

**LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2019**

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Kathleen Hunsicker, Chair
Dr. J. Richard Booth, Vice-Chair
Edward J. Brandt (absent)
Mark Grey
Stephen Paccione

STAFF:

Craig T. McAnally, Township Manager
Jamie Worman, Assistant Township Manager
James J. Garrity, Esq., Solicitor
James Hersh, P.E., Township Engineer
Ken Amey, Zoning Officer
Paul Kenny, Police Chief
Mike DeStefano, Public Works Director
Chuck Wilson, Finance Director
Steve Wiesner, Consulting Finance Director

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Gwynedd Township Municipal Building and led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance. The Chair stated the Board of Supervisors met in an Executive Session before the meeting on real estate matters.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Receipt of Meeting Minutes: July 23, 2019

Ms. Hunsicker requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented for the meeting dated July 23, 2019. Mr. Paccione made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Grey seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Receipt of Invoice History, July, 2019

The Board of Supervisors received the Invoice History for July, 2019. Mr. Grey made a motion, seconded by Dr. Booth to approve the Receipt of Invoice History, July, 2019 in the amount of \$494,946.54. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Receipt of Year-to-Date Budget Report and Balance Sheet for July 2019

The Board of Supervisors received the Year-to-Date Budget Report and Balance Sheet for July 2019. Mr. Grey made a motion, seconded by Dr. Booth to accept the Year-to-Date Budget Report and Balance Sheet for July 2019. The motion carried 4 - 0. Ms. Hunsicker welcomed Mr. Chuck Wilson the new Finance Director. Mr. Grey asked for an update on how the Township is doing financially. Mr. Wiesner replied that the Earned Income Tax (EIT) is down from last year but that was expected as many people paid their taxes early. He added that they are still in line with the budget line item as this was anticipated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Chairman opened the meeting for public comment for items not on the agenda. There were no public comments offered.

BUILDING AND ZONING

Authorize Advertisement of Conditional Use Hearing for MRA 9/24/19

Mr. McAnally requested authorization to advertise a public hearing for a conditional use application that was submitted to the Township by the MRA group. The hearing will be scheduled during the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 7pm at the Lower Gwynedd Township Building. Dr. Booth made a motion to authorize advertisement of the MRA conditional use hearing. Mr. Grey seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Resolution No. 2019-14: Penllyn Club Subdivision- 525 Gwynedd Avenue

The Penllyn Club was represented by their Engineer, Mr. Tim Woodrow. Mr. Woodrow gave a brief overview of the proposed subdivision plan. The applicants are proposing a minor two-lot subdivision of a 27+ acre parcel. Lot 1 will consist of 5+ acres and lot 2 will consist of the remaining 22+ acres. There is no construction proposed with this application. Mr. Woodrow added that the intention is that at a later time the five-acre parcel will be further subdivided into three building lots by Mr. Guidi. He reported that were in receipt of the Township Engineer's review letter and they will comply with the comments noted. He added that the seven waivers requested will be revisited in the future when the future subdivision occurs. Mr. Grey expressed his surprise at the application and noted this was a location identified in the Green Regions Plan as an open space priority. Mr. Woodrow was unaware of the plan but he explained that the majority of the 27+ acre parcel will remain as open space and the storm corridor area will be preserved. He added that the future three parcels will blend in with existing homes along Hunt Seat Drive. Mr. Grey replied that he had concerns about open space preservation, the waivers requested, and clear-cutting trees. The president of the Penllyn Club, Kim Ingersoll, explained that the hedgerow is required to be replaced and replicated at the back of the new lots. This will end up adding more than what is there today. Mr. Grey requested the resolution be tabled until it is further discussed. Dr. Booth agreed that there is limited open space left in the Township and the plan needs to be reviewed carefully. Mr. Paccione agreed that more information is needed. Ms. Hunsicker requested the applicant provide a more detailed plan. Action was tabled until the next Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for September 10th, 2019.

OTHER BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2019-15: Level 2 Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Rebate Program

Mr. McAnally explained that this resolution was to authorize the Township to apply for the Department of Environmental Protection's Rebate Program to purchase and install two electrical vehicle charging stations. The total cost for the charging stations is \$20,864.00 of which the rebate program would cover \$20,000.00. The Township is responsible for the balance and any costs associated with preparing the site with the required electric. Mr. Grey questioned if this request was from the EAC. Mr. McAnally explained that this wasn't the exact request from the EAC but the Public Works Director was able to find

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something similar without the restrictions of the EAC recommendation. Mr. Grey made a motion authorizing the participation in the rebate program for two electric vehicle charging stations. Dr. Booth seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Authorization for the Township Traffic Engineer, McMahon, to Design Phase II of the Multi-Modal Grant Spring House Intersection

Ms. Hunsicker requested authorization to allow McMahon to begin the design of Phase II for the Spring House Intersection Project, which includes the widening of Norristown Road traveling west, the widening of Sumneytown Pike to accommodate the widening of Norristown Road and the West Sumneytown Pike dedicated turn lane onto Bethlehem Pike. Mr. McAnally confirmed that this was the proposed project area and noted that the Township has two grants in the amount of \$2M through the Multi-Modal Program with a required Township match of \$600,000. As part of the grant there is \$420,250 allocated for design work. Mr. Grey made a motion to the authorize the design of Phase II and Dr. Booth seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Phase II of the Growing Greener Grant Award for Naturalization of Basin in Spring House Farm

The Township Engineer, Jim Hersh, explained that the basins located in the Spring House Farm development will be retrofitted by removing the low flow concrete channels that will then be replaced with river rock and densely planted native species to act as filters for better water quality. The project is funded through the Growing Greener Grant. Mr. McAnally requested that the Board award the bid for the basin retrofit project to Arch Wilde who were the lower bidder with a project proposal in the amount of \$28,941.00. Dr. Booth made a motion to award the bid to Arch Wilde. Mr. Paccione seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Authorize Purchase of Dedication Plaque

Ms. Hunsicker explained that the Park and Recreation Committee requested authorization to purchase a plaque to commemorate the service of Kate Harper. They would like to present this plaque to her at the Penllyn Woods Celebration Event on September 28, 2019. The plaque will be purchased from Christianson Memorial Gardens in the amount of \$3,500.00. Mr. Grey made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Booth seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Authorization for EAC to Purchase Spotted Lanternfly Swatters and Bags

Mr. McAnally requested authorization for the EAC to purchase 500 spotted lanternfly swatters totaling \$890.00 and 500 tote bags totaling \$850.00 to be distributed at Pike Fest. He also added a request to order 14 informational signs on a chloroplast board to avoid having to replace the existing signs each year. Mr. Grey made a motion to approve the purchase requests. Ms. Hunsicker seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Authorization for Township Staff to Purchase Pike Fest Giveaway

Mr. McAnally requested authorization to purchase a logo cup to give away at the Township table during Pike Fest. The Township will purchase 500 cups totaling \$515.00. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion to authorize the purchase of the Pike Fest giveaway. Mr. Grey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Bucks County Water and Sewer Service Agreement Extension until 2022

Mr. McAnally requested this item be tabled as there was an issue with the wording in the agreement.

Accept Bids Spring House Intersection Multi-Modal Phase I- McMahon

Mr. McAnally requested authorization to award the bid for the Phase I Multi-Modal Spring House Intersection project, which includes the extension of the culvert on Sumneytown Pike, to Doli Construction for a total of \$841,274.50. Mr. McAnally noted that the Township is waiting for the County to approve the HOP but there have been issues obtaining necessary easements from Stoltz Management at that Spring House Village Shopping Center property. Mr. Grey made a motion to award the bid to Doli Construction. Dr. Booth seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Authorization to Purchase Leaf/Woodchip Box Insert

Mr. Destefano requested authorization to purchase a leaf/woodchip box insert as approved in the 2019 budget in the amount of \$5,950.00. He explained that with fall cleanup and the maintenance of all the open space throughout the Township along with all the tree work they are doing; the leaf box will allow for a more efficient operation. Mr. Grey made a motion authorizing the purchase of the leaf/woodchip box in the amount of \$5,950.00. Mr. Paccione seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Report from the Manager – Municipal activities, projects

Mr. McAnally reminded everyone that the office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 2019.

There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. until the next Regular Meeting scheduled on September 10, 2019 at the Lower Gwynedd Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Worman
Assistant Township Manager