

**Towamencin Township
Board of Supervisors
Monthly Meeting
August 28, 2024
7:00 PM**

Present:

H. Charles Wilson III, Chairman
Laura Smith, Vice Chair
Joyce F. Snyder, Secretary
Kristin Warner, Treasurer
Kofi Osei, Asst. Treasurer/Asst. Secretary

Staff:

David G. Kraynik, Township Manager
Celso Leite, Jr., Esq., Township Solicitor
Mary Stover, Township Engineer
Niral Modi, IT Director
Timothy Troxel, Chief of Police

Absent:

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Awards & Recognitions

Recognition of Retirement: Carolyn Shisler

We are delighted this evening to have the opportunity to recognize the recent retirement of Carolyn Shisler, who has been serving the Towamencin Community for 18 years. In 2006, Carolyn began her career at Towamencin working part-time as the front desk clerk but has spent most of her tenure working in the Codes and Zoning Department sharing her expertise and sound guidance to the community at large. During periods of staffing transitions, she has stepped up to keep the Department's operations advancing. The Chairman read Carolyn's retirement commendation and thanked her for her service and commitment to Towamencin for almost two decades. The Supervisors congratulated Carolyn. Carolyn thanked the Supervisors, her co-workers, contractors and the Township for the opportunities provided to her.

Opening Comments

- This Board meeting is provided live via Zoom for residents unable to attend in person but wish to view and hear the meeting remotely. Public comments submitted by 4:30 pm this afternoon will be read at the start of the meeting, followed by in-person public comments. When prompted for questions, please use a microphone as Zoom does not pick up voices from the audience.

- Mark your calendars for our Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Chicken BBQ that will be held September 7th, from 3:30 pm – 7 pm (or until sold-out). The dinners will be sold at Station A, located at 1590 Bustard Road. This is a popular event that usually sells-out.
- The Fire Company's Ladies Auxiliary is hosting a Mommy Mart on Saturday, September 21st, from 9 am to 1 pm. Admission to this event is \$1. Vendor spaces are available, and registration is open. Visit TVFC's Facebook page for more details.
- Join us on September 21st, for Tavern Night, at the Morgan Log House. This is a joint event hosted by the Township and Morgan Log House. You must be 21 years or older to attend. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit our Facebook events page.
- Chairman Wilson announced that the Township has been awarded \$310,520 from PennDOT's Green-Light Go Grant Program. This grant will be used toward traffic signal improvements in the Township.

Chairman's Sewer Sale Statement

Chairman Wilson read a prepared statement: since the last public meeting the PA Public Utility Commission issued an order setting a formula that effectively determines what it deems to be a reasonable purchase price for a wastewater system in a sale to a public utility. The purchase price Pennsylvania American Water must pay to the Township under the Asset Purchase Agreement is far higher than the PUC's purchase price standard under its new formula. Although the PUC did recently conditionally accept PAWC's application to purchase our system, given the new legal framework instituted by the PUC, it is very unlikely the PUC would ultimately approve the sale of our system to PAWC as currently structured. After discussions with PAWC and our counsel in the last week, I am asking that an item be placed on the agenda for our next meeting to terminate the APA based on this change in law and authorize all necessary actions, including signing the associated termination documentation. Our Solicitor is on vacation, when he returns, he will be asked to address this request. He asked the Township Manager to add this item to the next agenda.

Emailed Public Comments:

Resident David McCreary commented with the current rates of PAWC almost doubling from the original projection and the cost of litigation, can the Board please vote to terminate the sale? He also asked how high the rates and costs need to rise before the Board would reconsider, or if there was no monetary amount that would change their minds.

Resident Vanessa Gaynor thanked the Board for considering streaming and recording the upcoming budget workshops and encouraged them to approve this item. It would be a great step forward in transparency and would enable citizens unable to attend the opportunity to better understand the financial needs and priorities of our Township. She thanked the IT staff needed to help support this change. She then encouraged Supervisors Wilson, Smith, and Warner to vote to terminate the sewer sale in accordance with the APA and the Home Rule Charter. If the Township proceeds with the PUC process, she feels resources will be diverted to legal fees rather than pressing needs. Residents deserve better than to have their votes discounted and asked that the Board respect the will of the people and terminate the sale.

Resident Val Skripek directed her comment to Supervisors Wilson, Smith, and Warner asking if they read the news articles from citizens of neighboring areas - that succumbed to the empty

promises and lure of easy money from for profit companies - that are now beyond outraged at the results. These neighbors beg Towamencin residents to continue their fight, because had they known then what they know now, they could have united to stop their sale and the extortion of their residents. She asked why they are so determined to continue this sale. She stated residents will continue to fight this illegal sale to protect our neighbors against predatory rate hikes.

In-Person Comments

Resident Lorena Fields commented she was going to come up and berate the Board, but instead thanked them. She is so glad this (sewer sale) is done and over with.

Resident Gisela Koch stated she was going to do the same, but instead thanked the Board. She added she had a chance to work with Molly Jobson, the new Director at the Morgan Log House. She expressed it was a pleasure to work with her, commending her personality and ideas. Chairman Wilson commented the Morgan Log House Board deserves the credit.

Resident Bruce Bailey commented the show is not over yet. The Board is proposing to terminate the sewer sale, but until that vote is taken, this is not over.

Resident Paul Andrews commented he can save his comments after the new sewer announcement noting there is going to be a lot of happy people, and the upside to the sale is we now have more resident involvement. With PSDC present, he wanted to suggest they incorporated level 2 and 3 EV chargers to their proposed plans, noting these are modern amenities that people are looking for now and into the future. Lastly, he thanked the Board and contractors for paving the roads around Valley View Way. He stated everyone involved in the project was very considerate, did a great job and completed the project in a timely manner. He proclaimed this is a good example of local government working as it should.

Resident Martin Cohen stated he is going to hold his thank you until the next meeting when the Board votes to terminate the sewer sale. Having attended these meetings for three years, it was great to hear. He did a calculation based on PAWC rates and he was looking at a \$1,600 sewer bill. He thanked the Board for considering this decision and looks forward to the end of the sale.

Resident Joann Andrews commented she had an entire page written as to why the Board needed to cancel the sewer sale. She hopes the termination goes through and that the Board does not look for an alternative to sell. She added, she has no problem with the Township incrementally increasing sewer rates, so that the Township can continue to maintain the system as a not for profit, keeping the sewer system as part of the Township. She does not want to see monopolization by for-profit companies and shareholders.

Resident Nancy Ness commented on the great paving job recently done on Valley View Way and Pheasant Hill Road, but noted Kriebel Road has not been done, and the patch job is atrocious. She asked that Kriebel Road be paved. Chairman Wilson commented that he is unsure where Kriebel Road falls on the schedule, but it will be reviewed.

Resident Joe Silverman commented a light near Reiff Road and Sumneytown Pike has great downward lighting. He urged the Board to check out this light and identify the technology and use it as a guide for others in the Township.

Resident Tina Gallagher echoed what another resident stated that she got more involved in the Township because of the sewer sale. She stated residents wrote a Home Rule Charter, which made

the Township more accountable to residents and believes a lot of positive things came from the sale. She added everyone has a voice and hopes everyone continues to speak up. She thanked the Board for the vote that is to come.

Resident Kenneth Collins expressed it is good news to hear the Township is on the road to a sewer sale termination and thanked the Board.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved the July 28th meeting minutes.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Osei, the Board approved the August 13th meeting minutes (Special Meeting to Appoint a Finance Director).

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development

PSDC Town Square Master Plan Presentation & Timeline

Mark Nicoletti, President of PSDC discussed the overall master site plan for the shopping center at the intersection of Allentown Road and Forty Foot Road. Discussion included interior site configuration, pad sites along Forty Foot Road, and a possible Target. PSDC explained the concept and estimated timelines. Mr. Nicoletti added that in September they will begin the technical process for zoning the shopping center and Main Street concept. He praised the Township engineers for their efforts. He noted Chipotle is progressing, the addition of Harbor Freight is falling into place and a First Watch restaurant will be added to the Shopping Center.

A resident inquired about previous statements made about Amazon Fresh, Target and Whole Foods, asking for the status of those stores. Mr. Nicoletti explained that Amazon pulled the plug on their original plans which allowed Whole Foods to sign a lease. PSDC is still working through the process with Target on the design process and how it will work within the center. Resident Gisela Koch asked about adding a quality restaurant. She then questioned the contingency between the Whole Foods and proposed Target. Mr. Nicoletti confirmed the Whole Foods signed lease is contingent on Target moving in.

PSDC Preliminary Presentation – Main Street Overlay Concept

Mark Nicoletti, President of PSDC, provided an overview on the Main Street concept and a proposed zoning amendment that includes PSDC properties located within the perimeter of Sumneytown Pike, Reiff Road and Forty Foot Road/Bustard Road. Mr. Nicoletti noted PSDC has been planning this concept for years by purchasing additional properties to assemble enough land to build a Main Street district that will represent a true Main Street that encompasses living, shopping and dining. He noted new plans will be submitted next month.

A resident request was made for local, non-chain restaurants, then suggested adding a movie theater. Mr. Nicoletti explained restaurants are dependent on workspace and location and noted movie theaters are tough to start up in the current economic climate. Another resident suggested a deli being added. Mr. Nicoletti stated that could be a viable option.

Supervisor Snyder commented the last time PSDC promised a restaurant that the residents could sit down and have dinner at, PSDC offered a Starbucks. While acknowledging the impacts of COVID, she is skeptical of the endorsements and presentations to the Board since 2017 and will believe it when she is able to walk through the doors of the stores promised. Mr. Nicoletti asked that the discussion not be made personal, and he is doing everything he can to turn the shopping center around. He feels they are finally turning the corner. Supervisor Snyder noted it was not her intent to make the topic personal, rather she was expressing her frustration over the lack of progress since he is the representative of the company.

Resident Gisela Koch agreed with Supervisor Snyder, citing the frustration of seeing development in other communities, but nothing is happening in Towamencin, which is creating a general frustration. Mr. Nicoletti responded because of the Township leaders the processes to get things done are moving quicker.

Supervisor Osei commented when a representative continually comes in and makes promises to the community about what they can expect or even that they will attend specific meetings, they come to expect what is promised. He asked that Mr. Nicoletti consider toning down the promises until further along in the process to make things go smoother. Mr. Nicoletti stated there is a difference between promises and facts and when he attends meetings, he is providing factual updates based on the current progress.

Resident Bruce Bailey commented on the differences of the Township from the 70's and 80's to now. He thanked Mr. Nicoletti for his efforts to get new businesses and apologized for the criticism he endures. He stated he would like to speak with Mr. Nicoletti after regarding the SKF building, because he feels it would be good location for North Montco Technical Career Center, emphasizing the facility is a gem and could turn out high level workers, which are needed.

Resident Joe Silverman noted most restaurants do not serve wholesome food. He proposed adding a restaurant that offers good, healthy and wholesome food.

Supervisor Osei noted he would like to see more plans for walking and cycling access and to incorporate the pedestrian bridge over Forty Foot Road. He added Lansdale recently approved their main street overlay, and part of the proposal is for smaller businesses which is helping to relax community angst. He expressed as the Township is working through the zoning process, they should consider the same.

Supervisor Smith commented she recently noticed the lovely landscaping being added to this area of the Township and thanked Mr. Nicoletti for providing the change. She added it indicates things are moving in the right direction.

Resident Christian Fusco asked when the final fourth wall will be added to the old Genuardi's, noting it does not look appealing, and looks post-apocalyptic. Mr. Nicoletti responded it is coming, but that the anchor store determines their individual look. Therefore, the wall will develop around their desire or need for the space.

Consider Approval to Advertise Conditional Use Hearing for Mattress Warehouse Signage

PSDC submitted a Conditional Use application (CU 2024-02) for amended signage for the Mattress Warehouse location along Forty Foot Road. They are seeking approval to advertise for a future hearing. Ed Hughes, Esq. representing PSDC, offered a summary.

The Township Manager asked what date PSDC will be presenting. Mr. Hughes noted they expect it to be the first October meeting.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the Board approved Advertising for a Conditional Use Hearing (CU 2024-02) for Mattress Warehouse Signage.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Conditional Use Decision: Detwiler Holding LLC, Place of Worship Use (#CU 2024-01)

At the July 24th meeting, a Conditional Use Hearing was held related to a proposed E-9 Place of Worship use within the Limited Industrial Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to convert 18,683 SF of the building space within an office building at 2060 Detwiler Road. The existing office building consists of 132,213 SF of office space. The proposed Use E-9 would occupy 18,683 SF with a chapel occupying approximately 7,450 SF and administrative offices occupying approximately 11,233 SF. The Solicitor read the prepared conditional use order.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the Board approved the Conditional Use Decision: Detwiler Holding LLC, Place of Worship Use (#CU 2024-01).

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Old Forty Foot Road Townhouse Development Sketch Plan (SLD 837) Presentation

The Township has received a sketch plan application for a 96-unit townhouse proposed development along Old Forty Foot Road. Greg Eydelman and group representatives for Pulte Homes presented concept plans. John Kennedy, planner for Pulte Homes, presented the concept plan and layout. He noted the plan consists of three parcels of approximately 25 acres located between Saratoga Lane and Rittenhouse Road. The parcels are currently zoned agricultural, with a property line close to Lower Salford Township, and require re-zoning for residential use. He stated the area has changed over the years and is asking for a transition to the MR district. He noted each building would have no more than 5 units. The development would have two access drives on Old Forty Foot Road and a trail system that would circulate the property. Sam Carlo, VP of Pulte Homes, answered individual questions.

Supervisors Snyder asked for the anticipated selling price for the townhomes. Mr. Carlo noted there would be three models offered and would be sold for approximately \$600,000.

Supervisor Smith stated she is not a fan of the high-density development proposed, stressing the rural area, with significant existing traffic issues by Rittenhouse and Mainland roads. She feels residents in the area would not tolerate this development and would consider it a nightmare.

Ben Guthrie, P.E. of Traffic Planning & Design Inc., discussed preliminary traffic studies conducted for the project. He noted the access locations exceeded PennDOT's site distance requirements and added a full traffic study would be submitted for review in more detail.

Supervisor Warner asked if their traffic analysis was conducted during rush hour. Mr. Guthrie confirmed it was completed during between 7 am - 9 am, and again from 4 pm - 6 pm. Supervisor Warner noted the proximity to another community where those residents have trouble exiting their development. Mr. Guthrie stated the proposed driveway would be on the opposite side of the road offering additional clear line of site around the curve.

Supervisor Osei asked for clarification on access lanes. Mr. Guthrie confirmed the primary drive would be full access and the secondary would be right in and right out only. Supervisor Osei described this as the worse traffic area in the Township. Mr. Osei added the proposed site is near the Skippack Creek, which floods. He was concerned this development would raise flooding impacts. He expressed a secondary concern of state and federal officials considering eliminating zoning powers from the Township due to a housing shortage. Therefore, he wants to be careful not to say no, but asked for a more compact layout, to improve the stormwater management and pedestrian improvements within their proposed plans. He feels additional conversations are required. Mr. Guthrie noted they have incorporated substantial considerations for stormwater management.

Supervisor Warner asked if the Township's Fire Department had been contacted regarding the access. She referenced the two access points being located on only one-side of the development and shared her concerns for the safety of residents located towards the back of the development who could be trapped during an emergency. Mr. Guthrie felt the two access points was an optimal design. Supervisor Warner again stressed her concern with the density of units and the safety of residents occupying the ten or so units located towards the rear of the development, who could potentially be trapped since the only two exit points are at the extreme opposite end of the

development. Mr. Gutherie noted he did not see an issue, describing there was plenty of area for internal circulation, but continued the site design could be revisited.

Chairman Wilson asked about demographics and potential impacts on the school district. Mr. Carlo stated a demographic study was not conducted. However, generally these types of dwellings generate a low number of school-aged children. Chairman Wilson asked if Pulte saw an opportunity to improve the traffic issues on Old Forty Foot Road verses adding to it. Mr. Carlo noted a further detailed analysis could be performed. Chairman Wilson acknowledged this plan was a far better design than the previous proposed high-rise apartment plan, calling it a nice transition that he would consider supporting if concerns were addressed.

Mr. Carlo asked if the Board would appreciate further plan analysis for their consideration. Supervisor Snyder noted she was interested in further analysis.

Supervisor Osei called out parking space requirements and felt restrictions could be reduced. Mr. Carlo agreed with that assessment.

Chairman Wilson noted, due to the current issues, stormwater management would be attractive as part of the planning process. Representative noted there is no current stormwater management, and the medium density allows manipulation to maximize stormwater areas.

Supervisor Warner asked about the proposed buffer ratios, because coverage on the plans seem to vary. Pulte Homes noted minimal viewing from Old Forty Foot Road. However, they agreed some areas may require more coverage. Supervisor Warner would like to know the ratio amounts.

Supervisor Osei asked if Pulte knew the total impervious surface coverage. The representatives noted 33-35% in the MR District, with building coverage at 18%, keeping them below the approved amounts.

Supervisor Warner asked if they would add to the existing tree buffer and representatives confirmed they would add to it. She asked if they had been before the Planning Commission. They confirmed they had not, noting this presentation was to gauge the Board's appetite to continue discussions.

The Supervisors agreed they were open to continuing discussions.

Consider Approval of Stormwater Agreement for 1450 Mark Drive

The Township has prepared a Stormwater Agreement that would allow the owners of 1450 Mark Drive to construct an addition with associated stormwater management facilities.

On a motion by Supervisor Warner, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved the Stormwater Agreement for 1450 Mark Drive.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: N/A

Consider Approval of Stormwater Agreement for 2371 Hedrick Road

The Township has prepared a Stormwater Agreement that would allow the owners of 2371 Hedrick Road to construct an addition with associated stormwater management facilities.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the Board approved the Stormwater Agreement for 2371 Hedrick Road.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: N/A

Consider Approval of Pillar Agreement for 1013 Pioneer Road

The Township has prepared a Waiver of Damages Agreement that would allow the owners of 1013 Pioneer Road to install a fence within a stormwater easement.

On a motion by Supervisor Warner, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved the Pillar Agreement for 1013 Pioneer Road.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: N/A

Old Business

None

New Business

Warrant List

The August Warrant list in the amount of \$1,156,405.41 was presented for approval. On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the Board approved the warrant list in the amount of \$1,156,405.41.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: N/A

Public Works Report

The Public Works Committee meets monthly to scope projects and identify efficiencies related to Township infrastructure, properties, and equipment. The Committee met on August 15. Supervisor Smith provided the Committee's report, summarizing the following topics:

- Weikel Road Project
- Central Drive Storm Sewer Repairs
- 2024 Road Paving & ADA Ramp Project
- Repairs to Pedestrian Bridge over Forty Foot Road
- Green Lane Park Soccer Fields
- Welsh/Orvilla Road Intersection Improvement Project
- Forty Foot Road/Newbury Way/PSDC Traffic Signal
- Grant Opportunities
- Comprehensive Plan
- MS4 Permit Requirements
- Township Pool – 2024 Season
- Butch Clemens Park Pickleball Courts Concept Plan
- Streetlight at Susan Drive and Keeler Road
- Tennis Lukens Cemetery Veterans Committee Maintenance Request
- Valley View Way Rehabilitation of Basketball Courts
- Signage to Township entrances
- Fischer's Park Restrooms
- Restricting Truck Traffic on Old Forty Foot Road
- Traffic Impact Fee Study
- Speeding Concerns
- PECO/Green Region Grants
- Fischer's Park Bocce Courts

Finance Committee Report

The Township Finance Committee meets monthly to monitor economic indicators and the pulse of the Township's revenues and expenditures. They also address various requests and concerns that may arise. The Committee met on August 21. Supervisor Warner provided the Committee's report, summarizing the following topics:

- July 2024 Financials
- Capital Budget Update
- Online Payment Transition Update
- New Finance Director Onboarding/Training
- Budget Calendar

Discuss Televising Budget Work Sessions

Several requests have been made for the budget work sessions to be streamed online. The Township currently has only two employees capable of operating the technology associated for

Zoom broadcasts. Staff have discussed the required accommodations and feel they are able to satisfy this request. It is the recommendation of staff to televise the budget work sessions.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Osei, the Board approved televising the budget work sessions.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Resolution 24-22: Sale of Police Vehicles

Section 1504 of the Second-Class Township Code requires the Board of Supervisors to authorize the disposal of personal property for equipment with a fair market value of \$2,000 or more needs to be advertised and sold at auction. This resolution authorizes the sale on Municibid for two 2016 Ford Explorers, used by the Police Department.

On a motion by Supervisor Warner, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 24-22: Sale of Police Vehicles.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Chairman Wilson asked Chief Troxel if there was still a backlog of police vehicle purchases. Chief Troxel confirmed that was the case.

Fischer's Park Pump Station Replacement Estimates

In late July, our Public Works staff noticed that the sewer pumping station at Fischer's Park was not operating properly. When serviced, it was determined a child's swim shirt was flushed down the toilet, clogging the system's grinder pump. While the failing pump was unclogged, when attempting to reinstate the pump, the adapter connecting the pump discharge broke. The parts required to fix the pump are no longer available. Pricing to replace the equipment was obtained. A proposal to remove the old equipment and replace the pumps and additional equipment was received by Axiom, Inc. for \$38,700, as part of a COSTARS contract. The quote for replacement equipment was received from Site Specific for \$8,587. The total cost to complete this repair is \$47,287. This work should be completed as soon as possible, as there is only one pump pumping the sewage to the main and it is designed as a two-pump system.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved the Fischer's Park Pump Station Replacement Estimates.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Consider Police Building Access Control Proposal

The Police Department has requested the front entrance to the Police Building be equipped with access-controlled technology. This technology will allow the door to be programmed for scheduled time release, similar to the other Municipal Complex buildings. A proposal to install and program the access-control was received by Oliver Fire Protection & Security for \$6,275. The total cost for this project is eligible to be paid under the Township's Delaware Valley Workers Comp Trust program. Staff recommends the Board approve the use of these grant funds to cover the cost.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved the Police Building access control proposal.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson III, Laura Smith, Joyce F. Snyder, Kristin Warner, Kofi Osei
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Additional Business

Supervisor Smith noted there was a tragic incident in neighboring Lansdale involving a cat named Charlie, who had made a strong bond with the local community. Charlie sustained injuries likely inflicted by a person(s) and had to be put to sleep. She offered condolences to the Lansdale community, and the family. She encouraged parents to have conversations with their children about the fragility of animals, life, and to help kids fight gang mentality.

Supervisor Osei stated there was another bad accident on Forty Foot Road. He encourages everyone to work together to make the Township roads safer. All the Supervisors agreed. Chairman Wilson noted when the study is completed – with the 309-Connector added and other significant changes - the Township runs the risk of a higher speed limit. He feels the best immediate course of action is police enforcement. Chief Troxel commented it is difficult to control speed, and the department currently does not have the personnel or resources for targeted enforcements for one road. In his opinion, lowering the speed limit will not slow drivers down, it will simply be fabricating speeds.

Supervisor Warner asked if the Department was familiar with signage noting children at play or drive like you live here. Chief Troxel confirmed he is aware but has seen them disregarded.

Supervisor Osei remarked that Forty Foot Road is designed to be too fast, and PennDOT needs to redesign it. He added, conversations need to be had with state legislators.

Chad Dixon, Traffic Engineer, added this is a common issue as widening roads often increases speed. However, if the Township petitions PennDOT to conduct a speed study, he felt there was no great concern that PennDOT would raise the speed limit. Communities often ask for speed

studies, and PennDOT often leaves it as is. Chairman Wilson asked if they would consider consistency in their consideration. Mr. Dixon noted yes, you can certainly request that evaluation.

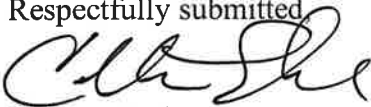
Chief Troxel noted the proposed traffic signal at Newbury and Forty Foot Road could serve to breakup traffic and reduce speed. Chairman Wilson shared it is hard for residents to get out of Newbury Way.

Comparing Towamencin speeds to Lansdale and Hatfield, Supervisor Osei feels there could be better consistency throughout. Chairman Wilson asked Mr. Dixon if he could discuss the Forty Foot Road speeding issue with Hatfield Township, to determine if a solution could be reached together on. Mr. Dixon agreed.

Supervisor Snyder asked if the Township could install a four-way stop at Newbury Way. Mr. Dixon noted the suggestion had been raised previously and the Township could not.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Ehrle
Director of Administration