

Presentation began at 7:05 p.m.

Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership Planning for Watershed Health – Wissahickon Watershed Association:

President Luker said this is a presentation for information purposes only and there will be a follow-up session as a scheduled item on the Public Affairs Committee meeting agenda in September.

Ms. Lindsay Blanton, Water Programs Manager, Wissahickon Watershed Association, 12 Morris Road, Ambler, PA, 19002, said the EPA and DEP have determined that the Wissahickon Creek is an impaired stream and imposed a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load), which means tightening restriction on pollution. Stream begins in Lansdale running down to the Schuylkill River and Abington has the biggest headwaters to the tributary in the Wissahickon, which is the Sandy Run. Wissahickon had a TMDL for over a decade with the first imposed in 2003 for phosphorus and sediment.

In 2015, EPA felt the stream was still impaired not seeing a lot of improvement, so there was a reassessment, and they came up with a draft update to the nutrient TMDL tightening regulations on total phosphorus putting the burden on Wastewater Treatment Plants in the watershed. Most of the stakeholders feel that the TMDL is too low and not feasible, so EPA and DEP indicated to explore alternative options and that lead us to the path where we are about to design our own watershed plan that would function like a TMDL to try and get the stream to an unimpaired state.

The partnership formed in 2016 and the goal is to meet water quality standards through development of our own plan called, “Water Quality Improvement Plan.” Strategy is to collect new data to try to better understand what is impairing the creek and come up with possible solutions to fix impairment and explore ways to fund those solutions.

Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership includes 13 municipalities and all wastewater treatment plants in the watershed are participating including an advisory council to conduct monitoring, science, analysis and draft the plan.

General findings of monitoring and analysis were that phosphorus may not be the one driver for water quality improvement. DEP and EPA say there is a lot of algae in the creek and that there are dips in oxygen impacting stream ecology and they thought that nutrients were the main link to dissolving oxygen; however, research showed that there was not such a strong correlation, but it is clear that strong storms/flash flooding impair habitat as well as create erosion.

The plan will be an adaptive management plan with monitoring and analysis built in for five-year cycles where we come up strategy and a list of projects of key areas to target and hope to have water quality impacts and use the data to inform each next phase so that we are not investing money in ways that do cause an impact. Capital projects will be to directly manage stormwater and its policies across the watershed; strengthen protections; put some of the burden of stormwater management on private developers; to have programs that include public education and outreach including goal reporting and recording schemes.

Next steps; we are working to finalize a draft of this plan with a management committee, and then in October, there will be a meeting with EPA. If changes need to be made we will revise the plan, and then once it passes EPA, we will get final approval from all municipalities.

Presentation ended at 7:18 p.m.

The stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Thursday, August 8, 2019 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with President Luker presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners MYERS, BRODSKY, ROTHMAN, DiPLACIDO, WINEGRAD, THOMPSON, SCHREIBER, CARSWELL, SPIEGELMAN, VAHEY, GILLESPIE, ZAPPONE, BOWMAN, KLINE, LUKER

Township Manager MANFREDI
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER
Assistant Legal Counsel GALLAGHER
Director of Engineering/Code MONTGOMERY
Director of Public Works BARRON

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Luker said since there will be no closing comments from Commissioners at the conclusion of our meeting he will make the following announcements:

From Wards 3 & 7; on Thursday, August 29, 2019 at 7 p.m. Commissioner Stuart Winegrad of Ward 7 and Commissioner Rothman of Ward 3 will be hosting an informational hearing at the Township Building regarding Washington Lane, Greenwood Avenue and Jenkintown Road project. All residents are encouraged and welcomed to attend and questions can be directed to Commissioner Winegrad.

From Ward 9 Commissioner Dennis Zappone; the Ardsley Community Association has begun planning for this year's Family Day to be held on Saturday October 19, 2019 at the Community Center from noon-5 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, October 20th.

From Ward 10 Commissioner Jessica Carswell; Commissioners Carswell and Spiegelman extend their heartfelt thanks to all of the residents who stopped by their booth at the Pre-National Night Out Event who donated cash or food to the Interfaith Food Pantry. Commissioner Carswell also announced that she postponed a neighborhood meeting on traffic safety last night due to the bad storm. Residents of Ward 10 are invited to the rescheduled meeting on Sunday, August 11th from 7-8 p.m. Please respond to jcarswell@abington.org.

From Ward 14 Commissioner Schreiber who welcomed everyone to the 20th Annual Roslyn Fall Festival and Car Show scheduled for Saturday, September 7th from 12-5 p.m.

President Luker said on behalf of the Board of Commissioners of Abington Township who extends their heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers who participated in the Pre-National Night Out event this past Monday as well as all of the residents and neighbors who attended.

Also, since there were no committee meetings in August, public comment will be taken after each agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners July 11, 2019 Regular Meeting as listed under consent agenda.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Works Committee –

Item PW-01-080819:

Commissioner Rothman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Brodsky to award 2019 Landscape Maintenance Bid for the Abington Township Business Districts to Biase Landscaping, LLC for the purchase of materials and proposed work as specified in the bid documents as submitted and to authorize the Township Manager to execute all contract documents and agreements.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners.

Vice President Kline questioned why only one bid has been received consistently?

Mr. Kevin Barron, Director of Public Works, replied we had a pre-bid meeting where four companies attended and most of them were asking for the mowing contract and they indicated that they were not interested in landscaping islands and taking care of the brick work in the business districts. We informed them that the mowing contract will be put out at the end of this year that will be for the next three years. We thought there was going to be more than one bidder, but there was only one, and he did not call each of them asking why they did not bid.

Vice President Kline said then we do not know whether this bid was competitive or not.

Mr. Barron replied he cannot say whether it is competitive or not, but this gentleman has done great work in all of the business districts for the past 15 years.

Vice President Kline said he wants to be sure that we are signing a contract that is a competitive bid, but right now, we do not have that information.

Manager Manfredi replied we can survey each one who bid to see if it was because of the mowing aspect and also review their pricing for other municipalities.

Commissioner Bowman commented that obviously Biase would not know whether there were other bids, so they submitted their true bid.

Vice President Kline said he is not concerned about Biase, but about the process and getting the most “bang for our buck” and we have no way of knowing that with one bidder.

Commissioner Gillespie questioned whether the bid quote was out of line from previous years.

Mr. Barron replied it was a slight increase from previous years.

Commissioner Spiegelman said the bidders are there at the same time and possibly the other bidders assumed that Biase will be awarded the contract so they don’t bother submitting a bid.

Mr. Barron replied he is not sure the three other bidders would think that as they were not told that.

Commissioner Thompson agreed with checking other municipalities on price as well as having a debrief with other contractors as it has been an occurring thread in this current economic environment and see what in the bid package that might be “scaring” them away from submitting bids.

Mr. Barron replied he will reach out to those three bidders.

Commissioner Bowman said no other contractor can assume that Biase would get the contract because it was a blind bid. It is a small contract and he urged the Board to approve it.

Commissioner Zappone asked how many contractors attended the pre-bid meeting.

Mr. Barron replied four.

Commissioner Zappone said at pre-bid meetings, contractors have the ability to ask questions because the scope, specs and prints are being discussed and that is the process.

Mr. Barron replied that is correct. All four contractors asked questions and they were answered.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, said she “reported bidding irregularities to Public Works Chair Mr. Rothman and it should be looked at carefully.” Also, “the businesses should be maintaining the landscaping.”

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PW-02-080819:

Commissioner Rothman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Myers to award the 2016 Green Light Go Grant Fitzwatertown Road and Woodland Road/North Hills Avenue to Carr and Duff, Inc. for the proposed traffic signal and pedestrian improvement project as specified in the bid documents as submitted and to authorize the Township Manager to execute all contract documents and agreements.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PW-03-080819:

Commissioner Rothman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Brodsky to approve the sale of Township vehicles as listed on Exhibit 1 and approve and enter into a contract with J.J. Kane Auctioneer’s, Inc., acting as agent for the Township of Abington, the seller.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PW-04-080819:

Commissioner Rothman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to adopt Resolution No.19-024, a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for the 2019 Round of the County Transportation Program and to execute all necessary documents for submission.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Administrative Code & Land Use Committee –

Item ACL-01-080819:

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to authorize the release of the performance security for Family Dining, Inc. and authorizing the Township Manager to sign accordingly.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Vice President Kline clarified that the sidewalk was not completed at the corner because it had to do with PennDOT's project of Edge Hill/Tyson. Is that correct?

Ms. Amy Montgomery, Township Engineer, replied that is correct, it is the continuation of the sidewalk to Edge Hill Road from Bradfield, and that portion of the sidewalk is PennDOT's responsibility. We coordinated with PennDOT and the contractor for Burger King to make sure the two projects would match together, so when PennDOT does complete their project on Edge Hill Road that sidewalk connection will be made.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, expressed concern about having to file a "Right To Know" request for information and she asked that "residents receive the kind of service and respect that they deserve from the Township."

Joanne Tressler, 616 Roslyn Avenue, said her block is the only one that has no curbing or sidewalk, and since PennDOT is taking care of Bradfield Road, why can't they take care of Roslyn Avenue.

Vice President Kline said PennDOT is taking care of the portion that is related to its Edge Hill/Tyson project at the corner of Bradfield and Edge Hill. Only about three or four feet of sidewalk/curbing were not done so that PennDOT can complete their work and the developer will put in the remaining sidewalks.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item ACL-02-080819:

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to consider the request of Leslie Rupp, the applicant for property located at 629 Roslyn Avenue, Glenside, PA, 19038, to defer the installation of curb and sidewalk for the previously approved two-lot residential subdivision.

Gary Tilford, Engineer with Charles E. Shoemaker, Inc., representing the applicant, said back in March there was a two-lot subdivision with one existing home and one additional single family home to be built that was approved by the Board. Part of that approval was the installation of curb/sidewalks in which the applicant agreed. Since the plan has yet to be recorded, the Township has taken into consideration of providing construction of curb/sidewalk along the remainder of that block from Edgcomb to Ardsley Avenues. The applicant requested to defer construction of curb/sidewalk until December 31, 2021 so as to not construct a sidewalk that may not line up with proposed construction of a sidewalk by the Township. The applicant will enter into an agreement with the Township and post escrow, so that if the Township does not put in sidewalks, the applicant will do so. Also, the applicant will be permitted to proceed with the plan to build a home on the newly created lot.

Commissioner Brodsky suggested extension date until December 31, 2022 due to the nature of PennDOT.

Commissioner Thompson questioned whether the new home to be built will be sold or lived in by the applicant.

Leslie Rupp, 629 Roslyn Avenue, replied she will live in the new home and sell the existing home.

Commissioner Thompson said then that property will no longer be the applicant's and will she still be bound to install curb/sidewalk.

Ms. Gallagher replied we are drafting the agreement in such a way that if it is subdivided, and once the plan is recorded, it will trace back to both properties and be enforceable against both property owners.

Vice President Kline questioned whether any of the sidewalks are on private land or is all of it in the right-of-way.

Ms. Gallagher replied all of it is in the right-of-way as currently designed, but once the Township's study is completed, it may shift.

Vice President Kline clarified that the agreement will include that if there is a front portion of the applicant's property that would be needed for a future potential project then the applicant will provide an easement for that portion of the property. Is that correct?

Ms. Gallagher replied yes.

Vice President Kline asked who examined the escrow amount?

Mr. Tilford replied it came from Peter Friedman's office and the contractor who is building the home provided the estimate.

Vice President Kline verified that it has been reviewed by Township Engineer and it is acceptable.

Ms. Rupp replied yes.

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION to AMEND the MOTION to include a sunset provision of December 31, 2022 conditioned upon Township Solicitor having the agreement in place and recordable against the deeds, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Joanne Tressler, 616 Roslyn Avenue, said she lives across the street from where this house will be built and how will this affect the water flow she is already having a problem with.

Mr. Tilford replied as part of the subdivision approval, certain stormwater mitigating factors were included in the plan. There is a trench drain proposed for the new house and a small rain garden adjacent.

Ms. Montgomery added that additional impervious surface is mitigated in accordance with Stormwater Management Ordinance. Discussion regarding water in the street currently occurring will continue until some future project is done and that is an existing condition that the Township will be potentially studying next year.

Ms. Tressler expressed concern about more water onto her property after the new home is built.

Manager Manfredi said the new home will be designed so there is no additional water flow from that property, and the existing condition will remain until the study is completed and a project is approved by the Board of Commissioners. If there is any additional water flow due to calculations proven incorrect, the Township will look into it.

MOTION as AMENDED - PASSED 15-0.

Item ACL-03-080819:

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Land Development Application of Elaine Associates, LP-Mazda to construct a new one-story building that will include a showroom, offices and service bay for the sale and service of vehicles.

Joseph Kuhls, Attorney, Kuhls Law, 500 Office Center Drive, Suite 400, Fort Washington, PA, 19034, representing the applicant, Sussman Automotive, said existing Mazda Dealership is the subject of an existing application located at 1601 Easton Road and proposed is the addition of a 2,600 sq. ft. bay area to the rear of the property and a separate building on the property will be demolished as part of this application.

Applicant met with the neighbors on January 8th on this application as well as the next one on the agenda. The applicant then proceeded before the ZHB and received relief necessary related to impervious surface; rear yard setback and window area. Applicant received May 1, 2019 staff review letter; May 10, 2019 zoning ordinance comments; May 24, 2019 MCPC review; May 28, 2019 Township Planning Commission review who recommended approval as well as granting of all waiver requests; Shade Tree Commission recommendation of approval on June 12, 2019 and Boucher & James review letter dated July 23, 2019.

One of the waivers is to provide a Recreation Plan and there will be no recreation facility so no plan will be submitted. There is also a waiver requested from installation of sidewalk along Decatur Avenue. We are installing a sidewalk where it makes sense and closing an existing entrance on Easton and replacing that curb cut and driveway access with new sidewalk. Sidewalk request that remains on the table is for the area further down Decatur to the rear of 15 existing parking spaces, which is currently asphalt and there is no sidewalk in that area. Applicant requested preliminary/final approval of the application as well as the granting of waiver requests.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Thompson asked for clarification on where the sidewalk is proposed to be constructed.

Peter J. Tantala, P.E., Civil Design Engineer, Tantala Associates, LLC, 6200 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, 19135, representing the applicant, said where the sidewalk terminates currently is just to the east of the curb cut and the sidewalk would continue eastward along Decatur Avenue to a certain point as shown on the plan and will be a paved concrete sidewalk. The grass strip between the sidewalk and the property will remain as is, unpaved.

Vice President Kline questioned whether any considerations were given on the County's recommendation in regards to the sidewalk such as rather than a concrete sidewalk, a change in the macadam to designate some area for pedestrians.

Mr. Kuhls replied we do not feel it would be a desirable place to invite pedestrians as vehicles are constantly pulling in/out of that area.

Vice President Kline questioned whether any improvements will be made to the 15 parking spaces or is it staying the way it is.

Mr. Kuhls replied they are nonconforming parking spaces and will stay as they are.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item ACL-04-080819:

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Land Development Application of Sussman Associates II, LP-KIA Dealership to consolidate the properties located at 1501, 1505, 1509, and 1515 Easton Road and to construct a new automotive dealership.

Joseph Kuhls, representing the applicant, Sussman Automotive on the KIA project and proposed is to merge all four parcels and construct a 5,400 sq. ft. one-story new car showroom with no service of automobiles. Applicant met with the neighbors and then appeared before the ZHB for zoning relief for impervious surface of 82.5% and ZHB granted relief with imposed conditions of no service; strictly sales; no loud speakers and maintain privacy fence. Applicant received the same series of review letters and there are waiver requests of providing a recreational plan and landscaping in which landscaping was the subject of the ZHB meeting. Applicant requested approval of preliminary/final application as well as granting of the waiver requests.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Thompson said in regards to handicapped parking spaces along Easton Road; it looks as though there is a grass strip between ADA parking spaces and the front door of the dealership. Is that correct?

Mr. Tantara replied it is concrete walking surface and not grass.

Vice President Kline asked about the zoning relief related to impervious surface and parking.

Mr. Kuhls replied we requested 82.5% impervious surface where the ordinance sets a 65% maximum. One of the concerns of the neighbors was exiting the site and turning the wrong way on Nylsor Avenue, so we provided a right turn-only out onto Nylsor.

Commissioner Vahey questioned whether the KIA dealership on Jenkintown Road going to close.

Mr. Kuhls replied no, it will remain as service.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Commissioner Zappone questioned whether the Penn Avenue report has been completed for his review.

Manager Manfredi replied the second draft has not been received. The first draft was submitted and Ms. Montgomery had questions about it and those questions have not been answered yet.

Commissioner Zappone questioned why he did not see the first draft.

Manager Manfredi replied because it was a draft.

Commissioner Zappone said he would like to review it and have it in his mail tomorrow.

Ms. Montgomery added that there were incorrect assumptions made in the first draft, and when she spoke with the engineer about it, he agreed they were incorrect and he would make revisions and it has not yet been received.

Commissioner Zappone questioned whether in the first draft there was any connection made between Monroe Avenue and Penn Avenue in terms of drainage, flooding.

Ms. Montgomery replied the engineer made assumptions that he did not back up with any scientific facts and she asked him to do that. There was no mention of Monroe Avenue in the report.

Commissioner Zappone said he is working with the residents and needs to get this information. We, the residents of Ardsley, are the experts in flooding and drainage in Ardsley; not a survey, not an engineer, and he is a flood victim himself, so we are the experts in flooding, and he wants to see that draft.

Manager Manfredi replied he will send it tomorrow.

Public Safety Committee –

Item PS-01-080819:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to advertise Ordinance No. 2167, amending Chapter 156 – “Vehicles and Traffic,” Article II – “Traffic Regulations,” Section 9 – “One-Way Highways Established, - Section 14 – “Stop Intersections” and Article III – “Parking Regulations,” Section 25 – “Parking Prohibited At All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here To Corner; Parking Prohibited Except Certain Hours; No Stopping or Standing, “ Section 28 – “Special Purpose Parking Zones” at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, commented that the streets are not listed and she expressed concern about the speaking rules.

Commissioner Schreiber replied the streets are Silver Avenue, Elizabeth Road, Oak Hill Drive, Silver Avenue, Norman Road, Kenmore Avenue, Crater Road and “No Parking” on Lindsay Lane west and east side; Rothley Avenue north side; Cricket Avenue west side and Oak Shade Avenue north side.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PS-02-080819:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve experimental “All Way Stop” signs at Elm Avenue at Hawthorne Road and Spruce Avenue at Hamel Avenue.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Thompson said Elm Avenue and Hawthorne Road has an existing two-way “Stop” sign both on Elm and Hawthorne and it is a three block street. The location in question has some impaired visual obstructions such as shrubbery and parked cars and there are no sidewalks and a bus stop with approximately 15-20 students, so this is to protect the students. The other intersection is Spruce and Hamel, which is three-way with two “Stop” signs on Hamel and Spruce that T’s into Hamel and it makes sense to have traffic stop on Spruce, which is a neighborhood request. He asked for the Board’s cooperation in approving these measures tonight.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Dan Henrich, 368 Elm Avenue, said he lives at the corner of Elm and Hawthorne and it is a general concern of the neighbors that we need a “Stop” sign for the safety of the kids in the neighborhood.

Will Gimbel, 2701 Hawthorne Road, said he has been a resident since 1986 and there is about 80 kids over a two-hour time period at the bus stop and he has watched how traffic speeds on Hawthorne, and due to texting and driving, there has been close-calls. He feels it is imperative to give this a try to “slow things down.”

Andrew Stathos, 243 Elm Avenue, expressed his support for the experimental “Stop” signs as it would be a great safety improvement for pedestrians and help slow traffic down.

Commissioner Spiegelman applauded Commissioner Thompson’s hard work on this and supports the posting of these experimental signs.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PS-03-080819:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to authorize the Township’s Solicitor to draft and advertise for enactment of an ordinance by the Township of Abington that regulates brake retarders.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Thompson said brake retarders known as “Jake Brakes,” which are an engine brake that slows the truck down while traveling along a steep grade and saves on wear and tear of pedal brakes for the truck. Prohibition of using “Jake Brakes” is proposed for this stretch of Mt. Carmel Avenue, which is a half-mile long stretch on 6% slope. He feels this stretch is not long enough to require use of “Jake Brakes” that are loud for the residents at all hours of the night when sleeping.

Commissioner Myers questioned whether this was approved by PennDOT.

Manager Manfredi replied no, it was not. In order to request that PennDOT do a study, it needs to be authorized by the Board. After PennDOT does the study, the Solicitor will draft an ordinance, advertise it and then bring it before the Board for approval.

Commissioner Myers questioned whether fire trucks use “Jake Brakes.”

Manager Manfredi replied yes.

Commissioner Myers asked will the ordinance include fire trucks?

Ms. Gallagher replied that will be at the discretion of PennDOT; however, emergency vehicles are typically excluded from this type of provision.

Commissioner Myers questioned whether the Board will review draft ordinance prior to PennDOT.

Ms. Gallagher replied the process will be to see whether PennDOT is amenable to it and then circulate the draft to PennDOT and the Board prior to advertising.

Commissioner Myers requested that emergency vehicles be excluded from the ordinance.

Vice President Kline asked why is there not just a resolution being considered to request PennDOT to study this portion of the road before getting into an ordinance and advertising it.

Manager Manfredi replied we are asking for authorization to go to PennDOT in order to move swiftly. If the Board adopts this motion, it will authorize the Solicitor to draft an ordinance and it will be circulated to the Board for review, and if there are no concerns, it will be advertised and considered for enactment at the September Board meeting; just trying to save time.

Commissioner Schreiber said she views it as streamlining the process and is in favor of it. The Board will have a chance to review it and provide comments prior to a vote. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied that is correct.

Commissioner Thompson commented that this is something that does exist in other municipalities in Pennsylvania and streamlining in this case is appropriate.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Public Affairs Committee -

Item PA-01-080819:

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber to reject the single bid received for the Growing Greener 2016 Project for Stormwater Management BMP Control Measures at Roychester Park and Evergreen Manor Park and amend the bid documents to re-bid the project.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Ms. Montgomery commented that six contractors attended mandatory pre-bid meeting and one bid was received. Upon reaching out to the non-bidders, there was a community planting aspect included in the project, and the contractors indicated that it “scared” them away from bidding. There was also one contractor who thought he put a bid in, but he actually didn’t. The one bid was over budget, so we quickly turned it around, sent out for bids again and removed community planting component from it. Hopefully, when we come back in September, we will have a project that we can move forward with.

Commissioner Carswell commented that we will still look at ways to involve the community, but this project needs to be done in a timely manner as grant dollars will be used.

Ms. Montgomery agreed, and those grant dollars need to be used by the end of the year.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PA-02-080819:

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber to authorize advertising Ordinance No. 2168, an ordinance creating Chapter 64, Contractor Anti-Discrimination.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for “three minute comments at the end of Public Affairs.”

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Finance Committee –

Item FC-01-080819:

Commissioner Vahey made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Winegrad to approve the June expenditures as previously circulated to the Board in the amount of \$3,169,941.47 and salaries and wages in the amount of \$2,021,375.01 and authorizing the proper officials to sign vouchers in payment of bills and contracts as they mature through the month of September 2019.

Roll call resulted in motion being passed 15-0.

Item FC-02-0808019:

Commissioner Vahey made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Winegrad to approve the Clearing Fund, the Deferred Revenue/Expense activity and Petty Cash balances for the month of June as previously circulated to the Board. Clearing fund receipts and disbursements for the month of June 2019 were \$13,053.54 and (\$20,224.79), respectively. Deferred Revenue/Expense receipts and disbursements for the month of June 2019 were \$0.00 and (\$0.00), respectively.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item FC-03-080819:

Commissioner Vahey made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Winegrad to approve the Advance and Travel Expense activity for June 2019 as previously circulated to the Board. Advance and Travel Expense reports were \$0.00 and \$5,824.59, respectively. Six-month expenses totaled \$34,424.80.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Treasurer's Report:

Vice President Kline noted that the Treasurer's report is on file at the Township Manager's Office for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joanne Tressler, 616 Roslyn Avenue, said that after speaking with Commissioner Zappone in regards to a temporary measure for the water problem that is destroying her property, which is that prior to the start of the PennDOT project on Edge Hill/Tyson, there was a small ridge in front of driveways to stop the stormwater, and since then, she was told that the Township will not allow it on her property because it will send water from her property to her neighbors, which is against Township ordinance. Can this be done along the entire block so the water will go down the street rather than through the properties?

Commissioner Zappone said what he has done over the years on Tyson/Edge Hill is that he had blacktop curbs installed to prevent runoff from getting onto resident's properties, but for this particular area, if a blacktop curb was installed for this resident's house, it will push that runoff to the next door neighbor and that cannot be done. However, he does not have an issue with it being done along the entire block.

Ms. Tressler said she needs some temporary measure until the Township does their studies to help her.

Commissioner Zappone requested that Public Works Department fix that immediate problem with a blacktop curb along the 600 block of Roslyn on the lower side that will help the residents for now.

Ms. Tressler continued that there are two homes on her block that are a "mess" and what is the Township going to do about it?

President Luker replied there will be follow-up on this matter.

The following resident's comments are as stated by each of them and were not transcribed verbatim:

Natalie Sherstyuk, 1165 Delene Road, stated to President Luker that "it has come to my attention that Commissioner Kline was removed from chairing pensions and finance. I would like to thank you and commend you for doing the right thing and it gives the public faith that this Board has a chance to restore its integrity and regain the public's trust. Also, the relatively new three minute speaking rule that was put into motion, which used to be five minutes, was done without sufficiently notifying the public affording zero public input and participation."

Commissioner Myers said at the time the three minute speaking rule was put into place was when she was Vice President of this Board and that was seven years ago. It was done under different leadership due to meetings being televised, and it was necessary especially during committee meetings when residents have opportunity to speak after every agenda item and getting more speaking time than any Commissioner.

Kathleen Widman, 669 Forrest Avenue, stated that "I was made aware that Commissioner Kline had been stripped of all of his duties and I've yet to hear anybody say anything about it."

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, stated that "in 2012 was when we had so many problems trying to get our speaking rights uniformly enforced that we asked to have the Board make a motion and put in an ordinance for the speaking rights, and follow Roberts Rules of Order including debate and questions by the residents at the discretion of the chairperson, and all of that was removed. In 2014, you removed more rights, and in 2016, you removed more rights."

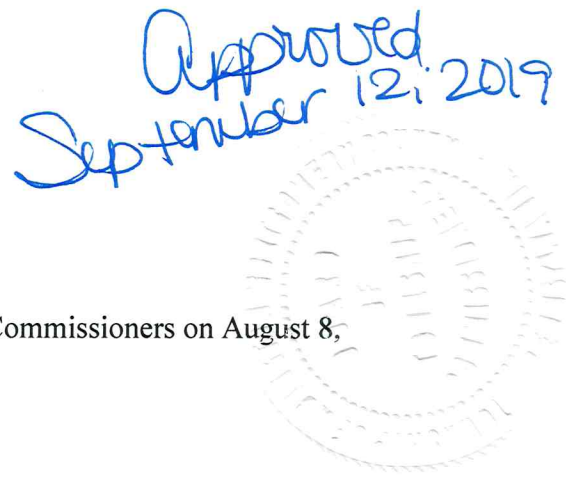
ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

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Note: Resolution No. 19-024 was adopted by the Board of Commissioners on August 8, 2019.



TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION NO. 19-024

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE
2019 ROUND OF THE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Whereas, Montgomery County has established the County Transportation Program as a competitive funding program to assist municipalities with improving transportation infrastructure throughout the county; and

Whereas, the County is accepting applications to fund transportation projects that meet the eligibility requirements for County Fee for Local Use Funds, including construction and repair of public roads and bridges, acquisition and maintenance of traffic signs and signals, lane and crosswalk painting and marking, and curb ramps; and

Whereas, applications and projects must meet all stated requirements within the County Transportation Program Guidebook; and

Whereas, Abington Township wishes to obtain \$200,000 from the 2019 County Transportation Program to match the local funding commitment for the Abington Roadway Maintenance Project; and

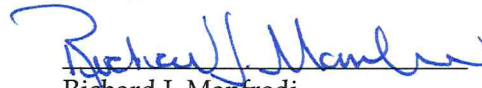
Whereas, Abington Township is committed to providing a local funding match in monetary and in-kind services of \$50,000 towards this project.

IN WITNESS THEROF, I affix my hand and attach the seal of the Abington Township Board of Commissioners this 8th day of August 2019.

ABINGTON TOWNSHIP


Wayne C. Luker, President
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Richard J. Manfredi,
Township Manager & Secretary