

## WORK SESSION

June 21, 2016

A work session of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 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 June 21, 2016 Supervisors' meeting. Chairman Adam D. Zucker was present with Supervisors Melissa M. Weber, Anthony F. Greco, Frederick R. Conner and Kenneth F. Wollman. Also present were Township Solicitor Frank R. Bartle, Esq., Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, Assistant Township Manager David J. Mrochko, Director of Public Works Ronald J. Cione, Police Chief Kenneth Lawson, Director of Finance Christine M. Bauman, Fire Marshal David M. Camarda, Parks and Recreation Director Kurt W. Baker, and Director of Code Enforcement Michael McAndrew. One member of the public was also present.

The Supervisors reviewed the agenda discussing presentations, Mission Moment, appropriation of funds, approval of the May 17<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors' meeting minutes, the May Voucher List, the April Treasurer's Report, advertisement of Ordinance Nos. 340 and 349, award of contract for Phase One of the Core Connector Trail of the Master Trails Plan, approval of a Trail Easement Agreement, the Centre Square Park Maintenance Agreement with WRA and Wisslax, the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Public Works Association, Resolution Nos. 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136 and 1137, two waiver requests, authorization to proceed with professional engineering services related to Wissahickon Park, release of escrow funds, approval of financial security for Phases I, II and III with Latham Realty, disposal of surplus vehicles, advertisement for bids for work at 799 Skippack Pike, and participation in the Montgomery County Consortium Verizon Cable Franchise Agreement.

Mr. Pronczak continued the meeting and reviewed a listing of upcoming events, including:

- West Ambler Community Open House – EPA, FEMA, US Army Corps of Engineers, PADEP, Whitpain Township, other municipalities, universities, and agencies will participate – July 26 - 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- HOA Presentation – September 13 at the Planning Commission Meeting
- Dog Park Ribbon Cutting – Centre Square Park – Sunday, September 18 at 1:00 p.m.
- Historical Society Open House – Sunday, September 18 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Community Festival – September 24 – Montgomery County Community College

After discussion on the listing of upcoming events concluded, Mr. Pronczak discussed the 9/11 Anniversary. September 11 will fall on a Sunday this year and St. Helena will host the annual Blue Mass to honor firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel. Representatives from the church asked if the Township would hold a special service at

the 9/11 Memorial since 2016 is the 15 year anniversary. Supervisors agreed that a special service will be held at the 20 year mark.

At 7:59 p.m., the work session adjourned and Supervisors left for the public meeting. When the public meeting ended, Supervisors resumed the work session meeting at 9:23 p.m. The first topic discussed when the meeting resumed was a proposed strategic planning session with the Board of Supervisors. Department Heads will hold a strategic planning session at the staff level on June 28. Supervisors agreed that their strategic planning session should wait until the fall to allow the various committees time to prepare. Chairman Zucker suggested that it was important to select a facilitator to conduct the meeting.

Mr. Pronczak continued the meeting by calling upon Chief Lawson to update Supervisors on Project Child Safe. Chief Lawson explained that the Police Department was given 200 gun locks as part of this program. The department is formulating a community outreach plan to distribute the gun locks.

The last topic discussed before the meeting concluded was an update on a dog attack that occurred at Briar Hill Preserve. A dog owner who had his dog leashed reported that his dog was attacked by two larger dogs who were off leash, in violation on a Township Ordinance. Police are following up on a number of leads.

At 9:35 p.m., the work session ended and the Board met in executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

  
David J. Mrochko  
Whitpain Township Assistant Manager

#11-2016  
June 21, 2016

The regular meeting of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held at 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA. Chairman Adam D. Zucker, along with Supervisors Melissa Murphy Weber, Anthony F. Greco, Frederick R. Conner, Jr., and Kenneth F. Wollman were present. Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, P.E., Assistant Township Manager David J. Mrochko, Solicitor Frank R. Bartle, Esq., Police Chief Kenneth Lawson, Finance Director Christine M. Bauman, Public Works Director Ronald J. Cione, Code Enforcement Officer Michael E. McAndrew, Parks and Recreation Director Kurt W. Baker, Fire Marshal David M. Camarda and Recording Secretary Virginia Papale were also present. Township Engineer James E. Blanch, P.E. was absent. There were approximately 100 members of the public at the meeting.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance the meeting was called to order by Chairman Zucker. Chairman Zucker noted that many honors will be given out this evening, recognizing groups and organizations within the community.

The first honor was a Proclamation to TASA, a business in the community for 60 years. TASA helps attorneys find expert witnesses. Several notable cases included the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks and the BP oil rig explosion. The company gives back to the community through its support of the Trails and Tails 5K, the Whitpain Police Association, Manna on Main Street, Global Youth United and the Temple University Beasley School of Law. Melinda Sungenis, President of TASA, accepted the Proclamation.

The next honor was presented to the Centre Square Fire Company (CSFC). Chairman Zucker read the proposed Resolution and acknowledged the members of the fire company who received services awards at their banquet.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mrs. Weber to pass Resolution No. 1134 in appreciation to the members of the Centre Square Fire Company for their service. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed unanimously.

A community presentation to the fire company was made by WRA President Marshall Bleefeld in recognition of and appreciation for all they do in the community and for the children involved in WRA. Chief Lee Miller accepted the award on behalf of CSFC.

Chairman Zucker explained that the Mission, Vision and Values Statement adopted by the Board several years ago led to the practice of highlighting a Mission Moment at the beginning of each meeting. Tonight's meeting exemplifies the commitment of the Mission, Vision and Values Statement.

An additional presentation was made by TASA to the CSFC in appreciation for everything they do. Ms. Sungenis, along with Joyce Sherman, a member of TASA's Board of Directors and Jim Roberts, Vice-President of Operations offered a donation of \$2,500 to Chief Lee Miller. Many years ago the CSFC responded to a fire at the TASA building. With the quick response and actions of the fire company, the damage was minimal. They keep the building safe through inspections, assist with fire drills and always answer any questions by the staff. The donation to the fire department can hopefully be used toward the new building. Chief Miller thanked everyone.

Chairman Zucker then called Police Chief Ken Lawson to the podium for his presentations. Chief Lawson explained the awards system within the police department, which are commendations given for good police work. Officer Rippert suggested that civilian awards become part of the process. After an incident in April, the police report was reviewed by the Committee and a decision was made to present the first Civilian Award.

Chief Lawson described the event on April 15th, where motorist Michael Palermo was on Norristown Road in the vicinity of McClure Drive. Mr. Palermo observed a car stopped near two landscapers' trucks. The occupant of the car got out, grabbed a leaf blower valued at \$500 to \$800 from one landscape truck, put it in his car and quickly left the area. Mr. Palermo was able to get the license plate number and description of the car, which he gave to the 9-1-1 operator. Officer Rippert responded. Detective Potter heard the radio call, and ran the car occupant's name through the database. The suspect is known for selling various equipment through a pawn shop in Cheltenham. The pawn shop was contacted. Within 15 minutes, the suspect entered with the blower and was then detained by Cheltenham Police until our officers arrived. Mr. Palermo identified the suspect and he was arrested. Chief Lawson said that through Mr. Palermo's vigilance, we were able to apprehend this person. Now, more than ever, we need more people to be as observant and report what they see. Mr. Palermo was called to the podium and presented with the commendation recognizing him for his actions.

Chief Lawson then shared how during the career of a police officer, which spans 25-to-30 years, if you save one life it's a great thing. We have several officers who have saved quite a few lives in recent years. One of the programs in the Township and Montgomery County is the Naloxone program. Naloxone reverses an opioid overdose. The County has had approximately 50 saves, and Whitpain has had numerous saves. The problem is not going away, and we will continue to utilize this program with the support of the Board and the Township Manager. Chief Lawson called for Officers Homan, Gallagher and DeLuca and honored them for their recent lifesaving efforts on behalf of a resident who overdosed on heroin. Due to their training and prompt actions, they saved the person's life. Chief Lawson acknowledged the efforts of firefighter Joelle Lesniak who also responded to the call.

Chief Lawson followed with an award ceremony recognizing physical fitness. It is an objective of his that his officers remain fit throughout their careers. In using the police academy standards, an event was born – The Chief’s Challenge – which includes a 1.5 mile run, pushups, sit-ups and a 300-meter run. Participants, including police officers, Township staff, firefighters and more were given five months to prepare. There were 28 participants and more than 50 supporters. Awards were given to those who met the challenge. The Chief wants to make this an annual event and invite more participants.

Chairman Zucker then read and presented a Proclamation to the Whitpain Wildcats 10U Travel Baseball Team in recognition of their accomplishments. The presentation was followed by a photo session of each group recognized this evening.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to appropriate \$2.15 million from the Capital Reserve Fund for a donation to the Centre Square Fire Company for the construction of new Station 33. The transfer of funds is contingent upon approval and execution of the final Memorandum of Agreement between Whitpain Township and Centre Square Fire Company, as well as any remaining land development approvals necessary. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. Mr. Conner said that as Chairman of the Finance Committee and Emergency Services Committee, both committees support this motion and are anxious to see the presentation from the Fire Company.

Dave Davis, Esq., on behalf of the Centre Square Fire Company stated he is proud of the recognition of the CSFC. He gave a progress update, including that they are very near to having the plans recorded, which will allow for a portion of the funding to be released by the Relief Association. They are close to finalizing agreements with the Township and the recording of plans within the next week or two. Negotiations with the developer of Centre Square Commons continue, and the finalization of the easement agreement that will provide for the maintenance of the common access from Skippack Pike through the CSFC property to DeKalb Pike. The Relief Association funds in the amount of \$485,000, which were authorized by the Association, cannot be committed until the plans are recorded. The loan closing will take place within two-to-three weeks after the recording of the plan. Contracts with Blooming Glen Contractors for the site work will be finalized within the next couple of days. Within the next three-to-four weeks, they should be moving dirt. Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their support.

Chief Lee Miller added that on behalf of President Rich Moser, the officers and members of the CSFC, he appreciates the Board support. The staff has been great to work with, putting in much time and effort to meet with them. They are finally ready to break ground. He additionally thanked the Board for the contribution.

Chairman Zucker said the CSFC is not just a fire company, but they are friends and neighbors, members of the community who give back. Children attend school and social events together. The men and women of CSFC are intertwined with the community. Mrs. Weber said she has known many of the members since before she became a Township resident. She has watched the members grow and develop a wonderful camaraderie. It is

an impressive, diverse group of men and women who are encouraging the young to join. She thanked everyone. Mr. Conner added that the members enhance the quality of life for everyone. The partnership with CSFC is the oldest and strongest. This investment of taxpayer dollars is a worthy cause, long overdue. Mr. Greco shared that he believes the CSFC is the best in the County. We appreciate everything they do. Chairman Zucker called for any additional discussion. There was none and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Wollman, duly seconded by Mrs. Weber to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2016 Board of Supervisors' meeting. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to approve the May Voucher List in the amount of \$429,596.28, check sequence #57995 through #58197. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Weber, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to approve the April 2016 Treasurer's Report. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to advertise Ordinance No. 340, adopting the Intergovernmental Agreement for the completion of the Alternative TMDL Plan for the Wissahickon Watershed. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to award the contract for the construction of Phase One of the Core Connector Trail of the Master Trails Plan to Eastern Earth Movers of Collegeville, PA in the low bid amount of \$361,000. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. Mr. Conner said this segment is long overdue and we look forward to this connection by the end of the year. There was no further discussion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Conner to authorize the Board of Supervisors to approve a Trail Easement Agreement between Whitpain Township and 960 Harvest Drive, LLC for the construction and maintenance of a recreational trail pursuant to the Recreational Use of Land and Water Act of 1966. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to approve the Centre Square Park Maintenance Agreement between Whitpain Township, Whitpain Recreation Association (WRA) and Wissahickon Lacrosse Club (Wisslax). Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. Mr. Conner noted that our partners, WRA and Wisslax, stepped up in taking some of the maintenance responsibility for Centre Square Park. They deserve thanks and credit for the development of the park. There was no additional discussion and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to approve the collective bargaining agreement between Whitpain Township and the Whitpain Public Works Association. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to pass Resolution No. 1133 authorizing application for a Greenways trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant for the Wissahickon Park Master Plan in the amount of \$25,000. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Wollman, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to pass Resolution No. 1135 updating the 2016 Fee Schedule. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to pass Resolution No. 1136 to approve Final Land Development plans titled "298 Norristown Road", Sheets 1 of 9 through 9 of 9, prepared by Robert E. Blue Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors, plans last revised on June 17, 2016 in accordance with Section 509(b) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code conditioned upon execution of an Improvement Construction Agreement, posting of financial security, receipt of all necessary permits from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and resolution of items in the review letters from the Township Engineer dated September 17, 2015 and May 9, 2016. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mrs. Weber to grant a waiver from the requirement of preparing a land development plan to Dr. Baldassano for the installation of building addition/parking lot improvements at their existing facility located at 1567 DeKalb Pike. The waiver from land development is conditioned upon the review and approval of the site plan by the Township Engineer. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

On the following item, Chairman Zucker recused himself and turned the meeting over the Vice-Chairman Weber. A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to grant a waiver from the requirement of preparing a land development plan to Tiferet Bet Israel for the installation of bike path improvements and a storage shed at their existing facility located at 1920 Skippack Pike. The waiver from land development is conditioned upon the review and approval of the site plan by the Township Engineer. Vice-Chairman Weber called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to authorize Whitestone Associates, Inc. to proceed with professional engineering services and surveying services related to a Geotechnical Study for Wissahickon Park located in the West Ambler Area in accordance with their proposal dated June 16, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$40,700. The scope of services includes the preparation of the geotechnical investigation study, file reviews, development of a site-specific health and safety plan and post-investigation

geotechnical consultations. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. Mr. Conner said this is another sign of the Township's commitment to reopen Wissahickon Park when conditions are right. This is part of our due diligence to make sure this is done in a timely, safe manner. There was no further discussion and the motion carried.

A confirming motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to release \$128,773.74 (Release #9) from the escrow fund for Red Fox Farm Subdivision/Land Development located at 1895 Skippack Pike. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mrs. Weber to approve Addendum No. 2 to the Improvement Construction Agreements for Phases I, II and III between Whitpain Township, Latham Realty Associates, LP, and Santander Bank, N.A. These agreements pertain to transferring the financial security for the project from Santander Bank to cash escrow accounts to be held by Whitpain Township. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mrs. Weber to pass Resolution No. 1137 confirming compliance with certain provisions of a Settlement Agreement between Whitpain Township and Wawa, Inc. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Wollman, duly seconded by Mr. Conner to authorize the disposal of the following surplus vehicles through trade or Municibid: 2006 Ford Crown Victoria, 2005 Cargo Van, 2004 Ford F150; 1997 GMC Topkick Dump Truck. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to authorize the Township Manager to advertise for bids to re-stucco the 1895 Schoolhouse at 799 Skippack Pike. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to authorize the Township Manager to advertise for bids to repave the parking lot at 799 Skippack Pike. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to advertise Ordinance No. 349 restricting parking along both sides of the exit driveway of Centre Square Park from the parking lot to Rt. 202. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

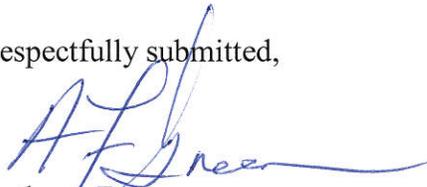
A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mrs. Weber to authorize participation in the Montgomery County Consortium Verizon Cable Franchise Agreement renewal negotiations in an amount not to exceed \$6,375. Chairman Zucker called for any discussion. There was none and the motion passed.

Chairman Zucker turned the meeting over the Vice-Chairman Weber for public comment. Vice-Chairman Weber asked if any member of the public had comments or questions. There were none. She asked if any member of the Board wished to discuss old or new business. Vice-Chairman Weber welcomed Frank Bartle, Esq. as the new Township Solicitor. Knowing Mr. Bartle for many years, Mrs. Weber noted that he is a very skilled solicitor and a wise litigator, and has the strategic ability to be proactive as well as responsive. As the newest member of the team, he will allow for fine-tuning of the Mission, Vision, Values Statement. Mr. Bartle said it will be his pleasure to serve.

Mr. Conner noted an upcoming event to be held: the West Ambler Community Open House on July 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be two sessions, one from 1 to 4 p.m., and the second from 6 to 9 p.m. at the American Legion Post on Maple Avenue. This will be a multi-agency open house which will help the Township and its residents and business owners understand the goals and objectives to be achieved. It is an important event in the Township quest to revitalize the West Ambler Area. There was no further discussion.

Vice-Chairman Weber noted that the Board will return to work session following the meeting, and that will be followed by an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. There was no further business, and Vice-Chairman Weber moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony F. Greco  
Secretary