

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

December 10, 2019

* Items are scheduled to be voted on at the December 16, 2019, Public Meeting.

The December 10, 2019, Workshop Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. In attendance:

Kenneth E. Kroberger	President
James A. Santi	Vice-President
Thomas A. Duffy	Commissioner
Denise M. Hull	Commissioner
Sandra Brookley Zadell	Township Manager
Megan Weaver	Asst. Township Manager
David C. Onorato	Township Solicitor
Monica Wall	Township Engineer

CONSULTANTS**PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT****1. Report by E. Van Rieker (Updates):**

As reported by Megan Weaver in Mr. Rieker's absence

- Deluca Homes, West Prospect Ave. – 5 lot subdivision
This will likely be scheduled for the Board in January 2020. The applicant is still working on stormwater issues and will be coming to the PRC meeting in December. Ms. Wall said infiltration testing was redone with zero infiltration which will require a slow release of stormwater
- ZHB #19-05 – Provco Remand - Started 6/25/19; continued to future date TBD
There is no new date yet
- ZHB #19-07, Provco Substantive challenge
Testimony was completed on October 8, 2019; Appellant's Findings of Fact were due on November 21, 2019 and UGT and Merck have 30 days to respond after that
- 229 Morris Road – Preliminary/Final 3 lot subdivision
This is scheduled for the Planning Commission meeting on January 8, 2020
- ZHB #19-14 - 351 Sumneytown Pike – Merck monument sign –
This was approved with conditions
- ZHB #19-15 - 770 Sumneytown Pike – Merck monument sign –
This was approved with conditions
- ZHB 19-16 – Vault Storage, 212 Church Rd. - appeal to permit U-Haul as secondary use
This is to be decided on December 17, 2019

- ZHB 19-17 – lot 13 Jays Lane –
The rear yard variance for a new house was approved and the deck was withdrawn
- ZHB 19-18 – 467 Sumneytown – Royal Farms & Shoppes at UG –
The request to extend variances for 2 years was approved
- ZHB 19-19 – 645 Jones Ave. – lot width and front yard variances
This is scheduled for the ZHB meeting on December 17, 2019

2. **Code Enforcement Activity Report**

3. **Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee:**
Update

Mrs. Zadell said the November meeting was led by Marley Bice, our new planner. It was attended by some local businesses including Merck, Colorcon and the Chamber of Commerce. The North Penn School District will be attending the next staff meeting.

- * 4. **Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5:** After hours crane work on Building 16 Renovation Project. Sundays in January 2020
Decision

The following requests are for after hours crane work at Merck buildings for various renovation projects.

- * 5. **Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5:** After hours crane work on Building 16 Renovation Project. Sundays in February 2020
Decision
- * 6. **Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5:** After hours crane work for B38B Manufacturing Building Project. Sundays in January, February & March 2020
Decision
- * 6A. **Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5:** After hours crane work for B63 Vaccine Manufacturing Project. Sundays in January and February 2020
Decision

ENGINEERING

7. **Report by T&M Associates (Updates)**

As reported by Monica Wall

- 2019 Roads Program – update
The punchlist has been completed by Harris Blacktopping. T&M recommends final payment and the project is now in the maintenance period.

- * 8. **Authorization to award the bid for the Sumneytown Pike Bridge Project:** to Bi State Construction Co. in the amount of \$118,725
Decision

Ms. Wall said the bridges are inspected every two (2) years. From 2016 – 2018 some items were reported which required action to repair scour, mortar, stonework and paving on the bridge. There will be periodic lane closures on Sumneytown Pike. The project is expected to be completed in approximately 30 days. This project is set to begin in February 2020. Hours of work will be between 9 am and 3 pm.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION

- * 9. **Ordinance 2019-14:** Fixing the Tax Rate for 2020
Decision

Mrs. Zadell said there will be no change to the tax rate in 2020.

- * 10. **Resolution 25-2019:** Authorizing 2019 Appropriation of Unappropriated Supplemental Funds and Transfer of Unencumbered Balances in accordance with 1st Class Township Code Section 1701(c) and 1701(d).
Decision

Mrs. Zadell explained this is for additional appropriations to the reserve fund. Mr. Brill explained this resolution is a follow-up to the budget. This will increase the allocation to the capital reserve fund, general fund and the fire tax fund. He added, we had an exceptional year with approximately \$1.6 M surplus for the year. Mr. Brill will update the forecast for the budget and it will be included in the packet for next week.

- * 11. **Ordinance 2019-15:** Budget Appropriations for 2020 with revisions in accordance with 1st Class Township Code Section 1701(b)
Discussion / Decision

Mr. Brill said after the BOC accepts the preliminary budget, further items get revised because of unforeseen maintenance or carryover items. The Sumneytown Pike bridge project was slated for 2021, but some work needs to be completed in 2020 so funds were added to cover the bid on this project. A discussion ensued regarding the scope of work on the bridge project as more work will be required in the future.

Also, culvert replacement estimates on Center Street Path were higher than expected as there is more work than was originally anticipated. This project is estimated to cost \$85,000 - \$100,000 and only \$15,000 was budgeted. This will require the BOC to revise the budget to include these projects.

- * 12. **Authorization for David Onorato, Township Solicitor to sign on behalf of the Township, the assessment appeal stipulation agreement between North Penn School District and Weis Markets**
Decision

Mr. Onorato said Weis Market appealed their assessment. The North Penn School District negotiated a settlement with Weis Markets for years 2014-2019. This settlement resulted in a refund of almost \$8000.

- * 13. **Authorization to advertise the Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2020 and the Planning Commission Meeting on January 8, 2020.**
Decision

Mrs. Zadell said we will advertise these two dates and the remainder of the calendar will be advertised after the reorganization meeting in January.

PUBLIC SAFETY

No Report

PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS/RECREATION

- * 14. **Final Payment to Harris Blacktopping for 2019 Roads Program:** in the amount of \$92,599.82
Decision

T&M Associates recommended final payment following the completion of the punchlist items.

- * 15. **Resolution 24-2019:** Renewing the intergovernmental agreement for the completion of an Alternative TMDL plan for the Wissahickon Creek
Decision

Ms. Weaver said this will extend our intergovernmental agreement until March 31, 2021. The BOC approved a resolution in 2016 allowing the Township to participate in this intergovernmental project to prepare an alternative TMDL plan which was extended in 2018 for an additional year. Ms. Weaver added, the plan has been submitted and is currently under review by the EPA. The membership fees of \$23,600 for the Township and the WWTP are included in the 2020 budget.

- * 16. **Municipal request to incorporate bicycle facilities into resurfacing project**
Decision

Mrs. Zadell said the County requested in conjunction with PennDOT and DVRPC to allow for the installation of bike lanes on Morris Road. If approved, the Township would be responsible for future maintenance. DVRPC conducted a study regarding safety issues on Morris Rd. and determined that PennDOT will remove the second southbound/eastbound through lane on Morris Road before Broad St. and passed Industrial Dr. so the bike lane can be installed. Whitpain and Worcester Townships have approved the bike lanes on their sides of Morris Road.

- * 17. **2020 Concession Stand Lease Agreement with Boston Style Pizza**
Decision

Mrs. Zadell said this is an annual item. Boston Style has had the concession stand lease for the past few years.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

- * 18. **Payment #11 to Blooming Glen Contractors for the WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Project:**
In the amount of \$87,565.49
Decision

- * 19. **Payment #4 to Eastern Environmental Contractors for the WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Project:** In the amount of \$33,705
Decision



- * 20. **Payment #1 to PACT One Construction for the Pump Stations & Force Main Contract:**
In the amount of \$81,000
Decision
- * 21. **Merck Sewage Facilities Contribution Agreement**
Decision
22. **NWWA 2019 Water Grant application support request:** Elm Avenue I&I Reduction Project
Discussion
23. **Flow Diversion Project Update**

Mrs. Zadell said North Wales Water Authority asked if we will support their grant application for Elm Avenue. North Wales Borough is also supporting this grant application.

Mrs. Zadell reported the second resident meeting was held on December 9, 2019 with only three (3) residents in attendance. The contractor will not be working during Christmas and New Year's weeks. We have received only two (2) phone calls regarding the project with questions from residents.

The Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm to Executive Session for legal and personnel issues.



Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Brookley Zadell
Township Manager

Approved January 27, 2020

/djl