

**LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

**SUPERVISORS:**

Danielle A. Duckett, Chairman  
Michael Twersky, Vice Chair  
Janine Martin  
Kathleen Hunsicker  
Tessie McNeely

**STAFF:**

Mimi Gleason, Interim Township Manager  
Jamie Worman, Assistant Township Manager  
Michelle Farzetta, Assistant Secretary  
Neil Stein, Esq., Solicitor  
James Hersh, Gilmore Associates Township Engineer  
Anton Kuhner, McMahan Traffic Engineer  
Fred Zollers, Director Public Works  
Chuck Wilson, Finance Director  
Paul Kenny, Police Chief

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

The Chair called the hybrid meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Lower Gwynedd Township Building and virtually on Zoom and led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

An Executive Session was held prior to today's meeting regarding personnel.

Fall Fest is this Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, on Houston Road by the high school. It starts with a 5K run at 8 am, followed by the main event from 11 am to 5 pm. Go to the Township's website for more information or to register for the run. Ms. Martin stated that the Philly Phanatic will be in attendance starting at 12:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Citizen comments, concerns, questions for items not on the agenda**

(Comments on agenda items will be taken when those items are discussed by the Board)

No comments

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Consideration of Ordinance 534 Amendment to Chapter 1241, Stormwater Management**

Ms. Duckett stated that the changes being made are required changes. Mr. Hersh said that the changes are being requested by DEP. There are minor changes regarding wording and clarification. The biggest change is to the elicit discharges, meaning what can be put into the storm sewers. Swimming pool discharge has been added and must go into the sanitary sewer. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Twersky. Motion passed 5-0.

**Approval of Proposal for Traffic Signal Upgrade at Norristown Rd & Tennis Ave**

Anton Kuhner, from McMahon stated that this proposal is related to the Green Light Go Grant submitted at the end of last year. The improvements being proposed are installation of a new controller with battery backup, emergency preemption, countdown pedestrian signal heads, installation of ADA compliant pedestrian pushbuttons and replacement of signal heads. The total cost for the project would be \$199,000. The grant will cover \$159,440 leaving \$15,000 for the Township to be responsible for. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. McNeely. Motion passed 5-0.

**Discussion about Electronic Sign for Veterans Memorial Park**

The 2022 budget included funds to upgrade the existing sign at Veterans Memorial Park to electronic. Quotes were obtained at the time and it was estimated to cost roughly \$35,000. We now have a new board and Ms. Worman wanted to inquire if this project is one that we would still like to pursue and if so, then she would obtain some updated proposals. Questions were asked by the board regarding photos of renderings, will it be freestanding, will it be structurally sound and did we look at security. Ms. Worman replied that the electronic sign will fit into the existing space and fit in like a cabinet. She will have to check to see if there are any renderings, as she believes there was a photo submitted originally. The vendor who gave the quote did go out to the site and felt it would be structurally sound, but no security was discussed. Ms. Duckett inquired if we would need to get an exception from the Zoning Hearing Board for approval for an electronic sign. Ms. Worman replied that we would, as we needed to get an exception for the current sign in front of the township building. After some discussion, the board agreed that there needs to be some form of an update to the sign, as it is a good place to obtain info, but it is hard to manually make the necessary changes to the existing sign. Ms. McNeely stated that the energy committee would like any changes to be solar powered, as a demonstration project. The general consensus was that something should be done to upgrade the sign and make it more appealing, but at this time they are not sure what should be done. They would like to see some possible renderings and possible other solutions before making a decision.

**Review of 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Pension Funds**

Mr. Wilson presented the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) information for the Police Pension Plan, Non-Uniform Plan and Non-Uniform DC plan. The total MMO will be \$320,975. Our 2023 State Pension Aid will be \$297,432. Ms. McNeely asked if the state money is dependent on our financial rating. Mr. Wilson replied the total is based on a unit value and the number of units (employees). It is a statutory requirement that this calculation be reviewed by the board, no approvals are needed.

**Receipt of Invoice History – August 2022**

The Board of Supervisors received the invoice history for August 2022. There were no questions. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker. Motion passed 5-0.

**Financials YTD and Balance Sheet – July 2022**

Mr. Wilson provided the Board with a summary of the July year-to-date financial statement. The YTD excess of revenue over expenses was \$92,150 compared to a deficit for the same period in 2021. Revenues year over year increased by \$1,164,538 from 2021 with all taxes exceeding prior year collections. Expenditures increased by \$1,062,787 from 2021 due to budgeted transfers to other funds increasing by approximately \$1 million from 2021. Operating expenditures are within the ranges expected compared to budget at this point of the year. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker. Motion passed 5-0.

**Approval of Minutes – August 23, 2022**

The minutes from the August meeting were given to the board. There were no questions or comments. Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hunsicker. Motion passed 5-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ms. Duckett stated that she has spoken with staff and has asked that something be worked out that would allow a staff member to attend all meetings to take minutes. Ms. McNeely replied that she thinks this is a great idea. A staff member should attend all meetings.

Ms. McNeely asked for an update regarding pickle ball courts, as a resident has been eagerly waiting for one for two years. Ms. Hunsicker replied that pickle ball courts are part of the Parks and Rec Strategic Plan. It was proposed to have one in Penllyn Park, but decided this would not be a good location due to the noise. It was then suggested for Oxford Park, but tabled until we had a strategic plan and some grant funding. Ms. McNelly asked if there was an estimated completion date, however at this time no one could give one.

Ms. McNelly stated that the EMS Committee met on Monday, September 12. They are planning on having regular scheduled meetings three times a year moving forward. They discussed the two fire companies, funding that may be necessary and their current level of work. Ms. Hunsicker said they also spoke about the health of their organizations. Recruiting is very important and she reminds the public that opportunities are available.

**STAFF UPDATES**

**Updates from staff on municipal activities and projects**

Mr. Zollers stated that the roofing project at Ingersoll has started. They are currently working on the barn and then will start the house. Some equipment has been moved out of Ingersoll and over to the McCormick House. Mr. Twersky thanked him for getting some equipment moved.

Ms. McNeely thanked public works for removing the dead trees in her neighborhood. She then asked if it would be possible to have the common area made into a “no mow” area as a demonstration. Mr. Zollers replied he could possibly do that if she had a plan and information. She would like the Township to encourage more areas of “no mow” lawns.

Ms. Hunsicker wished everyone good luck this weekend at the Fall Fest. She will not be able to attend due to family obligations. She shared a mug that will be given out by GMU to all that attend. She thanked all those working to make the event possible.

Ms. Martin thanked all the sponsors and community partners that are helping with the Fall Fest. She also thanked all the staff and committee members who are helping to make this possible. Please come out and enjoy.

Ms. Duckett echoed the comments about the Fall Fest and thanked everyone in advance for their help putting this together.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Duckett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Twersky. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Farzetta  
Assistant Secretary