

MINUTES
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUSINESS MEETING
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY HALL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023- 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 PM

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Halbom announced the meeting was being recorded for future video broadcast.

Mr. Halbom announced the Board of Supervisors met in executive session on August 31st to discuss litigation, on September 8th to discuss personnel, on September 11th to discuss personnel, litigation, and real estate, and on September 18th to discuss personnel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

All three Board members were in attendance.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no public comment.

OFFICIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent agenda

Vice-Chair Betz motioned to approve the consent agenda, including Treasurers Reports and bill payments for the month of August totaling \$440,061.85, and the August Business Meeting minutes. There was no public comment. **The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley, and passed unanimously.**

2. Resolution 2023-17: A resolution to adopt the Act 537 Special Study for Towamencin Township

Chair DeLello asked Township Engineer John Evarts to summarize the project. Mr. Evans stated the resolution relates to a special study related to the Towamencin Sewer Sale and the resolution is a requirement of DEP, and was a procedural action.

Vice-Chair Betz motioned to approve Resolution 2023-17, a resolution to adopt the act 537 Special Study for Towamencin Township. There was no public comment. Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

3. Resolution 2023-18

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

- A resolution of the Worcester Township Board of Supervisors Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Property located at 1581 Valley Forge Road, Consisting of Approximately 0.97 Acres, More or Less, said tract being tax parcel no. 67-00-01048-00-1; Authorizing the Preparation, Execution, And Recording of Any and All Documents, Declaration of Taking, Deed-in-Lieu of Condemnation, Writings, Instruments and Papers as May Be Necessary to Formally Acquire Title to Such Property in the Name of Worcester Township.

Chair DeLello asked the Township Solicitor to summarize the matter. Mr. Brant shared that first, a resolution was required to begin executing the sale documents. Next, a “friendly condemnation” process saves the seller and Township the transfer tax fees. Closing would then take place the day following this meeting, if approved.

Vice Chair Betz motioned to approve Resolution 2023-18, Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Property located at 1581 Valley Forge Road, Consisting of Approximately 0.97 Acres, More or Less, said tract being tax parcel no. 67-00-01048-00-1; Authorizing the Preparation, Execution, And Recording of Any and All Documents, Declaration of Taking, Deed-in-Lieu of Condemnation, Writings, Instruments and Papers as May Be Necessary to Formally Acquire Title to Such Property in the Name of Worcester Township.

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

4. Motion

- A motion to authorize execution of an agreement of sale for the potential purchase of a property.

Chair DeLello offered that this motion would not be relevant to this evening's meeting, but had to remain on the agenda because of sunshine law requirements.

5. 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 The Stables Community Association re: 0 Spring Hill Road

Chair DeLello asked the Township Solicitor to summarize motions five, six, seven, and eight. Mr. Brant replied that all properties were related to the Valley Forge Road Corridor Improvement Project, and had been negotiated by Township Staff with each property owner.

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 Donna Jones re: 2944 Woodlyn Ave

7. Motion

- A motion to accept the Valley Forge Road Corridor Deed of Dedication of Street Right-of-Way signed by Pascual Arias and Sharon Catagnus re: 1424 Valley Forge Road

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

8. 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 Derek Snyder and Kerri Owsiany re: 1252 Valley Forge Road.

Vice Chair Betz motioned to approve the execution of all documents referred to by the Solicitor and listed on the agenda as motions 5,6,7, and 8. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley. There was no public comment. **The motion passed unanimously.**

9. Motion

- A motion to enter into settlement for tax assessment appeals for the following addresses:
 1. Methacton Area High School - 1543 North Trooper Road

Mr. Brant summarized the motion. In this case, the Township will receive money back from the property owner who appealed in the amount of about \$15.00.

Vice Chair Betz motioned to approve the motion to enter into settlement for tax appeal at the property listed above. Supervisor Quigley seconded the motion. There was no public comment. **The motion passed unanimously.**

10. 2024 Budget

Finance Director Nicole Quagliariello provided the budget update. She highlighted this budget called for no new taxes, keeping Worcester Township the lowest taxing municipality in Montgomery County. The Board of Supervisors thanked Nicole for her hard work. Chair DeLello offered that, along with no raise in taxes, the Township is continuing to provide additional services to residents. He called attention to the Township's recent support of the Fire Department, a resource requiring significant funding.

Vice Chair Betz voiced optimism for the financial state of the Township and expressed his ongoing support of the Fire Department.

Supervisor Quigley offered that the Township is fortunate to have excellent finances. He commended the Township staff for their work, and shared the good financial management allows for the Township to address needs effectively. He commented that the budget is a living document and he looked forward to the next updates.

Chair DeLello commented on some of the financial stressors the Township was facing, particularly with the insurance market. He shared the Township was managing this well through their participation with the Delaware Valley Insurance Trust.

OTHER BUSINESS

Request by FC Montco (Youth Soccer Club) to erect temporary lights at Heebner Park during the Fall of 2023.

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

Chair DeLello provided some background regarding the request for temporary lights. Vice Chair Betz offered support for the youth sports organizations. Supervisor Quigley shared that the lights make sense given family's evening schedules, and the lack of daylight. Given the temporary nature of the lights, he voiced support for the request.

Mr. Pete Maxwell, President of FC MontCo, a local youth soccer organization, addressed the board. Pete shared FC MontCo had knocked on doors in the area to speak with residents about the request. They had a petition signed offering the support of those residents. He added the program hosts 650 kids that practice at Heebner and Mt. Kirk parks, primarily. Pete praised the four youth athletes who also attended for their civic work. He offered that the lights will be taken down in November once the kids move over to the High School area to practice.

Chair DeLello thanked Pete for his time. Supervisor Quigley asked if any other facilities were used that have lights. Pete shared that RedTail Park was that location, but it is under construction now.

The Board of Supervisors authorized the installation of temporary lights by FC MontCo, and directed Township Staff to assist, if necessary.

State Police Communication

Chair DeLello shared that he had interacted with several residents who shared concerns about how to report public nuisances to the state police. He shared some suggestions the Township Manager and State Police Liaison had discussed.

Supervisor Quigley shared that the PSP reports show more call responses lately than in years past, implying presence is likely up. He commented on car break ins and crimes of opportunities at the parks. He advocated for additional cameras to be installed to assist with security.

Vice Chair Betz asked about the existing cameras at Heebner Park. Mr. Halbom shared there are cameras covering limited areas of Heebner Park, currently. He voiced support for additional security cameras.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Planning Commission – September 28, 2023 (7:30 PM)

Zoning Hearing Board – September 26, 2023 (6:00 PM)

Board of Supervisors – October 18, 2023 (Work Session @ 6:30PM, Business Meeting @ 7:00PM)

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