

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Kathleen Hunsicker, Chair
Edward J. Brandt
Stephen Paccione
Mark Grey

ABSENT:

Dr. J. Richard Booth, Vice-Chair

STAFF:

Craig T. McAnally, Township Manager
Jamie Worman, Assistant Township Manager
Carole Culbreth, Assistant Secretary
James J. Garrity, Esq., Solicitor
Paul Kenny, Police Chief
Steve Wiesner, Finance Director

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the Lower Gwynedd Township Municipal Building and led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance. The Chair stated the Board of Supervisors met in an Executive Session before the meeting on personnel matters. She stated Fair Districts PA met with the full Board and made a presentation on Non-Partisan Redistricting Reform. The Chair stated this item may be on the next Board meeting on March 27, 2018.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Receipt of Meeting Minutes: **January 2, 2018**
 February 27, 2018

The Board of Supervisors received the January 2, 2018 Organization Meeting minutes. Mr. Grey asked that they be tabled until the next Board meeting.

The Board of Supervisors received the February 27, 2018 Meeting minutes. Mr. Paccione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to approve the February 27, 2018 Meeting minutes. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Budget Amendments for 2017

The Board of Supervisors received and reviewed the memo along with the Budget Amendments for 2017 listed in Mr. Wiesner's March 9, 2018 memo to the Township Manager. He stated before the books are closed for the year, a budget adjustment is made for accounts which exceed or are below the original budget in excess of 10% and \$3,000. Mr. Paccione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to approve the Budget Amendments for 2017 along with a transfer in accordance with the Fund Balance Policy to the Capital Reserve Fund. The motion carried 4 - 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Chairman opened the meeting for public comment for items not on the agenda.

Eileen Sheehan, 1151 Trewellyn Avenue, asked the Lower Gwynedd Township Board of Supervisors to support the adoption of a resolution in favor of redistricting. She presented a signed petition to the Board.

Susan Fitzwater, Hugh Morrison, Anne Diman, Barb Rabson, and Paula Schaffer all concur with Ms. Sheehan in asking for the Board to adopt a resolution in favor of redistricting.

There were no other comments.

BUILDING AND ZONING

Authorize Advertisement of Conditional Use: W. B. Homes (Lynch Home)

Mr. McAnally asked the Board to authorize advertisement of a Conditional Use for W. B. Homes (Lynch Home) for April 24, 2018. He stated the W. B. townhomes are presently in the E-1 District. Mr. Paccione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to authorize advertisement of a Conditional Use Hearing for W. B. Homes (Lynch Home). The motion carried 4 - 0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Authorize Advertisement of Bid for Rain Garden and Detention Basin (Growing Greener Grant)

Mr. McAnally stated the Township received the Growing Greener Grant eighteen months ago and is asking the Board to authorize the solicitation of at least three proposals from contractors to complete the planting and soil placement work which will naturalize the detention basin. Mr. Grey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to Authorize Advertisement of Bid for Rain Garden and Detention Basin (Growing Greener Grant). The motion carried 4 - 0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Report from the Manager - Municipal activities, projects

Authorization to purchase a Shure Mic Mixer for the Replacement Microphones

Mr. McAnally stated the new microphones would not work with the old mixer. Premier Audio Visual recommended the purchase Shure Mic mixer with correct voltage needed to operate these microphones but without the added expense of the smart digital mixing software like the one originally proposed, and so it is less expensive. Their quoted cost is \$699.00. Mr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Grey to authorize the purchase of a Shure Mic Mixer for the Replacement Microphones. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Mr. McAnally stated the Public Works Department needs to replace an employee who left suddenly and he asked the Board to extend an employment offer to Paul Loschiavo who was interviewed by staff and the Public Works subcommittee (Ms. Hunsicker and Mr. Brandt). Mr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Paccione to extend an employment offer to Paul Loschiavo. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Mr. McAnally stated Resolution No. 2018 - 09 A Resolution Requesting a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant (\$1,026,616.00) from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is the third part of the the Spring House intersection improvements. He stated the Township has received \$2,000,000 in grants and another \$1,000,000 is needed to complete the Spring House Roadway Improvement Project. Mr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Paccione to adopt Resolution No. 2018 - 09 A Resolution Requesting a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. A motion carried 4 - 0.

Mr. McAnally asked the Board to authorize the Township Manager and the Assistant Township Manager to attend the APMM Annual Conference May 15 - 17, 2018 in the Poconos. Mr. Grey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandt to authorize the Township Manager and Assistant Township Manager to attend the APMM Annual Conference in the Poconos. The motion carried 4 - 0.

SUPERVISORS/STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Grey requested the Board of Supervisors ask the Zoning Officer to provide a concept zoning plan to change the zoning on the Merck property to a mixed use (industrial, residential and commercial). The Solicitor stated it is never the job of the Board to enhance a property. He stated the Board should provide good planning; and the Board can rezone anytime, but it is illegal to have a purpose for enhancing or diminishing a property. Mr. Grey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Paccione to have the Zoning Officer draw up rezoning of the Merck property to mixed use. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Mr. Brandt asked about the third stage of Bethlehem Pike Improvements. Mr. McAnally stated with the addition of Abington Medical Building, Bergey's, and Penna most of the improvements were incorporated. He stated grants are needed for two pedestrian bridges. Mr. Brandt noted students and workers need to walk on the street. He asked Mr. McAnally to look into getting the grants and complete the Bethlehem Pike Improvements.

Mr. Brandt commended the Public Works Department, Police and Staff for their efforts during the recent snow storms.

Mr. Paccione announced that Whole Foods opens tomorrow.

Board of Supervisors Minutes
March 13, 2018

There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. until the next Regular Meeting scheduled on March 27, 2018 at the Lower Gwynedd Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Culbreth
Assistant Secretary