

**Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes**

November 5, 2014

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

The November 5, 2014 meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Township Municipal Building, 2004 Weavertown Rd., Douglassville, Berks County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chairperson Kim McGrath. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

Kim McGrath, Chairperson
Richard L. Gokey, Vice Chair
Terry Jones
Paul Weller
David Hackett

STAFF

Charles E. Lyon, Manager
Pamela Kisch, Township Secretary
Brian Boland, Solicitor, Kozloff/Stoudt (arrived 7:08PM)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson McGrath made two announcements: The PENNDOT project to resurface SR0422 will reduce traffic to a single lane on East and West bound lanes during construction times. Supervisors held an Executive Session on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 5:00PM at the Township Municipal building, for the purpose of discussing the Conditional Use application and public hearing of Environmental Enterprises.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to approve the October 15, 2014 minutes, as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.

FINANCE

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to approve disbursements as follows:

\$	56,345.06	General Fund
\$	26,604.70	Sewer Fund
\$	4,877.78	Liquid Fuels Fund
\$	67,993.95	Fire Fund
\$	274.45	Traffic Impact Fund (North)
\$	274.45	Traffic Impact Fund (South)
\$	<u>4,885.19</u>	EDU Fund
\$	161,255.58	Total

Motion carried, 5-0.

REPORTS

CODE DEPARTMENT- The Board reviewed a letter from Mr. Loomis regarding the use of clothing/recycling drop boxes at various locations in the Township. Residents are filing complaints when large items are dropped off and left outside the boxes, such as furniture, bedding, and electronics. Violations can be sent, however items are often cleaned up immediately, abating the violation. The Board authorized staff to move forward with cleaning up the nuisance boxes. Mr. Boland stated he will work with Mr. Loomis to ensure the concerns are addressed.

ROAD DEPARTMENT- Mr. Howell-Clarke reported vandalism to the snack bar at Lake Drive Park. The vandalism was not within range of the newly installed camera system. The juveniles responsible were identified, and they will be required to make restitution to the Township.

UNFINISHED BUISINESS

Vote for Conditional Use approval for Environmental Enterprises, Inc At 7:15PM, Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to recess to a brief Executive Session to discuss the Findings of Fact. Motion passed, 5-0. The Board reconvened the meeting at 7:28PM, on a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Gokey. Motion passed, 5-0. Mr. Boland read aloud the following statement: It is hereby resolved that the Board of Supervisors of Amity Township hereby adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and the Decision/Order (“Order”) dated November 5, 2014 as attached and presented as their final decision in this matter and approves the Conditional Use application of Environmental Enterprises, Inc, in strict conformity with the terms and conditions set forth in the Order. Mr. Boland asked for the Board’s vote. Mr. Gokey made a motion to approve the Conditional Use application with the stipulations set forth in Mr. Boland’s statement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weller and passed unanimously.

Harner’s Auto Body Invoice Supporting documentation was provided, detailing the invoice in question. A WWTP truck was damaged while snow plowing back in February. In lieu of paying a deductible and filing a claim, the Board authorized payment of \$1,482.00 at their February 19, 2014 meeting.

Traffic Light – SR422 and Monocacy Creek Road Residents requested that the Board research the number and severity of accidents at this intersection, with specific concern of the left hand turning lane. Chief Shuebrook gave a detailed report. The majority of accidents at the intersection didn’t occur as a result of a left hand turn. Mrs. McGrath mentioned she was aware of two of the accidents, and both drivers admitted it was human error and/or lack of good judgement. The Manager invited PENNDOT to attend a Board of Supervisor’s meeting, and they declined; instead, offering to meet with the Board at PENNDOT’s Allentown office.

SOLICITOR- Mr. Boland gave an update on the Capital Improvement Plan. The Plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on November 19th. It’s anticipated that the Board of Supervisors will consider the plan for adoption in December, and the Traffic Impact Fee changes will be adopted as part of the 2015 Fee Schedule. Mr. Boland reported the response time for the Montague response expires on November 20, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Pam Kisch to Pension Committee Mr. Weller moved to appoint Pam Kisch to the Pension Committee, seconded by Mr. Gokey. Motion passed, 5-0.

Request to Waive Full Land Development and Review – Emery/TR-EM Annexation Plan John Aston of Aston Surveyors/Engineers Inc. explained the plan redefines lot lines in Earl Township, with a small portion of the lot being in Amity Township. The annexation does not affect the ground located in Amity, and effectively occurs in Earl Township. Mr. Aston requested the Township waive the full land development, along with the application and escrow fees, and not require formal submission. In an email dated November 5, 2014, Mr. Weber reviewed the plan and gave a recommendation to the Board to have a statement added to the plan, that Amity Township has relinquished review and approval rights to Earl Township. Mr. Boland requested that Mr. Aston have the statement added to the plan. The Chairperson must sign the plan, and the seal must be affixed after Earl Township approves the final plan. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller, waive the full land development and review, as recommended by Mr. Weber and Mr. Boland. Motion carried, 5-0.

TCC Delegate Resolution Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to adopt Resolution 14-17, appointing Supervisor Weller as the delegate and Manager Lyon as the alternate delegate. Motion passed, 5-0.

PENNDOT Agility Contract Manager Lyon stated the prior contract was never utilized, but was about to expire. PENNDOT agreed to extend the current contract for a term of three years. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to execute the contract extension, as recommended by the Manager. Motion carried, 5-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

Manager: The PADEP responded to the Township's proposed Corrective Action Plan, requesting additional responses. The Manager reviewed recommended responses, asking the Board for authorization to respond to the PADEP's request. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to authorize the Manager to send a response letter including the proposed responses listed in the manager's report. Motion passed, 5-0. Mr. Lyon commended WWTP personnel and Dave Wheeler for minimizing the odor issues at PS1. A totalizer meter for the Return Activated Sludge (RAS) pump for the final clarifier has failed. The pump, installed in 1992, has become obsolete. The Manager recommended replacing the meter. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize purchasing a replacement meter, with a cost not to exceed \$3K. Motion passed, 5-0. It is necessary to gain access to the Right of Way (ROW) from Toll Gate Road to SR422, to enable televising and/or repairs to be made for Leaf Creek. There are three stream crossings that appear to be problematic. Ali and Dave Wheeler walked the ROW with an ARRO engineer. ARRO will be providing a report. The Manager explained future ROW construction must include the ability for access vehicles to gain entry for potential repairs. Chris Ehlinger completed his Eagle Scout Project by finishing his work on the War Veteran Memorial at the Township building last weekend. The bench next to the memorial provides visitors the ability to enjoy the memorial and pay tribute to those who served our Country. The version of Arc View GIS software, from which parcel information is derived, is outdated and no longer supported. The Manager recommended purchasing a single-user license. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to authorize purchasing the license, at a cost not to exceed \$1,224.00. Motion passed, 5-0. Bill McMahon, ECON Opportunities, Inc., found Met Ed's bill shows a credit, returning a phase 1 energy efficiency charge. The amount is nearly \$1,000/month. In addition the lower rate per kilowatt, which McMahon said is the lowest rate he's seen in our region, extends the breakeven point from less than four years to almost ten years. The Manager recommended pulling the project from the capital projects list. Mr. Jones countered that there are substantial fees to maintaining lights which should also be factored into the savings analysis. The Manager will research and report back to the Board. Third quarter budget information was provided. Revenues are expected to top over \$4million, with expenditures being slightly over \$ \$4 million. Extensive snow removal for last winter adversely affected projections. The Manager received an email requesting a meeting to discuss issues surrounding certain sign issues. Chairperson McGrath agreed to arrange a meeting after the solicitor and engineer have provided a legal interpretation of the ordinance. They were instructed to discuss the sign issue and prepare a response for the November 19 meeting of the Supervisors. The countertop needs to be purchased and installed at the Boyer Memorial. The Manager was given a quote of \$2,568.00 and advised the Road crew could complete the installation. Mr. Gokey will provide the Manager with three names of companies to obtain additional quotes. Brian Hunsberger contacted the Township to advise them there could be matching funds for a project to remove the horizontal and vertical curves on Old Swede Road. There are some particulars that must be reviewed, and the Manager requested authorization to submit paperwork to gain information. Mr. Gokey made a motion to authorize the Manager to move forward, seconded by Mrs. McGrath. Motion passed, 5-0. A brief Executive Session, without intent to return, was requested by the Manager, to discuss police contract negotiations, a WWTP personnel matter, two administrative personnel issues, and possible land acquisition.

Chief of Police: Chief Shuebrook presented the Board with his report and an informative handout and legislative regulations about a drug called Naloxone, which can be used to counter the effects of an opioid overdose such as heroin or morphine. Mrs. McGrath asked the Chief to research and report back to the Board. Manager Lyon and the Chief attended an emergency management meeting with Marybeth Torchia at Daniel Boone Middle School. The Chief reported that the County launched the new emergency radio system on Monday, November 3rd. The new radio system appears to be working well throughout the Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Rathgeb, Mimosa Circle, questioned if the wholesale gas tax trickles down to the Township. Mr. Howell-Clarke stated it does, through Liquid Fuel payments.

SUPERVISORS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:00PM, with there being no further business, Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weller, to adjourn to Executive Session , with no intent to return, for discussion of Police Contract negotiations, a WWTP personnel matter, and two administrative staff personnel matters, and possible land acquisition. Motion passed, 5-0. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Kisch
Township Secretary