

Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

Call to Order

The May 4, 2021 workshop meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held in the LGI Room at Daniel Boone Middle School, 1845 Weavertown Road, Douglassville, Pennsylvania and was called to order at 6:10PM by Chairperson Kim McGrath. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

Kim McGrath, Chairperson
Paul Weller
Terry Jones
Kevin Keifrider

STAFF

Troy Bingaman, Township Manager
Brian F. Boland, Kozloff/Stoudt Attorneys

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

FINANCE

A list of Disbursements dated May 5th was distributed for the Board's review.

The Overtime by Department Report for the period ending April 24th was distributed for the Board's review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) – Water & Sewer Infrastructure – Highland Place & PBOI Zone

Mr. Boland reviewed the difference between a LERTA and a TIF, explaining that a LERTA would not work for this project. He further informed the Board that if the Board was in favor of a TIF to fund the extension of water and sewer, there was a need for someone to become a guarantor of the Bond required to finance the project. Mr. Bingaman explained that PA American has been uncooperative and does not want to participate in the project, apart from dictating the size of the line. A discussion took place regarding the possibility of creating a water authority and having the Township own the line from SR 422 along Limekiln and Amity Park Roads and purchasing bulk water from PA American. Additional discussion took place regarding the percentage of additional/increased real estate tax each entity (Township, County & School) would dedicate to the TIF in order to make the annual TIF payments. A question was raised as to whether the percentages could be increased and the length of the TIF decreased. Mr. Boland will research the issues further.

Western Berks Ambulance (WBA) Lease – Mr. Boland stated he and Mr. Bingaman met with WBA via Zoom to discuss a potential lease for the property at 888 Old Airport Road. WBA wishes to construct a 30'x40' pole building on the property to keep the ambulances out of the weather. The building will need to be insulated and heated. Mr. Bingaman stated the current electrical system for 888 would need to be upgraded.

He also indicated the Public Works staff could prep the site for the pole building and would complete the driveway and parking area. It was suggested we use millings for the access driveway and turn-around/parking area. Further lease details need to be finalized.

NEW BUSINESS

Sale of Wastewater Generators – Mr. Bingaman stated the NEW Generator is fully operational and under testing ran the plant as expected. He indicated, at this point, there are two generators to be sold and he would be listing them on MunicBid with a brief advertisement going in the paper. Approval for the sale of these items will be placed on the next agenda.

Hill Drive Parking – Mr. Bingaman stated a complaint was received from a resident of Hill Drive regarding the parking of multiple cars along this narrow road by unknown individuals. Referring to 2018 minutes, it appeared the issue may have been a landscaper; however, it was confirmed it was not. We now believe there is a home on Old Airport Road with multiple cars and or visitors who park across the road on Hill Drive. The Board felt there should be no parking along this narrow road. Consideration will be given to limiting parking on any road that cannot accommodate this.

Monocacy Hill Road Bridge Project – Mr. Bingaman reported as part of the required PNDI search for the GP-11 Permit, there was a “hit” requiring a Phase 1 Bog Turtle Habitat Evaluation. The Board felt this was ridiculous as the project was a deck replacement, not disturbing the water below. Mr. Bingaman stated he would follow up with LTL Consultants.

Multimodal Transportation Fund Application – Mr. Bingaman reported the Township’s application for funding for the Tollgate Road and SR 662 realignment project was not funded due to the number of applications received and the competitiveness of the program.

Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program – Mr. Bingaman also reported the Township’s GTRP Grant application for Lake Drive Park was also not funded due to significant competition. The Board was in favor of re-applying and asking Senator Muth and/or Representative Maloney to get behind our application and give significant support in hopes of it holding more weight in the review process.

Governor Wolf’s Removal of Covid Restrictions – Mr. Bingaman informed the Board the Governor has decided to remove all Covid-19 restrictions except for mask wearing. He asked the Board if they wished to return to the Township building for future meetings. An overwhelming YES was received.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy S. Bingaman
Township Manager