

**Towamencin Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Work Session Meeting  
November 9, 2011  
7:30 pm**

**Present:**

Daniel M. Littley, Chairman  
John V. Gottschall, Vice Chairman  
James P. Sinz, Secretary  
H. Charles Wilson, III, Treasurer  
Patricia Younce

**Staff:**

Robert A. Ford, Township Manager  
John T. Dooley, Esquire, Township Solicitor  
Russell Benner, P.E., Township Engineer  
Joseph Leis, Director of Community Development  
P. Tim Dickinson, Chief of Police

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

**Opening Comments**

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Chairman Littley stated the Board held an executive session on November 2, 2011 and prior to this evening's meeting to discuss personnel issues and potential litigation issues.

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Chairman Littley noted there will be a short ceremony on Friday, November 11, 2011 at 11:00 am to recognize Veterans Day.

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Chairman Littley stated the Township's annual Turkey Trot 5k Race is scheduled for November 19th at Fischer's Park. Registration starts at 8:00am and the race starts at 9:00 am. The Trot will utilize local roads and park trails to see who the top trotting turkey is. Top male and female runners will win a free turkey! All Pre-registered runners will receive a free long sleeved t-shirt. Shirts for the day of the race will be based on availability.

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Chairman Littley stated the Board has held two Workshop Sessions for the preparation of the 2012 Township Budget on Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The next session is scheduled for next Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. It is anticipated at this time that the proposed 2012 Budget will be presented on Tuesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> to allow for public inspection prior to the scheduled adoption on December 14<sup>th</sup>. All Budget meetings are open to the public and start at 7:00 pm.

**Public Comments**

Steve Wozny, 103 Finch Run, expressed concern about the fire siren located on Sumneytown Pike near Finch Run and asked if there were other options.

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Chairman Littley advised he was speaking with Chief Miller and working with the Fire Company who is conducting a study. He asked that Mr. Wozny wait until the study is completed.

**Approval of Minutes – October 26, 2011**

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On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Mr. Sinz, the Board approved the minutes of October 26, 2011 as written.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson,  
15 Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

20 **Request for Zoning Amendment - R-5 Townhouse Parking Requirement**

Chairman Littley noted W.B. Homes, Inc., the developer for the proposed “Thorndale” carriage homes off Allentown Road, has submitted a request that the Board consider amending the Zoning Code section that regulates the R-5 Townhouse Dwelling use parking requirements. The amendment would eliminate the minimum bay area for garage parking spaces for Townhouse Dwellings that have basements.

Chris Canavan and William Bonenberger of W.B. Homes were in attendance to explain their request to amend the Zoning Code.

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On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Mr. Sinz, the Board directed the administration to advertise a public hearing for an amendment to the zoning ordinance.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson,  
35 Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

40 **Resolution 11-39: Accepting Dedication of Maxwell Court**

Chairman Littley stated this Resolution is to formally recognize the acceptance of right-of-way that was offered to be dedicated to the Township through the previously approved and recorded “Towamencin Springs / Real Pro” Subdivision / Land Development Plan.

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On motion of Mr. Sinz, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the Board adopted Resolution 11-39 accepting dedication of Maxwell Court.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson,  
Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

### **Sewer I & I Abatement Update**

Chairman Littley stated the Township's Sanitary Sewer Engineer has recently completed the inspection of sewer lines and laterals in the Inglewood section of the Township, west of Allentown Road. This area was selected for study in this year's I & I abatement program due to high measured flows during rain events. This area has the oldest sewers and is tributary to two main interceptors.

Bill Dingman, P.E., provided a summary of the Township's I & I efforts over the past year and possible options for 2012.

The Board directed the administration to work with Mr. Dingman in preparing bid specifications for the I & I abatement program.

### **Rittenhouse Road Culvert – Design Changes**

Chairman Littley noted the Board awarded a contract in September of this year to replace the culvert.

There have been a number of substantial storm events since the survey was originally conducted this past spring. Large sections of the stacked rock retaining wall have collapsed and sections of the bank have sheared away during the recent storm events. As such, the Engineer has advised that this area may not be capable of supporting the sidewalk as proposed. The Township Engineer will present two alternative options to address this concern.

Mr. Ford provided a PowerPoint presentation to summarize the issues and the two options for change order as proposed by the Township Engineer.

On motion of Mr. Sinz, seconded by Mr. Wilson, it was the consensus of the Board to go with option two as proposed by the Township's Engineer in the amount of \$1,305.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson,  
Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

**Resolution 11-40: Pennsylvania Growing Greener Renewal Program**

Chairman Littley stated the Township has received a request from the Montgomery County Lands Trust to consider adopting a resolution in support of continued funding for the Pennsylvania Growing Greener Program. The Growing Greener funds are distributed among four state agencies: the Department of Agriculture to administer farmland preservation projects; the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for state park renovations and improvements; and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority for water and sewer system upgrades.

On motion of Mr. Sinz, seconded by Mrs. Younce, the Board adopted Resolution 11-40 in support of the Pennsylvania Growing Greener Renewal Program.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson, Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

**Reduction in DEP 2010 Recycling Grant**

Chairman Littley stated the Township has been advised by the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has instituted a new policy, beginning with the 2010 Recycling Performance grants, to withhold 40 percent of our grant money to fund other DEP activities. The grant money comes from tipping fees, which are amounts charged by facility operators to waste haulers.

On motion of Mr. Gottschall, seconded by Mr. Sinz, the authorized the administration to send a letter of concern to the State Legislators.

**Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson, Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

**PA Turnpike Widening – Firehouse Park**

Chairman Littley noted the engineers for the Pennsylvania Turnpike are preparing designs for the northern section of the widening project and have contacted the Township regarding our preference for the placement of the sound-wall at Firehouse Park to go in relation to the proposed storm basin (i.e., put wall between basin and park, or between basin and Turnpike).

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to hold direction until the Turnpike indicated their position on the taking process.

**Authorization to Bid: Street Light Maintenance**

5 Mr. Ford explained that the Township’s current vendor “Precision Electric” had notified the Township that it had gone out of business on November 2. He noted that staff is seeking authorization to release bid specifications.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Sinz, the Board authorized the administration to release bid specifications for street light maintenance.

10 **Voting Yes:** Daniel M. Littley, John V. Gottschall, James P. Sinz, H. Charles Wilson,  
Patricia Younce

**Voting No:** N/A

**Abstaining:** N/A

**Absent:** N/A

15 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

20 Robert A. Ford  
Township Manager

25 RAF/sl

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