

**WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY HALL
FAIRVIEW VILLAGE, WORCESTER, PA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019 – 6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER by Chair DeLello at 6:33 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:	RICK DELELLO	[X]
	SUSAN CAUGHLAN	[X]
	STEVE QUIGLEY	[X]

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Tommy Ryan, Township Manager, announced this evening’s Work Session was being video-recorded for rebroadcast.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jim Mollick, Worcester, commented on the open space funding study, Friends of Worcester relationship with the Trust for Public Land, Township purchase and maintenance of open space, and an allowance for individuals to opt out of any future tax for open space.

PRESENTATIONS

Open Space Funding Study – Chair DeLello commented on the open space funding study, and noted staff from the Trust for Public Land will attend the January 15 Work Session to discuss the open space funding study.

Supervisor Quigley noted any future tax or other funding source for open space preservation would be approved by the voters by referendum.

Supervisor Caughlan commented on public input and the promotion of the open space study and open space preservation efforts.

Chair DeLello commented on funding options, including the issuance of a bond, an increase to the real estate tax, and an increase to the Earned Income Tax. Chair DeLello commented on the referendum schedule.

Supervisor Caughlan commented on the use of capital funds for open space purchases. Chair DeLello commented on capital fund restrictions.

Supervisor Caughlan commented on the use of open space funds for property maintenance.

Chair DeLello commented on Board consideration of funding options, including the issuance of a bond, an increase to the real estate tax, and an increase to the Earned Income Tax.

Supervisor Quigley commented on the Trust for Public Land experience. Chair DeLello commented on open space referendum history.

Supervisor Caughlan commented on the Earned Income Tax for open space levied by Skippack Township.

There was general discussion on generating open space funds through an Earned Income Tax and through real estate taxes.

Chair DeLello commented on open space preservation and real estate taxes. Supervisor Caughlan commented on the costs attributable to development and open space. Chair DeLello commented on school district tax increases, and school district student enrollment decreases, in recent years.

Supervisor Quigley noted the Board of Supervisors will consider open space funding options in the months to come.

David Brooks, Worcester, commented on open space referendum procedures and open space funding through the real estate transfer tax.

Wini Hayes, Worcester, commented on this evening's winter weather conditions, the use of open space funding, and open space funding options.

Bob Andorn, Worcester, commented on funding open space purchases and maintenance through the real estate tax, open space purchase guidelines, and the information provided by the Trust for Public Land.

Dr. Mollick commented on the information provided by the Trust for Public Land, public access to privately-owed preserved properties, School District revenue sources, and past open space purchases.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Supervisor Caughlan requested to change the time of the January 6 Reorganization Meeting. Supervisor Quigley noted he had a scheduling conflict that would not allow him to attend the January 6 Reorganization Meeting at the time requested.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Board, Chair DeLello adjourned the Work Session at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tommy Ryan
Township Manager