

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 12, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Abruzzo called the July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Township of Derry Board of Supervisors to order at 7:11 p.m. in the meeting room of the Township of Derry Municipal Complex, 600 Clearwater Road, Hershey, PA. He advised that all public meetings are recorded for providing accurate notes. After the pledge of Allegiance, a roll call was completed. He noted the Board met in executive session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

IN ATTENDANCE:

SUPERVISORS

E. Christopher Abruzzo, Chairman
Natalie L. Nutt, Vice Chairwoman-by phone
Carter E. Wyckoff, Secretary-by phone
Richard D. Zmuda
Michael P. Corado

ALSO PRESENT:

Christopher Christman, Township Manager
Patrick Armstrong, Solicitor
Chuck Emerick, Director of Community Development
Robert Piccolo, Assistant Director of Public Works
Chief Garth Warner, Police Department
Alison Trautmann, Director of Hershey Public Library
Matt Bonanno, HRG Engineer
Julie Echterling, Recording Secretary

Public in Attendance:

Aaron Bricker, RGS, Janis Creason, Vincent Paese, Elyse Rode, Jolene Beard, Wendy Melhorn, Dennis Renaud, Judy Weber, Chandneary Buck, Cathy McCorkel, Louis Paioletti, Sheryl Pursel, Rich Gamble, Lindsay Drew, Tony Darosh

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Dave Weaver, 214 Java Ave., thanked the Board, Police and Public Works for helping with the closing of Java Ave. for their Javapalooza event.

Mr. Anthony Darosh, 230 Crescent Drive, stated he drove his car on West Areba Ave. when there was road construction and there were no flags or signs for the roadwork. His car has sustained damage and has been totaled. He has been reaching out to the Township without success. Mr. Christman took his information and will follow-up.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. Adoption of the Board of Supervisors Minutes for the June 28, 2022 Regular Meeting.
2. Authorized the release of maintenance security in the amount of \$150, provided as cash for the Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan for the Milton Hershey School Safety and Security Facility, Plat 1262.
3. Approval of Accounts Payable \$1,400,234.24 and Payroll of \$344,709.00.

Supervisor Corado made seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

NEW BUSINESS:

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTION SERVICE:

Mr. Christman spoke about how they have been evaluating all township services to ensure the most cost-effective delivery method is employed to meet the demands of the community. Currently, all real estate, Act 511 and Street Light taxes are collected by the Derry Township Tax Association. In FY2022, the total operating budget of the Association is \$395,530. He stated that Dauphin County Treasurer Janis

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 12, 2022

Creason and her Deputy Treasurer Vince Paese are here tonight. The Dauphin County Treasurer's Office collects real estate taxes for: Dauphin County, City of Harrisburg, Nine (9) municipalities and several school districts throughout the County. They already prepare, print and mail tax bills for Derry Township, which are currently collected by the Association. If the Township and the local tax collector agree to move real estate tax collection services to Dauphin County, the only fees associated will be one-half of all postage, printing and other expenses since the County prints and mails all tax bills jointly. He noted that this move will streamline real estate tax collection services, minimize liability exposure to the local tax collector and improve efficiencies in the transfer of funds and reporting of information to both the Township and School District.

Mrs. Creason introduced herself and Mr. Vincent Paese. She spoke about her work history and starting with the County in 2008. She spoke about the Tax Collector and the liability they have in their role and the bond with the County. She spoke about issues that arise when the office of the tax collector is vacated. Their office is open five days a week and provides for the billing, collection of real estate taxes, tax certifications, inquiries, and reporting. She spoke about their software that they share with each municipality and school they collect taxes for and how it works remotely. She stated they do not charge municipalities for their services. She did speak of the cost of the bond which would be less than \$4,000 a year. They accept payments online and the cost of such services are absorbed by the payee. She spoke about the checks and balances with the Controller's office. They collect the money and the Controller's office provides the authorization for disbursements.

Mr. Paese stated they man their counter from 8-4 p.m. daily and answer the phone and respond within 24 hours of messages left. They accept checks, money orders or credit cards. They process the payments and on Thursday prepare the report with money set to transfer on Friday and are in banks on Monday. If needed, they can hire seasonal employees to help with the load. The school district is charged a fee per bill. He spoke about the transition periods for prior conversions with municipalities from paying in person to sending the bill. They have provided personnel at the municipality until the need was so small it did not warrant someone being there at the location.

Supervisor Zmuda asked if the residents would see any changes. It would be seamless with the bills being sent out. They can work with the Township on manning the tax office for payments if needed. At the end of the year if the taxes are not paid, the County's software automatically transfers the accounts to tax collectors. Mr. Christman spoke about the potential savings involved with outsourcing the collection of taxes. He spoke about them evaluating many services and the 27% staffing reduction that has taken place to keep the budget tax neutral. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

RESOLUTION 2022-14-MULTIMODAL FUND GRANT:

Mr. Christman reminded the Board that in June HRG was authorized to prepare an application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) for a Multimodal Fund Grant. Specifically for pedestrian and vehicular safety enhancements to the main western, southern, and eastern entryways to Hershey Village as part of the Downtown Hershey Gateway Improvements project. A resolution authorizing application is required as part of the grant process. The total grant request is for \$901,117.

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-14, requesting Commonwealth Financing Authority Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant of \$901,117 for pedestrian and vehicular safety enhancements to the main western, southern, and eastern entryways to Hershey Village as part of the

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 12, 2022

Downtown Hershey Gateway Improvements project. Chairman Abruzzo seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

RESOLUTION 2022-13-ACCEPTING- ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS OF PORTIONS OF RED FOX DRIVE AND STOVERDALE ROAD:

Mr. Emerick stated Plat 1265 was conditionally approved and recorded by the Board in 2016. The plan depicted the subdivision of a 23-acre tract of land, into 22 new lots for single-family dwellings and 56 townhouse units. All the required improvements have been completed and confirmed by HRG, Inc., and the developer has requested that the Township release the remaining balance of the performance security and accept the dedicated roadway improvements. The deed of dedication for Red Fox Drive and Stoverdale Road has been received. Maintenance security in the amount of \$94,292.25 has been supplied.

Chairman Abruzzo made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-13, accepting the public roadway improvements of portions of Red Fox Drive and Stoverdale Road. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Chairman Abruzzo made a motion to authorize the release of the remaining balance of the performance security (\$217,246.67), provided as United States Surety Company Bond No. 1001047705, accepting Berkley Insurance Company Bond No. 0246187M for \$94,292.25 for maintenance security. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0**

Chairman Abruzzo made a motion to authorize execution of the Maintenance Agreement for a term of 18 months for the Revised Final Subdivision and Land Development Plan for The Point, Plat 1265. Supervisor Corado seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0**

LIBRARY BOILER REPLACEMENT INCREASED COST:

Ms. Trautmann stated the library currently has two boilers. The newest one was replaced in 2019. The older boiler is not currently operational. It is recommended to have two boilers that can alternately cycle on and off to extend the life of both boilers. This also provides back up for the heating system in case one fails. With no heat during the winter, the library would be forced to close until the boilers could be repaired. The previous boiler was quoted (2021) at \$53,841. The current price is \$69,380. This is \$9,380 over the \$60,000 that was approved in this year's budget for the project.

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to approve the requested increase in budget amount of \$9,380 for the replacement of the older boiler in the library. Supervisor Corado seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

BEN & TIM DAY 5K RACE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST THE 27TH:

Supervisor Corado made a motion to approve the request to conduct the 2022 Ben & Tim Day 5K race on Saturday, August 27, 2022 starting at 9:00 a.m., over various Township roadways on a route approved by the Derry Township Police Department. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

SECURITY- STORMWATER - 1108 MIDDLETOWN ROAD- S-2022-008:

Supervisor Corado made a motion to accept a cash financial security in the amount of \$19,428.00 and enter into the Agreement to Provide Financial Security with Thomas and Jamie Whye for the Stormwater

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 12, 2022

Management Plan for 1108 Middletown Road, S-2022-008. Supervisor Zmuda seconded the motion.
Motion carried 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE BOARD/COMMITTEE INFORMATION:

Supervisor Zmuda thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for fixing the old stage downtown and now it is much safer. Music on Chocolate starts August 8.

REPORTS:

<u>Library:</u>	Ms. Trautmann spoke about the movie, Catch Me If You Can, that will be shown at the library at 1 p.m. this Saturday, July 16. The Annual Book Sale by the Friends of the Library will run from August 5-9.
-----------------	--

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no comments offered.

ADJOURNMENT:

Supervisor Zmuda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Supervisor Corado seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

SUBMITTED BY:

Carter E. Wyckoff
Township Secretary