

**Towamencin Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Monthly Meeting  
August 26, 2009  
7:30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Daniel M. Littley, Chairman  
Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, Vice Chairman  
H. Charles Wilson, III  
John V. Gottschall

**Staff:**

Robert A. Ford, Township Manager  
John T. Dooley, Esquire, Township Solicitor  
Joseph Leis, Director of Community Planning  
P. Tim Dickinson, Chief of Police

**Absent:**

James P. Sinz

Chairman Littley called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 Chairman Littley stated the Board held an executive session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues.

10 Chairman Littley thanked Reeves Miller for his \$750 donation to be used for police overtime related to the upcoming Uninvest Bike Race that will be transiting Towamencin Township on Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Reeves expressed his appreciation of the wonderful things that the Township provides such as superior park systems and excellent police protection and wanted to help the community fund the expenses for this event.

15 Chairman Littley presented Resolution 09-34 accepting the donation of smoke detectors to Mr. William Lutz of Security On-Line System, Inc.

Chairman Littley announced the proposed 2009 Budget schedule.

20 Chairman Littley announced the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company will hold their Chicken BBQ on September 12. He noted the Ladies Auxiliary will have a basket bingo on September 25<sup>th</sup> followed by a craft vendor fair on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Approval of Minutes – August 12, 2009**

On motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Hollenbeck, the Board approved the minutes of August 12, 2009 as written.

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**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
**Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

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**Zoning Hearing Board Application 2009-08: Philadelphia Suburban Development Corp – Forty Foot Road and Towamencin Avenue**

Chairman Littley stated the applicant is proposing construction of a pedestrian bridge linking parking. The property is within the Limited Industrial and Planned Business Campus within Towamencin Village Overlay District.

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Dr. Hollenbeck asked for clarification on the location of the proposed bridge. Mr. Leis described the location.

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It was the consensus of the Board not to send the Solicitor to oppose the application.

**Request for Waiver of Land Development – Clearwire / 1210 Snyder Road**

Chairman Littley noted Clearwire has submitted a request to the Board of Supervisors to not require the submission of a Land Development application for a proposed addition of antenna on an existing cell tower located at 1210 Snyder Road. The application also includes an equipment cabinet that will be located within the existing fenced enclosure.

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On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the Board granted the waiver of land development for Clearwire.

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**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
**Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

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**Request for Waiver of Land Development – Clearwire / 1501 Delp Drive**

Chairman Littley noted Clearwire has submitted a request to the Board of Supervisors to not require the submission of a Land Development application for a proposed addition of antenna on an existing cell tower located at 11501 Delp Drive. The application also includes an equipment cabinet that will be located within the existing fenced enclosure.

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On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the Board granted the waiver of land development for Clearwire.

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**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
**Abstaining:** N/A  
5 **Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Proposed Changes to Zoning Code – Sign Ordinance**

10 Chairman Littley stated the Board directed the administration to review the sign ordinance as it relates to the Village Overlay District and other areas within the Township. He noted the administration was recommending the following changes to the Ordinance:

1. Add definition for “Beacon Light”
2. Change definition of Freestanding Sign.
- 15 3. Add a sign may not have an area greater than 20 sq. ft.
4. Wall Signs maximum square footage.
5. Conditions for Freestanding Signs.
6. Change maximum size for properties with four or more businesses.

20 On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the Board authorized the administration to forward the recommendations to the Planning Commission for their review.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
25 **Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Warrant List**

30 On motion of Dr. Hollenbeck, seconded by Mr. Gottschall, the Board authorized the payment of bills in the amount of \$277,905.84.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
35 **Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

40 **Resolution 09-34: Acknowledgement – Security On-Line System, Inc. - Donation of Smoke Detectors**

Chairman Littley announced that following the house fire on Bremen Road earlier this year, members of the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company and Fire Marshal went through the neighborhood to verify that other homeowners had operable smoke alarms. Although the Fire Company and Township had over 100 units available at the beginning of 2009 that were  
45 provided through “Operation Save a Life,” the available inventory of smoke alarms for

community allocation had depleted to less than ten units. Security On-Line Systems, Incorporated of Ambler Pennsylvania learned of this predicament, and wanted to recognize the community service of the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company and the Township Fire Marshal in the saving of lives from house fires by helping to replenish the supply of smoke alarms for the public distribution program through a generous donation.

On motion of Dr. Hollenbeck, seconded by Mr. Gottschall, the Board adopted Resolution 09-34 acknowledging Security On-Line System, Inc.'s donation of smoke detectors.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
**Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Proposal – Towamencin Creek Interceptor Repair Project**

Mr. Ford stated that the 2009 budget provides \$75,000 for the continuance of the Township's efforts to alleviate the Inflow and Infiltration ("I&I") of storm water in to the sanitary sewer treatment system. Based on inspections of existing lines, the Township's Sanitary Sewer Engineer has identified an area of the Towamencin Creek Interceptor near Sumneytown Pike that should be replaced. Mr. Ford noted that the administration is seeking authorization to have plans and bid specifications prepared for this work.

Bursich Associates, the Township's Sanitary Sewer Engineer, has submitted a two-phased proposal for this work:

Phase I: Design, permitting, bid phase services - \$25,000

Phase II: Construction Admin / Observation Services - \$12,000

On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Dr. Hollenbeck, the Board authorized Phase I of the proposal not to exceed \$25,000.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
**Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Presentation – Veteran's Memorial Park**

Chairman Littley noted that in August 2008, the Towamencin Veterans' Committee sought and received authorization from the Board to prepare "Requests for Proposals" for the development of formal plans regarding the design of the "Veterans Memorial Park."

The Township received seven (7) proposals from professional engineering / planning firms in response to the request, with the contract subsequently being awarded to Gilmore Associates in

the spring of 2009. The professional planning consultants from Gilmore Associates are in attendance this evening to update the Board on the planning progress.

5 Chris Greene of Gilmore Associates was present to explain the work to date on the proposed plan.

Mr. Gordon Bell of the Veteran’s Committee asked the size of the site.

10 Chairman Littley provided suggestions, including having the flag pole and covered memorial co-located.

Dr. Hollenbeck commented about the need for additional parking and adequate access for police inspections.

15 The general consensus of the Board was to move the memorial structure up closer to the road and provide additional parking spaces.

**Resolution 09-35: PECO Energy Open Space Grant**

20 Chairman Littley announced that to celebrate the fifth anniversary of PECO’s Green Region Open Space Program, the Natural Lands Trust is offering a “bonus grant round” to all previous grant recipients. Since the program’s inception, more than \$600,000 has been awarded across the region for a wide variety of projects. In 2007, Towamencin Township received \$7,500 in grant funds from PECO that was used towards the construction of the Arneith Entertainment Center at Fischer’s Park. This “bonus round” is featuring grants of \$15,000, \$10,000, and 25 \$5,000. Towamencin has prepared an application seeking a \$15,000 grant to be used towards the cost of the Fischer’s Park Master Plan update.

30 Dr. Hollenbeck thanked Mr. Ford for preparing the grant application.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall  
**Voting No:** N/A  
**Abstaining:** N/A  
**Absent:** James P. Sinz

35 **MIRT Response – Pittsburgh G20 Summit**

Chairman Littley stated the Chief of Police for the City of Pittsburgh, PA sent a request for manpower assistance for September 24th and 25th when his city will be hosting the G-20 Summit. The Police Chiefs Association of Montgomery County Executive Board, with the support of the Mutual Aid Committee, is authorizing a Montgomery County Major Incident Response Team (MIRT) response to the event. Montgomery County has committed to assigning 40 30 MIRT Officers to assist with the G-20 Summit. The Towamencin Township Police Department participates in the Montgomery County MIRT and has two sergeants on the roster trained in these special operations. Chief Dickinson has recommended that Sergeant Daniel 45 Jusko participate and attend the event to assist the Pittsburgh Police Department as a member

of the Montgomery County MIRT. The event, including travel days, would last from Tuesday, September 22 to Saturday, September 26, 2009. The Pittsburgh Police Department will supply food and lodging but officer salaries would be borne by the officer's department.

5 On motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Gottschall, the Board approved Sergeant Dan Jusko to assist the City of Pittsburgh.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, Dr. Thomas Hollenbeck, H. Charles Wilson, John V. Gottschall

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

10 **Absent:** James P. Sinz

**Additional Business**

15 Dr. Hollenbeck advised that he had been contacted by residents of Hickory Way whose road was conditioned with Ralumac a few years ago and the condition is appearing to worsen. He asked if the Public Works Director would inspect the road and provide a recommendation.

20 Chairman Littley reminded all to display the American Flag on September 11 to honor those that passed away and those that served.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert A. Ford  
Township Manager

30 RAF/sl