

Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2017

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

Vice Chair Dave Hackett called the September 6, 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 (arrived at 7:05PM)
Dave Hackett, Vice Chair
Paul Weller
Terry Jones
Kevin Keifrider

STAFF

Troy Bingaman, Township Manager
Brian Boland, Kozloff/Stoudt Attorneys
Andrew Kensey, Chief of Police
Steve Loomis, Building Code Official
Patrick Moore, Public Works Maintenance Superintendent
Dave Wheeler, Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
Tracy Nonamaker, Treasurer
Pamela Kisch, Township Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Keifrider to approve the minutes of August 16, 2017. Motion passed 4-0.

FINANCE

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

\$ 127,271.11	General Fund
\$ 34,394.84	Sewer Fund
\$ 26,180.00	Capital Fund
\$ 208.06	<u>Liquid Fuels Fund</u>
\$ 188,054.01	Total

Motion passed 5-0.

The Board reviewed the Overtime by Department Report.

REPORTS

Codes – Mr. Loomis requested Board approval to execute a Well Isolation Distance Exemption form for 235 Pine Forge Road, which is needed for the sewage permit. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to execute the form as recommended. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Jones asked if the well is on the Amity or Douglass Township side. Mr. Loomis confirmed it is on the Amity Township side.

Roads – Mr. Moore reported the paving project was completed. There was a complaint regarding a bump in front of a resident's driveway and was resolved. Mr. Wentzel, the Manager and Mr. Moore did a walk through following completion of the Lake Drive pavilion. Mr. Jones questioned if the Lake Drive pavilion was done within the budgeted amount. Mr. Moore stated there was a change order of approximately \$800.00 relative to the ADA ramps. Mr. Weller questioned what type of warranty came with the new mower. Mr. Moore stated the mower came with a parts only warranty. Labor was billed for repairs. Mrs. McGrath asked there was still ample room in the salt shed. Mr. Moore will be working with Mr. Jones to take advantage of receiving additional free salt. Mr. Jones asked when mowing would be completed. Mr. Moore stated it should be finished within the next three to four weeks.

Waste Water Treatment Plant – The Board reviewed the Waste Water Treatment Plant report and had no questions.

Mrs. McGrath arrived at 7:05PM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Refinancing of Debt, Parameters Ordinance - Jamie Schlesinger of PFM reported the Township received a credit rating of Aa3 under Moody indicating the credit rating to be of high quality and subject to very low credit risk. Interest rates remain low and if the Board would adopt the Parameter Ordinance, settlement could be as soon as October 24th. The average interest rate would be 2.5%; however our interest rate of 5.5% with a \$7M maximum borrowing is used in the Ordinance. Mr. Jones asked if the loan could be paid early. Mr. Schlesinger stated there is a 5-year call-back provision, however refinancing to reduce interest is possible. Mr. Boland stated the Parameters Ordinance was properly advertised to authorize the Board to borrow funds not to exceed \$7M dollars to pay back the Bond of 2012, General Obligations Note of 2015 and provide \$1.575M funding for sewer projects. Mr. Boland will apply for DCED approvals, issue continuing disclosures and work with PFM to repost with EMMA. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adopt Ordinance 301 as presented and authorize necessary actions by the Solicitor. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Schlesinger stated bids will be accepted and the bonds will be sold to the lowest bidder.

Park Hours Ordinance – Mr. Bingaman stated the ordinance is to standardize hours at all parks within the Township, was properly advertised and ready for adoption. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adopt Ordinance 302, setting park hours as dawn to dusk, and where lights are provided parks will be open until 10PM. Motion passed 5-0.

Deed for N. Monocacy Creek Road – Mr. Boland stated the deed is for the right-of-way adjacent to the Iacovella property where Dollar General has plans to build. The Ordinance was adopted to vacate the road, notifications were sent to all adjacent property owners, none of whom came forward with any interest. The Ordinance sat for 30 days, an agreement was executed by Hope Church, Mr. Iacovella and the Merritts, and the deed was prepared for recording to transfer the property from the Township to I&G of Douglassville. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize appropriate officers to execute the deed. Motion passed 5-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Boland's items were covered elsewhere in the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

2018 Police and Municipal Employee Pension MMO's – Mr. Bingaman presented the annual MMO's to set amounts placed in the 2018 budget. The Police MMO are substantially higher due to pay and assumptions changed by the actuary to bring the plan into compliance with current standards; as the previous calculations were from 1994. The non-uniform MMO shifted slightly lower than 2017. Mr. Hackett moved, seconded by Mr. Keifrider to adopt the 2018 Police Pension MMO at \$344,373.00 and the Municipal Employees Pension MMO at \$154,754.00. Motion passed 5-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Leaf Creek Interceptor – Mr. Bingaman reported the amended PADEP permit application was submitted. The permit had not been issued at this time. Mr. Ebert notified Mr. Bingaman that he contacted Mr. Ammon at the PADEP earlier in the day. Mr. Bingaman stated he expects to receive the permit post haste and requested permission to advertise. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize advertisement for bids for the construction of the Leaf Creek Interceptor. Mr. Bingaman stated he would work out the logistics of bid opening, including a pre-bid meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

PS2, PS4 and PS7 – Entech submitted their response to the PADEP regarding pump station issues that were identified and part of the proposed Consent Order and Agreement. It's anticipated this will be a satisfactory response and permits should be issued for PS2 and PS4. PS7 should be a non-issue. Permits have not been received, thus far.

Sewer Right-of-Way (ROW), Russell Avenue – The Township has been using a sewer ROW through 118 Russell Avenue as a "gentlemen's agreement". Mr. Bingaman stated this is the only access to this sewer line and was never recorded as an easement. Mr. Wheeler stated that lot was sold after construction of the sewer line. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize staff to prepare and negotiate an easement agreement with the property owner. Mr. Boland stated Mr. Weber should prepare a legal description to be recorded with the easement. Motion passed 5-0.

Monocacy Hill – Wolf Run Landscaping will be doing hack and squirt and foliar spraying. Work is set to begin this fall and continue through the spring of 2018. The PA Department of Agriculture has marked trees to be fell and those to be treated as "trap trees" and agreed to treat anything not covered by the Schuylkill Highlands Mini Grant.

CHIEF OF POLICE:

Mr. Boland received a draft of Directive #10 from Chief Kensey. Once reviewed, the Chief will be asking Board approval to adopt the policy which will recognize officers for going above and beyond the call of duty. Six potential candidates for the part-time position will be interviewed. Chief Kensey reported Officers Gauby and Moyer and Sergeant Smith will all be attending upcoming training. Chief Kensey requested an executive session for police personnel matters.

SUPERVISORS

Mr. Keifrider announced the 300th Anniversary Celebration Committee will be meeting on Monday, September 11th. Mr. Jones will provide a report of that meeting at the September 20th BOS meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tina Boyd, candidate for the Court of Common Pleas, gave a brief history of her experience. Ms. Boyd said her experience, both personally and professionally make her the most qualified candidate and asked for their support in voting for her. She thanked the Board for their time.

Steve Chieffo, Limekiln Road, asked about conducting a feasibility study for installing a low-pressure main for homes along Limekiln Road. Mr. Jones stated the study hasn't been done because of geography, but there's no reason the Township couldn't do one on their own. After discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bingaman to talk to Entech for estimate on putting together an RFP and survey how much interest there would be from residents.

ADJOURNMENT & EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:52PM, with no further business, Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adjourn to executive session to discuss police personnel matters and potential litigation for the Schmale Farm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Pamela L. Kisch
Township Secretary