

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

November 15, 2016

* Items are scheduled to be voted on at the November 21, 2016, Public Meeting.

The November 15, 2016, Workshop Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. Present were:

Kenneth E. Kroberger	President
M. Clare Edelmayer	Vice President
James A. Santi	Commissioner
Steven C. Sands	Commissioner
Leonard T. Perrone	Township Manager
Michael J. Lapinski	Assistant Township Manager
David Brill	Finance Director
David W. Duffy	Police Chief
David C. Onorato	Township Solicitor
E. Van Rieker	Zoning Officer & Planning Coordinator
Russ Benner	Township Engineer

1. **Presentation of Public Comments and Concerns:** (Limit of five minutes per individual)
Due to Items #2 and #3

Mr. Kroberger asked for public comments concerning the two items that will be voted on this evening. There were no comments. Mr. Kroberger called for the introduction of 2 guests present at the meeting. Jimmy Nield and his father Christopher Nield from Boy Scout Troop 152. Both reside at 984 Jacks Lane.

- * 2. **Ordinance No. 2016-016:** Tax Rate for 2017
(Being approved at Public Workshop due to the 30-day public notification required by law)
Authorization to Advertise

Mr. Kroberger announced that there is no increase in the General Fund. There is an increase in the fire tax resulting in approximately \$4.79 more per year, per average household. The increase is a result of future equipment replacement, specifically the ladder truck maintenance and repairs. Mr. Perrone noted that this is the first increase in 21 years.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the authorization to advertise the 2017 Tax Rate was unanimously approved.

Mr. Onorato said the Township Code requires us to include the dollar amount of the tax rate instead of just the millage rate.

- * 3. **Ordinance No. 2016-017:** Budget Appropriations for 2017
(Being approved at Public Workshop due to the 30-day public notification required by law)
Authorization to Advertise

Mr. Kroberger noted there is no tax increase for 2017. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Santi, the authorization to advertise the 2017 Budget was unanimously approved.

CONSULTANTS

PLANNING/ZONING

4. **Report by E. Van Rieker (Updates):**

- Martin Property Sketch Plan Application to be reviewed by Plan Review Committee
The Martin tract is a 26-acre property. They are looking at 2 options for single family home development. The application has been postponed until December

- West Point Parking Assessment Review
The preliminary parking assessment report is complete. There are 1 or 2 potential options. The Planning Commission will review the information at the November meeting and will present a recommendation to the BOC for consideration in December

- Merck, Upper Gwynedd, proposed parking expansion
Merck is interested in adding temporary parking to a plot of land that is earmarked for a future building expansion. They may ask for waivers for lighting and landscaping. Mrs. Edelmayer asked Mr. Benner if we need to do something with our TMDL's because of the impervious surface of a parking lot. Mr. Benner replied that we need to look at the plan but recalls a basin on the site.

- Act 537 Plan review – Diversion Project Special Study
The sewer diversion master plan is on display for 60 days.

- * 5. **Merck & Co. Inc.:** Request for Waiver from Chapters 113-1 & 124-5 for after-hours crane work on Sundays, December 4 & 11, 2016 if needed
Approval

This item will be placed on the Public Meeting agenda for vote.

6. **Vacancy on Planning Commission Board:** Mr. Robert Walker does not want to be reappointed for an additional term.
Discussion

Mr. Perrone stated we need to find a replacement for Mr. Walker. Mr. Santi sent an email to the Planning Commission to see if they had anyone in mind. We will try to locate the file with applications.

ENGINEERING

7. **Report by T&M Associates (Updates):**

- Pennbrook Water Quality Basins - Updates
Mr. Benner stated the Pennbrook Water Quality Basins are almost complete. Basin 3 will receive its final landscaping in the spring. There may be a change order for landscaping (replacement of trees).

- Gwynedd Manor Road – Storm Sewer and Water Main Replacement Project. NTP 11.3.16
This project will begin on Monday, November 21, 2016 and is expected to be completed in approximately 30 days.

- GIS Presentation – 2016 accomplishments, next steps

Presented by Jason Hager, Senior Scientist at T&M Associates, and Spencer Nush, Intern, Lehigh University.

Mr. Hager began with an overview of this pilot project (Graphic Information System). The site location included Sugar Valley, Ryan's Run and the vicinity encompassing approximately 500 acres. The program involved survey and inspection. Controls were established by locating small monuments (survey markers) throughout the Township. A data library was set up with all the information programmed including vertical data. This provided the data for Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Management infrastructure. Mr. Hager noted that the GPS unit can photograph and be tied to a specific geographic point. It can record features and perform field inspections of manholes, inlets, basins, and outfalls. The GPS was programmed to a customized library. All survey data, engineering inspection notes, and comments entered into the GPS can be exported to share with Township personnel which can identify problems and concerns. The benefits of the program allow the Township to more effectively inventory, evaluate, prioritize, troubleshoot and repair/maintain its current sanitary and storm water systems while reducing treatment and maintenance costs. The goal is to prepare an interactive GIS map and geo-database for the Township. The system capabilities include a survey grade GPS, horizontal and vertical position GPS camera, geotag photos which are tagged to a coordinate and export capability to GIS, Infoworks and CAD. Training on the system will involve approximately 3 days of classroom and field exercises for WWTP personnel. Mr. Hager stated that this is a highly accurate piece of equipment.

Mr. Benner commented that the program provides data that the Township can analyze to calculate flows, identify issues, and come up with solutions. It can also be used for regular maintenance. He will put a training & modeling proposal together for the pilot areas.

Mr. Perrone requested that the presentation be brought to the next I/I meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS/RECREATION

8. **UGT Annual Golf Outing:**
Discussion

Mr. Perrone noted that Cedarbrook Country Club offers the best pricing.

- * 9. **UGT Concession Stand Lease Agreement:** Boston Style Pizza
Approval

This is a renewal with the same price as last year.

- * 10. **Pennbrook Water Quality Basins:** Payment #2 to Horst Excavating for #335,746.01.
Approval

- * 11. **Resolution No. 27-2016:** 2017/2018 PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Funding Grant
Applications
Approval

We are reapplying for grant funding, for the completion of sidewalks in West Point. This is a 30% matching grant.

- * 12. **Pickleball Courts:** Authorization to re-bid
Approval

This is a reauthorization to bid again. The numbers came in too high during the last bid process.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION

- * 13. **The Kapoor Company:** To provide professional services in support of interest arbitration with its police union.
Approval

Mr. Perrone reported that we will engage the Kapoor Company to address some upcoming negotiations on personnel issues.

- * 14. **Willowyck Assessment Case Settlement:**
Approval

This is a payment to the Township of \$56,000.00, spread over 5 years as a result of an assessment appeal.

- * 15. **2017 Township Meeting & Holiday Schedule:**
Discussion and Authorization to Advertise

- * 16. **Resolution No. 24-2016:** Homestead Exemption for 2017
Approval

The Homestead Exemption remains at \$30,000.00 for Township taxes. Mr. Perrone noted that over 80% of the eligible residents have taken advantage of the exemption.

- * 17. **Resolution No. 25-2016:** Appoint Auditor
Approval

Mr. Perrone said we are staying with Maillie, Falconiero & Co.

- * 18. **Resolution No. 26-2016 Authorizing Expenditures of General Municipal Pension System State Aid**
Approval

Annual distribution of state aid received from the Commonwealth.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- 19. **Jack's Lane:** Traffic Safety and Speeding Concerns
Update

Chief Duffy said 2 speed limit signs and 2 watch children signs were added. Side (shoulder) lines have been painted but there is no room for a center line. 2 pedestrian crossing signs will be added next week.

The Chief reported that the Radar Bill died in the House with overwhelming support from the State Senate.

- 20. **Pedestrian Crosswalk at Beaver & Wissahickon**
Update

This crosswalk was initiated by Merck but is still not completed.

21. **Swedesford / Sumneytown Intersection**
Discussion

Mr. Perrone stated that the BOC needs to decide whether to install a traffic light in lieu of the stop sign which has been in place since June 2016. The Chief reported no accidents at the intersection and suggested a traffic engineer to study the traffic during rush hour. Mr. Perrone will speak with Andy Heimrich about getting empirical analysis on rush hour traffic.

22. **Stop signs at Marlyn's and Cathy's**
Discussion

Chief Duffy indicated the stop signs at Marlyn's and Cathy's be changed to yield signs as it seems that is what the traffic dictates. Mrs. Edelmayer questioned whether the residents will get upset if we take them down. The Chief reported there is not as much cut through traffic as there used to be.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

* 23. **Swedesford Road I/I Project:** Authorization to advertise and bid Phase II
Approval

Phase II is located between Sumneytown and White Oak.

* 24. **Manhole Chimney Seals:** Authorization to advertise and bid on the installation of 100 manhole chimney seals
Approval

25. **Montgomery County Collaborative TMDL Project:** Wissahickon Creek
Discussion

Mr. Perrone and Mr. Lapinski attended the 1st meeting of the Montgomery County TMDL.

26. **TMA Capital Projects Fund – Vouchers for Review:**
- A. Univest Bank and Trust Co.
Upper Gwynedd Towamencin Municipal (Statement Period 08-01-16 – 08/31/16)
Current Balance: \$295,328.57
 - B. Bursich Associates (7/17/16 – 8/13/16)
Engineering Fees: \$1160.78

There being no further business for public discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm to Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard T. Perrone
Secretary

Approved November 21, 2016