

**LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021**

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Mark Grey, Chairman
Danielle A. Duckett, Vice-Chair
Edward J. Brandt
Kathleen Hunsicker
Tessie McNeely

STAFF:

Jamie Worman, Assistant Township Manager
Carole Culbreth, Assistant Secretary
Neil Stein, Esq., Solicitor
Paul Kenny, Police Chief
Fred Zollers, Public Works Director
Jim Hersh, Township Engineer
Chad Dixson, Traffic Engineer
Chuck Wilson, Finance Director
Sandi Feight-Hicks, Park and Recreation Director

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. virtually on Zoom and led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

Discuss Township Meetings going "In-Person" starting June 22, 2021

Ms. Worman stated the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency granted virtual meetings be held by municipalities during the pandemic. Mr. Stein stated virtual meetings are still a possibility under the latest Proclamation of Disaster Emergency which expires in ninety days. The Chairman asked for the Board's preference of "In-Person" or "Virtually". Mr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to continue the Board of Supervisors meetings virtually on Zoom until the proclamation order is lifted in September, 2021. The motion passed 5 - 0.

The Chairman asked for questions from the public. Debra Shaeffer asked to extend the Zoom option indefinitely. Mr. Stein explained we must abide by 2nd Class Township Code and Sunshine Act.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Receipt of Minutes: May 11, 2021

The Board of Supervisors received the May 11, 2021 meeting minutes. The Chairman asked for comments. Ms. McNeely asked for a policy to be issued on whether letters read at a Board meeting should be attached to the Board minutes. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to table the May 11, 2021 minutes in order to look into a policy on attachments to Board minutes. The motion passed 4 ayes (Mr. Grey; Mr. Brandt; Ms. Hunsicker; Ms. McNeely) - 1 nay (Ms. Duckett). Ms. Duckett was opposed to tabling the May 11, 2021 minutes.

Receipt of Minutes: May 12, 2021

The Board of Supervisors received the May 12, 2021 meeting minutes. This was a joint meeting with the Park and Recreation Board. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely to approve the May 12, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Receipt of Year-to-Date Budget Report and Balance Sheet: January and February, 2021

The Board of Supervisors received the Year-to-Date Budget Report and Balance Sheet for January and February, 2021. The Chairman asked if there were any comments. There were none. Mr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker to approve the Year-to-Date Budget Report and Balance Sheet for January and February, 2021. The motion passed 5 - 0.

BUILDING AND ZONING

Resolution No. 2021 - 11: Submit Grant to Study Wissahickon School District Dam

The Chairman stated the above is a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Flood Mitigation Program in the amount of \$44,200.00 from the State to be used for the Brookside Avenue Flood Study. He stated the dam on Brookside Avenue, which is owned by the Wissahickon School District, is not sufficiently sized. There was no public comment. Mr. Brandt made a motion. Mr. Hersh stated the Township will also get credit for MS4. He stated we have a letter of support from the Wissahickon School District. Ms. Hunsicker seconded the motion, to adopt Resolution No. 2021 - 11: Submit Grant Study Wissahickon School District Dam. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Authorize Advertisement of Bids for Annual Traffic Signal Maintenance

Mr. Dixon stated McMahon Associates prepared the Annual Traffic Signal Maintenance Bids and asked for authorization to advertise. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to authorize the advertisement of bids for the Annual Traffic Signal Maintenance. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Authorize Submission of the 2021 ARLE Grant

Mr. Dixon asked the Board to authorize the submission of PennDOT's 2021 ARLE Grant which opens on June 1, 2021. Ms. McNeely made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to authorize the submission of the 2021 ARLE Grant. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Authorize Submission of the 2021 Green Light Go Grant

Mr. Dixon asked the Board to authorize the submission of the 2021 Green Light Go Grant. Ms. McNeely made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to authorize the 2021 Green Light Go Grant. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Resolution No. 2021 - 12: Extension of Outdoor Dining

Ms. Worman stated the Extension of the Outdoor Dining has expired and asked the Board to adopt Resolution No. 2021 - 12. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely to adopt Resolution No. 2021 - 12: Extension of Outdoor Dining. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Resolution No. 2021 - 13: Application with the State Capital Budget Redevelopment Assistance Funding Program for the North Penn Volunteer Fire Co. Improvements

The Chairman stated North Penn Volunteer Fire Company (NPVFC) was awarded a \$1,000,000 grant with a matching component of \$400,000 from Lower Gwynedd Township and \$100,000 from North Wales Borough. Ms. Duckett stated PA Bill No. 2020-36 allows NPVFC ten years to find the matching monies. She questioned if this application is for one year or ten years, and recommended it not hang out indefinitely for ten years. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to table Resolution No. 2021 - 13: Application with the State Capital Budget Redevelopment Assistance Funding Program for the North Penn Volunteer Fire Co. Improvements, and authorize the Solicitor to review the language of the resolution, and revise it for reauthorization annually pending NPVFC getting the entire amount. The motion passed 5 -0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ambler Wastewater Treatment Agreement

Ms. Worman stated this amendment to the Joint Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement (Ambler Wastewater Treatment Plant) allows redirection of flow from the Upper Dublin Wastewater Treatment Plant that is located in Fort Washington to the Ambler Wastewater Treatment Plant. She stated there is a change in the percentage from Lower Gwynedd at 36%.15 to 30.52% and Upper Dublin from 29.69% to 40.64%. Ms. McNeely made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to approve the Ambler Wastewater Treatment Agreement. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Authorization to change the Assumption Rate for the Pension Liability Plans for Police, Non-Uniform and OPEB Funds (Investment Advisory Board recommendation)

The Chairman stated based on returns of the Lower Gwynedd Pension Liability Plans for Police, Non-Uniform and OPEB Funds, it was recommended by the Investment Advisory Board to change the assumption rate from 7.5% to 7.0%. Mr. Wilson stated the actuary will determine the Townships MMO later this year. The Chairman asked for questions. There were none. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to authorize the change to the Assumption Rate for the Pension Liability Plans for Police, Non-Uniform and OPEB Funds as recommended by the Investment Advisory Board. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Authorization to Purchase Spotted Lanternfly Swatters

Mr. Schafer asked for authorization to purchase 500 Spotted Lanternfly Swatters for the EAC at \$870.00. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to authorize the purchase of 500 Spotted Lanternfly Swatters. The motion passed 5 - 0.

2021 Township Event at Wissahickon High School Stadium

Ms. Morris stated the tentative date for the upcoming Township Event at Wissahickon High School Stadium is September 26th from 12 noon to 4:00 pm, and the Pike Fest budget will be utilized for funding. Ms. Feight and the Township Manager discussed the plan for this event with Wissahickon School District staff. She stated the Township could use the stadium, fields, stands, bathrooms, and

parking lots. She said there will be custodial fees. Mr. Brandt thanked Mr. McAnally, Ms. Feight, Ms. Morris, and Ms. Hunsicker for getting this done. He said it is good for the Township. Ms. McNeely stated her concern is getting enough volunteers. Mr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker to approve the 2021 Township Event at Wissahickon High School Stadium on September 26, 2021. The motion passed 5 - 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Chairman opened the meeting for public comment for items not on the agenda.

Karen McCreavy, 924 North Surry Drive, stated that due to the Rt. 202 improvements, she contacted PennDOT requesting brake retarder prohibitors which will help with the noise of trucks late at night. She will email the response from PennDOT asking for a letter of request from the Township Manager.

There were no further comments.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Report from the Manager - Municipal activities, projects

Ms. Worman said the Township received a Montco 2040 Grant in the amount of \$61,400 for the Penllyn Pike Trail pedestrian crossing at Dager Road project.

She stated the E-Cycle/Shredding Day on May 15 was a success.

She stated Township Offices will be closed on May 31st in observance of Memorial Day.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Mr. Brandt asked staff to schedule an EMS Meeting. He asked Chief Kenny to look into the excessive speeding on Norristown Road. He wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

Ms. Hunsicker wished everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day.

Ms. McNeely thanked the supervisors and volunteers for pulling together the Fall Event.

Ms. Duckett thanked Ms. Feight, Ms. Morris and Mr. McAnally for gathering info on the Fall event so quickly. She stated June is Pride Month, and she would like the Board to consider honoring the LGBT community and youth along with our neighboring Montgomery County municipalities and consider raising the Pride flag. She made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely to have the Township Manager or Assistant Township Manager gather information and the cost to determine what is needed to raise the Pride Flag in June. Ms. Hunsicker asked are we gathering information or voting to install another flag pole and raise the rainbow flag. The Chairman stated the motion is to figure this out. Mr. Brandt stated

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if we start recognizing groups, where do we draw the line. Ms. Duckett stated she agreed with Mr. Brandt, and that she has a draft resolution she can share with the solicitor and board that outlines the parameters. The motion passed 5 – 0.

The Chairman stated the next meeting is June 22nd which starts the summer meeting schedule with one meeting in June, July and August. He wished everyone a happy holiday. He thanked everyone for their work on the Fall event.

There being no further questions or comments the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm until the next Regular Meeting scheduled on June 22, 2021 virtually on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Culbreth
Assistant Secretary