

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Monday, October 3, 2016

7:00 pm

Worksession

I. ATTENDANCE

Board: Steve Miller
Peter Buckland
Janet Whitaker
Laura Dininni
Rita Graef

Staff: Mark Kunkle, Township Manager
David Pribulka, Assistant Township Manager
Dave Modricker, Director of Public Works
Ray Stolinas, Director of Planning & Zoning

Others in attendance included: Jendi Ammerman, Recording Secretary; Sue Mascolo; Steven Jackson; Daniel Foster

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Miller called the Monday, October 3, 2016, worksession to order at 6:59pm.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. ABC Reports

i. Ms. Sue Mascolo, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority

Ms. Mascolo gave a quarterly report on the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority (CRPR). She reported that there was an increase in revenue at the pools. Ms. Mascolo reported that a fundraiser goal had not been set for individual campaigns, but that the goal for the Senior Center is \$100,000.

ii. Mr. Steven Jackson, State College Borough Water Authority

Mr. Jackson gave a quarterly report on the State College Borough Water Authority (SCBWA). The main topics reviewed were: the construction and financing of new water treatment plants, the forest management proposal for the Shingletown Gap Reservoir property, the reduced well levels and the issue of a known carcinogen in Centre County water (hexavalent chromium).

Mr. Jackson was requested to inform SCBWA that in the coming decades there is a significant increased likelihood of summer drought with September being the most drought prone.

Mr. Jackson was requested to suggest that the SCBWA water bills include how much water was actually used in that quarter and a comparison with the previous quarter.

b. COG Committee Reports

i. Executive Committee

Mr. Miller reviewed the Executive Committee meeting from September 20th. He noted that repairs are needed to the house at Oak Hall Park. Repairs are being done now and will be paid for from the rental of the house.

ii. Transportation and Land Use

Ms. Whitaker reviewed the Transportation & Land Use Committee meeting from October 3rd. Discussion was centered on how to expedite the economic development process for the region.

c. Other Non-Cog Regional Committees

i. CCMPO Coordinating Committee

Mr. Miller reviewed the CCMPO Coordinating Committee meeting from September 27th. The focus of the meeting was the budget, which remains very similar to the 2016 budget. CCMPO directed staff to draft a letter supporting passenger rail service between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, increasing it from one trip a day to two or three. Discussion was held on potential

projects that could receive repurposed earmarked funds from the 2015-2018 and 2017-2020 Centre County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

ii. Spring Creek Watershed Commission Meeting

Mr. Buckland reviewed the Spring Creek Watershed Commission meeting. Mr. Sharp gave a rundown on the 20th Anniversary Celebration. Mr. Seth Blumsack, Professor at Penn State University, gave a presentation on projected energy impacts from climate change conditions. The Commission voted to provide funding for an October 19th master class and presentation by Dr. Clive Lipchin from the Arava Institute.

2. STAFF REPORTS

a. Manager's Report

Mr. Kunkle stated that a temporary GIS Technician has been added to the staff to address a backlog of work due to the extended absence of the full-time GIS Technician. Staff has prepared a draft of the goals and objectives that were a result of the Strategic Plan update process. This information is now being used by Peter Marshall to develop the goals and objectives further. Staff is also working on the 2017 Township Budget. The proposed budget is scheduled to be distributed to the Board by November 7.

b. Public Works Director

Mr. Modricker reviewed the Public Works Director's Report. A second case of oak wilt has been confirmed, this year.

c. Planning & Zoning Director

Mr. Stolas reviewed the Planning and Zoning Director's Report. Planning & Zoning staff performed a land use review, by zoning district, with Environmental Planning and Design to determine future ordinance format of area and bulk requirements and consideration for shifts in criteria to supplemental regulations. The zoning and land use revisions may include proposed changes for use in various zoning districts. The Source Water Protection Work Group met on Thursday, September 22nd.

3. Whitehall Road Regional Park – Discussion of State College Borough Water Authority Review Comments

Ms. Graef requested that the Board review comments made by the State College Borough Water Authority on the proposed Whitehall Road Regional Park. A letter dated September 27, 2002 from Max Gill, then-Executive Director at the Water Authority, in which the Water Authority has conveyed support for the acquisition and development of Whitehall Road Regional Park. It was noted that the 2010 masterplan included \$419,265 as the cost of the access road which did not include installing the sewer pump station or utility conveyance lines.

4. Discussion on Robert's Rules of Order

On May 24, 2016 the Board of Supervisors hosted a worksession with Dr. Foster, Certified Parliamentarian, on the application of Robert's Rules of Order to the conducting of public meetings. Dr. Foster and the Board had a dialogue with questions and answers on Robert's Rules of Order.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Buckland made a motion to ADJOURN the meeting. Ms. Graef seconded the motion.

With no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Miller adjourned the worksession at 8:32pm.

Regular Meeting

I. ATTENDANCE

The Board of Supervisors held its first regular meeting of the month on Monday, October 3, 2016 at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building. In attendance were:

Board:	Steve Miller	Staff:	Mark Kunkle, Township Manager
	Peter Buckland		David Pribulka, Assistant Township Manager
	Janet Whitaker		Dave Modricker, Director of Public Works
	Laura Dininni		Ray Stolinas, Director of Planning & Zoning
	Rita Graef		

Others in attendance included: Jendi Ammerman, Recording Secretary; Troy Allen; David Martin; Jay Nungesser

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Miller called the Monday, October 3, 2016, regular meeting to order at 8:39pm.

III. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Dininni reported that a citizen wanted to pass on thanks to the Township for applying the grass ordinance at the property in question.

Ms. Graef shared comments from the public, in the Overlook Heights Neighborhood, sharing their excitement for the new grapple truck.

Ms. Graef stated that several residents from Ward 3, have been contacted by Columbia Gas to survey potential interest in running additional gas lines.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

1. **PRESENTATION ON THE INSTALLATION OF ARTIFICIAL TURF AT THE LOUIS E. SILVI BASEBALL COMPLEX – DAVE MARTIN, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, A-TURF, INC.**

Mr. Kunkle stated that the State College Area Teener League and Troy Allen of Own the Plate Baseball Academy have approached the Township with a proposal to install a synthetic infill system on S & A Field at The Louis E. Silvi Baseball Complex. In the past, Board members have expressed concerns over the use of synthetic turf on athletic fields due to research that has indicated potential health hazards relative to the material used to create the surface. In that regard, staff has invited Mr. Allen and Mr. Martin, Director of Operations at A-Turf, Inc. to discuss these concerns and answer any questions the Board may have. At this time, funding has not been appropriated for the project and would need to be secured prior to installation.

Mr. Allen described the current field conditions and the advantages that an artificial infield surface would have on league and tournament play.

Ms. Dininni moved that the Board of Supervisors discuss the installation of a synthetic infill system on S & A Field at the Louis E. Silvi Baseball Complex. Ms. Graef seconded the motion.

A concern was expressed that this action may be premature and that there was not enough information on the complex itself, cost comparison, etc.

A question was raised regarding the funding of the proposed improvement. It was noted that the State College Teener League will be submitting an application for funding to the Centre County Visitors and Convention Bureau. Further, that the League would take on any additional costs themselves, and funds would be raised on their own. It would not fall on the tax payers.

The Board received a review of the results of a risk assessment on artificial turf fields, from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Health. Based on the findings, outdoor and indoor artificial turf fields are not associated with elevated health risks from the inhalation of volatile or particle-bound chemicals, however some concerns in regard to stormwater runoff and chemicals and micro plastics from the field were expressed. Alternatively, some positives of artificial turf: costs, drainage, less usage of water, longer usage of the field, etc. It was noted that the results of the EPA Federal Research Action Plan on recycled tire crumb used on playing fields and playgrounds is not expected to be completed until the end of the year. The Board members agreed that waiting until those results are published to make a decision would be prudent.

Mr. Miller asked if the Board agreed to delay this action item until more information was available. With no verbal disagreements from the Board, the action item was postponed until more information was available.

2. APPOINTMENT OF RAY STOLINAS, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING, TO THE CENTRE COUNTY HOUSING AND LAND TRUST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Kunkle stated that the Board designated by resolution the Land Trust as third-party administrator of its workforce housing program on April 4, 2016. Since that time, the Board of Directors at the Land Trust has offered a seat on its Board to a designated staff member. Staff is recommending that Ray Stolinas be appointed to this seat.

Ms. Dininni moved that the Board of Supervisors appoint Ray Stolinas, Director of Planning & Zoning, to represent the Township on the Centre County Housing and Land Trust Board of Directors. Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION VACANCY

Mr. Miller stated that Troy Bayletts of the Ferguson Township Tree Commission has informed staff that he is resigning for personal reasons effective immediately. Mr. Bayletts was appointed at-large and his current term expires on December 31, 2018.

Mr. Miller inquired as to what the process would be for filling this vacancy. Mr. Kunkle replied that the Administrative Code is required to make an appointment for the unexpired term of Mr. Baylett within 60 days, leaving the deadline November 21, 2016. Staff will use social media and news letters to solicit candidates for the position.

4. HALFMOON TOWNSHIP AUTUMN MEADOW PARK ENHANCEMENT PLAN – REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

Mr. Kunkle stated that staff received a request from Susan Steele, Halfmoon Township Manager on behalf of the Halfmoon Township Board of Supervisors requesting a letter of support for DCNR and DCED funding of development of Autumn Meadow Park. The concept plan shows an improved entrance, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access, improved parking, and other facilities that will enhance the utilization and programming of the park.

Mr. Buckland moved that the Board of Supervisors authorize a letter of support to Halfmoon Township for DCNR and DCED development funding of Autumn Meadow Park. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. CONSIDER ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION TO THE OAK WILT PROGRAM

Mr. Kunkle requested that this action item be added to the agenda. The Board authorized \$25,000 earlier this year. Mr. Modricker indicated in his report that there has been another outbreak of oak wilt at 105 Cherry Ridge. There is approximately \$4,000 left of the \$25,000. The balance of which was spent at 104 Cherry Ridge and the surrounding 200-foot radius. The infected tree needs to be removed and is in an odd location on the property. The cost estimate to remove the tree exceeds the amount available. Therefore, staff is requesting that the Board consider an additional allocation of \$5,000.

Mr. Miller asked for a unanimous agreement to add the action item to the agenda. There were no objections.

Ms. Dininni made a motion that the Board of Supervisors authorize an additional \$5,000 to be put into the Oak Wilt fund to address the infected tree. Mr. Buckland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. 2016-C23 Municipal Building Stone Sill
- b. Pipe Video and Condition Assessment

Ms. Dininni moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Miller announced that there would be a brief executive session on a personnel matter immediately following the meeting.

V. CALENDAR ITEMS – OCTOBER

1. Fall Economic Development Summit – Wednesday October 27th, 5:00 p.m., Mt. View Country Club
2. ABC Recognition Dinner – Wednesday, October 19th, 6:00p.m., Toftrees Resort

VI. MINUTES

1. **September 19, 2016 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting**

Mr. Miller made a motion to have staff prepare the minutes in accordance with the Robert's Rules of Order. Ms. Graef seconded the motion.

Ms. Whitaker asked if this would mean the minutes would be action oriented. Mr. Miller replied that they would be action oriented. Ms. Whitaker showed support for the minutes being action oriented versus discussion oriented. Ms. Graef pointed out that Dr. Foster had stated that in the event a Board member believed a specific topic should be recorded, it could be motioned and voted on to be put in the minutes.

Mr. Buckland moved to postpone the motion to have staff prepare the minutes in accordance with the Roberts Rules of Order. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dininni motioned that the September 6th minutes be amended to include discussion of the gas line and Community & Environmental Bill of Rights. Mr. Buckland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 to 1 with Mr. Miller voting against.

Mr. Buckland made a motion to APPROVE the September 19, 2016 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes. Mr. Miller seconded the motion.

Ms. Dininni motioned that the September 19th minutes be amended to clarify that there was not a vote on Ms. Graef placing a vote at the Parks Capital Committee in regards to the Whitehall Road Regional Park being built. (Worksession minutes, discussion items, Parks Capital Committee, last paragraph) There was no second on the motion.

The motion to APPROVE the September 19, 2016 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes passed 4 to 1, with Ms. Dininni voting against.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Whitaker made a motion to ADJOURN the meeting. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion.

With no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Miller adjourned the regular meeting at 10:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kunkle, Township Manager
For the Board of Supervisors
Date approved by the Board: _____