

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2017

KENNETH E. KROBERGER, PRESIDENT
Finance/Personnel/Administration

1. Call to order.

The June 26, 2017, Public Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 PM by President of the Board, Kenneth E. Kroberger. The following individuals were in attendance.

Kenneth E. Kroberger	President
M. Clare Edelmayer	Vice President
James A. Santi	Commissioner
Thomas A. Duffy	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
Russ Benner	Township Engineer
David Onorato	Township Solicitor

2. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Workshop Meeting held May 17, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Workshop Meeting Minutes were received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the Minutes of the May 17, 2017 Workshop Meeting were approved as presented.

3. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Public Meeting held May 22, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Public Meeting Minutes were received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Minutes of the May 22, 2017 Public Meeting were approved as presented.

4. Motion to approve the Department Reports filed by Township Staff.

Mr. Kroberger asked for comments or questions. Hearing none, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the Departmental Reports were approved as submitted.

5. Presentation of public comments and concerns (limit of five minutes per individual).

Liz McNaney, Airy St. West Point – Ms. McNaney said she received calls from people that received their sewer bills and said there was a 10% increase or \$37.00. She asked if this is something that will keep going up each year.

Mr. Kroberger said “most likely not”, but added “don’t hold me to that”. He noted that there have been very few times when Township taxes or sewer taxes were increased.

Mr. Perrone added that a lot of the increase has to do with the requirements that are imposed on us by the regulatory agencies. The more they ramp up the requirements of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the more expensive it gets to operate the plant.

Ms. McNaney asked, “are we still better off since we’ve separated from Towamencin?”

Mr. Perrone replied, “absolutely”. Mr. Kroberger added, “that’s the premise for everything that we’re doing, to make sure this Township is better off down the road.” He also said, “I would not be making decisions that were detrimental to me, as a Township resident.”

Liz McNaney – “When a Township Manager retires, do they still get health care benefits?” “So if, just say after 30 years, Len decides to retire, would he still get health care benefits from the Township?”

Mr. Kroberger and Mrs. Edelmayer both stated that he is eligible for COBRA. Mrs. Edelmayer added that he would have to pay for that. Mr. Kroberger said it is for a period of eighteen months.

Liz McNaney – “If a manager retires, in general, do they ever come back and be considered a consultant to the Township?”

Mr. Kroberger said “it happens”.

Liz McNaney – “Besides the Board of Commissioners, are there other people in the Township besides full-time employees that get medical benefits?”

Mr. Kroberger answered, “not to my knowledge, no.” Mr. Santi added that the Police receive VEBA, which is a contribution that they made while they worked. Mr. Perrone added that VEBA is for medical benefits that they purchased privately, after retirement.

6. Motion to accept the HVAC System Maintenance Agreement Tier 3 Proposal from Postler & Jaeckle Corp.

Mr. Kroberger said we have received several proposals for HVAC maintenance and have narrowed it down to Postler & Jaeckle. This company has the capability to handle the HVAC as well as the control system which was handled by two different companies in the past.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

M. CLARE EDELMAYER, VICE PRESIDENT

Public Works/Parks/Recreation

7. Motion to approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2017-006: Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement

Mrs. Edelmayer reported that this new agreement covers the next fifteen (15) years. We hired Cohen Law Group to negotiate the contract with Comcast. The Agreement is available if anyone wants to review it.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

8. Motion to approve the Community Center Site Survey Proposal for ASH Associates in the amount of \$10,250.00

Mrs. Edelmayer said we are currently working with our architect, Buell Kratzer Powell for preliminary designs of the proposed Community Center. They recommended a Site Survey Proposal of the potential sites where the community center may go.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the motion was unanimously approved.

9. Motion to ratify the termination of the Nor-Gwyn Baseball Backhoe Lease

Mrs. Edelmayer said many years ago we gave Nor-Gwyn Baseball a backhoe to use and it is now in disrepair and there is no one able to operate it any longer. They are asking us to terminate the lease and dispose of the backhoe.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

10. Motion to approve the Pickleball Courts Payment #1 to Top-a-Court for \$50,316.75

Mrs. Edelmayer said the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Pickleball Courts was held on Saturday, June 24, 2017 and there was a great turnout.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the motion was unanimously approved.

11. Motion to approve the Pickleball Courts Payment #2 to Top-a-Court for \$57,708.00

Mr. Perrone reported that there is an environmental aspect to this project in which a raingarden was built on the side of the Pickleball Courts. He asked Alex Kaker, Parks & Rec Director if the raingarden on the side of the Pickleball Courts was completed, to which Mr. Kaker replied yes.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

12. Motion to approve the Montco 2040 Grant Funds Agreement for the Pickleball Court Lighting in the amount of \$27,000.00

Mrs. Edelmayer said we received from grant money from the County for Pickleball Court Lights which covers about half of the total cost.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

13. Motion to approve the 2017 Roadway Mill and Overlay Project Change Order #1 in the amount of \$43,487.98.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the motion was unanimously approved.

14. Motion to approve the 2017 Roadway Mill and Overlay Project Payment to Joseph Sucher & Sons in the amount of \$447,582.99.

The Roadway project was completed much earlier than usual. Mrs. Edelmayer thanked Mr. Perrone and Mr. Lapinski for facilitating the process. The roads will be lined once the new line painting machine arrives.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

15. Motion to approve Pennbrook Water Quality Basins Change Order #3: Installation of plugs in the amount of \$5,606.21

Mrs. Edelmayer said the plugs are natural vegetation, water-loving plants that will facilitate the growth of the natural habitat of the basins. Mr. Benner added that originally the basins were seeded, but the seeds got inundated with water in the pool area right in front of the outlets. The pools will be drained and the plugs will be installed.

Mr. Kroberger asked for any questions or comments.

Daren Gross – 115 Hancock Place, “which is across the street from basin number three, or as we like to refer to it, the new pond.” Ms. Gross asked, “are these installations of plugs the ones that have been previously installed or the ones that are new to put in?”

Mr. Kroberger responded and said these are new plugs. We seeded the basins, we had a lot of rain that washed the seeds away, we put more seed down, the same thing happened. Mr. Benner recommended we add the plugs that go into the ground and won't wash away. The vegetation will develop quicker which means that we can take the covers off and have the basins work in the manner they are supposed to work

Ms. Gross also asked if the plugs are going in all three basins.

Mrs. Edelmayer and Mr. Kroberger replied, yes.

Ms. Gross asked if the plugs are needed in all three basins and in equal amounts.

Mr. Benner replied that Basin 3 will have the largest number of plugs installed.

Ms. Gross asked if Basin 3 has been regraded.

Mr. Benner added that the regrading is part of a punch list of work that needs to be completed for all three basins. He went on to say that in Basin 3 there is a peninsula area and to the right is where the plugs will be installed and the area to the left is where the basin will be regraded.

Ms. Gross asked if it was built on a spring.

Mr. Benner replied, not that I know of, no. He added that the contractor thought that water was coming out of the bottom, but regardless of whether it was built on a spring or not, if he regrades that area, the water will go out the outlet instead of ponding there.

Ms. Gross added that you've never gotten the water out of the basin.

Mr. Benner replied no, that won't happen until it is regraded.

Ms. Gross asked if the plugs will suck up the water or just cover up the water.

Mr. Benner replied that the plugs will take up the water as they are designed to do.

Ms. Gross added that she has not seen any difference from the original plugs that were put in.

Mr. Benner said only seed was planted and there were issues. The plugs have not yet been installed. There is some vegetation from seed already established, but the seed on the bottom has not come up because it has been wet. This is the reason for the new proposal to install plugs in the basins. They will drain the wet area, install the plugs and they will help uptake any residual water.

Ms. Gross asked when the plugs will be installed.

Mr. Benner said this week.

Ms. Gross also asked why the Montgomery County Health Department was at the basin, fogging.

Mr. Benner replied that he didn't know.

Ms. Gross asked if the Township is planning any mosquito control.

Mr. Perrone replied that mosquito control is handled by the County.

Ms. Gross asked if that is something the County does automatically or did someone call them.

Mrs. Edelmayer said she didn't know and added that she can call the Department of Health and ask them.

Ms. Gross added that residents were told the basins would have no water, the plants would grow and there would be no mosquitos. We have water, no plants, scum around the sides.

Mrs. Edelmayer said that the basins are being worked on to correct all the problems. The natural flora and the plugs that were selected for the basins will attract insects that eat mosquitos.

Ms. Gross asked what kind of plants are being installed.

Mr. Benner said it is a wetland tolerant grass, but doesn't know the specific name. He added that the grass is coming up in Basin 2. Mrs. Edelmayer noted that if these plugs don't work, then we will put more in.

Hearing no further questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the motion was unanimously approved.

16. Motion to approve Pennbrook Water Quality Basins Payment #7 to Horst Excavating in the amount of \$22,911.18

Mrs. Edelmayer said that we are still holding approximately \$56,000.00 which won't be released until the punch list is complete.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

17. Motion to approve Zacharias Creek Stream Alignment Project Payment #1 to Floyd G. Hersh, Inc. in the amount of \$21,654.00

Mrs. Edelmayer said this project is along Morris Rd., Conrad Ave. and Eagle Ln. There has been erosion of the streambank, so they are redirecting the stream and stabilizing the banks as part of our stormwater management projects.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Perrone added that this project is one of many environmental grants (Growing Greener) that the Township has received and benefits the Perkiomen Creek.

JAMES A. SANTI
Zoning/Planning

18. Motion to accept the Provco Pinegood Wawa Extension to July 25, 2017

Mr. Santi said they appeared in front of the Planning Commission and have to make some additional revisions. We currently have an extension through June 27, 2017. Mr. Santi noted this is the fourth extension, which is unusual.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

19. Motion to approve Merck & Co., Inc. waiver request from Chapter 124-5 and 113-1: Crane operation on 4 consecutive Sundays in July on Building 78/78A

Mr. Santi noted that Merck is going through a lot of modifications and upgrades to buildings which involve crane work. They are scheduled for Saturdays with Sunday work on an as needed basis.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

20. Motion to approve Merck & Co., Inc. waiver request from Chapter 124-5 and 113-1: Crane operation on 4 consecutive Sundays in July on Buildings 28E and 34

Mr. Santi said once again these are backup dates for the scheduled Saturdays.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the motion was unanimously approved.

21. Motion to approve Merck & Co., Inc. waiver request from 113-1: Crane operation on 3 consecutive Sundays in June and 5 consecutive Sundays in July on Building 29

Mr. Santi noted that there is a 20,000 gallon tank being installed.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

22. Motion to accept the Enclave at Gwynwood Farm Subdivision Decision Extension to September 27, 2017.

Mr. Santi said this where Church Rd. goes into Prospect Ave. Four homes are being proposed to be built on the site. The developer is Dave Caracausa.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

STEVEN C. SANDS
Public Safety

Nothing to Report

THOMAS A. DUFFY
Wastewater Treatment

23. Motion to approve Swedesford Rd. I/I Project Phase I – Change Order #1: The contract sum will decrease \$2000.00 bringing the new total to \$85,000.00

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Duffy seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

24. Motion to approve Swedesford Rd. I/I Project Phase 1 – Payment #2 (Final) to Wexcon in the amount of \$4250.00.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

25. Approval of the June 2017 bills.

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Board had received a copy of the General fund bills. Hearing no questions, upon motion by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Sands, the General Fund bills were approved. Mrs. Edelmayer abstained from approving the Zoning Solicitor's bill.

Mr. Kroberger said the next item is Wastewater and asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, upon motion by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the Board unanimously approved the Sewer Fund bills.

Mr. Kroberger advised that the Board was also being asked to approve invoices from all other funds. Upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Board unanimously approved these invoices as well.

Mr. Kroberger advised that there were several invoices that had been prepaid due to timing. Upon motion by Mr. Duffy, seconded by Mr. Santi, the Board unanimously approved the pre-paid invoices.

26. Call for Adjournment.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard T. Perrone
Secretary