

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Cort called the September 10, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Township of Derry Board of Supervisors to order at 7:02 pm in the meeting room of the Township of Derry Municipal Complex, 600 Clearwater Road, Hershey, PA. She advised that all public meetings are recorded for providing accurate notes. She announced the Board of Supervisors met in executive session before the meeting to discuss land, legal and personnel issues. After the pledge of Allegiance, a roll call was conducted.

IN ATTENDANCE:

SUPERVISORS

Susan M. Cort, Chairwoman
Justin C. Engle, Vice Chairman
Richard D. Zmuda, Secretary
Marc A. Moyer
Matthew Weir

ALSO PRESENT:

Christopher Christman, Township Manager
Jon A. Yost, Township Solicitor
Chuck Emerick, Director of Community Development
Chief Garth Warner, Derry Township Police
David Sassaman, Hershey Fire
Thomas Clark, Director of Public Works
Cheryl Lontz, Manager of Payroll and Employee Benefits
Laura O'Grady, Director, Hershey Public Library
Mike Wood, HRG Engineer
Lauren Zumbrun, Economic Development Manager
Julie Echterling, Recorder

Public in Attendance:

The following were in attendance: Dennis Burd, Teresa Peschel, Rita Smith, Abigail Clifford, Laura Bixler, Hudnon, Evie Bixler, Camryn Bixler, Matt Bixler, Natalie Nutt, John Foley, C. Wyckoff, Kate Tocguk, Rich Gamble, Skip Becker, Jonathan Crist, Chuck Duncan and Wayne Rivers.

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mrs. Teresa Peschel, 48 Half Street, spoke about the Street and Public Tree Ordinance. She is in favor of this ordinance and believes it is necessary to keep the trees we have. She believes when one tree is removed two should replace it. She believes the Shade Tree Commission will help this issue. She believes the trees on Township property should be reviewed.

Mr. Dennis Burd, 65 Pheasant Road, spoke about three concerns. The first is the trees in Shank Park that could fall and hurt or kill someone on the trail. He believes the trees should be looked at and have the ones that are dying, or dead cut down. The second is the visibility behind the Sheetz on Wood Road. He is concerned with the danger posed from the high weeds. The third is the deer population and the damage they do eating landscaping, ticks and getting hit on the road.

Mr. Jonathan Crist spoke about the office on 100 Crystal A Drive owned by Hershey which is being sold to the Hershey Medical Center. He noted their assessment value is nearly \$20 million. If they are sold to the non-profit side of HMC, there will be no taxes assessed. This will hurt the Township and School District. He noted that the total taxes this parcel generates is nearly \$500,000. He asked if the Township is aware. Chairwoman Cort stated they are aware.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to adopt the minutes from the August 27, 2019 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Vice Chairman Engle seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

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NEW BUSINESS:

HERSHEY PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM TOP READERS:

Mrs. O'Grady spoke about the reading program the Library had this summer. She stated they had 676 students participate this year. She honored the following children for being for being the top three readers for the summer:

- Cam Bixler, age 8 11,883 minutes, Hershey Primary Elementary
- Evie Bixler, age 10 10,173 minutes, Hershey Intermediate
- Anna Wang, age 11 6,279 minutes, Hershey Middle School

RESOLUTION 1597-OPEN RECORDS OFFICERS:

Mr. Christman noted the Township needs to change the Open Records Officer since Mrs. Henry was the officer and has since retired. He would like to suggest the Board appoint himself and Chief Warner as the officers.

Chairwoman Cort made a motion to adopt Resolution #1597 appointing Christopher S. Christman and Garth W. Warner as Open Records Officers for the Township of Derry. Vice Chairman Engle seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

ORDINANCE NO. 712-STREET & PUBLIC TREE ORDINANCE:

Mr. Emerick stated the Township has been pursuing revisions to modernize the existing tree ordinance, which was adopted in 1960 and last amended in 1983. This proposed amendment will replace the present regulations with "current" regulations and will also establish a Shade Tree Commission for the purposes of regulating the planting, maintenance, and removal of trees located within public rights-of-way and public places of the Township. He noted all the work completed by Matt Weir, Justin Engle, concerned citizens, representatives of the Downtown Hershey Association, and Township staff. He spoke about the order of things for the ordinance to be proposed to the Board for approval including appointing a 5-member Shade Tree Commission which would include two supervisors.

Supervisor Weir made a motion to authorize the following:

1. Staff advertises Ordinance No. 712 for consideration and adoption at the regular Board of Supervisors meeting on October 8, 2019.
2. Staff advertises for candidates for the Shade Tree Commission.
3. Staff forwards Ordinance No. 718 to the Derry Township and Dauphin County Planning Commissions for review and recommendation, and that staff advertises Ordinance No. 718 for a 6:00 p.m. public hearing on November 12, 2019 and adoption at the regular Board of Supervisors meeting on November 12, 2019.

Vice Chairman Engle seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

HRG PROPOSAL: CHOCOLATE AVE – PHASE II -STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENT:

Mrs. Zumbrun stated in December of 2017, the Township received notice that we would be receiving approximately \$480,000 in funding from the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside program. She spoke about the approved project which includes sidewalk improvements on the south side of Chocolate Avenue between Valley Road and Linden Road, and on the north side of Chocolate Avenue between Valley Road and Ridge Road. In addition, it includes the high-visibility resin crosswalks at the intersections of Caracas Avenue with Valley Road, Ridge Road, and Linden Road, and ADA ramps at

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Valley Road and Ridge Road. She noted the project must follow the federal process which could take 12-18 months. The HRG proposal covers engineering and environmental analysis, preliminary design, final design, and bidding and totals \$77,300. The 2019 budget includes \$80,000 for this project.

Chairwoman Cort made a motion to approve HRG's proposal for professional services for the Chocolate Avenue (Route 422) Phase 2 Streetscape Improvement project. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

72nd HALLOWEEN PARADE – OCTOBER 15 – 7PM:

Supervisor Moyer made a motion to authorize the conducting of the 72nd Annual Halloween Parade on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. with a severe weather make-up of Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Weir seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

ANNUAL PIAA CROSS COUNTRY -SEPTEMBER 21 – 7AM-4PM-ROAD CLOSURES:

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to approve the request to close N. Hockersville Rd. from Old West Chocolate Ave. to Hersheypark Dr. from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 21, 2019 for the Annual PIAA Cross Country Invitational being held on the grounds of the Hershey Entertainment Complex. Chairwoman Cort seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

FALL MEET - AACA -OCTOBER 11 – 11AM-5PM-ROAD CLOSURES:

Supervisor Weir made a motion to approve the request to close North Hockersville Road from Old West Chocolate Avenue to Hersheypark Drive from 11:00 p.m. on Friday, October 11, 2019 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 12, 2019 for the Annual Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) Fall Meet being held on the grounds of the Hershey Entertainment Complex. Vice Chairman Engle seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

HERSHEY HALF MARATHON -OCTOBER 20:

Chairwoman Cort made a motion to approve the request to hold the 10th Annual Hershey Half Marathon on Sunday, October 20, 2019 starting at 7:30 a.m. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

PIAA CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP -NOV. 2 – 7AM-4PM-ROAD CLOSURES:

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to approve the request to close North Hockersville Road (SR2011) from Old West Chocolate Avenue to Hersheypark Drive from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 2, 2019 for the Annual PIAA Cross Country Championships being held on the grounds of the Hershey Entertainment Complex. Supervisor Weir seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

BIDS-LIBRARY REDESIGN:

Mrs. O'Grady stated on August 27 the Board of Supervisors approved the award of the General Construction contract to eciConstruction, LLC for the Youth Services redesign in the amount of \$888,000 and for power floor repair in the amount of \$41,800. Before issuing any contracts, the bids were reviewed more closely, and it was determined that Uhrig Construction Inc. was in fact the lowest bidder.

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Supervisor Weir made a motion to award Uhrig Construction the contract for General Construction for the Youth Services re-design and power floor repair in the amount of \$910,100. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

CORRESPONDENCE BOARD/COMMITTEE INFORMATION:

Chairwoman Cort thanked the Boy Scouts (Troops 61 & 74) for helping to plant 100 trees and for pulling weeds.

REPORTS:

<u>Police:</u>	Chief Warner spoke about a group of volunteers who will be bringing in therapy dogs to the Police to help the officers. He will post something on social media about them coming.
<u>Public Works:</u>	Mr. Clark spoke about starting Sand Hill Road this week and hopefully having it completed by Friday – weather permitting.
<u>Library</u>	Mrs. O’Grady spoke about the scavenger hunts and how the summer program netted about 779,000 minutes of reading.
<u>Engineer:</u>	Mr. Wood spoke about volunteering with the Boy Scouts and weeding and about having a meeting with the contractor to discuss the berm.
<u>Community Development</u>	Mr. Emerick noted he has an intern that has started, and he hopes to bring him to a meeting soon.
<u>Manager</u>	Mr. Christman spoke about the traffic issues discussed last meeting with HE&R. He spoke about the transportation meeting they had that included HE&R and the two residents who expressed concerns. He stated it won’t be fixed overnight and may need to be evaluated by an outside engineer. In the meantime with the upcoming events, they are proposing to close the slip ramp to push traffic to Hershey Park Drive. He discussed the outreach that would be done to communicate this to the residents and visitors. Vice Chairman Engle is encouraged to have HE&R come to the meetings as they talk about the downtown expansions and the events that are bringing traffic to the Township. He noted that for a small town, they are bringing in large events.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE and PAYROLL:

Chairman Cort made a motion to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$1,160,096.56 and Payroll totaling \$336,753.74. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Rich Gamble, Hockersville Road, stated he did a survey of surrounding areas and the entertainment tax charged and noted it was about 5%. He stated the Township needs more help with the traffic and he has been asking about the entertainment tax for two years. He asked if there is a formal committee, are notes taken and when are the meetings. Chairwoman Cort stated they continue to meet with them, and they are not public meetings, so notes are not taken.

Mr. Wayne Rivers, 815 Cypress, spoke about social media pictures of the alley ways during one of the events. He spoke about different apps, including Ways, that direct visitors into town and what routes to take. He noted the next event is on a Monday and should be different than when the park is open. Mr. Christman noted the Police are working with the apps about the slip ramp closure. He noted there isn’t a simple fix.

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Mr. Gamble spoke about a traffic study and discussed the issues on Hockersville Road with trucks that keep getting stuck on the railroads at least once a week.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairwoman Cort made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

SUBMITTED BY:

Richard D. Zmuda
Township Secretary