

**LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023**

SUPERVISORS:

Danielle A. Duckett, Chairman
Michael Twersky, Vice Chair
Janine Martin -Absent
Kathleen Hunsicker
Tessie McNeely

STAFF:

Mimi Gleason, Township Manager
Jamie Worman, Assistant Township Manager
Michelle Farzetta, Administrative Assistant
Neil Stein, Esq., Solicitor
Fred Zollers, Director Public Works
Paul Kenny, Police Chief
Melinda Haldeman – Finance Director
Jim Hersh, Township Engineer, Gilmore and Associates
Chad Dixson, Traffic Engineer, McMahan a Bowman Company

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair called the hybrid meeting to order at 7:03pm at the Lower Gwynedd Township Building and virtually on Zoom and led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

The Board of Supervisors met in executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss matters of litigation and personnel.

Recognition of Park and Recreation Board Volunteer Jim Jacquette

Jim Jacquette has been a volunteer for Lower Gwynedd Township for 32 years. Ms. Duckett read a letter on behalf of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and presented him with a proclamation on behalf of the township. Mr. Jacquette thanked everyone for the recognition at the volunteer reception, as well as this evening. Mr. Jacquette remarked on his time with the Parks and Recreation Board and the Lower Gwynedd Little League. He thanked the community for all they have done to make his time as a volunteer so enjoyable and rewarding.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

BUILDING & ZONING

Resolution 2023-23 Deed of dedication of sewer line/grinder pump for Overlook at Gwynedd

The development, Overlook at Gwynedd, is ready to start their 18 month maintenance period, as the land development project is complete. The sewer line and grinder pump that runs to the back of the property now needs to be dedicated. The operation and maintenance of the sewer infrastructure will be the responsibility of the HOA, as stated in the operations and maintenance agreement. Resolution #2023-23 will accept the dedication of the sewer improvements installed within the Overlook at Gwynedd Development. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely to approve Resolution #2023-23 for dedication of the sewer line. Motion passed 4-0.

Authorize Solicitor to represent the Township before the Zoning Hearing Board regarding Ambler Yards challenge to a determination of the Zoning Officer

Ms. Worman made a zoning determination regarding Self Storage Facilities at the property of Ambler Yards, 300 Brookside Avenue. The applicants are challenging that determination and have filed their challenge with the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB). Mr. Stein is being asked to represent the Township before the ZHB at their November 9th meeting regarding this determination. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsucker authorizing Mr. Stein to represent the township before the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion passed 4-0.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Review of 2024 draft budget for operating revenue and expenses

Ms. Duckett made a motion to table this item until the November 14th BOS meeting. Ms. Hunsicker seconded this motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Resolution #2023-24 Authorizing submission of grant application to PECO's Green Region Open Space Program for the proposed pollinator garden at Oxford Park and Pen-Ambler Park

The Park Master plan presented to the BOS in September included two pollinator garden projects. One garden would go in Oxford Park and the second in Pen-Ambler Park. Lower Gwynedd township staff are requesting authorization to submit a PECO Green Region Grant application in the amount of \$7,500 with a township match of \$7,500 for a total project cost of \$15,000. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely, to approve Resolution #2023-24 authorizing the submission of the grant application. Motion passed 4-0.

Authorization to submit letter to PennDOT for Evans Road sharrows

At the September 26th BOS meeting Andrew Turner from the Montgomery County Planning Commission provided information regarding the installation of "sharrows" on Evans Road when it is repaved next year. Evans Road is part of BicyclePA Route S, and already used by bike clubs and bicyclists. Installation of the sharrows will make drivers aware that bicyclists could be using the road. A letter is required to be submitted to PennDOT by the Township Manager, Ms. Gleason requesting the installation of "sharrows". Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Twersky, to authorize the submission of the letter to PennDOT. Motion passed 4-0.

Review of Township Engineer’s Report - any questions for the Township Engineer?

Mr. Hersh provided the engineers’ report for the month of October. There were no questions or comments from the BOS.

Review of Traffic Engineer’s Report - any questions for the Traffic Engineer?

Mr. Dixon provided the traffic engineers’ report for the month of October. There were no questions or comments from the BOS regarding the report.

Review of financials YTD and Balance Sheet - September 2023

The BOS received the YTD financials in the Board packet. There were no questions or comments.

Approval of minutes - October 10, 2023

The BOS received the minutes from the October 10th BOS meeting. There were no questions or comments. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker, to approve the minutes. Motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes from Town Hall at Spring House Estates - October 3, 2023

The BOS received the minutes from the October 3rd Town Hall at Springhouse Estates. There were no questions or comments. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely, to approve the town hall minutes. Motion passed 3-0. (Ms. Hunsicker abstained as she did not attend.

SUPERVISOR LIASON REPORTS

The BOS received the highlights for the Environmental Advisory Council and the Parks and Recreation Board. There were no questions or comments.

STAFF UPDATES

New police website/app through Crimewatch: lowergwyneddpolice.org

Officer William Henry is looking for more transparency with the community. This website will allow residents to view police events, receive notifications, register devices, file complaints and register for house checks when on vacation. Residents can also register for the Do Not Solicit registry, as well as access surveys for both business and at home security checks. Officer Henry also shared a sign that will be located in all parks. This sign will contain a QR code that will take an individual to a site where they can notify police of any non-emergency issues. This does not replace 911 for emergencies.

Ms. Hunsicker suggested adding information on the Move Over Law under resources, as this law is one many are not familiar with. Ms. McNeely asked if there was a way to provide paper postcards with a QR code for residents at retirement centers, who may not be as tech savvy. Chief Kenny assured everyone that this site is secure for public use.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

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There were no comments from the supervisors.

Adjournment

Ms. Duckett made a motion to adjourn at 7:30pm, seconded by Mr. Twersky. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Farzetta
Administrative Assistant