

**Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes**

March 1, 2017

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

Chairperson Kim McGrath called the March 1, 2017 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
David Hackett, Vice Chair
Paul Weller
Terry Jones

STAFF

Brian Boland, Kozloff/Stoudt Attorneys
Troy Bingaman, Manager
Andrew Kensey, Chief of Police
Dave Wheeler, Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
Pamela Kisch, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. McGrath announced Elizabeth L. Cote and Nicole C. Wilson have recently completed the requirements for the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting. Certificates of recognition will be sent to Ms. Cole and Ms. Wilson.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to approve the minutes of February 15, 2017.
Motion passed 4-0.

FINANCE

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hackett to approve the disbursements as follows:

\$	83,503.46	General Fund
\$	<u>24,665.61</u>	Sewer Fund
\$	108,169.07	Total

Motion passed 4-0.

The Board reviewed the Overtime by Department.

REPORTS

Code Department– The Board reviewed the Code Department report. Mr. Bingaman reported that Mr. Loomis was not feeling well and could not attend the meeting.

Road Department – Mr. Howell-Clarke was unable to attend the meeting. Mrs. McGrath asked if there was resolution to the high water bill for Amity Community Park. Mr. Bingaman stated the bill is a flat fee billed for a two-inch line. Mr. Jones questioned if it's a two-inch line or metered size. Mr. Bingaman stated he will research and report back to the Board.

Waste Water Treatment Plant – Mr. Jones questioned if the rain water caused the lagoon to be high. Mr. Wheeler confirmed it was.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Boland reported the arbitration for the Gauby grievance was held last week and expects to have a response within the next three weeks. Mr. Boland forwarded a copy of the response letter for the PADEP for the Consent Order and Agreement (COA) to Mike Sassaman and the Manager earlier in the day. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Boland to forward a copy of the letter to the Board before sending to the PADEP.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Weber stated items from his report are covered in the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

None

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Wastewater CAP – Mr. Bingaman provided an update on the CAPs. Ralph Yocum contacted Senator Rafferty's office regarding the status of the DEP actions for the Leaf Creek Interceptor. Travis from Senator Rafferty's office informed Mr. Bingaman that the DEP advised their office that the DEP sent Amity Township a COA and were awaiting a response.

2015 Drawdown Loan – The proposed agreement to extend the draw down period for the 2015 General Obligations Note was sent to BB&T. Mr. Bingaman awaits their response.

Weavertown Road Bridge – JD Eckman notified the Township they will begin the box culvert replacement project on March 6th and expect the project to be complete on or about July 19th. The previously approved detour route, Limekiln Road to Monocacy Hill Road to Geiger Road, will be in place during this time period.

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF)– Mr. Bingaman and Mrs. Kisch attended a PA Department of Agriculture session regarding the ongoing spread of the SLF. The PA Department of Agriculture representatives requested support letters from municipalities regarding ongoing USDA financial support for the SLF. The Township sent a letter of support, as well as several businesses within the Township.

Medical Marijuana Growing/Dispensing Facilities – Mr. Bingaman recommended the Board consider how the Township would like to address the opportunity for growers and dispensers of medical marijuana. Mr. Loomis attended a session at Lafayette College. Mr. Loomis' interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance is that growing facilities would be allowed by right in the LI/O & PBOI Districts and the dispensing facilities would be permitted by right in the HC & SCC Districts.

Mr. Boland suggested the Board may want to have the ability to add conditions. Mrs. McGrath reported she was approached by a resident approximately three months ago about potential opportunity in Amity Township. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to have Mr. Boland provide information regarding allowing facilities as a Conditional Use in the LI/O, PBOI, HC, SCC as noted above; which would provide opportunity for discussion with applicants and permit the Board to set conditions before approving the use. The Board requested Mr. Boland research and provide a draft for the Board's consideration.

Signals at SR0422 and River Bridge Road – PennDOT has allocated dollars for additional safety measures and offered to replace the “signal ahead” signs just past Church Lane and past Lords and Ladies driveway with “flashing warning signals”. After discussion, the Board asked the Manager to respond that they have no objection if PennDOT agrees to install and maintain the flashing signals. The Board did not want to burden the taxpayers with additional maintenance costs. The Township currently maintains all traffic signs and signals that were installed by PennDOT for that intersection.

Monarch Fire Company Board Shoot – Board shoots are held once a month, September through April. Corporal Coe conducted decibel reading tests during the Monarch Board Shoot on Sunday, February 26th. Currently there is no exemption in the Noise Ordinance for this type of event. The decibel reading was taken at 32 Pennsylvania Avenue, the location of the complaint filed regarding noise. The highest recorded reading of the shoot was 73.0 decibels. Readings were taken for a passing vehicle at 60.5 decibels and a train at 89.5 decibels. The limit as established in the Noise Ordinance is 57 decibels. Clarence Kline was present to answer questions. After discussion, Mr. Kline agreed to move the shoot to the parking spaces of the fire company and use a box trailer or wall or something similar to help absorb the sound of the shotguns. The Chief will have an officer conduct another decibel testing at the next scheduled board shoot on March 26th and report back to the Board to determine if further resolution is necessary. Mrs. McGrath asked if staff re-measured the road and public road. Mr. Bingaman stated the public road ends right before the fire company's property line. Mrs. McGrath stated the board shoot does not block the public roadway.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Kensey requested permission to purchase two **AED units**, to be placed in the lobby of the municipal building and the police lunchroom, at a cost of \$1,425.00 per unit plus \$243.54 per wall cabinet, for a total cost of \$3,337.18. The Chief explained this was not a budgeted expense and staff would need to be First Aid trained to use the device. After discussion, Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize the purchase of one AED unit at a cost of \$1,668.54, with another AED unit to be purchased in 2017. Motion passed 4-0. Chief Kensey stated Mr. Boland has reviewed and approved of the Lethality Assessment Policy and asked the Board to adopt the policy. Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to **adopt the Lethality Assessment Policy** as presented. Motion passed 4-0. The Police Department was awarded \$2,725.00 in **Aggressive Driving Grant Funds**. The Chief sent a **conditional letter of employment** to an applicant for the **part-time Police Officer** position.

SUPERVISORS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. McGrath questioned why a revised final plan was not submitted for the **Barry Shirey Turkey Farm**. Mr. Shirey stated he was not certain why Boyer Engineering was unable to submit the revised plan in time for the meeting. Mr. Weber has the original deed and is reviewing the same.

Mr. Bingaman received a letter last week regarding the E&S Plan requiring revisions. Richard Cooper, Limekiln Road, questioned if rumble strips might be a recommendation for River Bridge Road. Mr. Weller recommended the Manager mention that in the PennDOT response.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50PM, with no further business, Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela L. Kisch
Township Secretary