

**WORKSHOP MINUTES**

September 18, 2018

\* Items are scheduled to be voted on at the September 24, 2018, Public Meeting.

The September 18, 2018, Workshop Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. In attendance:

Kenneth E. Kroberger	President
James A. Santi	Vice President
Denise M. Hull	Commissioner
Liz K. McNaney	Commissioner
Alex J. Kaker	Assistant Township Manager
David Brill	Finance Director
David W. Duffy	Police Chief
David C. Onorato	Township Solicitor
Russ Benner	Township Engineer

**CONSULTANTS**

**PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT**

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

**As reported by Van Rieker**

- Newbury Phase I Punchlist (PRDC Letter)  
The punchlist details are being worked out and it is almost complete.
- ZHB #18-07 – LoPiccolo, 700 S. Broad St.  
This has been continued until the September ZHB meeting.
- ZHB #18-09 – Geissele Automatics – Bldg. and Parking  
This has been continued until the September ZHB meeting.
- ZHB #18-10 – Norwitz – Rear Deck Variance  
This is a residential application. Additional information is pending from the resident.
- ZHB #18-11 – Bradley, rear yard addition variance  
This is for a sun room off the rear of the home. It is for a dimensional variance.
- ZHB #18-12 – Fabo, rear yard patio variance  
This will be on the October ZHB meeting agenda. It is for enlarging the patio in the rear yard
- Colorcon – 420 Moyer Blvd. Parking lot modification  
This is for upgrading the parking lot at the building closest to the railroad, to improve loading and storage. It is being reviewed by staff.

- Merck – Consolidation plan  
Merck is buying properties that they formerly leased. They will join the smaller lots to a larger lot. Mr. Onorato added they did something similar to this a few years ago.

2. **Code Enforcement Activity Report**

Mr. Rieker reported on two (2) of the more serious issues regarding Code Enforcement.

- 512 Washington has an illegal driveway with two-thousand feet (2000') of unauthorized impervious cover. The Township ordered a stop work order until they file a survey and plan for review and to get permits issued. They have not filed anything at this time. Mr. Rieker said if they fail to proceed, he will recommend that they remove what has been installed on the property.
- Ed's Greenhouse went into foreclosure and is now owned by a realtor who put the property out to bid. The bids received on the property will be finalized this Saturday.

\* 3. **Gwynedd Ridge (Martin Tract):** Final Plan Approval  
Discussion/Decision

Mr. Rieker said the developer has received preliminary plan approval. This final plan requires review by the Township Engineer. Mr. Benner said there are no engineering issues with the plan. There are some minor administrative issues. Mr. Onorato will prepare a resolution once he receives the engineering approval letter.

\* 3a. **209 Morris Road – 2-lot subdivision**

Mr. Rieker reported if this 2-lot subdivision is approved, it will have a new address on the flag lot. The application is moving its way through the process. Some neighbors have raised issues relative to the status of Old Morris Road. Mr. Onorato said Mr. Benner is addressing some engineering issues. Mr. Onorato said a neighbor has filed a lawsuit against the property owner. Mr. Rieker reminded the Board that a decision must be made on this subdivision Monday night unless the applicant grants another extension.

\* 4. **Hartford Properties Conditional Use Application**  
Continuation of Hearing at Public Meeting

Mr. Rieker said we will continue the hearing with the traffic engineer.

\* 5. **Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5:** After hours crane work on Building 60 for Roof Ductwork Replacement Project. Sundays in October 2018  
Decision

Mr. Kaker said the work at Merck is planned for Saturday and the Sunday dates are alternatives if needed.

- \* 6. **Authorization to advertise Ordinance No. 2018-012:** Sumneytown Pike In-Fill and Traffic Management Overlay District Decision

Mr. Rieker said this is an overlay district that would permit special uses based on conditional use. This plan has been discussed for many months and has been reviewed by the Planning Commission. It involves six (6) lots between the overpass and Kiefer's. Mr. Onorato added, this can be changed to add more areas in the future if needed. This will require a hearing prior to adoption.

7. **Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee:**  
Update

Mr. Kaker said we have seventeen (17) qualified applicants. We will try to get all of them to be involved in some portion of the comprehensive plan and will continue to provide input to the Board.

## ENGINEERING

8. **Report by T&M Associates (Updates)**

**As reported by Russ Benner**

- Ivy / Grannery MS-4 Project – Update  
T&M met with the property owner at 149 Hancock. They surveyed the property and reviewed the concept plan with the resident. A discussion ensued about the concept plan. The next step is for the Township to provide a cost estimate to the Board to consider proceeding with the plan.
- Pennbrook Basins Status – Update  
The contractor will replace the dead trees. The Parks & Rec staff will plant 75 trees from a grant revitalization plan.
- Swedesford Rd. SEPTA Bridge Inspection – Status  
A meeting was held last week to determine a schedule of work stoppage by SEPTA, so the repairs can be made.
- West Prospect Avenue Bridge  
We need a construction cost estimate from T&M.
- Sumneytown Pike Bridge  
Same as above
- Sweetbriar Basin Restoration and Retrofit  
NFWF is considering the plan to transfer grant money from Ivy/Grannery plan to this project. We should have a response in about a month. T&M will propose a plan and pricing to repair the breach (October).

- Newbury Dam Inspection  
This has been completed and 3 issues were identified.
  - Brush and landscaping materials need to be removed from the berm
  - Dirt needs to be added to the settlement areas in spillway
  - A hairline crack in concrete needs to be sealed (no structural issues)T&M to provide a recommended maintenance schedule
  
- GIS Database Project  
This project will be starting in October.

## FINANCE/PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION

9. **Communications Initiatives Committee**  
Update

Mr. Kaker said the committee met in August. They are in the process of interviewing firms for website design next week.

10. **Employee Recognition Program**  
Discussion

Mr. Kaker said this was approved last year by the Board of Commissioners. He distributed a handout of all employees that received the recognition and will provide monthly updates or as needed.

\* 11. **2018 MMO**: Presentation by Dave Brill

Mr. Brill said the numbers will be available on Monday at the Public Meeting. No action is needed, as this just needs to be presented to the Board. This is the obligation to add monies to the pension plan (union/non-union).

\* 12. **Recognition of Yin Young for 5 years of service to the Township**  
(Will Attend)

\* 13. **Recognition of Colleen Tronoski 15 years of service to the Township**  
(Attendance TBD)

\* 14. **Recognition of Dennis Gerhart for 35 years of service to the Township**  
(Attendance TBD)

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

15. **Safe Routes to School:** North Wales Borough  
Discussion

Mr. Kaker said North Wales Borough will begin construction on this project and will be installing curbs and sidewalks soon.

- \* 16. **Ordinance No. 2018-011:** Consumer Fireworks  
Hearing at Public Meeting

The ordinance states that fireworks can be sold in the shopping center (SC) district. Mr. Onorato said we can discuss regulating fireworks in the Township at a later date.

- \* 17. **Ordinance No. 2018-011:** Consumer Fireworks  
Decision

- \* 18. **Resolution No. 23-2018 designating October 7 - 13, 2018 as Fire Prevention Week**  
Decision

Mr. Kaker said this resolution is to recognize all fire personnel in Upper Gwynedd Township for their efforts.

**PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS/RECREATION**

- \* 19. **Statement by Mr. Duffy:** Carnival Thank you' s

- \* 20. **Authorization to Prepare and Advertise for the 2019 Roadway Bid with Labor:**  
Decision

This project will be advertised in January.

- \* 21. **County Snow and Ice Contract:** For years 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021, in the amount of \$12,760 per year (price unchanged from last contract)  
Decision

Upper Gwynedd Township salts and plows some County roads within the Township and the County reimburses us.

- \* 22. **Payment #1 (Final Payment) to BSI for Pickleball Lighting Project:** In the amount of \$26,800  
Decision

Mr. Kaker noted we have received nothing but positive feedback about the pickleball lights.

- \* 23. **Payment #2 to Harris Blacktopping for 2018 Milling/Overlay Project:** Amount of \$366,818.89  
Decision

Mr. Kaker said we still need to determine whether we will proceed with White's Road this year. Mr. Benner said there was an escalation of the price of asphalt that was approved. A discussion ensued regarding the work on White's Rd.

Mr. Kaker to call Lansdale Borough regarding when their pipe replacement project will be completed.

24. **Dog Park:**  
Discussion

Mr. Kaker said the Dog Park Feasibility Committee explored surrounding parks in other municipalities and presented the results of a survey. Five percent (5%) of residents completed the survey. Mr. Kaker discussed some of the results of the survey. Information was presented to the Parks & Rec Advisory Board. The Advisory Board voted 5 to 1 not to proceed with the dog park as there were concerns about liability. Mr. Onorato said in order to limit liability, there has to be a stringent policy enforcement system. A discussion ensued regarding the aspects of a dog park; pros and cons.

## WASTEWATER TREATMENT

- \* 25. **Authorization to Prepare and Advertise for the 2019 DeIPAC 1525 Bid:** Phosphorus Removal  
Decision

Mr. Kaker said next three items are annual bids for plant operations.

- \* 26. **Authorization to Prepare and Advertise for the 2019 Dense Soda Ash Bid:** Used to neutralize Alkalinity  
Decision

- \* 27. **Authorization to Prepare and Advertise for the 2019 Magnetite Bid:** Used in the Bio Mag system  
Decision

- \* 28. **WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Project Bid Award:** Contract A (General/Mechanical) to Blooming Glen Contractors in the amount of \$4,999,997  
Discussion/Decision

Mr. Kaker stated the Hydraulic Expansion Project has to do with our diversion project.

- \* 29. **WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Project Bid Award:** Contract B (Electrical) to Eastern Environmental Contractors in the amount of \$428,800  
Discussion/Decision
  
- \* 30. **WWTP PLC Replacement Project Bid Award:** BSI Electrical Contractors in the amount of \$259,020  
Discussion/Decision

Mr. Kaker noted the PLC is a Programmable Logic Controller. We received a grant of \$100,000 towards this project.

- \* 31. **Authorization to advertise for the position of Collection System Operator at the WWTP to fill a recent vacancy:**  
Decision
  
- \* 32. **Wissahickon Water Quality Partnership Update / Resolution 24-2018:** Partnership to Shareholder request of \$5000 for 2018. One-year extension through 2019 is \$10,000 per municipality and facility  
Discussion/Decision

Mr. Kaker said we will need to complete a resolution. We are responsible for two shares as a municipality and a wastewater facility. The cost for 2018 is \$10,000 and 2019 is \$20,000.

Mr. Krokerger said the work that has been completed by the Partnership has been beneficial as there are discussions on alternatives.

- 33. **TMA Capital Projects Fund – Vouchers for Review:**
  - A. Univest Bank and Trust Co.  
Upper Gwynedd Towamencin Municipal (8/1/18 – 8/31/18)  
Current Balance: \$1000.00 (minimum required)
  
  - B. Bursich Associates (8/1/18 – 8/31/18)  
Engineering Fees: \$ No invoice submitted

Mr. Kaker announced there was no activity with the TMA Capital Projects Fund.

The Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm to Executive Session for personnel and legal issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alex J. Kaker  
Assistant Secretary

/djl

**Approved October 22, 2018**