

**Towamencin Township
Board of Supervisors
Monthly Meeting
December 14, 2022
7:00 PM**

Present:

Richard Marino, Vice Chairman
Laura Smith, Secretary
Kristin Warner, Treasurer
Joyce F. Snyder, Asst. Treasurer/Asst. Secretary

Staff:

David G. Kraynik, Township Manager
Robert J. Iannozzi, Jr., Esq., Township Solicitor
Mary Stover, Township Engineer
Clayton Reed, IT Director
Timothy Troxel, Chief of Police

Absent:

H. Charles Wilson III, Chairman

Supervisor Marino called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Comments

Supervisor Marino made the following announcements:

- The meeting is being held in person at the Township's Meeting Hall and also provided via Zoom for residents unable to attend in person. Public comments submitted by 4:30 pm on the meeting day will be read at the start of the meeting.
- In accordance with the Pennsylvania 2nd Class Township Code, the Board of Supervisors will meet on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 7:00 pm to re-organize.
- The Elected Auditors Reorganization Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 5:00 pm.
- As part of the Township's current Sidewalk Connectivity Study, an online study is available on the Township website for residents to provide feedback on where additional sidewalks and/or trails should be provided. Supervisor Marino encouraged residents to participate.
- The 2023 budget is available for public inspection and will be voted on at the next meeting on December 28, 2022.

Public Comments

Resident Kofi Osei, of Cambridge Way, questioned the timing of the updated FAQ mailing and

recommended that specific content included within the FAQ be updated – questions relating to the stage of the system’s monetization and rate projections, # 4, 7, 12, and 17, as well as, adding a new question indicating which big sewer projects are planned and if they will be realized.

Resident Gisela Koch, of 703 Freedom Circle, provided an update from the elected Government Study Commission Meeting on December 6, 2022 – listing the voted positions, the purpose of the Commission, and the meeting date schedule for 2023. She encouraged residents participate in the process by asking questions in person or online.

Resident Joe Silverman asked the Board if they knew what may fill the closed Rite Aid at the corner of Sumneytown Pike and Valley Forge Road. Supervisor Marino responded they did not.

Emailed Submission

Resident Tina Gallagher, commented on the proposed 2023 budget: 1. Why are we proposing \$150,000 for a new soccer field at Nash when the plan is not yet developed? According to the Open Space & Parks Advisory Committee there are multiple options though nothing settled. Can this be pushed off until plans are more firm? Supervisor Marino responded that the plans for this field have been in the works for some time, but added there will be the loss of a soccer field at Bustard Park due to expansion of Public Works facility.

2. I don’t play Bocce, but another \$41,000 to redo existing courts makes me think about how many residents use the courts? I have seen them used once, but maybe that’s because we rushed the job and the drainage issues have affected them. Supervisor Marino noted the concern is a surface run-off issue and funds will used to remediate the surface drainage. The washout of the courts has affected the overall use of the courts.

3. What is wrong with the trash cans at Fishers Park? \$20,200 to replace. I would rather see those funds used to support drainage issues, pavilions, other maintenance. Supervisor Marino noted this budget request came from the Public Works Department. The total includes trash cans at new locations and replacements needed from wear over the years.

Approval of Minutes: November 9, 2022 & November 22, 2022

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved the November 9, 2022 minutes.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved the November 22, 2022 minutes.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development

Authorization to Advertise: Ordinance Amendment to Grading Permit

The Township's Codes Department requested an amendment to the grading permit. The amended ordinance would revise the definition of grading to "the changing of the natural topography through cutting or filing an area exceeding 1,500 square feet, or in which the natural drainage pattern of a lot is altered" and amend the text when a grading permit is not required. The 1,500 SF measurement change would correspond with the stormwater ordinance exemption threshold.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board authorized advertising the proposed ordinance amendment for Board consideration at a future meeting.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolution 22-36: Veterans Park Master Plan Approval

At the Board's November 9 meeting, the Township's Planning Consultant, Simone Collins, presented the Veterans Park Master Plan, with the Board approving the plan. The Master Plan was funded by two \$25,000 grants from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The DCNR Grant's project checklist requires the Board approve a corresponding close-out resolution.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved Resolution 22-36, Veterans Park Master Plan Approval.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Ordinance 22-07: Amendment Authorizing Assignment of Note (2019 Series) from TTIA to Township

The proposed Ordinance would facilitate the termination of the Towamencin Township Infrastructure Authority. The Township executed a Guaranty Agreement that secures the Authority's Guaranteed Revenue Infrastructure Note, 2019 Series (the "2019 Guaranteed Note"). Under the Guaranty Agreement, the Township must assume the payment obligations of the

Authority if the Authority is terminated. Under the Local Government Unit Debt Act, the assumption of the 2019 Guaranteed Note would change the obligation of the Township from “lease rental debt” to “nonelectoral, general obligation” debt. The Ordinance authorizes the issuance of the \$4,077,000 General Obligation Note, 2019 Series (the “2019 Note”) to replace 2019 Guaranteed Note.

On a motion by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Smith, the Board adopted Ordinance 22-07, Amendment Authorizing Assignment of Note (2019 Series) from TTIA to Township.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Resolution 22-37: Designating Depositories for Township Funds

In accordance with §708 of the Pennsylvania 2nd Class Township Code, the Board of Supervisors shall designate by resolution a depository or depositories for township funds. The designation is valid for a period of one year or until another depository or other depositories are designated by similar action of the Board of Supervisors. This resolution would confirm Township Manager David G. Kraynik as an additional signatory to the accounts, removing previous manager Donald D. Delamater as signer.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Warner, the Board approved Resolution 22-37, Designating Depositories for Township Funds.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Finance Committee Report

The Township Finance Committee meets monthly throughout the year to monitor economic indicators and the pulse of the Township’s revenues and expenditures, as well as address various requests and concerns that may arise. The Committee met on November 18th. Supervisor Warner provided the Committee’s report. Discussion items included:

Township 2022 October YTD Financial Summary - The Committee reviewed a summary of year-to-date financials. Tax revenue generated through the first ten months of the year is consistent with historical trends by tax type and on track to meet or exceed 2022 budget figures. Unanticipated costs have been incurred in the Swimming Pool Fund and the Parks & Rec Fund in 2022 due to pool repairs and the weather-related postponement of Towamencin Day. These funds are projected to end the year with a negative fund balance. The Fire Fund is also projected to end the year with a negative fund balance due to lower-than anticipated starting balance at the beginning of the year.

The Committee recommends: 1) authorizing an unbudgeted interfund transfer of \$80,000 from General Fund to the Swimming Pool Fund, 2) an unbudgeted interfund transfer of \$20,000 from

General Fund to the Parks & Rec Fund, and 3) an unbudgeted interfund transfer of \$20,000 from General Fund to the Fire Fund.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the Board approved of the three unbudgeted interfund transfers as described.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Update on TTIA Dissolution – Finance Director Adam Szumski provided a progress update on the TTIA dissolution process. Mr. Szumski also brought to the solicitor’s attention four (4) parcels currently listed on county property records with TTIA as the owner, which will need to be transferred to the township.

Review Township Policy: Waivers of sewer penalties and interest - The Township has maintained a strict policy of not waiving penalties and interest for late sewer payments. The township sewer bill states that “failure to receive bill does not entitle owner to remission of penalty.” The Committee suggested drafting a policy that would allow for a one-time waiver assuming the account has at least 3 prior years of on-time payments. Mr. Szumski will draft a revised policy and present to the Finance Committee at its next meeting.

Other Business - Mr. Szumski noted that at a recent Pension Board Meeting that police pension funds were accidentally used to fund an actuarial valuation of other post-employment benefits (OPEB) provided to police union members. Since OPEB is pay-as-you-go and not a part of the police pension trust, the OPEB study invoices should have been paid out of the General Fund rather than the police pension fund. Two invoices were involved, totaling \$5,100. The Committee recommends the General Fund reimburse the Police Pension fund in the amount of \$5,100.

On a motion by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the Board approved reimbursing the Police Pension fund in the amount of \$5,100, from the General Fund.

Voting Yes: Richard Marino, Laura Smith, Kristin Warner, Joyce F. Snyder

Voting No: N/A

Abstaining: N/A

Absent: H. Charles Wilson, III

Supervisor Smith wished residents a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah.

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Ehrle

Manager of Administration, Communication & Human Resources