

Tonight's Meeting will be a Virtual Meeting Hosted by ZOOM due to the "Social Distancing" Order by Governor Wolf:

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LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

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

Edward J. Brandt (Joined at the end of the Meeting due to technical difficulties)

STAFF:

Craig T. McAnally, Township Manager
Jamie Worman, Assistant Township Manager
Carole Culbreth, Assistant Secretary
Chuck Wilson, Finance Director
Paul Kenny, Police Chief
Tom Speers, Esq., Solicitor

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM which is being held virtually in ZOOM. He led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance. He stated the meeting tonight is being audio recorded. He stated the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on May 13, 2020 on a personnel matter.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Receipt of Meeting Minutes:

May 12, 2020

The Board of Supervisors received the May 12, 2020 meeting minutes. The Chairman asked if there were any comments. There were none. Ms. Duckett made a motion,

seconded by Ms. McNeely to approve the May 12, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion passed 4 - 0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Authorization to approve Treweryn Trail Lease Agreement between Lower Gwynedd Township and Gwynedd Mercy University

Mr. McAnally stated the Treweryn Trail Lease Agreement is an updated yearly lease with the same terms as before and which can be terminated by either side with 6 months' notice. He stated the lease is for \$1 per year. He explained Merck sold the property to Gwynedd Mercy University in the Fall. He stated it can be used for walking, hiking and biking, but ponds cannot be used for swimming or fishing. Mr. Speers said some changes were made to remedy clauses which are standard terms. Mr. Grey said the last lease did not have an indemnification clause. Mr. Speers said that is normal and why we have insurance. Mr. Grey asked for questions from the Board. Ms. Hunsicker noted the Township is not responsible for the dam. Mr. McAnally stated just maintenance of the trail and area around the trail. Mr. Grey asked for comments from the Public. There were none. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to approve the Treweryn Trail Lease Agreement between Lower Gwynedd Township and Gwynedd Mercy University. The motion passed 4 - 0.

Authorization for Phase II Study for 409 Old Penllyn Pike Property

Mr. Grey stated we had the Phase I Study performed and are now asking for the Phase II Study. Mr. McAnally stated staff has been researching documentation for the Phase II study. He stated the sellers found documentation dated 1996 removing a 600-gallon tank by a reputable certified company. However, documentation with DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) to close out the report is missing. Mr. Speers stated Gilmore will contact DEP with the new information from the sellers. He stated the latest recommendation from Gilmore is we may not need the Phase II. Mr. Speers recommended we authorize the Phase II now since the next meeting isn't until June 23rd. Ms. Duckett asked if the Township had a confirmation letter from DEP in receipt of the letter. Mr. McAnally replied no. Mr. Grey asked the Board for any comments. There were none. Ms. Hunsicker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Duckett to authorize the Phase II Study for 409 Old Penllyn Pike by Gilmore in an amount not to exceed \$9,800 if required. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Recommendation by Park and Recreation Board for the Purchase and Installation of Dog Waste Station and Bags at several locations throughout the Township in the amount of \$513.10 + shipping

Mr. McAnally stated in March the Park and Recreation Board recommended that Dog Waste Stations be installed in five park locations for a total of \$513.10 + shipping. He

stated they recommended two stations on the Trewellyn Estates Trail, two stations in Pen Ambler Park, and one station at the Trewellyn Farm Trail. He stated they would be installed above the trash cans at the five entrances mentioned as a courtesy to residents because of recent complaints. Mr. Grey asked for comments. Ms. Duckett asked how would we expand the Dog Waste Stations to other areas. Mr. McAnally said we will monitor the success of the five Dog Waste Stations. Mr. Grey asked for a report from the Park and Recreation Director. Ms. Duckett asked how long it will take to be installed. Mr. McAnally stated it is a minor installation. Ms. Duckett asked if we can add an additional site off McKean Road where residents have requested a dog waste station. Mr. Grey asked that the motion be amended to add the additional station for McKean Road. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker to authorize Dog Waste Stations and Bags at six stations for roughly \$650 + shipping. The motion passed 4 - 0.

Resolution No. 2020 - 11: PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Watershed Restoration and Protection Program (WRPP) Grant Authorization for Submittal of Application to DCED up to \$300,000

Mr. McAnally stated the grant is through PA DCED Watershed Restoration and Protection Program with a maximum of \$300,000. He stated we did not have a cost estimate as of Friday. He stated Gilmore did come in with a cost estimate of \$180,000 - \$200,000 for stream bank restoration at the site behind the Township building on Old Bethlehem Pike between the Ingersol House and toward the Paone Building. He said the Township will also need a temporary construction easement and a full maintenance easement from Paone so we can stabilize the creek bed and do any maintenance in the future. Ms. Worman stated this project is a stream restoration project for the Willow Run Tributary of the Wissahickon Creek behind the Township Building, and the scope of the project is stabilization and enhancement of 300 linear ft of stream on both sides. It has been approved as a low impact design. Ms. Hunsicker asked why this stretch in the Township? Ms. Worman stated it is a good project for this type of grant and is outlined in our reduction requirements. Mr. Grey asked if there are any grants available for addressing the old dam works in that section. Ms. Worman stated we will need to investigate what's out there and hone in on a project. Ms. Duckett asked for the applications deadline and if the Township needs to come up with matching funds. Ms. Worman stated during COVID-19 the deadline was moved to July 31, 2020 and there's a 15% match. She stated we are putting in for the maximum because we do not have the final estimate. Ms. McNeely asked if this is a one-time grant. Ms. Worman stated there is a potential to go in annually. Ms. Duckett asked if we have letters of support. Ms. Worman stated we have not done that portion yet, but will when we submit. Mr. Grey asked for comments from the supervisors or public. Mark Schafer commented that Wissahickon Trails will be happy to give a letter of support, and he asked for before and after results of the remediation. Ms. Worman stated we have projections of what we

expect the reduction for this project to be, and yes, we can show measurable progress. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely to adopt Resolution No. 2020 - 11: PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Watershed Restoration and Protection Program (WRPP) Grant Authorization for Submittal of Application to DCED up to \$300,000. The motion passed 4 - 0.

Mr. Grey asked Chief Kenny for a Police Department update. Chief Kenny stated everyone is great. He stated police calls are down and everyone is healthy and working. He stated things have changed in monitoring and sharing information regarding police calls. He stated we are continuing to clean police cars and sanitize hands. He stated we must keep in mind that we still must be careful. Mr. Grey said that's good news.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Citizen comments, concerns, questions (For items not on the agenda; comments on agenda items will be taken when those items are discussed by the Board) There were none.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Report from the Manager - Municipal activities, projects

Mr. McAnally stated he sent out an email today regarding long time employee Joyce Hamershock who passed this weekend.

He stated solicitors' interviews are scheduled next week with the Board, and we will do it in person or possibly virtual. He noted there are seven firms to be interviewed in three nights June 3, 4, and 9.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Hunsicker stated thank goodness it's summer and thank residents for their patience.

Ms. Duckett stated we had a few emails regarding why the previous solicitor's contract was not renewed. She stated the RFQ is open to all qualified solicitors including the previous solicitor. She said we are looking for the best qualified candidate. She stated that at the last meeting we talked about banners to honor graduates. She asked for a motion to consider a resolution recognizing all 2020 graduates from all universities and all high schools regardless of where because it's a huge accomplishment. Mr. Grey agreed and asked Mr. McAnally for a proclamation to be voted on at our next meeting. Mr. McAnally said he will. Ms. Hunsicker asked how difficult it would be to give a copy to the graduates. Ms. Duckett said if they self-identify we can get them a copy. Mr. McAnally stated if someone wants a copy of the proclamation, they can contact the Township for it. Ms. Duckett thanked everyone for their continued support from the

emergency staff and police force. Mr. Grey said we are pleased to have great staff members and EMS members. Mr. McAnally stated the banners for the graduates have been ordered and will be up for June 4. Ms. McNeely echoed previous remarks thanking emergency and township staff for maintaining the high level of excellence during COVID-19. She reminded people to vote in the June 2nd primary election and not to take it for granted.

Ms. Worman stated Mr. Brandt is having technical difficulty. Mr. Brandt told Ms. Worman that everything was fine and his vote would not have changed anything this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole B. Culbreth
Assistant Secretary