

**Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes**

April 20, 2016

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

Chairperson Kim McGrath called the April 20, 2016 meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Township Municipal Building, 2004 Weavertown Road, Douglassville, Berks County, Pennsylvania, to order at 7:04PM. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

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

STAFF

Troy Bingaman, Manager
Andrew Kensey, Chief of Police
Brian Boland, Kozloff/Stoudt Attorneys
John Weber, LTL Consultants
Alistair Howell-Clarke, Roadmaster
Pamela Kisch, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. McGrath announced Fire Marshal Jeff Smith declared a burn ban in effect until further notice, due to severe dryness of brush and potential for loss of property or injury. No outdoor burning is permitted during the burn ban; including no burning in 55-gallon drums, fire pits, open fires, control burns, etc.

Mrs. McGrath announced the Free Library has been completed. Ms. Victoria Pastor and her TSA Team earned first place for her project and will be advancing to Nationals. The Board congratulated the team on completion of their project, and wished them luck at Nationals.

VISITOR Mr. Richard Hart, of Richard Hart Insurance presented the Board with a check for \$90,820.22. Mr. Hart explained the payout was the 18th largest dividend awarded of the 216 municipalities that participate in the MRM Trust. The dividend is representative of over 90% of the premium paid for Workers' Compensation premiums in 2015. Mr. Hart attributed the dividend to the overall management of the Township, in maintaining a low-loss ratio.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to approve the minutes of April 6, 2016. Motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Gokey abstained, due to being absent from the April 6th meeting.

FINANCE

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the following disbursements:

\$ 47,065.28	General Fund
\$ 8,470.16	Fire Fund
\$ 32,973.60	Sewer Fund
\$ 14,265.00	EDU Fund
\$ 13,165.00	Recreation Fund
\$ 5,163.95	<u>Liquid Fuels Fund</u>
\$ 121,102.99	Total

Mr. Weller questioned the payment of the interest paid for the General Obligations Note of 2015. The Manager replied the payment is shared equally between funds. Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board reviewed the Overtime by Department and Treasurer's Report.

REPORTS

Fire Companies - Assistant Chief Robert Kline reported Monarch Fire Company will hold a Chicken BBQ in the Redner's Parking lot on May 7th. Asst. Chief Kline questioned the ban on burning in 55-gallon drums and chimineas; as this was permitted during previous burn bans. Mr. Jones stated the County burn ban includes banning all outdoor burning. Chief Zomolsky reported Amity Fire Company will no longer respond for mutual aid to West Pottsgrove Township. Air packs have been received. Amity Fire Company expects the new fire truck to be ready in July. The annual Amity Township Firemen's Carnival will take place the end last week of April. Mr. Jones commended the firemen for amending the carnival schedule, in respect of voters and the General Primary.

Planning Commission - Arbour Green Preliminary Plan - Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of a 180-day extension on April 13, 2016. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to grant a 180-day extension to October 16, 2016, for the Arbour Green Preliminary Plan. Motion passed 5-0.

Evolution Powersports Use By Right and Accessory Use - Brian Boyer, Boyer Engineering, presented the Evolution Powersports plan to erect a 22,000 square foot building for ATV and moped sales and service and a 7,000 square foot building for storage at 507 West Ben Franklin Highway. Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend the Board of Supervisors consider the plan as a Use by Right and classify the property as Sales with Service & Parts uses. The Planning Commission also recommended the Board allow the residence to remain as an Accessory Use, provided it will be used for a caretaker. Following discussion, while the Board had no objection, they chose to take no action until the plan contains a breakdown of use per square footage. Mr. Boyer stated he will revise the plan.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Manager spoke to representatives of Monocacy Hill Conservation Association and the Recreation Board regarding the recent dog bite reported on Monocacy Hill. Neither group was in favor of banning dogs from Monocacy Hill; and both were in favor of requiring dogs to be on a leash. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to advertise the Ordinance for adoption. Motion passed, 5-0. Mr. Weller asked if signs would be posted after the Ordinance is adopted. Mr. Bingaman affirmed. Mr. Bingaman asked the Board to review the most recent draft of proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance and provide comments at the May 4th meeting. The Planning Commission will then review and make comments on May 11th.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report. Mr. Boland mentioned if the Board would like to review the digital sign section of the Ordinance, those changes could be added to the proposed draft.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Weber reported the *Highmeadows concrete and ADA ramp* demolition began earlier in the day. The contractor expects to begin pouring replacement panels on Thursday and have the project completed by end of the month. Mr. Weber reported there is criteria which could warrant a four-way stop sign: traffic volume - 8 hours of traffic in any 24-hour period, or by accident - five or more accidents in any 12-month period, or sight distance. The Chief will look into the accident reports and Mr. Weber will conduct a study on sight distance for *the intersection of Maplewood Drive & Russell Avenue*. Mr. Weber asked for authorization to advertise for the *salt shed construction*. The advertisement would go out the first week in June, with consideration for award on June 15th. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize advertisement of the salt shed construction project, as requested. Motion passed, 5-0. Mr. Weber stated he would be contacting the Manager with details of the project.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Leaf Creek Interceptor Schedule - Mr. Bingaman received a tentative schedule from Ebert Engineering. Mr. Sassaman expressed concerns that some of the dates seemed aggressive. Mr. Bingaman reached out to Mr. Ebert, asking for further discussion before submission to the PADEP. Mr. Boland stated conclusion of compensation for the condemnation must also be considered.

Lights at WWTP – Mr. Bingaman stated the LED conversion was completed at the WWTP. Mr. Wheeler confirmed five lights are left on at the WWTP overnight.

Winter Storm Jonas Reimbursement - Mr. Bingaman reported overtime wages would be reimbursable; however regular work hours were not. The Township should be receiving approximately 75% of the overtime, benefits, materials, and contracted services used during Winter Storm Jonas.

Disposal of Records, Resolution 16-19 - Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adopt Resolution 16-19, for disposal of records, in accordance with the State's Records Disposal Act. Motion passed, 5-0.

Mr. Bingaman requested an Executive Session, with no intent to return, to discuss several personnel matters.

CHIEF OF POLICE:

Chief Kensey reported the driver involved in a fatal accident on SR0422 on April 11, 2016, Joshua Kohlmeyer was arraigned on charges of driving under the influence, and related charges. The Chief has added store logs to Domino's and McDonald's. Interviews will begin on April 22nd for the part-time police officer position. The Chief requested permission to install video cameras on all police access points of the building and a 32" monitor, at a cost of \$4,795.00. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize the purchase of the security system, at a cost not to exceed \$4,795.00. Mr. Hackett questioned if other access points should also have cameras. Mr. Bingaman stated there are two other access points. Mr. Jones amended his motion, to approve the purchase, as submitted and request two additional cameras. After discussion, the Board asked for the Chief to request a revised

quote, to include all entry access points of the municipal building. For lack of a second, the motion died.

Chief Kensey requested an Executive Session, without intent to return for discussion of police personnel matters.

SUPERVISORS

Mr. Gokey passed along two concerns he received from residents. A resident on Serenity Drive stated they do not see police presence. Mr. Gokey asked the Chief to please have officers drive through once in a while. Mr. Gokey stated a resident questioned the number of police present at the Shirey Conditional Use continuance hearing; why so many officers were necessary, and were they paid overtime? Chief Kensey responded that he felt the police presence was warranted; considering the crowd that was expected. The Chief noted some residents in attendance were carrying guns. Only one officer was being paid overtime wages. Mr. Jones requested an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, with no need to return.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION and ADJOURNMENT

At 8:18PM, with no further business, Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett, to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 8:18PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela L. Kisch
Township Secretary