

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 21, 2020 VALLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The second monthly meeting of the Valley Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at the Township Municipal Building, 890 West Lincoln Highway, Coatesville, PA.

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Patrice Proctor at 7:43 p.m. Those in attendance were Supervisors Christopher Lehenky, Kathy O'Doherty, Sharon Yates, Carmen Boyd, and Patrice Proctor. Also in attendance were Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager; Michael J. Ellis, P.E., of Pennoni Associates, Inc. (Township Engineer); and Amanda Sundquist, Esquire, of Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees (Township Solicitor).

Ms. Proctor noted that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss matters of litigation relative to developments and personnel issues.

OATH OF OFFICE:

The Honorable Grover Koon administered the Oath of Office to Joseph V. Carboni II who was sworn in as a part-time police officer.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Yates made a motion, seconded by Kathy O'Doherty, to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2020, organization meeting and regular monthly meeting. The motion passed with Mr. Lehenky abstaining as she was not present for the January 6, 2020, meetings.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was distributed and the fund balances were reviewed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Lehenky made a motion, seconded by Ms. O'Doherty, to authorize payment of bills as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Lewis noted that the retainage to W. J. Strickler was included on the payment of bills for the digital sign at the new Township Building. She stated that this amount will be refunded to the CSB General Fund Checking Account with the next transfer of bond funds from PSDLAF.

Ms. O'Doherty inquired who has been trained to operate the digital sign. Ms. Lewis stated that she and EMC Joe Sciandra have been trained. Ms. Lewis stated that Mr. Sciandra would only be placing messages in an emergency situation. It was the consensus of the Board that the Township Secretary should also be trained on the digital sign.

BOARD GENERAL COMMENTS:

Ms. Proctor stated that announcements are found on page 2 of the agenda but noted that the last Christmas Tree Collection would be on Monday, January 27, 2020.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Safety – Chief Newhall reviewed the Department’s December report. He noted that the average committed time per officer per day is 4.4 hours. Notes and calls of interest included:

- Notification that Valley Township had an unregistered Megan’s Law offender living in the Township and that the Philadelphia Police Department had issued a warrant for him. VTPD arrested him and transferred his custody to the Philadelphia Police Special Victim’s Unit.
- Multiple Narcan saves at drug overdose calls.
- All cars are equipped with medical equipment.
- Work continues on accreditation.
- Contact has been made with the new Chester County District Attorney and a meeting will be held in the near future.
- Amazon packages that were left in the Township were dropped in the Township were delivered to their intended destinations by Chief Newhall when there was no response from Amazon to retrieve the packages

It was noted that a police vehicle was involved in an incident when a car slid into the vehicle due to icy conditions. The police vehicle was stopped on another incident.

Chief Newhall answered questions that the Board had regarding Megan’s Law requirements.

Chief Newhall advised that there were three internal applications for the full-time officer position. The Board concurred that they would like to see the applications and tabled any decision to the next meeting.

Fire/Ambulance – Copies of the December Fire and EMS reports were provided from Westwood Fire Company.

Emergency Management – No report.

Workplace Safety – Ms. O’Doherty noted that there continues to be issues with cars still parking too close to school bus stops and intersections and the locking of the parks at night. Chief Newhall noted that the Hayti Park is sometimes still being utilized past dawn. The argument could be made that the children are in the park playing versus out doing something else. Ms. Proctor stated that we have had complaints in the past from residents who live near the park about hearing the basketballs and noise past 10:00 p.m.

Codes – A copy of the year-end 2019 report was provided to the Board. Ms. Yates reported that the Department is addressing trash compliance to include cans, the way the material is put out,

and bulk items. Ms. Lewis noted that she is reviewing the Coatesville ticketing program and hopes to have something to the Board to review shortly.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Mr. Manning reported on the Planning Commission's January 14, 2020, meeting. He stated that the Commission reviewed information for in-law suites, both attached and detached. He also reported that there was a Zoning Map error when the Zoning Ordinance was adopted in 2015. An amendment would be required – two properties along Valley Road were incorrectly marked. One property needs to be changed from HC to R2 and the adjacent property would be changed from R2 to HC.

OLD BUSINESS:

Consideration to accept Michael Arena's resignation from the Planning Commission – Ms. Yates made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lehenky, to accept Michael Arena's resignation from the Valley Township Planning Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/consideration regarding James Druecker's application for the Planning Commission – Ms. O'Doherty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to appoint James Druecker to the Valley Township Planning Commission to fill a vacant term to expire on December 31, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

John Lapp – request for public sewer connection for 140 Andrews Lane – Mr. Lapp advised that he owns the undeveloped property at 140 Andrews Lane. He is looking at an onsite well, but would like to connect to public sewer. Mr. Ellis advised that an extension could be run approximately three houses down and connect on Franklin Street, similar to how the Spruce Street extension was done in 2017/18.

Mr. Ellis advised Mr. Lapp that the next step would be to complete the DEP mailer and submit. He also stated that the DEP will be requiring a plan being submitted. A public improvement and reimbursement agreement will also need to be set up after the DEP's approval. There were also discussions regarding the Simplified Stormwater Management Plan criteria.

The consensus of the Board is to grant capacity for possible connection.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Sundquist noted her report to the Board was given in Executive Session regarding outstanding litigation with developments.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Ellis submitted the Engineer's Report which is on file in the Township Office.

Discussion/consideration regarding Amycel land development plan – It was reported that the property owner, All County Partnership, has an interest in keeping the plan alive. Work is being done regarding ownership of the plan.

Zoning Map Amendment – As a follow up on the zoning map amendment discussed earlier under the Planning Commission report to correct the zoning for two properties on Valley Road, **Ms. O’Doherty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lehenky, to authorize submission of the proposed zoning amendment to the Chester County Planning Commission and to subsequently advertise the public notice for the zoning map amendment adoption.** The motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Ms. Sundquist departed the meeting.

Mr. Ellis reviewed the following from the written report:

- Hillview – The contractor expects to perform the inlet and manhole work by the end of January. Pennoni is coordinating the transition of contract operation of the pump station now that it has been dedicated to the Township as well as transition of phone and electric utilities to the Township. An on-site meeting with Orleans operator, KBX Golden, was scheduled. Orleans will pay their operator through February 14, at which point the Township will become responsible for the operations and costs.
- Hemlock Avenue Bridge Replacement – Notice to Proceed with Design was issued to the contractor. Pre-construction meeting was held at DCD’s office on January 15. A separate pre-construction meeting with the contractor and Township is scheduled for January 28 at 8:00 a.m. at the Township Building. A temporary construction easement has been executed with the adjacent property owner. The contractor advised that they will not perform any work from the PennDOT right of way, so we will not need to prepare or apply for a Highway Occupancy Permit.
- Zoning Amendments – Pennoni has prepared a revised map for corrective changes to zoning districts for two properties to address. Pennoni is also initiating a zoning amendment regarding in-law suites that will be reviewed at the February Planning Commission meeting.
- MS4/TMDL Plan – DEP provided new comments on the Plan regarding the calculations. These comments were prepared several months after they had issued a draft permit for public comment. Pennoni is preparing a response to justify the calculation methodology.

At this time, Mr. Lehenky stepped out of the meeting.

Ms. O’Doherty inquired about the status of the “Irish Alley Pavement Damage” as noted in the Engineer’s Report as Item 19.A. Mr. Ellis advised that the property owner still needs to restore the edge-of-the-road erosion and remove additional stone from the steam channel in order to close out the violation. Mr. Ellis stated that he would follow-up.

Ms. O'Doherty also inquired about 1037 Manor Road regarding the retaining wall as noted in the Engineer's Report under 19.B. Mr. Ellis advised that there has been no activity since Penmoni's last report.

At this time, Mr. Lehenky rejoined the meeting and Mr. Ellis departed.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Consideration to approve APMM Conference registration and travel costs – Ms. Lewis requested consideration to approve registration for the APMM Executive Development Conference to be held February 6 and 7, 2020, at the Omni Bedford Springs, Bedford, PA. Registration fee is \$305 and lodging is \$145 per night. **Ms. O'Doherty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to approve registration for Carol Lewis for the APMM Executive Development Conference in the amount of \$305 and two nights of lodging at \$145 per night.** The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/consideration regarding Route 82 comments to PennDOT – Ms. Lewis reviewed the information received that PennDOT was considering making Route 82 north of the Route 82/30 intersection one lane north and south coming into and going out of Coatesville. She stated that Kris Lenhart and Brian Myers attended a meeting and stated that this was due mainly to a guiderail replacement project and was stated that it would be temporary; however, it was noted that temporary could mean several years – up to 20! The consensus of the Board was to communicate Valley Township's concerns to include that two lanes north and south are needed due to the amount of traffic, slippery and dangerous conditions, emergency vehicles being able to pass responding to calls and traveling to hospital, etc. Ms. O'Doherty inquired if we have contacted the City of Coatesville and noted that it should be a joint effort to communicate the concerns to PennDOT. Ms. Yates suggested contacting local representatives to get them involved as well. Ms. Lewis stated that she would contact the City of Coatesville and draft Valley Township's concerns.

Consideration regarding extended warranty for new recycle truck – Ms. Lewis reported that the new recycle truck was delivered and is being prepared to be put in service. A quotation was received from GranTurk Equipment Co., Inc. for an additional 24-month warranty for the Labrie 33 cubic yard expert helping-hand recycling body to cover cylinders, pump and valve (parts only; no labor). The extended warranty would start after the initial one-year warranty. **Mr. Lehenky made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to approve the extended 24-month warranty for the Labrie recycle body with GranTurk Equipment Co., Inc. in the amount of \$6,251 as outlined in their Quotation dated January 21, 2020.** The motion passed unanimously.

Economic Plan Meeting – Ms. Lewis noted that the Economic Plan public meeting was held at Valley Township on January 20 and 25 people attended.

Ms. O'Doherty inquired if the Township had received any response from Pennsylvania American Water regarding assistance with engineering fees for the Wagontown Road project.

Ms. Lewis advised that she had forwarded a letter to the Vice President of Engineering of PAWC approximately two weeks ago and would follow up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion/consideration regarding “Health & Safety” BOS liaison and Workplace Safety Committee – It was noted that at the organization meeting Kathy O’Doherty and Carmen Boyd were appointed at the BOS liaison and alternate for Health and Safety and Kathy O’Doherty and Sharon Yates were appointed as the “management” representatives to the Workplace Safety Committee. It was noted that the appointments made on January 6, 2020, do not need to be altered.

Ms. O’Doherty noted that the Western Chester County Council of Governments (COG) would be meeting at the Training Center in South Coatesville for their first meeting of the year on January 22.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/consideration to approve payment applications for the new Township Building construction – **Ms. O’Doherty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lehenky, to approve payment of bills for Jay R. Reynolds, Inc. in the amount of \$6,343.62; Trefz Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$12,092.10; and Element Environmental in the amount of \$1,418.91** The motion passed unanimously..

Discussion/consideration regarding addendum to contract for video parts for new Township Building with the Gilbertson Group in the amount of \$1,928 – It was noted that due to the lengthy delay of the building project, parts and pricing have changed for several proposed cameras and associated video parts as part of the security system for the new building. The Gilbertson Group submitted an addendum to their contract for parts and price increases from the original quote for a net change of \$1,928.00. **Ms. Yates made a motion, seconded by Kathy O’Doherty, to approve The Gilbertson Group’s addendum dated January 10, 2020, in the amount of \$1,928.00.** The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works – The monthly report was distributed to the Board of Supervisors and is on file at the Township Office.

Administration – The monthly report was distributed to the Board of Supervisors and is on file at the Township Office.

Parks & Recreation – Ms. Proctor advised that the first meeting of the Parks & Recreation Authority is scheduled for January 28, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

CITIZEN'S COMMENT:

Theresa Schmidt, 50 Robinson Avenue – Ms. Schmidt expressed continued concerns regarding the recent traffic flow changes at Robinson/Oaklyn/Buckthorn that went into place in November 2019. She stated that she feels that additional signage is needed and suggested “Begin One Way” signs be placed. She noted that she continues to confront people who continue to not obey the traffic pattern stating that most offenders live in the neighborhood or delivery trucks. She also noted that there are still easement issues and the “bump” on Oaklyn, that was originally noted as being a water diversion, was recently dug out and a new “bump” has been installed which is more like a speed bump. The Board noted that perhaps more police presence may be needed and Ms. Schmidt was asked if there are certain times that she sees the offenders to let the Township know as that may assist the police to have an officer in that area during those times.

Carla Johnson, 930 North Walnut Street – Ms. Johnson inquired about there no longer being a crossing guard at Rainbow Elementary. The Board reviewed that the crossing guard's salary had been paid by the Township, but at one time the salary was shared between the school district and township. When the school district advised years ago that they would no longer reimburse half of the salary, the Township continued to pay the salary. Near the end of last year, the school district advised that the Township that they did not recognize the crossing guard position and did not want a crossing guard and therefore all liability would be on the Township. Further, it was noted that the crossing guard was on a state road that also had implications. Therefore, with the liability exposure all being on the Township, the position was eliminated from the 2020 budget.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

Janis A. Rambo
Township Secretary