

**Towamencin Township
Board of Supervisors
Work Session Meeting
September 14, 2016
7:30 PM**

Present:

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

Staff:

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

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Comments

The Board met in Executive session prior to the meeting to discuss matters of real estate, personnel and potential litigation.

Chairman Wilson announced the following events:

- Morgan Log House will host their fourth annual Tavern Night on Friday, September 16, 2016, from 6 pm to 9 pm.
- Wounded Warriors softball game will be held at Butch Clemens Field, located at 130 Forty Foot Road, on Saturday, October 1, 2016, starting at 8 am.

Supervisor Sinz praised the Griffin Gives Foundation for coordinating the game and encouraged residents to attend. The game will bring together local first responders to play in round-robin style softball games against each other and against the Wounded Warriors Team. He added the highlight of the day will be a kids' clinic, providing inspiration and support to children.

Public Comments

Supervisor Mosesso expressed his opposition to the County's pending legislation to increase the vehicle registration fee by \$5.00. He stated it would be better to cut spending than to push this fee onto County and Township residents. He also did not believe the money collected would be

significant enough to address the infrastructure needs within the County. Supervisor Sinz agreed with Mr. Mosesso's view.

Supervisor Littley replied that this option was already enacted in the state's Act 89, from 2013, which allows counties to adopt this additional fee. From a safety standpoint, he would like to see a portion of those funds go towards the maintenance of Township bridges and to road-widening efforts, as several bridges and roads within the Township are County owned. Chairman Wilson expressed he was not in favor of the Board taking action against the increase and he too would like to see some of the money collected go toward County owned roads and bridges in Towamencin. Supervisor Smith agreed with Mr. Littley and Mr. Wilson, adding voting against the bill would be hypocritical if the Board sought out County assistance for such infrastructure improvements within the Township.

Supervisor Mosesso made a motion to have the Board express to the Montgomery County Commissioners Towamencin Township's opposition to this additional five dollar vehicle registration fee, seconded by Supervisor Sinz.

Voting Yes: James P. Sinz, David Mosesso

Voting No: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr.

Abstaining:

Absent:

Approval of Minutes: August 24, 2016

Supervisor Mosesso repeated his position, stated at several previous Board meetings, that he would like to see the minutes improved by transcribing them.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Sinz, the Board approved the August 24th minutes.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Zoning, Subdivision & Land Development

None

Old Business

Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement (Main Street & Squirrel Lane)

The Towamencin Board approved this traffic signal maintenance agreement in June 2008, between Hatfield Township, Lansdale Borough and Towamencin Township for the signal

located at Main Street and Squirrel Lane. However, none of the three municipalities have an executed copy on file. This agreement provides for the shared maintenance cost of this traffic signal bordering these three municipalities. Lansdale Borough ensures the maintenance and repair of the signal with Hatfield Township and Towamencin Township contributing 25 percent and 50 percent of the annual repair costs.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Littley, the Board reauthorized the approval and execution of the traffic signal maintenance agreement for Main Street and Squirrel Lane.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

New Business

Resolution 16-41: Authorization to Seek Bids for Boorse House Remnants & Trailers

The Township acquired the building in 1998 for \$1 through a transaction with Univest Bank that included the commitment by the Township to remove the structure from the site. The structure was dismantled with the aspiration that the old building could someday be reassembled. This objective proved to be futile and cost prohibitive, resulting in the remnants being stored in Township-owned tractor trailers for the past 17 years. The dilapidated trailers have been parked on Township property at the intersection of Bustard Road and Franklin Street since 2005. Township staff recommends that the remnants and trailers be sold, so that they are no longer an eyesore or liability to the Township. According §1504 to the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code, the Board of Supervisors must authorize the disposal of personal property. Anything with a fair market value of \$1,000 or more needs to be advertised and sold at auction.

On a motion by Supervisor Sinz, seconded by Supervisor Littley, the Board approved Resolution 16-41, authorizing the Township to seek bids for the Boorse House remnants and trailers.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Resolution 16-42: Banners on Forty Foot Road Pedestrian Bridge – 5K Turkey Trot

The Special Events Committee is seeking approval to temporarily place banners on the Forty Foot Road Pedestrian Bridge promoting the Township's 5K "Turkey Trot," scheduled for Saturday November 19th. In accordance with the Board's adopted policy, placement of such banners must have prior approval of the Board of Supervisors, followed up with an application

submitted to PennDOT for approval before sign placement. Signs may be placed for no longer than 21 days.

Supervisor Mosesso had concerns about the potential of these banners falling into the roadway. Township Manager Robert Ford replied he is working with the sign company on the mechanics of securing the banners, but would need this resolution to send to PennDOT for their permit. Solicitor Jack Dooley added the PennDOT permit would cover the safety issues. Mr. Ford emphasized that the banners would not be placed unless a safe and secure way of fastening them to the bridge was determined.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Littley, the Board approved Resolution 16-42, requesting to place temporary banners on the Forty Foot Road Pedestrian Bridge for the 2016 Turkey Trot.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Finance Committee Report

The Township Finance Committee meets on a monthly basis to closely monitor economic indicators and the pulse of the Township's revenue and expenses. The committee met on Monday September 12th. Supervisor Littley reviewed the report, which included the following discussion and action items: monthly financial reports, a plan to swap Towamencin Municipal Authority's dump truck in exchange for paving service at a TMA parking area, draft budget schedule, budget items and an Arneth Charitable Remainder Trust partial return. The only item requiring Board action was the approval of the draft budget schedule.

Supervisor Mosesso asked Mr. Ford for an explanation of the Arneth Charitable distribution.

Mr. Ford explained that the Township had recently received a letter and check from Univest Bank indicating that due to IRS regulations the bank is required to provide a minimum 5 percent of the asset value to the trustee each year. He noted that the Finance Committee is concerned that this could erode the principal overtime resulting in the end of the perpetual trust intended by Mrs. Arneth to be left to the Township. It was the Finance Committee's recommendation to not immediately spend this money, but to explore whether it could be reinvested so as to enable a perpetual funding source for Fischer's Park.

Draft Budget Schedule

The Committee reviewed the budget work session schedule for the 2017 department presentations and budget adoption.

Wednesday October 5 7:00 pm Budget Work Session: Department Head Budget Presentations
TYA
Morgan Log House
Parks & Recreation/ Events
Public Works
Pool

Wednesday October 19 7:00 pm Budget Work Session: Department Head Budget Presentations
Fire Department
Emergency Management
Code Enforcement
Economic Development
IT

Wednesday November 2 7:00 pm Budget Work Session:
Police
Finance & Administration
Sewer
Finalize Capital Budget
Finalize Fee Schedule

November 9 7:30 pm Work Session: Advertise to adopt 2017 Budget /
Budget Available for 20 day inspection

Wednesday December 14 7:30 pm Work Session: Adopt 2017 Budget

Supervisor Littley noted that the budget work sessions begin at 7:00 pm; while the work sessions and business meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

On a motion by Supervisor Sinz, seconded by Supervisor Littley, the Board approved the 2017 budget schedule.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Resolution 16-43: Minimum Municipal Obligation Police Pension Plan

The required municipal contribution, referred to as the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO), is calculated annually. The MMO represents the Township's annual funding requirement. The calculation must be prepared for the upcoming calendar year, certified by the Administration, and submitted to the Board of Supervisors by the last business day of September. The 2017 MMO for the Police Pension Fund is \$781,800.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Sinz, the Board approved Resolution 16-43, Minimum Municipal Obligation Police Pension Plan.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Resolution 16-44: Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Pension Plan

The required municipal contribution, referred to as the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO), is calculated annually. The MMO represents the Township's annual funding requirement. The calculation must be prepared for the upcoming calendar year, certified by the Administration, and submitted to the Board of Supervisors by the last business day of September. The 2017 MMO for the Non-Uniform Employees Defined Benefit Pension Fund is \$158,310.

On a motion by Supervisor Sinz, seconded by Supervisor Littley, the Board approved Resolution 16-44, Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Pension Plan.

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

Voting No:

Abstaining:

Absent:

Resolution 16-45: Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Employees Money Purchase Pension Plan

The required municipal contribution, referred to as the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO), is calculated annually. The MMO represents the Township's annual funding requirement. The calculation must be prepared for the upcoming calendar year, certified by the Administration, and submitted to the Board of Supervisors by the last business day of September. The 2017 MMO for the Non-Uniform Employees Money Purchase Pension Plan is \$9,537.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Sinz, the Board approved Resolution 16-45, Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Employees Money Purchase Pension Plan.

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

Resolution 16-46: Amendment to the Adopted 2016 Fee Schedule - Donation Bins

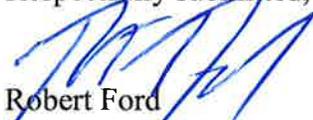
The Board of Supervisors approved a revision to the Towamencin Township Ordinance on August 24, 2016, providing regulations for the placement of donation bins at certain properties. After review of the administrative requirements, the Codes Director has recommended an initial application fee of \$70, with a subsequent annual renewal fee of \$25. The 2016 Township Fee Schedule needs to be amended to reflect this new fee.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 16-46, Amendment to the Adopted 2016 Fee Schedule - Donation Bins.

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

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Ford
Township Manager