

**Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes**

April 19, 2017

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

Chairperson Kim McGrath called the April 19, 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
Richard Gokey
Terry Jones
Paul Weller

STAFF

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

SWEARING IN

Officer Fernando Santiago III was sworn in by Chief Andrew Kensey. Officer Santiago's family attended the swearing in ceremony.

VISITOR- Matt Bloom, Crimewatch Network Deployment Company- Mr. Bloom shared a power point presentation about the benefits of Crimewatch software solutions, which was designed to provide law enforcement agencies a way to reach more residents with important safety and public service announcements. Mr. Bloom explained "Crimewatch" is a feature that allows residents to sign up through a mobile application capable of delivering details of emergencies within areas they are located in or traveling through, via geo-locators. "Control Broadcast TVs" are utilized to provide these details via television. Chief Kensey explained information follows an authorization process and is not disseminated until properly authorized. The software is billed monthly, with an executed annual contract. Mr. Bloom stated he has implemented the software in several municipalities within Berks County, including Spring and Muhlenberg Township and West Reading Borough, respectively.

MINUTES

Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to approve the minutes of April 5, 2017. Motion passed 5-0.

FINANCE

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

\$ 119,967.18	General Fund
\$ 8,613.88	Fire Fund
\$ 44,424.76	Sewer Fund
\$ 15,106.65	EDU Fund
\$ 26,225.00	Capital Fund
\$ <u>17,160.04</u>	<u>Liquid Fuels Fund</u>
\$ 231,245.86	Total

Mr. Gokey asked for clarification of what consultant invoices were reimbursable relative to the Shirey Turkey Farm. The Manager will research and report back to the Board.

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

REPORTS

Fire Companies – Assistant Fire Chief Robert Kline reported Monarch Fire Company will attend a car show this weekend. Monarch Fire Company will hold their first Chicken BBQ of the season on April 29th at 10:00am in the Redner’s parking lot. Mr. Gokey asked why they no longer sell Easter flowers. Amity Fire Chief Mike Zomolsky explained Amity FC previously sold Easter flowers to benefit an organization that is no longer in existence. Chief Zomolsky reported the Annual Fireman’s Carnival will be held May 2nd through May 6th.

Planning Commission – The Planning Commission report was for informational purposes only. Mr. Bingaman reported the ZHB approved variances as recommended for both Auto Zone and Tamara Helsel on April 17th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Boland drafted a ***response letter to the PADEP*** regarding the proposed ***Consent Order and Agreement*** and stated he will be forwarding the same to the Manager this week. Mr. Boland prepared a ***draft of ordinance amendments*** for street openings, sewer bill penalties, and registered cars. A copy of those drafts will be presented to the Board for consideration and request for permission to advertise. Relative to the ***I&G of Douglassville request to acquire a portion of unused right-of-way on N. Monocacy Creek Road***, Mr. Boland reported that when land is given to a Second Class Township for the use of roads, the Township can “vacate” the portion that is not being used. During this process, the adjoining land owners, I&G of Douglassville, Merritts Antiques, and Hope United Methodist Church must be given ten days notice of a public hearing on the proposed vacation. With no objection, a public notice of vacation must be advertised, allowing a thirty-day comment period. An ordinance proposing a private agreement to annex the property must be advertised and adopted at a public hearing. Mr. Boland recommended the Board proceed with the vacation process, stating this would benefit the Township and taxpayers because this would put the land back on the tax roll under the land owner, as well as relinquishing maintenance responsibilities. Mr. Boland stated the entire process would take approximately two to three months and recommended the Board retain the lower end of the right-of-way for potential future widening of the roadway. Mr. Weller questioned who would pay the expenses related to the process. Mr. Boland stated Mr. Iacovella of I&G Douglassville

would assume charges relative to the vacation and agreement. Mike Swank of Steckbeck Engineering stated he would proceed with the NPDES permitting process for Dollar General and felt confident he could work with Mr. Iacovella and report on his progress at the May 3rd Board of Supervisors meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Weber reported that he has been working with Mike Swank in regards to .17 acres of land being proposed to be vacated to the additional lot at SR422 and N. Monocacy Creek Road which will make the remaining lot a little over one acre for future development. Mr. Weber stated the ***Lake Drive Improvements Project*** was placed on PennBid. A pre-bid meeting will be held on April 26th and bid opening is scheduled for May 12th, with consideration of award at the May 17th BOS meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Property and Liability Insurance Renewal – Mr. Bingaman reported receiving a cumulative refund of \$75,709.37 for workman's compensation and \$18,527.72 for property and liability premiums paid from 2007 through 2015. Mr. Bingaman recommended transferring the refunds into the Capital Funds, as the refund was an unbudgeted revenue. The Property and Liability Insurance renewal premium is \$66,696.00, which is an increase of approximately 4% from last year. Mr. Bingaman stated the increase is less than what was budgeted for 2017. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to accept the refund of \$94,237.09 and authorize transferring the refund to the Capital Fund accounts. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize renewal of the Property and Liability Policy with MRM Trust, in the amount of \$66,696.00. Motion passed 5-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT:

2015 Drawdown Loan – Mr. Bingaman received the fully executed agreement from BB&T extending the drawdown period until May 2018.

Parks & Recreation Meeting – The Parks & Recreation Board rescheduled the May 1st meeting to April 30th. Board members chose to do a park visit as part of their monthly meeting. Anyone interested in attending should meet at the Amity Community Park main pavilion at 1:00PM on Sunday, April 30th.

Service Electric Cable Franchise Agreement Renewal – Mr. Bingaman will attend a meeting at Mr. Boland's office on April 20th for the Consortium of municipalities negotiating the renewal of the cable franchise agreement. The Board was invited to attend or inform the Manager of any items they would like to see negotiated.

Grant Applications – Mr. Bingaman requested permission to submit applications to Dallas Data "Giving in the Community" and the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation, "On Your Park, Get Set, Go" for grants to help fund replacement of playground equipment for Lake Drive Park. A grant awarded by the DCED in 2016 will be used to construct a new pavilion improve ADA accessibility later this year. The Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation grant requires resident votes or taking pictures at the park. The Board had no objection to submitting applications for the grants.

Mr. Bingaman requested an executive session, with possible return to discuss personnel matters.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Kensey will provide the Board with a draft of Directive #8 – *Officer Involved Shootings Policy* at the May 3rd meeting. *Officer Fernando Santiago III* started on Monday, April 17th. Chief Kensey purchased three additional Glock Model 22 LE Semi Automatic .40 caliber firearms for the department at a cost of \$1,227.00. A replacement weapon must be issued whenever an officer-involved shooting occurs. Purchasing this equipment will allow the department to remain compliant with this requirement. Mrs. McGrath questioned when the part-time officer is scheduled to start. Chief Kensey stated the physical and psychological evaluations must be completed. The Chief hopes to have everything in order to have the part-time officer sworn in at the May 3rd meeting.

SUPERVISORS

Mr. Hackett stated several boy scouts will be working toward their Eagle Scout projects. Mr. Weller stated the projects would be approximately 100 hours and must allow the Eagle Scout to show delegation and leadership qualities. Mr. Bingaman stated he will work with Mr. Howell-Clarke to identify potential project ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Cooper, Limekiln Road, reported trash continues to be dumped on the Koch property and asked if the Township could reach out to Mr. Koch. Mr. Bingaman stated if there was to be a complaint made about the illegal dumping it should be done by the property owner, however he will reach out to Mr. Koch.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:54PM, with no further business, Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adjourn the meeting and hold an executive session to discuss personnel matters, with possible return. Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was not reconvened. Meeting adjourned at 7:54PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Kisch
Township Secretary