

**Amity Township Board of Supervisors  
Meeting Minutes**

**April 5, 2017**

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

Vice Chairperson Dave Hackett called the April 5, 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**

David Hackett, Vice Chair  
Richard Gokey  
Terry Jones  
Paul Weller

**STAFF**

Brian Boland, Kozloff/Stoudt Attorneys  
Troy Bingaman, Township Manager  
Andrew Kensey, Chief of Police  
Steve Loomis, Zoning & Code Enforcement  
Alistair Howell-Clarke, Roadmaster  
Kathie Benson, Assistant Secretary

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

None

**VISITOR- Paul Hoffman-PA American Water-** Mr. Hoffman commended both the Amity Fire and Monarch Fire Companies for keeping the community safe and working together with PA American Water to keep the Fire Hydrants safe and water flowing. Mr. Hoffman presented each company with a check for \$500.00. Mr. Zomolsky and Mr. Gabel both thanked Mr. Hoffman for the donation.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the minutes of March 15, 2017. Motion passed 3-0-1, Mr. Gokey abstained due to not being present at the meeting.

**FINANCE**

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

\$	54,411.82	General Fund
\$	21,882.50	Sewer Fund
\$	13,975.00	EDU Fund
\$	<u>12,040.00</u>	<u>Recreation Fund</u>
\$	102,309.32	Total

Motion passed 4-0.

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

## **REPORTS**

**Zoning & Code Department** – Mr. Gokey asked Mr. Loomis where the 7 new homes listed in his report are being built. Mr. Loomis stated since the beginning of this year 1 is in Glenwood Estates, 1 in Highmeadow Estates and the remaining 5 in Woods Edge Development.

**Road Department** –Mr. Howell Clarke presented 3 bids for a new mower. Our present mower has over 6,000 hours and while it has been maintained properly, the mower has reached its life expectancy. The first bid was from US Municipal. The mower does not meet the specs needed for the department. The other bids are from AG Industrial for \$37,500 and the Tiger bid was \$37,086.56. The board discussed the difference and felt the additional \$413.44 was warranted due to the additional safety feature. Mr. Gokey moved seconded by Mr. Weller to ***purchase the Bumford Hawk Boom Mower with EPP II Controls through the State CoStars Contract at a cost not to exceed \$37,500.00.*** Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Gokey questioned when the street sweeping will begin. Mr. Howell-Clarke stated the ***street sweeping is scheduled to begin Tuesday April 18th.***

**Waste Water Treatment Plant** Nothing to discuss at this time

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**-Nothing to discuss at this time.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Boland reported the Police Disciplinary Policy has been approved and signed by the Police Officers. Mr. Jones moved seconded by Mr. Gokey to adopt the Police Disciplinary Policy as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Tamara Helsel**- The applicant was not present at this meeting however Mr. Loomis stated the owner has over an acre in Belair Estates and would like to build a garage. They are looking to build a storage unit 40'x40'x21.6. They purchased an additional lot to accommodate the building. They are looking for a variance from Article 902 Section B7 & 9. Mr. Gokey moved seconded by Mr. Jones to recommend the Zoning Hearing Board approve the variances. Motion passed 4-0.

**1123 Douglassville-Auto Zone**- Mr. Dave Weaver and Mr. William Rountree reviewed their plan to build Auto Zone in Phase 1 of their site. They are looking to subdivide the land to accommodate Auto Zone is requesting to be on their own lot. Mr. Rountree is looking to develop the entire site as one with common access and common drainage. Phase 2 to develop at a later date. They have spoken to a handful of potential tenants and feel encouraged something will develop soon. Currently they are requesting Variances to parking space size, sidewalk reduction, and additional Signage. Mr. Gokey questioned Mr. Loomis what does the ordinance say for the signage size at the site. Mr. Loomis stated the commercial district allows 160sq ft. per use. Mr. Weaver stated they are looking to place 302 Sq. ft. of signage. Most being on the building. Mr. Weaver stated the decrease in parking space size and sidewalks reduces their impervious coverage to meet Amity Township ordinance. Mr. Weaver stated the building size is 7,381 Sq. Ft. Mr. Jones moved seconded by Mr. Weller to recommend the Zoning Hearing Board grant the five (5) variances requested

1. Section 924(b)(1) -allow certain parking spaces near the proposed building to be 10X18 instead of 10X20
2. Section 924(c)(4) to allow reductions in parking spaces from 49 to 25
3. Section 927(g)(2) to allow increase in overall sign area to 302 SF from the 160 Sq. Ft allowed.

4. Section 405(D) to allow public or community sewage and water facilities criteria to be utilized while Lot 1 to be temporarily served by an on lot well.
5. Section 405(D) to allow an improvement setback and buffer to be 0' along the eastern property line whereas 10' setback is required.

Conditioned upon the developer agreeing to a note on the plan stating they will either develop Phase 2 within 2 years and bring public water to the site or resubdivide the lot to conform for well usage. Motion passed 4-0.

**2017 Road Project** – Bids were opened and reviewed for accuracy. Mr. Weller moved seconded by Mr. Jones to award the 2017 Road Project to Schlouch at a cost not to exceed \$225,577.93. Motion passed 4-0.

## **EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS**

### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**CAP** – Mr. Bingaman reported DEP has responded with a **Consent Order & Agreement**. It is currently being reviewed by Mr. Boland's and Mr. Sassaman. An evaluation will be reported at the next meeting. The **Salute to Service Garden** is proceeding. Mr. Duffie has teamed up with the DB Optimist Club Mr. Duffie will review the project with the Township as soon as he receives the 3D renderings. The next scheduled **Monarch Board Shoot** is Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Police Department is scheduled to monitor the event. Kathie Benson will be attending the **Household Hazardous Waste** Event Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup>. The **Bauer Group Liquor License** is currently being transferred to a Birdsboro business owner. Mr. Bingaman reported the Street Excavation Ordinance change has been fully reviewed and prepared for consideration. This will be advertised at a later date for adoption, incorporating other ordinances currently under review.

### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Kensey informed the board he volunteered along with Steve Chieffo of the Planning Commission on Saturday April 1, 2017 at the Optimist Club food stand for their Spring Craft Fair. He enjoyed the experience and feels it is important to give back to the community. His department is moving forward with the full-time officer background check. His physical and psychological evaluation have been scheduled. Chief Kensey hopes to bring him to the next meeting to be sworn in. The department will proceed with the part time officer's background. Tuesday April 4, 2017 Officer Coe & Officer Devlin attended **Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Program**. They both concluded it was a worthwhile program. Chief Kensey is currently reviewing the current **Policy on an Officer involved in Shootings**. A draft will be available for all to review at the next meeting.

### **SUPERVISORS**

Terry Jones requested a brief executive session after the meeting to discuss possible litigation.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Risa Marmontello reported the grant application to **Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant-for Monocacy Hill** has been submitted. The final requested total was \$5,000; The Township contribution of \$2,100 is under the amount approved by the Board of Supervisors. A copy of the grant has been given to Mr. Bingaman.

Richard Cooper, Limekiln Road, reported there has been illegal dumping of trash along the Koch property.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:02PM, with no further business, Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to adjourn the meeting and hold an executive session with no return. Motion passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie A Benson  
Assistant Township Secretary