

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
HELD ON June 3, 2020

SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 111 VALLEY PARK ROAD, PHOENIXVILLE, PA 19460
Duly advertised in The Pottstown Mercury and posted on www.schuylkilltwp.com

The June monthly meeting was duly advertised and held electronically through the GoTo Webinar application via telephone and the internet

IN ATTENDANCE

Board of Supervisors

Martha Majewski – Chair, Fred Parry – Vice Chair, Susan Guerette – Member, Bob Cooney – Member

Supervisor Mark Donovan was excused from this meeting.

Township Administration

William Brenna, Esq. – Township Solicitor, Madeline Harbison – Township Secretary, E.J. Mentry – Township Manager/Treasurer. The Township Engineer was excused from this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The virtual monthly public business meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was chaired by Supervisor Majewski.

Supervisor Majewski announced that an executive session was held on May 21, 2020 to discuss personnel matters and also this evening, June 3, 2020, to discuss personnel issues and litigation matters.

Mr. Mentry gave a brief overview of the virtual meeting protocols and reminded attendees that question and comments could be submitted at any time during the meeting via the question submittal box on the webinar dashboard. The submittals would be read aloud at the appropriate time in the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval and acceptance of the Minutes of the May 6, 2020 Board of Supervisor business meeting and the May 21, 2020 work session meeting.
2. Acceptance of all departmental, committee, commission, and council reports as posted and received by the Board of Supervisors for the month of May 2020.

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski seconded by Supervisor Parry, and unanimously passed, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township approved and accepted the Consent Agenda.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Mentry, Treasurer, reported to the Board that as of May 31, 2020, the Township's general fund shows a balance of \$4,393,145. At present the Township has collected about 91% of its 2020 real estate taxes. EIT collections are down about \$100,000 from last year. Mr. Mentry advised the Board that he has reviewed the bills to be paid for June and recommended payment of those bills.

Mr. Mentry said that there were a substantial number of real estate tax refund checks issued this month primarily due to the extension of the discount payment period. The current Township practice is to refund any overpayment of \$1.00 or more. Mr. Mentry advised the Board that it costs the Township about \$20.00 to produce an overpayment refund check and asked the Board if it

would like him to investigate other municipalities' practice. The Board concurred and requested Mr. Mentry to report back at the July meeting.

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Parry, and unanimously passed, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township approved and accepted the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 31, 2020 and authorized payment of Township bills for the period ending May 31, 2020.

TWO-MINUTE REPORTS

Supervisor Guerette reported that the Environmental Advisory Council held a virtual meeting in May and is moving ahead with various projects and working on the proposed tree ordinance.

Supervisor Cooney advised that the Historical Commission also met virtually in May and is currently working on signage for Valley Park Municipal Park and is monitoring the Anderson Barn matter. The HC continues to advance the Trolley Station project.

Supervisor Majewski said that she met with members of the EAC regarding interpretative signage for Valley Park Municipal Park and placement of the various amenities purchased for the park. The HC will be designing an interpretive sign for the Trolley Station. Supervisor Majewski said she would report back to the Board on her activities within the park. Mr. Mentry advised the Board that the interior of the Trolley Station is being painted this week.

The Township Manager gave an update on the impact to the Township from the severe storms which came through the area on June 3.

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

Green Light Go Grants Update. Mr. Mentry advised the Board that PaDOT has cut the funding for this grant program due to revenue shortfalls. Schuylkill Township has two open and approved projects through Green Light Go, the first for the connection of intersection traffic signals on White Horse Road, Valley Park Road and Pothouse Road to the closed loop system. The second project was a further intersection signal connection to the closed loop system of Valley Park and Country Club Roads, and Country Club Road, Ferry Land and Route 23. Both grants have been terminated although the Township will receive reimbursement for design costs for the 1st project.

Township Response to COVID-19/Reopening Plan and Procedures Update.- Mr. Mentry advised the Board Chester County is moving to the yellow phase of reopening on June 5th. With the Board's concurrence, there will be no change in Township staff protocols or public access and meetings at the Township building until the County goes into the green phase of reopening.

MS4 Education: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination – The Township Manager advised the Board and residents that a Fact Sheet on Illicit Discharges was available to the public on the Township's website on the Stormwater Management and would be provided in the municipal building lobby once the Township reopened.

Valley Park Municipal Park Next Steps – Supervisor Majewski said she had discussed the majority of the items in her two-minute report to the Board but added that she has been in touch with Mr.

Morrisson regarding the proposed Trolley Track Exhibit. Mr. Mentry advised the Board that he is working on establishing the boundaries of the Park.

NEW BUSINESS

Opposition to Preemption of Local Bans on Single-Use Plastics

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Guerette, and passed with Supervisor Parry opposing, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township ratified and approved a letter to the Pennsylvania Legislature expressing its Opposition to Legislation Preempting Single Use Plastics Municipal Ordinances.

Discussion – GoTo Webinar Subscription:

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Parry, seconded by Supervisor Guerette, and passed, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township approved the expenditure of Township funds for a subscription to GoToWebinar for Township business.

RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES

Advertisement of Ordinance 2020-02 Amending the Township Code by Creating a new Chapter 98, Article III – Nuisances Created by Animals

Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of “urination by animals” in the nuisance ordinance and upon motion by Supervisors Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Parry and unanimously passed, this item was tabled to the July 1, 2020 business meeting.

Advertisement of Ordinance 2020-03 Amending Chapter 340 Traffic and Parking

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Parry, and unanimously passed, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township approved the advertisement of Ordinance 2020-03 Amending Chapter 340 Traffic and Parking.

Advertisement of Ordinance 2020-04 Adopting Regulations for the Use of Township-Owned Parks and Open Space

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Parry, and unanimously passed, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township approved the advertisement of Ordinance 2020-04 Adopting Regulations for the Use of Township-Owned Parks and Open Space.

SUBDIVISION / LAND DEVELOPMENT

Valley Forge Greene Townhomes Development Stormwater Management – Consideration of Adoption of Resolution 2020-21 Approving a Minor Modification of the Stormwater Management Plan for the Valley Forge Greene Townhomes Development owned by Pulte Homes of PA.

Mr. Mentry advised the Board that the updated stormwater management documents are not completed and suggested to the Board that this matter be tabled to the July 1 meeting.

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Parry, and unanimously passed, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township tabled consideration of Resolution 2020-21 to its July 1, 2020 meeting.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Consideration of Appointment of New Township Engineer.

Upon **motion** by Supervisor Cooney, seconded by Supervisor Guerette, and passed with Supervisor Parry abstaining, the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township approved the appointment of T&M Associates as the new Schuylkill Township Engineer with Russell G. Benner, Jr., P.E. as the Engineer of Record.

Mr. Mentry suggested that the transition from Gilmore Associates, Inc. to T&M Associates be on the Board's June work session agenda. The Board concurred.

Consideration of Acceptance of Payment to Satisfy the Judgements for UPI #27-6-69, 225B Valley Park Road.

The Anderson barn property located at 225B Valley Park Road, being Chester County UPI # 27-6-69, contains a Class I Historic Barn in need of substantial repair. Citations have been issued for demolition by neglect under the Zoning Ordinance. Upon **motion** by Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Cooney, and passed with Supervisor Guerette opposing, the Township, as requested by the Historic Commission, will accept full payment to satisfy the judgment at CCP 2017-02754 in the amount of \$1,097, and the judgment at CCP2019-11655 in the amount of \$12,174.75 for the total sum of \$13,271.75. Upon receipt of certified funds in the amount of \$13,271.75 within 10 days, the Township shall discontinue 3 pending claims against the current property owner at CCP 2020-00080, 2020-00082 and 00083. The Township Solicitor is directed to prepare and deliver appropriate satisfaction and discontinuance documents upon confirmation of payment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. upon **motion** of Supervisor Majewski, seconded by Supervisor Parry and unanimously passed by the Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township.

NEXT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

Board of Supervisors June Virtual Work SessionThursday, June 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Supervisors Virtual Business Meeting.....Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline Harbison
Township Secretary