

PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 9, 2019

Meeting Minutes

The public meeting of the Plumstead Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plumstead Township Municipal Building, 5186 Stump Road, Plumsteadville, PA

Present:

Brian Trymbiski

Chair

Peter Busillo

Vice Chair

Nick Lykon

Secretary

Dan Hilferty

Treasurer

Jonathan Reiss, Esq.

Township Solicitor

Carolyn McCreary

Township Manager

Absent:

Darren Carroll

Asst. Secretary/Asst. Treasurer

Mr. Trymbiski 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 EAC meets on April 10 at the Community Building at Hanusey Park. The Historic Advisory Committee meets on April 15. The Planning Commission meets on April 18. The Board of Supervisors worksession scheduled for April 25 is cancelled. The Township's annual egg hunt will be held on Sunday, April 14 at 2:00 p.m. at Hanusey Park. Mr. Trymbiski announced the Red Cross blood drive will be held on April 26 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He also announced two road paving projects in the Township that are being done as part of PENNDOT's contract to repair and resurface 35 miles of state roads (portions of River Road and Stump Road between Cabin Run Road and S.R. 413).

PUBLIC COMMENT: Amy McCrary, 3642 Christopher Day Rd., spoke to the Board about her desire to host an event at Hanusey Park to honor survivors of opioid addiction and their families, and the families of those who died of overdoses. She asked the Board to consider waiving the fees to rent the building and pavilion.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

1. **Gouldey Proposed Subdivision (Sketch Plan):** This was removed from the agenda to a future meeting at the request of the applicant.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Jonathan J. Reiss, Esq.

1. **Public Hearing –Proposed Amendment to Act 537 Plan:** Mr. Reiss explained the reason for the public hearing and the process with Mr. Trymbiski opening the hearing and continuing it to the May 14 meeting at the requested of the applicant.
2. **Proposed Ordinance Amendment-Water Resources Impact Study:** Mr. Reiss advised the Board the amendment had been reviewed by the Planning Commission and Bucks County Planning Commission, and he is now seeking authorization for advertisement of the public hearing. **Motion** by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. Busillo to authorize the ordinance amendment for advertisement. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

3. **Proposed Ordinance Amendment - Solicitation:** Mr. Reiss stated he made changes to the proposed amendment after speaking with the Board at their last meeting. He pointed to the definition of a garage/yard sale being exempt and the establishment of a non-solicitation registry. **Motion** by Mr. Busillo, seconded by Mr. Trymbiski to authorize the ordinance amendment for advertisement. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
4. **Zoning Hearing Board Application – 5529 Sanderling Dr.:** Mr. Reiss advised the Board the applicant is seeking a variance from the impervious surface limit of 20% to construct an in-ground pool and patio. Board consensus was for the Zoning Hearing Board to render a decision based on the testimony presented with no Board input.
5. **Request for Waiver of Water and Traffic Impact Studies-4095 Ferry Rd.:** Mr. Reiss explained the applicant’s conditional use application requires a water and traffic impact study unless waived by the Board, and he is therefore bringing it to them ahead of the May 14 conditional use hearing. **Motion** by Mr. Busillo, seconded by Mr. Lykon to waive the water impact study and the traffic impact study. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Reiss stated he had one item for Executive Session involving litigation.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Carolyn McCreary, Township Manager

1. **Fire Police Appointments:** Ms. McCreary stated Lt. Frederick was at the meeting to seek Board recognition of the appointment of two residents to the fire police. Lt. Frederick identified the individuals as Mark Banas of Rinker Circle and James Ruschmann of Winterberry Drive. **Motion** by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. Busillo to recognize the appointments. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
2. **Old Easton Road Bridge Project:** Ms. McCreary asked the Board to ratify a change order she approved in the amount of \$1,452.00 for additional detour signs, noting the request came from the Public Works Director to ensure adequate notification to motorists concerning access to local businesses, particularly the Water Wheel Tavern. **Motion** by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. Busillo to ratify change order no. 1. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
3. **Proposed Water Rate Increase:** Ms. McCreary reviewed details of the last rate increase, stating the Board chose not to increase the base rate of \$86.34 per quarter which resulted in the Township receiving less revenue due to the excessive rainfall and residents not watering lawns and topping off pools. She stated at the same time the Water Fund had increased costs particularly in the additional testing and monitoring requirements from PADEP. She stated the Water Fund only pays for expenses relating to the water systems, and did not have enough money to put any funds into the depreciation account for future infrastructure needs. She reviewed options with the Board concerning the quarterly fees. Mr. Busillo inquired if this would raise sufficient revenue to continue to adequately cover costs. **Motion** by Mr. Lykon, seconded by Mr. Busillo to raise the quarterly base rate to \$99.29. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.
4. **Expansion of DART Services:** Ms. McCreary advised the Board she had been contacted by State Rep. Wendy Ullman to see if the Township would be interested in looking at an expansion of the DART service into the Township. She stated Ms. Ullman noted a number of residents who are walking along Rt. 611 and other Township roads, and thought this might be something that would benefit these individuals, as well as senior citizens who cannot always get to their doctor’s offices. Ms. McCreary explained the steps that would be involved to determine if an expanded

route makes sense, and outlined the cost of \$22,500 for the first year with \$5,000 being contributed for subsequent years. She noted one condition is senior citizens must ride for free. She stated New Britain Township is also looking at expanded service in their Township. She explained the \$22,500 is to pay for a portion of the new bus that would be necessary, but Rep. Ullman stated she hoped she would find funding to offset some or all of the cost to the Township. Mr. Busillo stated he would be interested in the Township doing the survey to determine if there is a real need for this. Mr. Hilferty expressed concern about committing staff to work on developing and circulating a survey. Mr. Trymbiski asked if it would be possible to review the survey questions before making a decision to proceed. Mr. Lykon stated he would like to move forward with expanding the service into the Township.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. Busillo to approve the bills lists dated 04/09/19 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 - \$113,084.60, Water Fund - \$25,737.62, Capital Reserve Fund - \$6,708.00, State Liquid Fuels - \$2,930.42, Developers’ Escrow Fund – \$6,249.86, Construction Escrow Fund - \$1,250.00, Zoning Hearing Board Escrow Fund - \$133.45

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. Lykon to approve the minutes of the 03/26/19. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Plumsteadville Village Overlay District: Ms. McCreary informed the Board the Planning Commission has completed their work with the Bucks County Planning Commission (BCPC) staff and reviewed the draft ordinance. She stated the next step is for the Board to review the ordinance while the BCPC staff begins work on the design guidelines for the village. She advised the BCPC staff would like to hold an open house to share the ideas with residents and businesses. The open house would be promoted on social media and on the Township’s website in order to encourage participation without the formality of a public meeting.

Outfield Advertising: Ms. McCreary confirmed the cost for the signs for the proposed outfield advertising at Hanusey does include the business logo. Mr. Busillo asked if the two renderings could be displayed at the egg hunt so residents could vote on them. Mr. Lykon suggested ordering one sign with some lettering on it, so the Board can see if it will be sufficiently visible once hung on the outfield fence.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Trymbiski sought and received Board consensus to evaluate the proposed timeframe for uses of the Township’s reserves with the Township Manager in an effort to maximize interest revenue, investing the funds in approved vehicles until they are needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Mr. Busillo, seconded by Mr. Hilferty to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. With no additional comment, all voted in favor 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn McCreary, Township Manager

Date Approved