

Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2015

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

The April 1, 2015 meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Township Municipal Building, 2004 Weavertown Road, Douglassville, Berks County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 7:12 PM by Chairperson Kim McGrath. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

Kim McGrath, Chairperson
Paul Weller
Terry Jones
David Hackett

STAFF

Charles E. Lyon, Manager
Kent Shuebrook, Chief of Police
Pamela Kisch, Township Secretary
Brian Boland, Solicitor, Kozloff/Stoudt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. McGrath announced the Berks County Conservation District (BCCD) will be conducting mosquito surveillance and West Nile Virus monitoring in Amity Township from April 1, 2015 through October 1, 2015. Residents should be aware there are two types of traps being used. Dead birds should be reported to the BCCD for testing.

SWEARING IN OF FIRE POLICE

Samuel H. Howell was sworn into the position of Amity Fire Company Fire Police by Chairperson Kim McGrath. Chief Shuebrook and the Board welcomed Mr. Howell.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to approve the March 18, 2015 minutes, as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

FINANCE

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

\$	99,171.90	General Fund
\$	33,658.54	Sewer Fund
\$	8,509.26	<u>Liquid Fuels Fund</u>
\$	141,339.70	Total

Mr. Weller questioned why the invoice for new radar equipment was paid in two checks. Mr. Howell-Clarke explained the Road and Police Departments each paid half of the cost. Mrs. McGrath questioned why postage was paid to Pitney Bowes and to the USPS. Mrs. Kisch explained sewer bills are sent out bulk directly from the post office. Mr. Jones asked staff to investigate why the PA American Water invoice for Amity Community Park was \$100.14, since the water has been shut off for winter. Mrs. McGrath questioned if the \$180.00 invoice described as "law books" was actual books or electronic books. Chief confirmed it was for books. Motion passed 4-0.

REPORTS

CODE DEPARTMENT- Mr. Weller asked that staff check and confirm the number of properties that remain in violation of the SMO for 2014. There were no other questions regarding the Code Department Report.

ROAD DEPARTMENT- Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to award Paving Contract "A" to AMS in the amount of \$87,100.40 and Paving Contract "B" to EJB Paving in the amount of \$162,257.20. Motion passed 4-0. Bids received for 2015 paving projects were approximately \$167K less than the prior year's bids for the same projects. As discussed in prior meetings, Mr. Howell-Clarke recommended paving Laurelwood Drive and doing bridge work at Lake Drive. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize preparation of bid documents and advertising as recommended. Mr. Jones asked if EJB Paving provided a starting date for the paving contract. Mr. Howell-Clarke stated they had not. Mr. Howell-Clarke gave a brief explanation of the proposed bridge work. Manager Lyon stated it's anticipated to pay for the bridge work using the General Fund.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 15-12 Condemnation GCP Amity Residential, LP Mr. Boland explained the resolution was to condemn property to be used for access to construct the Leaf Creek Interceptor lines. The BOS authorized the solicitor to proceed with the process of condemnation at the March 18, 2015 meeting. Mrs. McGrath signed the resolution so the condemnation could be filed. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to ratify Resolution 15-12, condemning property of GCP Amity Residential, LP. Motion passed 4-0.

SOLICITOR

None

NEW BUSINESS

Permission to attend seminar Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize Mr. Howell-Clarke and Mrs. Kisch to attend a seminar at Muhlenberg Township; Manager Lyon and WWTP employees to attend I&I training at the Borough of Pottstown, at no charge. Motion passed 4-0.

ZHB Recommendation for Mark Malizzi Mr. Malizzi proposes converting a 3-car garage into in-law quarters so his parents could move into his home and still maintain independent living. The property is located in the LDR zone. The ZHB hearing is scheduled to consider Mr. Malizzi's application on April 20, 2015. Mrs. McGrath stated that Mr. Malizzi made her aware he will be unable to appear in person at that meeting, due to schedule conflicts. Mr. Malizzi intends to send his subcontractor to the ZHB meeting. Mr. Boland directed Mr. Malizzi to provide written permission for this person to represent him at the ZHB meeting. Mr. Malizzi offered to answer questions. Mr. Weller said he could see the ZHB questioning that the property has an onlot tank and what effect adding two additional people may have on that system. Mr. Weller advised Mr. Malizzi to make sure whomever he has attend that hearing can testify to those type of questions. Mr. Weller suggested making a recommendation, conditioned upon Mr. Malizzi agreeing not to turn the in-law quarters into a rental unit. Mr. Boland recommended that if the property is sold the stove should be removed. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to make a recommendation to the ZHB for approval of the requested variances, conditioned upon agreement that the in-law quarters not become a rental unit and requiring removal of the stove at such time the in-laws no longer occupy the unit. Motion passed, 4-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

Manager: Manager Lyon stated he would need an Executive Session to discuss matters involving Police, WWTP personnel, Road department personnel, and possible land acquisition. Mr. Lyon asked for a motion to allow LTL to prepare bid documents to build a new salt shed. Mr. Jones asked if they were repairing the salt shed or building new. Manager Lyon stated it would be a new building. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to grant permission to the Township Engineer to proceed with design specifications and bid documents to replace the salt shed. Motion passed 4-0. The PA Act 13 is offering

grants for funding of The Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program. Last year, the Township filed for a grant to rehabilitate Lake Drive Park and was denied. The Manager asked for permission to proceed with resubmitting the grant application for rehabilitation of the pavilion at Lake Drive Park. If approved, the Township would need to match funds in the amount of approximately \$20K. The process would involve a \$100.00 application fee and adoption of a resolution acknowledging permission to apply. Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize the application fee and adoption of the resolution. Motion passed 4-0. The Manager spoke with members of the Recreation Board regarding the tennis court resurfacing at Lake Drive. Lights are currently inside the fencing which poses a safety hazard. They should be replaced with LED. Regarding Street intersection lighting, an analysis of new grant programs show that savings would not be significant. The manager recommended waiting until the cost of the actual lights declines. The Seismic Refractory Report has not been executed. PENNDOT and PADEP changed the route on the Part II permit and requested it be withdrawn or it would be rejected. Manager Lyon withdrew the Part II permit and asked the BOS to reaffirm the withdrawal. Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to reaffirm the withdrawal of the Part II permit. Motion passed 4-0. ARRO continues to work on the design for installation of the secondary pumps for PS2 and PS4. ARRO and Dave Wheeler observed "blow-by" at PS7. Flygt representatives will be evaluating if this can be reduced. The Manager hopes to have a report at the next meeting, or following meeting. The Chapter 94 report was filed, along with Union, Douglass, and Earl Township's. The arms on the agitators at the Lagoon bent over the winter, as they had last year. The Manufacturer is sending replacement parts. WWTP personnel will be doing the installation. Staff will try cabling, but if that doesn't work, staff may need to remove them during cold weather. The Manager telephoned the ZHB member who hasn't been present for two years, and followed up with written communication. The ZHB member hasn't responded. Mr. Boland stated he research and determine what steps must be taken to remove that member from the ZHB. Mr. Weller asked about a notice he received regarding a property along SR422 West dumping of clean fill. Mr. Weller noted he has seen other items such as mattresses dumped there. Manager Lyon stated when PADEP investigated they did not find any environmental violations. Mr. Boland stated this could be a Property Maintenance Code issue that could be looked at by Mr. Loomis. The direction of the Board was to have Mr. Loomis look at the property again for potential violations. Manager Lyon reported TH Properties has placed real estate For Sale signs along SR662 for high meadows Phase III.

Chief of Police: Chief Shuebrook reported the Police Department received payment of \$31,680.00; which is a portion of the funds that were recovered in a seizure from a drug case involving Homeland Security, tax evasion and money laundering. The money cannot be used for supplemental police work; meaning it must be used for something that is not budgeted. The Chief continues to explore options to utilize the funds. The Chief requested permission to attend Supervisor Liability School on April 22-23, 2015. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize attendance at the training, at a cost of \$295.00. Motion passed 4-0.

SUPERVISORS

Mr. Jones asked if the letter regarding the Monarch Fire Company audit was informative only. The Manager stated it was.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Richard Martino, W. Welsh Drive, stated the paving done on Welsh Road looks great and held up well through winter weather. Mr. Steve Chieffo, Limekiln Road, asked if anyone was given dates for when PENNDOT would be working on his street. Mr. Howell-Clarke stated they were not given dates, just noted that it would be worked on throughout the summer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:59PM, with there being no further business, Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weller to adjourn to Executive Session. The purpose of the executive Session was to discuss matters pertaining to: Police personnel, WWTP personnel, Road department personnel, and possible land acquisition. There was no intent to return. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Kisch
Township Secretary