

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

JULY 8, 2021

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM, in the Whitemarsh Township Building, 616 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA.

Supervisors Present: Laura Boyle Nester, Chair; Fran McCusker, Vice-Chair; Michael Drossner; Vincent Manuele and Jacy Toll.

Also Present: Richard L. Mellor, Jr., Township Manager; Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor; James Hersch, P.E. Township Engineer and Charles L. Guttenplan, AICP

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor McCusker announced:

The Miracle-Nature Trail Walk was postponed until Tuesday, July 20th. Folks can register on the Township's website in the Parks and Recreation section, or by calling Parks and Rec at (610) 828-7276. Pre-registration is required.

Whitemarsh Police Department will be targeting aggressive drivers as part of a regional effort running through August. The campaign will target unsafe driving practices such as speeding and tailgating.

Movies in the Park will continue on July 21st with "Trolls: World Tour" at Miles Park. All movies start at dusk. The rain date is the following evening. Beginning at dusk.

Public Meetings

Mr. Mellor explained that the meetings are back in person as the result of Act 15 the Governor's Emergency Disaster Declaration being terminated by House Resolution 106. He stated as a result all Townships of the Second Class are required to go back to the pre-declaration conditions which requires an in-person physical location for a meeting or it could be a hybrid meeting, but the meeting itself would have to be somewhere physically that the public could come and address the board or participate in the meeting. He spoke about the use of the ZOOM meeting application during the disaster declaration and the convenience for some residents to participate virtually. He further explained the Township has been working with an audio-visual company to look at the meeting room and how it could potentially offer hybrid for the Board of Supervisors Meetings going forward. He explained how the hybrid system needs

to work in order to be in compliance with the Sunshine Law. He spoke about the age of the current equipment and the possible upgrade. He explained the changes will be an improvement to the communication between the Board, the Township and the residents.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. June 10, 2021

On a motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors approved the June 10, 2021 meeting minutes.

BOARD PUBLIC DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

CONSIDER ACTION ITEMS

Ordinances

None

Resolutions

None

MOTIONS

1. Hold Harmless Agreements - 182 Barren Hill Road/Ratoskey-Trainor, Inc;

Mr. Guttenplan explained the Hold Harmless Agreement is to allow a portion of a proposed landscape (.retaining) wall in the ultimate right-of-way of Barren Hill Road. The wall is part of the overall redevelopment of this lot; an old home in poor condition, built very close to the road is being razed, and a new home (further back on the property) and driveway are proposed for the lot. He said the Township Engineer has reviewed this proposal and because the portion of the wall within the ultimate right-of-way is less than 2 feet high, it poses no sight distance issue for the new driveway or adjacent driveways.

On a motion by Supervisor Drossner, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors approved a Hold Harmless Agreement for a wall in the ultimate right-of-way at 182 Barren Hill Road.

2. Hold Harmless Agreements - 101 Woodbine Way/Gaffney-Morris

Mr. Guttenplan explained the Hold Harmless Agreement is to allow a fence in the ultimate right-of-way along the side of this lot that fronts on Woodbine Way. He explained this is a corner lot with both frontages on Woodbine Way but only one having a fence proposed along it. He explained the Police Chief reviewed the plan and indicated that there are no sight distance issues (at the intersection) with the proposed fence.

On a motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors approve a Hold Harmless Agreement for a fence in the ultimate right-of-way at 101 Woodbine Way

3. Escrow Release #1 - 432 Pennsylvania Avenue/Starbucks

On a motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors authorize escrow release #1 for 432 Pennsylvania Avenue/Starbucks in the amount of \$134,958.28

4. June 2021 Expenditures and Payroll and Pension Plan Paid Costs

On a motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors approve expenditures totaling \$1,669,804.96; and payroll totaling \$679,672.46 and pension paid costs totaling \$5,483.11 for June 2021

AMENDED AGENDA

On a motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors amended the agenda.

5. Certificate of Appropriateness - 8 Germantown Pike

Mr. Guttenplan explained this is an application to put a new office tenant sign on the existing multi-tenant sign at this location; the new tenant is Forge Real Estate. The sign utilizes approved historic colors. There have been similar sign replacements at this address in the past when tenants have changed. HARB members had no issues with the proposed sign. The HARB members present unanimously recommended approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness.

On a motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele (Vote 5-0) the Board of Supervisors approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation a sign at 8 Germantown Pike

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Doug Piacattelli (Hillside Road) asked about the award of the Westaway Stormwater project and his concern with the cost and the contractors ability to acquire products.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Nester announced the Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session on June 30 to discuss litigation, real estate and personnel.

Chair Nester announced the Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session on prior to the meeting to discuss litigation.

ADJOURNMENT

On a Motion by Supervisor Toll, seconded by Supervisor Manuele the meeting for July 8, 2021 was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard L. Mellor, Jr.
Township Manager