

MINUTES FOR JULY 6, 2021

VALLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The first monthly meeting of the Valley Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, via hybrid to allow participation at the Valley Township Building at 1145 West Lincoln Highway, Coatesville, PA or through the *Go To Meeting* platform.

The Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Patrice Proctor at 7:35 p.m. Those participating in the meeting at the Township Building were Supervisors Sharon Yates, Carmen Boyd, Casey Max Leidy, and Patrice Proctor. Supervisor Kathy O'Doherty participated virtually. Also participating in the meeting were Amanda Sundquist, Esquire, of Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees (Township Solicitor); Michael J. Ellis, P.E., of Pennoni Associates, Inc. (Township Engineer); Peter Barsz, Treasurer; and Kris Lenhart, Township Roadmaster who all participated virtually and Scott T. Piersol, Township Manager who was present at the Township Building.

Mr. Piersol noted the format for the hybrid meeting for those wishing to comment and requested those participating virtually keep audio on mute and unmute at designated time to speak or when called upon by the Board of Supervisors.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS/ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Proctor noted that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session prior to the meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. to review possible litigation and personnel issues. Ms. Proctor also noted that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on June 21, 2021 and June 29, 2021, both regarding personnel.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

APPROVE MINUTES AS WRITTEN

Mr. Leidy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021, Board of Supervisors Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. Boyd made a motion, seconded Mr. Leidy, to approve payment of bills as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Mr. Barsz departed the meeting.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Ms. Proctor reported that the Township Building will open to the public on Monday, July 12, 2021, during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Masks are requested to be worn by the public. Drop-off recycling of electronic collection has been suspended at the present time. The compost site will be open on July 10 and the July yard waste dates are July 12 for the North Side and July 19 for the South side. Mattress collection will be held on July 26; prepaid fees apply.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator Joe Sciandra submitted a monthly report noting no activations during the month of June 2021; however, there were a couple of storms recently that caused flash flooding in the Township. He noted that there is a concern as people try to drive through the flood waters. He recommended that people stay in place if they can and stated that roads that never flooded before, are now flooding. Mr. Sciandra also reported that the update to the Township Emergency Management Plan is almost complete.

CITIZEN'S REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ms. Sundquist noted that the PUC's public input hearing relative to the water and sewer sale is scheduled for July 20 at 6:00 p.m. She noted that the hearing is audio only. Information regarding the call-in number for the hearing is noted on the Township's website.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion/consideration to adopt a Resolution revoking Resolution 2020-08, a resolution declaring a Local State of Disaster Emergency – Ms. Sundquist reviewed that Valley Township Board of Supervisors, through Resolution 2020-08, declared a Local State of Disaster Emergency following the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency due to COVID-19. As the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency has expired, a Resolution was presented to end the Township's Local Disaster Emergency. **Ms. Boyd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leidy, to adopt Resolution 2021-14, a Resolution revoking the provisions adopted under Resolution 2020-8 effective July 6, 2021, that declared a Local State of Disaster Emergency.** The motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Ms. Sundquist departed the meeting

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Consideration to authorize Corridor Plan Contract to be signed – Mr. Ellis advised that we do not have the contract from the County as of this date; no action required.

Consideration to name Corridor Plan Task Force – An update was provided that Greg Vietri is willing to be on the Task Force as a business owner. A “citizen” member is still being confirmed. Mr. Ellis advised that the projected start date is August 1 and the project should take 13 months to complete.

Discussion/consideration to authorize Escrow Release #7 for Valley View Business Park/G.A. Vietri in the amount of \$114,072.38 – Based on the Township Engineer’s recommendation, **Ms. Yates, made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leidy, to authorize Escrow Release #7 for Valley View Business Park Lot 6/G.A. Vietri Inc. in the amount of \$114,072.38.** The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/consideration to approve Escrow Release #8 for Little Red Dog/Cigas Machine Shop in the amount of \$60,720.00 – Based on the Township Engineer’s recommendation, **Ms. O’Doherty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to Escrow Release #7 for Little Red Dog/Cigas Machine Shop in the amount of \$60,720.00.** The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ellis submitted the Engineer’s Report which is on file in the Township Office. The following items from the report were reviewed:

- Valley View Business Park Lot 8 – The revised land development plan submission #2 is under review. As part of the review, a virtual meeting with PAWC was held to review the water and sanitary sewer designs.
- 2021 Road Program – The project was advertised for bids on June 22 and bids are due on July 13. Award recommendation will be presented at the Board’s July 20 meeting.
- Stormwater – Pennoni analyzed stormwater runoff and flooding that has occurred along 11th Avenue due to the undersized inlets located south of the Amtrak line and north of 11th Avenue. A site meeting was held to evaluate potential solutions to alleviate the flooding. Mr. Piersol will contact Amtrak about stabilizing the stone and earth in their right-of-way since the materials clog the inlets, thereby causing flooding. Reconstruction of the inlet system will likely be necessary thereafter. Mr. Ellis also reported that a site meeting to observe streambank erosion occurring along Sucker Run in front of the Westwood Fire Department was held. PennDOT will be notified that the concrete erosion is occurring on the underside of the Valley Road bridge deck and that the statement erosion is beginning to erode behind the bridge wingwall and along the edge of the road pavement.

At this time, Mr. Ellis departed the meeting.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Piersol noted that the Township Building offices will be open to the public without appointment beginning Monday, July 12. He reported on the progress with the sale of the water and sewer assets. He noted that work continues on easements through private properties, some

public properties including road rights-of-way. Progress continues with 57 easement documents confirmed for recording.

Mr. Piersol also reported that the Chester County Planning Commission had approved the Vision Partnership Grant application for our Business Route 30 Corridor in 2020. He noted that the original request amount was \$35,000 and the account approved \$30,500. Mr. Piersol requested the Board to authorize the Township's monetary commitment of \$19,500 based on the proposed cost of \$50,000 for the project. **Mr. Leidy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to commit \$19,500 towards the matching funds for the Business Route 30 Corridor grant and to authorize the Township Manager to write a commitment letter to the Chester County Planning Commission.** The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/consideration to amend the personnel policy that part-time police officers would be paid at time and a half for working a Police "Minor" Holiday as per the Police CBA – It was reviewed that the Board of Supervisors in 2019 adopted a policy that part-time police officers who work a "major" holiday as defined in the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) would be paid time and one half. There are only three "major" police holidays; therefore, part-time officers who work a "minor" holiday are only paid straight time. After discussion, **Ms. Boyd made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leidy to amend the Personnel Policy under Section 10, "Holidays" to add Section 10.C. stating that:**

Part-time police officers, excluding part-time police officers who are still in field training, who work either a "Major" or "Minor" holiday defined by the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be compensated for any hours worked at one and one-half times (1.5) their regularly hourly rate of pay"

To be retroactive to May 31, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

Consideration to authorize Joy Hurst to take two days (16 hours) of personal leave without pay – A request from Joy Hurst was presented requesting two days of personal leave without pay for August 12 and 13 in accordance with the Personnel Policy that leave without pay will be reviewed on a case by case basis. There was discussion regarding ensuring that there is ample coverage as there is one person who had previously been approved for time off. The consensus of the Board was to confirm with Ms. Hurst if she had plans for these days.

Consideration to proceed to prepare a grant application to the DEP under the Act 101 902 Grant Program for a single stream recycle truck – **Ms. Boyd made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yates, to proceed to file a grant application to DEP under the Act 101 902 Grant Program for a single stream recycle truck.** The motion passed unanimously.

Consideration to set quarterly financial review meeting – Mr. Leidy made a motion, seconded by Ms. Boyd, to set July 22, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. to hold the Quarterly Financial Review meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was properly adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Janis A. Rambo
Township Secretary