

**Towamencin Township
Board of Supervisors
Work Session
September 9, 2020
7:30 PM**

Present:

H. Charles Wilson III, Chairman
Laura Smith, Vice Chairman
Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Treasurer
Richard Marino, Secretary
Daniel Bell, Asst. Treasurer/Asst. Secretary

Staff:

Robert A. Ford, Township Manager
Jack Dooley, Esq., Township Solicitor
Tom Zarko, Township Engineer
Niral Modi, IT Staff
Paul T. Dickinson, Chief of Police

Present Remotely:

Colleen Ehrle, Assistant to Township Manager
Brooke Neve, Finance Director/Assistant Township Manager

Absent:

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Comments

Chairman Wilson made the following announcements:

- Due to the COVID-19 Emergency, the meeting is being held via Zoom video communications. The public was invited to participate remotely and e-mail questions to info@towamencin.org prior to the meeting.
- The Township's summer concert series continues tomorrow evening at 7 pm with the band "Don't Call Me Francis" performing. Due to the Governor's COVID Emergency directive, space is limited to 250 attendees. Wristbands will be distributed upon entry to the concert area. Attendees must wear a mask, practice social distancing, and adhere to CDC Guidelines.
- A "Movie in the Park" is scheduled for Thursday, September 17th at Fischer's Park. The feature "Goonies" will start at dusk, approximately 7 pm. Bring your blankets, lounge chairs (and of course facemasks) and enjoy a movie under the stars. In accordance with State directives,

attendance within the concert area is limited to 250 and will be controlled through the distribution of wristbands when entering the orange fenced area.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes: August 12, 2020

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved the August 12, 2020 minutes.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Approval of Minutes: August 26, 2020

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Bell, the Board approved the August 26, 2020 minutes.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development

Waiver of Damages - 1494 Maxwell Court

Following the newly adopted ordinance amendment allowing fences to be placed in an easement, the Township has prepared a waiver of damages for the owners of 1494 Maxwell Court to place a fence in the stormwater easement. A one-call is required and Public Works will locate the pipe in order to provide direction for proper location within the easement.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved the waiver agreement for 1494 Maxwell Court.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

New Business

Resolution 20-43: Extension of Temporary Outdoor Dining – COVID Emergency

On June 5th, the Pennsylvania Health Department announced that restaurants and retail food service businesses located in counties designated as being in the yellow phase of Coronavirus mitigation would be permitted to add dine-in service in outdoor seating areas, so long as they strictly adhere to the Commonwealth’s directed guidance, including maximum occupancy limits, and as permitted by local municipalities. Towamencin’s Board of Supervisors subsequently adopted a resolution to allow such facilities on a temporary basis, where otherwise not permitted by zoning, until September 30th. In light of continued restrictions related to the COVID Emergency, and to help our local restaurateurs and businesses, the Board is asked to extend this temporary allowance until November 1, 2020.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Bell, the Board approved Resolution 20-43, Extension of Temporary Outdoor Dining – COVID Emergency.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Resolution 20-44: 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 2021 MMO for the Police Pension Fund is \$725,298.

Previous Years	2017	\$781,800	2018	\$705,780	2019	\$701,195	2020	\$698,247
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On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 20-44, Minimum Municipal Obligation Police Pension Plan.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Resolution 20-45: 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 2021 MMO for the Non-Uniform Employees Defined Benefit Pension Fund is \$244,526. The Defined Benefit Plan is no longer available to new hires. Therefore, the MMO for this plan is projected to decrease over time.

Previous Years	2017	\$158,310	2018	\$162,506	2019	\$233,686	2020	\$254,182
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On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 20-45, Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Pension Plan.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
 Voting No: N/A
 Abstaining: N/A
 Absent: N/A

Resolution 20-46: Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Employees Money Purchase Pension Plan

The Board implemented an ordinance in 2014 establishing a Defined Contribution Pension Plan for any new non-uniformed Township employees hired subsequent to adoption. The transition to this new plan will aid in controlling escalating costs in future funding of pensions compared to a Defined Benefit Pension. The 2021 MMO for the Non-Uniform Employees Defined Contribution Pension Fund is \$19,996.

Previous Years	2017	\$9,537	2018	\$9,708	2019	\$9,971	2020	\$18,531
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On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 20-46, Minimum Municipal Obligation Non-Uniform Pension Plan.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
 Voting No: N/A
 Abstaining: N/A
 Absent: N/A

Resolution 20-47: Endorsement of Proposed Enforcement Procedures for Act 101 Violations

The Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission has prepared proposed regulations regarding violations of the Commonwealth’s Act 101 by waste haulers, businesses, and residents of member municipalities. Violations include commingling recyclable materials with waste, putting leaves in the trash, burning leaves, and making collections between the hours of 8:00 pm and 6:00 am. The regulations provide progressive enforcement actions starting with a warning. This resolution endorses the proposed regulations and authorizes Towamencin’s Commission

representative, Laura Smith, to vote affirmatively on the adoption of the same regulations at the Commission's October meeting.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Resolution 20-47, Endorsement of Proposed Enforcement Procedures for Act 101 Violations.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Approval of NPWA Utility Easement – Trumbauer & Kriebel Roads

North Penn Water Authority has discovered a 4,680 square foot area within Township-owned property, between Kriebel and Trumbauer Roads that requires a twenty-foot wide easement for an existing water main. The area also requires tree clearing that will be done in 2021.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Bell, the Board approved the North Penn Water Authority Utility Easement at Trumbauer and Kriebel Roads.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A
Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Change Order #2: Forty Foot Road Widening Contract

Change Order No. 2 includes the additional work necessary to install the foundations and signal mast arms at the future Newbury Way/PSDC traffic signal site access. This work is part of the overall project as designed, but was not included in the initial bid as PennDOT had concerns about installing a traffic signal prior to redeveloping the shopping center. This change order is for a partial installation of equipment only. The second phase will include the remaining signal components needed to operate the signal once it is warranted in conjunction with the shopping center land development. The Township's traffic engineers have reviewed and coordinated with the contractor Road-Con on these items and recommends approval of the change order in the amount of \$126,303.80. This amount is within the project budget and is funded through the grant.

On a motion by Supervisor Littley, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board approved Change Order #2 for the Forty Foot Road Widening Contract.

Voting Yes: H. Charles Wilson, III, Laura Smith, Daniel M. Littley, Jr., Richard Marino, Daniel Bell
Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A
Absent: N/A

Other Business

Supervisor Marino asked for an update regarding scheduling talks between Towamencin and Hatfield Township representatives to address the Derstine Road truck traffic concerns raised at the Board's August 12th meeting. Chairman Wilson responded that he recommended himself and Mr. Marino as representatives of Towamencin's Board of Supervisors and that Robert Ford was working with Hatfield Township staff on scheduling a date.

Supervisor Marino also asked if there was any update on Towamencin Village Shopping Center since the tree and building façade removals. Mr. Ford responded he was not aware of anything new with respect to land development, but would follow up with the property owner.

Supervisor Smith highlighted some recent thank you letters received on behalf of the Police Department for their participation and gifts provided in local car parades for birthdays, etc. during the shutdown. She commended the Department's efforts to Police Chief Dickinson, who thanked Supervisor Smith for the acknowledgement.

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Ehrle
Assistant to Township Manager