensus among the majority of the Board before cost estimates are sought. She noted that this will help the budget process run more smoothly and those initiatives or projects that are deemed too expensive will be eliminated prior to the draft budget being circulated. Mr. Trymbiski stated that he would like to see money designated for the village improvements outlined in the Planning Consultant's recent memo to the Board and Ms. McCreary. Mr. Lykon stated that he would like to see whatever money is necessary to work on the design and engineering for the TAP grant, noting that for this grant that is the Township's required match. He also stated that he would like Board authorization to have a survey prepared for the property located next to the Tohickon Middle School, as it is owned by a Trust and no one has been in contact with the owner yet to see if he or she is amenable to the Township acquiring an easement to put the path along the right-of-way. **Motion** by Mr. Lykon, seconded by Ms. Mulholland to approve the survey and preparation of legal descriptions for the area of the property needed at a cost not to exceed \$5,000. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

HB 1620 – Wireless Infrastructure Deployment: Ms. Mulholland alerted the Board to proposed legislation at the state level and its implications that would strip municipalities of their zoning authority over wireless antennas and equipment in the public rights-of-way, and provide no opportunity for public comment. She stated that the state municipal associations have all sent letters opposing the legislation, and asked that the Township send letters to Senator McIlhinney and Rep. Quinn. Mr. Reiss suggested the Board may want to adopt a resolution, as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion** by Ms. Mulholland, seconded by Mr. Lykon to adjourn into Executive Session at 10:20 p.m. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn McCreary, Township Manager

Date Approved