

**MEETING MINUTES
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUSINESS MEETING
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY HALL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2023- 7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER – 7:04PM

• **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The Township Manager shared the meeting was being recorded for future broadcast.
- The Township Manager shared the Board of Supervisors had met in executive session on August 15th from 5:00pm to 8:00pm to discuss personnel. No decisions were made.
- Chair DeLello shared the Board would also meet in executive session following the meeting to discuss Real Estate.
- Chair DeLello shared the Worcester Fire Department would hold its annual Chicken BBQ the following Saturday.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

All three Board members were in attendance.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Smith of Upper Gwynedd Township provided public comment related to preserved open space. She thanked the Board of Supervisors for the acquisition of 3335 Fisher Road, and the Dutchie Church. Susan read an open letter to the Palmer family.

OFFICIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent agenda

Supervisor Betz motioned to approve a consent agenda that includes the following items:

- i. Treasurer’s Report and other Monthly Reports for July 2023;
- ii. bill payment for July 2023 totaling \$267,681.86; and
- iii. July 2023 Business Meeting minutes

Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 2023-295

- An ordinance authorizing the Board of School Directors of the Methacton School District to assume the hiring and oversight of school crossing guards for the public schools within the township.

Meetings to be held at Worcester Township Community Hall, 1031 Valley Forge Road.

Township Solicitor Wendy McKenna summarized the ordinance, which empowers the School District with the authority to hire crossing guards, normally empowered to Townships by the second-class Township Code.

Supervisor Betz motioned to approve ordinance 2023-295, authorizing Methacton School District to assume the hiring and oversight of school crossing guards for the public schools within the Township.

There was no public comment. Supervisor Quigley asked Mr. Betz if he felt the solution was adequate, given his work on the project. Mr. Betz replied that the sooner this was passed and completed, the better. Mr. Quigley asked Mr. Halbom how many additional spots would be provided. He replied approximately 50 parking spaces were available at the Church lot.

Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Waiver

- A motion to approve a Waiver of Land Development to allow for BMP conversion at Terra Landscaping

John Evarts, P.E., Township Engineer summarized the project for Terra Landscaping on Germantown Pike which proposes a new fence, paving expansion, and the conversion of a rain garden to a stormwater facility that will allow for the reuse of rainwater. John asked for clarification concerning the use of the expanded paved area and how rainwater would enter the stormwater feature.

Anthony Hibbling, design engineer, presented on behalf of the applicant. He explained the applicant uses water at a high rate, and this redesign allows for the roof collection system and stormwater on site to capture and reuse stormwater for landscaping. He explained that this system prioritizes reuse of water as opposed to capturing it and releasing it like the current basin is designed to do. Mr. Hibbling called attention to the plans to show where the water would enter the stormwater tank, and the approved paved areas, storage areas, and parking areas.

Chair DeLello asked Mr. Hibbling if he felt this was an improvement and if it incorporated Best Management Practices related to stormwater management. Mr. Hibbling replied in the affirmative.

Supervisor Quigley asked what the capacity of the tank was, and what happens when it fills. Mr. Hibbling replied the tank will have greater capacity than the basin. Mr. Evarts replied the new volume will be 30,870 cu/feet, which is comparable to the rain garden's volume. He added the system is designed so overflow would leave the site the same way it does currently with the basin. He asked Mr. Hibbling if the project would comply with all notes added by the Township Engineer in his letter. Mr. Hibbling replied in the affirmative. Supervisor Quigley asked the applicant if they have completed all obligations with Lower Providence Township. The applicant replied there were no concerns from Lower Providence Township.

Mr. Evarts proposed two additional administrative comments: First, the waiver of land development plan to be recorded with the County, and second, the Township inspect the BMP conversion. The applicant agreed to the additional conditions.

Supervisor Betz complemented the applicant for the ingenuity of the project. He offered concern about stormwater overflow, but expressed support given the engineers' comments related to the design and

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conformity with best practices. He noted the tanks were below ground, so they were unlikely to freeze, but asked the applicant to confirm that had been considered. The applicant confirmed cold weather has been accounted for in the design.

Supervisor Betz motioned to approve a Waiver for Land Development, with the added conditions discussed by the Township Engineer, in the case of Terra Landscaping. Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion passe unanimously.

4. Motions

- A motion to accept the Valley Forge Road Corridor Deed of Dedication of Street Right-of-Way signed by MB Investments re: 1224 Valley Forge Road.

5. Motion

- A motion to accept the Valley Forge Road Corridor Deed of Dedication of Street Right-of-Way signed by Michael S. & Rebecca Current re: 1251 Valley Forge Road

6. Motion

- A motion to authorize execution by the Township of the Valley Forge Road Corridor Temporary Construction and Access Easement and to accept the Deed of Dedication of Street Right-of-Way signed by John P. McAnally re: 2972 Township Line Road.

Solicitor Wendy McKenna summarized the three motions related to the Valley Forge Corridor Improvement Project. Supervisor Betz motioned to accept the Deeds of Dedication and Temporary Construction Access Easements, for the above mentioned properties.

Supervisor Betz motioned to approve the motions to accept Deeds of Dedication and Temporary Construction Access Easements, as articulated by Solicitor Wendy McKenna.

Supervisor Quigley asked to explain the purpose of this project for those watching the recording. Mr. DeLello offered the project began by noting the road needed enhancements for safety and traffic flow. A grant was received to design the improvements and the Township has been working with their traffic engineer to better manage modern storms and traffic. Small portions of property frontage are required, so the Township has been in contact with property owners over the past year to communicate these needs and work with them to acquire the property for the enhancements, while looking out for residents interests along the way. Mr. Betz added the road is a PennDOT road, so staff are also working to coordinate the project with the state.

Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Motion

- A motion to enter into settlement for tax assessment appeals for the following addresses:
Kyung C Lee – 2106 Berks Rd

Solicitor Wendy McKenna summarized the motion. Mr. DeLello shared that the Township follows the School Districts lead with assessment appeals since we receive such a small portion of the tax revenue. In this case, the assessment was reduced by \$11.90 for the Township's share.

Supervisor Betz motioned to approve the settlement agreement; Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Planning Commission – August 24, 2023 (7:30 PM)

Zoning Hearing Board – August 30, 2023 (6:00 PM)

Board of Supervisors – September 20, 2023 (Work Session @ 6:30PM, Business Meeting @ 7:00PM)