

**Towamencin Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Work Session Meeting  
November 10, 2015  
7:30 PM**

**Present:**

H. Charles Wilson III, Chairman  
Laura Smith, Vice Chairman  
Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Treasurer/Asst. Secretary  
David Mosesso

**Absent:**

James P. Sinz, Secretary

**Staff:**

Robert A. Ford, Township Manager  
Jack Dooley, Esq., Township Solicitor  
Tom Zarko, Township Engineer  
Paul T. Dickinson, Chief of Police  
Maureen Doyle, Finance Director  
Colleen Ehrle, Assistant to the Township Manager

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Opening Comments**

Chairman Wilson announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to review matters of personnel and potential litigation.

Chairman Wilson announced that the Turkey Trot – 5K race will be held on Saturday morning, November 21, 2015 at Fischer’s Park. The race will start at 9 am sharp. The cost is \$25; registration closes on November 15<sup>th</sup> or at 800 registered runners. There will not be walk up registration. There will also be a free children’s fun run (10 and under), starting at 8 am.

**Public Comments**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

Supervisor Mosesso stated his opinion that the minutes should be electronically recorded and transcribed.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the meeting minutes of October 28, 2015 were approved.

**Voting Yes:** H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr.

**Voting No:** David Mosesso

**Abstaining:**

**Absent:** James P. Sinz

### **Zoning, Subdivision & Land Development**

#### **Public Hearing: Amendment to Ordinance RV**

The proposed ordinance would amend Chapter 153-502.H (7) of Towamencin Township's code to provide clarification of parking and storage restrictions for recreational vehicles.

Township Solicitor, Jack Dooley, opened the hearing by providing some background information and outlined the current RV Ordinance and the proposed amended RV Ordinance. In reviewing the current RV ordinance, it was found that the language was ambiguous and contradictory. Mr. Dooley explained the process of a public hearing to the audience, stating it's an opportunity for the public to be heard on a specific topic or proposed legislation.

Mr. Dooley stated the action originated from complaints made to the township from residents, who had neighbors with RV vehicles. They questioned the location of these parked or stored vehicles. Mr. Dooley introduced Township Engineer, Tom Zarko, who then presented exhibits to the large crowd, over 50 residents in attendance.

A court reporter was present to make a complete and formal record of the hearing.

#### **Ordinance 15-16 - Amendment to Ordinance RV**

After polling the Board, Chairman Wilson announced that the Board would not be voting on the proposed RV Ordinance amendment at this meeting. The Board would take the comments from the hearing under advisement.

A recess was called at 9:01 pm. At that time Township Manager, Robert Ford, requested the residents, who attended and contributed to the public hearing, add their emails addresses/contact information to the legal pads, that were passed out to the crowd. The contact emails will be used for notification on future action of this proposed ordinance amendment. The recess concluded at 9:14 pm.

#### **Old Business**

A resident, Eleanor Hentschel, expressed her frustration with the Kriebel Road and Sumneytown Pike intersection and the Board's decision not to pursue the proposed intersection study for this intersection. She said as a resident of 35 years, she doesn't even attempt making the left-hand turn onto Sumneytown Pike, from Kriebel Rd, because of the risky conditions presented and the lack of courtesy of other drivers, who do not stop for drivers making this turn.

## **Presentation of County Comprehensive Plan, Montco 2040**

Montgomery County adopted a new comprehensive plan, *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision*, on January 15, 2015. This nationally awarded plan, which is a complete update of the 2005 comprehensive plan, focuses on the future of Montgomery County until the year 2040. The plan, which contains goals and a future land use plan, will guide overall growth and development in the county. Representatives of the Montgomery County Planning Commission, Matt Edmond, Section Chief of Transportation and Anne Leavitt-Gruberger, Assistant Section Chief of County Planning, provided an overview of the new plan.

Mr. Edmond explained the goal of the plan “is to anticipate issues that may come up in the future, so that they can take the proper steps today to avoid a scenario we don’t want to see happen. County planners work with their constituents and municipalities to make sure every municipality of Montgomery County is a good place to live and continues to be a good place well into the future.”

The new plan has two components:

- Montgomery County Today – this element includes an overview of existing conditions, trends, forecasts and issues.
- Montco 2040: A Shared Vision – this element includes a vision for the county, goals, themes, recommendations, and an implementation strategy.

Mr. Edmond noted that the plan encourages collaboration and partnerships among governments, businesses, institutions, and other stakeholders. It supports a modern, resilient, green, and energy-efficient infrastructure network, with plans to improve county-owned roads and bridges and improvements to stormwater management to reduce the impact of flooding.

Montco 2040 will improve transportation access to businesses, such as better road access to employment centers, expand transit options in employment centers and will encourage development and transformative investment where infrastructure already exists.

More information about the Montgomery County Planning Commission and *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision* can be found at website: [www.planning.montcopa.org](http://www.planning.montcopa.org).

At the end of the meeting resident, Charles Shaw, asked when the County Planning Commission began. Mr. Edmond answered that it began in 1950.

## **New Business**

### **County Financing Plan for Purchase of Radios**

Two years ago, Montgomery County decided to upgrade some and replace other portions of the emergency radio system with an estimated cost of \$29.9 million. Of that total, \$6.1 million was earmarked to buy more than 1,800 new radios, replacing antiquated units. The radios being purchased for municipalities will be financed under a program the county negotiated with the

Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority. The radios are estimated to cost approximately \$3,500 each. Municipalities, taking advantage of the five-year interest-free financing, were advised by the county to prepare to make their first payments on these loans in calendar year 2016.

**Authorization to Advertise Proposed Ordinance for Funding of Emergency Radios**

This ordinance authorizes the Township to borrow \$352,510 from Montgomery County, through the issuance of a promissory note for the purchase of emergency radios. The radios will be issued to the police department, emergency management, and Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company. The repayment will take place over a five (5) year period, at no interest.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board authorized advertising the proposed ordinance for the funding of the required emergency radios.

**Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso**

**Voting No:**

**Abstaining:**

**Absent: James P. Sinz**

**Approval of Sewer Treatment Agreement – Clemens Food Group**

This is a renewal of an agreement, originating in 1988, with Clemens Food Group for acceptance and treatment of wastewater from facilities in Hatfield Township. The existing agreement provides a capacity allocation of 567,200 gallons per day of treatment. While the renewal includes the purchase of an additional 113,600 gallons per day, resulting in a new total capacity of 638,800 gallons per day. The associated tapping equates to \$472,008 for Towamencin Township and \$853,156 for the Towamencin Municipal Authority.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved the sewer treatment agreement between Clemens Food Group, Towamencin Township, and the Towamencin Municipal Authority.

**Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso**

**Voting No:**

**Abstaining:**

**Absent: James P. Sinz**

**Resolution 15-45: Amend 2015 Budget**

Based on 2015 year-end projections, prepared by the Finance Department, some of the budgeted transfers must be amended in accordance with §3202(f) of the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code to reflect revenue shortfalls or excesses in certain funds.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 15-45, amending the 2015 Budget.

**Voting Yes:** H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso  
**Voting No:**  
**Abstaining:**  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Resolution 15-46: Agricultural Security Area – 2130 Old Forty Foot Rd.**

The Township received an application and request form from Mary Muscara to include her property at 2130 Old Forty Foot Road in the Agricultural Security Area last spring. The parcel comprises 63.4 acres. The application was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Montgomery County and Towamencin Township Planning Commissions. The Agricultural Security Area Law provides that if formal action is not taken by the Board of Supervisors within 180 days of the date of application, the application shall be deemed adopted as submitted without modification. This option saves the cost to the taxpayers for the advertisement and hearings fees.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Littley, the Board approved Resolution 15-46, adding 2130 Old Forty Foot Rd into the Township’s Agricultural Security Area.

**Voting Yes:** H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso  
**Voting No:**  
**Abstaining:**  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Resolution 15-47: Rescinding of EDU Allocation – 1920 Allentown Road**

The owner of 1920 Allentown Road was allocated one (1) EDU for a connection to the public sewer system through previous approval of Resolution 14-55. The owner has recently indicated that the EDU allocation is not needed for the foreseeable future and has requested that the EDU allocation be rescinded by the Township and the tapping fee be refunded.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 15-47, Rescinding of EDU Allocation for 1920 Allentown Road.

**Voting Yes:** H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso  
**Voting No:**  
**Abstaining:**  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Resolution 15-48: Application for Traffic Signal Control Plans**

The Township was awarded \$180,000 through the Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) grant program in 2014. The funds were secured to upgrade the Township’s Econolite Aries traffic signal system to an Ethernet based, multi-user Centrac central signal system, which would provide improved communications and functionality. Since the award, it has been confirmed that PennDOT’s SR 0063, Intelligent Transportation System project will complete the signal system upgrades to Centrac, which were planned with the ARLE funds. This upgrade was funded by the PennDOT project after the Township submitted for an ARLE grant to complete

this work. With the signal system upgrade being funding through another PennDOT project, the Township coordinated with PennDOT to identify an alternative scope of work that would provide safety and operational upgrades to numerous traffic signals in the Township with the grant funds. This resolution authorizes the submission of applications to PennDOT for improvements to ten (10) existing signalized intersections. Once the applications are reviewed and approved by PennDOT, bids will be sought by the Township for the actual work to be performed in 2016.

The ten intersections include:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Valley Forge Road and Sumneytown Pike          | 6. Valley Forge Road and White's Road                     |
| 2. Sumneytown Pike and Green Lane Road            | 7. Sumneytown Pike and Troxel Road                        |
| 3. Forty Foot Road and Detweiler Road/Quarry Road | 8. Forty Foot Road and Towamencin Avenue/Tapestry Way     |
| 4. Allentown Road and Woodlawn Drive              | 9. Sumneytown Pike and Towamencin Corporate Center Access |
| 5. Welsh Road and Ralph's Corner/Grist Mill Drive | 10. Wambold Road and Mainland Road                        |

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 15-48: Application for Traffic Signal Control Plans.

**Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso**  
**Voting No:**  
**Abstaining:**  
**Absent: James P. Sinz**

**Stormwater Facilities Maintenance Agreement – 1830 Valley Forge Rd.**

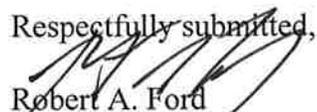
This agreement is associated with a grading plan for a new single-family dwelling that will be constructed off of Valley Forge Road. The agreement outlines responsibilities of the owner for maintaining the storm water controls on the property and will be recorded with the county.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved the Stormwater Facilities Maintenance Agreement for address: 1830 Valley Forge Rd.

**Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., David Mosesso**  
**Voting No:**  
**Abstaining:**  
**Absent: James P. Sinz**

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Ford  
Township Manager