

WORK SESSION

April 21, 2015

A work session of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda of the April 21, 2015 Supervisors' meeting. Chairman Frederick R. Conner was present with Supervisors Adam D. Zucker, Anthony F. Greco, and Kenneth F. Wollman. Supervisor Melissa M. Weber was representing the Township as a Voting Delegate at the Annual PSATS Conference and was not able to attend the Board of Supervisors' Meeting. Also present were Township Solicitor Andrew R. Freimuth, Esq., Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, Township Engineer James E. Blanch, P.E., Assistant Township Manager David J. Mrochko, Director of Public Works Ronald J. Cione, Police Chief Mark A. Smith, Parks and Recreation Director Kurt W. Baker, Director of Code Enforcement Michael McAndrew, and Fire Marshal David M. Camarda. One member of the public was also present.

The Supervisors reviewed the agenda discussing Mission Moments and various related presentations, approval of the April 7, 2015 Board minutes, Resolutions Nos. 1082, 1082, 1083 and 1084, terms of employment for Kenneth Lawson as Chief of Police, and consideration of a waiver request at 1560 Wick Lane.

After reviewing the agenda, Mr. Pronczak discussed the Shade Tree Commission's recent re-organization. The newest member of the Commission, S. Edgar David, has been elected as the chairman, Joan B. Knies will remain as vice-chair, and Andrew P. Meehan will remain as the third member of the Commission. Mrs. Knies has expressed interest in stepping down from her position this summer. Previously the Board of Supervisors had discussed the concept of expanding the Commission to five members; however, since there have been a few recent changes to the Commission, the Board of Supervisors does not plan to expand the Commission in the short term. The Board of Supervisors will reexamine the expansion discussion in the future.

The next topic discussed was a review of upcoming events, including:

- 4/23/2015 – Earth Day – Prophecy Creek Park – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- 4/25/2015 – Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association – Clean-up Day
- 4/25/2015 – Centre Square Fire Company Banquet – Centre Square Gold Club – Hors D'oeuvres 6:00 p.m., Dinner 7:00 p.m.
- 4/26/2015 – Shade Tree Commission – Tree Giveaway – Prophecy Creek Park – 8:00 a.m.
- 5/3/2015 – Blue Bell Rotary – Pancake Breakfast – Manor House – Prophecy Creek Park – 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Pronczak continued the meeting by discussing a proposed road tour for the Supervisors. The tour would take Supervisors and staff members to various locations in the Township to review a variety of road projects, land development projects, and

Township trails and parks. Mr. Conner suggested that the Comprehensive Plan Committee should join the road tour as well. The road tour could happen as early as 3:00 p.m. on May 21, before the next Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting.

The last topic discussed was a planned meeting with the parents of children who were involved in the bus accident on March 24, 2015. The meeting will occur at Prophecy Creek Manor House on April 29 at 7:00 pm. Representatives from the Police Department will be on hand to explain that a medical emergency was the sole cause of the accident.

At 7:39 p.m., the Supervisors adjourned the work session and met in executive session to discuss legal matters. When the executive session ended, Supervisors left for the public meeting. When the public meeting ended, Supervisors met once again in executive session to discuss legal matters.

David J. Mrochko
Whitpain Township Assistant Manager

#08-2015
April 21, 2015

The regular meeting of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at the Township Administration Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA. Chairman Frederick R. Conner, Jr., along with Supervisors Adam D. Zucker, Anthony F. Greco, and Kenneth F. Wollman were present. Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, P.E., Assistant Township Manager, David J. Mrochko, Solicitor Andrew R. Freimuth, Esq., Police Chief Mark A. Smith, Township Engineer James E. Blanch, P.E., Code Enforcement Officer Michael E. McAndrew, Public Works Director Ronald J. Cione, Parks and Recreation Director Kurt W. Baker, Fire Marshal David M. Camarda, and Recording Secretary Virginia Papale were also present. Finance Director Christine M. Bauman was absent. There were approximately 60 members of the public at the meeting.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Conner welcomed everyone to the eighth meeting of the year. He noted that Supervisor Melissa Murphy Weber was representing the Township at the 93rd Annual PSATS Conference in Hershey. She sends her regrets at not being able to be here this evening, and further remarks will follow.

Chairman Conner announced the 20th Annual Earth Day celebration will be held Thursday, April 23rd at 9 a.m. at Prophecy Creek Park, the Annual Tree Giveaway is scheduled for Sunday, April 26th at 8 a.m. at Prophecy Creek Park, the Annual Rotary Pancake Breakfast benefitting SARS will be held Sunday, May 3rd at 8 a.m. at the Manor House at Prophecy Creek Park, and the 45th Annual Creek Cleanup sponsored by the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association will be held Saturday, April 25th.

As has become custom, Mission Moments tonight begins with a few minutes of reflection on the accomplishments of Chief Mark A. Smith who is retiring after 36 years of selfless service to the Whitpain Township community. Throughout his career, Chief Smith has met every challenge with the utmost decency and compassion. These virtues were instilled in him by his parents and this community in which he was born and raised. He became interested in police work through his high school coach, who was also a Philadelphia police officer. Throughout his career with Whitpain Township, he has held nearly every position in the Police Department. He enjoyed most working with children as part of the D.A.R.E. program for ten years, educating young people on the dangers of substance abuse. In leading by example, he has prepared his successor, Deputy Chief Kenneth Lawson to take over as Chief. In retirement, Chief Smith looks forward to spending time with his wife of 25 years, Lisa, and traveling and enjoy time with daughters Regan and Amanda.

A motion was made by Mr. Zucker, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to pass Resolution No. 1084 honoring Chief Mark A. Smith. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. Vice-Chairman Zucker said he has known Chief Smith for many years, and said the respect Chief Smith has received over the years is the greatest anyone can receive. He has integrity, is professional, honest, fair and humble. He has been a shining beacon of law enforcement leadership. Mr. Zucker thanked Chief Smith for his many years of service and for caring so much about the Township. Supervisor Wollman offered congratulations and wished the Chief well as he pursues his hobbies. He thanked him for his service and for serving as an outstanding model. Supervisor Greco was on the Board when Chief Smith was appointed, and said we couldn't have selected better. He thanked Chief Smith for his service. Chairman Conner read a statement from Supervisor Weber, who publicly thanked him for his dedication to the residents, his officers, and the surrounding communities. He always did the right thing for the right reasons. She and her family wish Chief Smith the best in retirement. There were no additional comments and the motion carried.

Chief Smith was presented with the Resolution and a clock. The Board thanked him for his years of service and congratulations were extended to him by everyone in attendance. Chief Smith thanked everyone. He said he has had a great career, working with many of the best in the business. He is proud of his accomplishments, and noted that the new Chief is a great man who will do a great job.

As part of our partnership with WRA, additional honors follow.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to pass Resolution No. 1081 congratulating the WRA Whitpain Wonders U11 Girls Soccer Team and their 2015 Championship. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none. The Resolution was presented to the team and photos were taken of the group.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Zucker to pass Resolution No. 1082 applauding the WRA Whitpain Wonders U9 Girls Soccer Team for their first-year success in 2015. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none. The Resolution was presented to the team. Group photos were taken.

Chairman Conner offered Mrs. Weber's personal congratulations to both teams, sent via text. She is a Board member of the Eastern PA Youth Soccer Association, and while never playing soccer, loves being a Soccer Mom.

A motion was made by Mr. Zucker, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to approve the minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting of April 7, 2015. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to adopt Resolution No. 1083 authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign an Application for Traffic Signal Approval to be submitted to the PA Department of Transportation. The application is required in order to install modifications to the existing traffic signal located at the intersection of Swede Road and DeKalb Pike. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

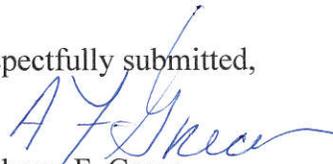
A motion was made by Mr. Zucker, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to approve the terms of employment with Kenneth Lawson as soon-to-be Chief of Police. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to grant a waiver from the requirement of preparing a land development plan to Korman Communities for the installation of a roadway extension for the ARK Community located at 1560 Wick Lane. The waiver is conditioned upon resolution of the items contained in the review letter from the Township Engineer dated April 1, 2015. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

Chairman Conner turned the meeting over the Vice-Chairman Zucker who asked for public comments or questions. There were none. He asked if the Board had any comments or questions. Chairman Conner noted the Board met in a brief executive session prior to the meeting, and will return to executive session to continue discussions on a legal matter.

There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Zucker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony F. Greco
Secretary

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