

Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2016

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

Chairperson Kim McGrath called the September 21, 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 7:00PM. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

Kim McGrath, Chairperson
Paul Weller
Terry Jones
David Hackett

STAFF

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the minutes of September 7, 2016. Motion passed, 4-0.

FINANCE

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

\$	76,731.97	General Fund
\$	14,722.16	Fire Fund
\$	17,755.86	Sewer Fund
\$	89,976.96	EDU Fund
\$	<u>4,396.50</u>	<u>Liquid Fuels Fund</u>
\$	203,583.45	Total

Mr. Weller questioned the payment of \$275.00 for an administration fee for arbitration. Mr. Boland explained it is the Township's part of the administration fees. Motion passed, 4-0.

The Board reviewed the Overtime by Department and Treasurer Reports.

REPORTS

Fire Companies – Mrs. McGrath asked what hours the paid drivers are working. Assistant Chief Robert Kline stated Monarch Fire Company has paid drivers on duty from 7:00AM until 8:00PM. Assistant Chief Kline reported the Chicken BBQ on September 17th was sold out by 3:30PM. Steak and Shrimp nights are back and will be held the first Saturday of the month beginning October 1st.

Planning Commission – The Planning Commission recommended approval of 180-day time extensions for Arbour Green and Barry Shirey; both plans would be extended through April 19, 2017. Mr. Jones stated Arbour Green is making progress but needs additional time, and Barry Shirey has just gotten started. Phyllis Cooper, Limekiln Road, asked if anyone has appealed the ZHB decision for the Barry Shirey Turkey Farm. Mrs. McGrath stated the 30-day period for appeals has passed. Staff was unaware of any appeals having been filed, thus far. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to grant **180-day time extensions to Arbour Green and Barry Shirey**. Motion passed, 4-0. Both plans will expire on April 19, 2017. Mr. Bingaman reported the ZHB granted variances for Dollar General (Douglassville, DPP, LLC), as per recommendations by the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Bingaman stated the PADEP notified **Prime Home Investments** that the resolution previously approved for the **Small Flow Treatment Facility (SFTF)** at 35 E. Ben Franklin Highway was dated prior to the date on the Letter of Credit and Financial Agreements. The PADEP requested the applicant submit the resolution to be readopted to clarify the date discrepancy. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adopt **Resolution 16-23** for the SFTF at 35 E. Ben Franklin Highway. Motion passed, 4-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Boland previously sent correspondence to the Homeowner's Association for **Rosewood Condominiums** regarding stormwater runoff and erosion. A member from their Board of Directors has responded. Mr. Boland will arrange a meeting with Rosewood's representative, the Township Engineer, Solicitor, and Manager. Mr. Boland requested a brief executive session for discussion on potential litigation.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Weber reported Forino is scheduled to do final paving this Friday in **Woods Edge 3B** which should last for two to three days at the most. Work has continued and is slowly progressing. Curbing was completed in **Highmeadows Estates Phase 3 Section II** last week. Walls on the **salt shed** are up and floors have been poured. Mr. Bingaman stated work will resume once the lumber is delivered this week.

NEW BUSINESS

Escrow Releases for Highmeadows Estates Phase 3 Sections I and II - Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize Escrow Release #3 for Highmeadows Estates Phase 3 Section I in the amount of \$27,490.00 as recommended by Mr. Weber's letter dated September 16, 2016. Mr. Jones amended his motion to authorize Escrow Release #3 for Highmeadows Estates Phase 3 Section 1 in the amount of \$27,490.00 and Escrow Release #3 for Highmeadows Estates Phase 3 Section 2 in the amount of \$288,228.88 as per Mr. Weber's letters dated September 16, 2016. Mr. Weller seconded the amended motion. Motion passed, 4-0.

Resolution 16-24 - Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adopt Resolution 16-24 declaring dates **Monocacy Hill will be closed to non-hunters** for 2016. Motion passed, 4-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Woods Edge 3C Street Light Activation - Scott Sweigart, Forino, contacted Mr. Bingaman stating residents have been requesting installation and energizing of two street lights in Woods Edge 3C. Mr. Sweigart indicated he would agree to install the lights, assuming the Township is willing to adopt the Resolution required for Met-Ed to energize the same. Mr. Bingaman stated the lights would not be LED. Forino has agreed to install LED lights if the Township agrees to pay the difference per fixture. After discussion, Mr. Weber stated he will confirm what was agreed upon by Forino and report back to the Board. This item was tabled for the October 5th meeting.

The Daniel Boone Optimist Club has started planning a **Community Tree Lighting Event**. The location of the event is to be determined. One option would be the tree next to the Township building. The Board had no objections to allowing the Optimist Club to use the Township Building for this event.

The Manager met with the Tornettas regarding their former plans and previous plan to **realign Tollgate Road** with Nicholson Avenue, which gains access to several commercial sites off of Tollgate. The Tornettas reviewed a potential loop on SR0422 to capture westbound traffic coming off the bypass by looping them around to the eastbound lanes at a signaled intersection to access their site. Mr. Bingaman asked if the Township would be willing to spend Act 209 funds towards any of the proposed improvements, if the project moved forward. Mr. Weller stated he thought the Reading Hospital had agreed to pay traffic impact fees for part of those improvements. Mr. Boland stated it was discussed with Reading Hospital; but not agreed upon. Mr. Boland explained Act 209 fees must be used within the zone from which the fees were collected and would verify if the funds could be used. After discussion, the Board was in favor of using Act 209 fees to help fund some of the proposed improvements, if it is determined they could be used. Mr. Boland stated the improvements could potentially be part of a TIF. Mr. Bingaman suggested the Township could approach PennDOT with the Tornettas. The Board had no objections.

Mr. Bingaman requested an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Sergeant Jeff Smith will be sworn in by Judge Victor M. Frederick IV at the October 5th Board of Supervisors meeting. Chief Kensey will provide refreshments after the meeting. The Chief has implemented a **Park and Walk Program** throughout the business community; specifically the Douglassville Shopping Center due to recent thefts that have occurred at Redner's Markets and the PA Wine and Spirits store. In addition to business areas, Officers will also park and walk within the parks, highly residential neighborhoods, and in and around the schools. Members of the St. Paul's Lutheran Youth Group participated in a **9/11 Memorial at the Township Building**. Teens from this group paid their respects for the first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice and honoring the local heroes who do the job everyday by planting flowers around the Township sign. Officers Coe, O'Rourke and Hedgepeth, along with Chief Kensey provided a tour of the police station and answered questions. Chief Kensey distributed a draft of **Directive #6 – Performance Reports** to the Board. An annual review would be conducted and personnel would be graded as "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory". A template for this directive will be drafted and distributed at the next BOS meeting. Chief Kensey requested permission to spend \$2,518.00 to **replace two computers and software upgrades** for the high definition video cards to supplement the monitors for the recently upgraded surveillance system. The purchase fits within the budget but exceeds the Chief's authorization limit. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize the purchase of the

computers and software upgrades, not to exceed \$2,518.00. Motion passed, 4-0. Chief Kensey requested a brief executive session to discussion police personnel related matters.

SUPERVISORS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Denise Larive, News of Southern Berks, asked if the Board was aware of a recent property transfer in the Reading Eagle from Stanley Mauger to Salem UMC, Billy Graham and other various parties. The property is situated opposite of Island Pizza. Mr. Bingaman stated he has received inquiries. It appears to be an investment to generate income. If a party wanted to develop the land they would pay a lease, with profit being split between the owning entities. Ms. Larive stated she noticed a sign for the Beer Barn as you travel from Hill Road onto SR0422 West. The sign has been there for a long time. Staff will investigate what, if anything, must be done with this sign.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:47PM, with no further business, Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to adjourn. Motion passed, 4-0. Meeting Adjourned at 7:47PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela L. Kisch
Township Secretary