

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Monday, November 21, 2016

7:00 pm

Worksession

I. ATTENDANCE

Board: Steve Miller

Janet Whitaker

Laura Dininni

Rita Graef

Staff:

Mark Kunkle, Township Manager

David Pribulka, Assistant Township Manager

Dave Modricker, Director of Public Works

Others in attendance included: Jendi Ammerman, Recording Secretary; Pam Adams; Beth Kocher Gormley; Kristine Crassweller; Melissa Poulsen; Andrea Harman;

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Miller called the Monday, November 21, 2016, worksession to order at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Miller added a discussion of a Resolution on Equity and Inclusion, to the work session.

III. CITIZENS INPUT

Ms. Gormley, Ms. Crassweller, Ms. Poulsen and Ms. Harman expressed support of the draft Resolution on Equity and Inclusion.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. COG Committee Reports

i. Public Safety Committee Reports & Environmental Committee

Ms. Dininni reviewed the joint Public Safety Committee & Environmental Committee meeting that was held on November 8th. The topic of discussion was current issues as they relate to public safety resources for managing utility and road construction projects or incidents. This included: one call, power outages, various road projects, a water line break, Penn State Football games impacting services, and summer concert staffing issues.

ii. Finance Committee

Mr. Miller reviewed the Finance Committee meeting that was held on November 17th. Main topics of discussion were the municipal comments on the 2017 COG Budget and the COG/Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority loan for the Active Adult Center.

b. Other Non-COG Regional Committee Reports

i. CCMPO Technical Committee

The agenda for the CCMPO Technical Committee meeting was provided for the Boards information.

2. STAFF REPORTS

a. Public Works Director

Mr. Modricker reviewed the low cost safety improvements, for the Whitehall Road/Nixon Road intersection, that staff had previously discussed. Staff ultimately recommended additional signage and legends.

Ms. Dininni stated that residents have brought to her attention that they feel, that the road is too narrow when opposing vehicles, on Nixon Road, are both making a left turn.

b. Planning & Zoning Director

Mr. Stolinas reviewed the Planning and Zoning Directors report. The Ferguson Township Planning Commission met on November 14th and included discussion on the Guenot Subdivision. Several Penn State Department of Geography students attended the Planning Commission meeting as a result of GIS Day on campus. Land Development Plans and other projects included: an active plan list, Zoning and SALDO Update Steering Committee and Sourcewater Protection Work Group.

3. Update on Regional Organics Recycling Program – Pam Adams, Centre Region Refuse and Recycling Coordinator

Ms. Adams, Regional Refuse and Recycling Coordinator, presented an update and requested responses to several questions regarding the development of an organics recycling program. At its September 28, 2015, the General Forum passed a motion requesting the PSE Committee prepare a draft plan for a regional organics recycling program for the residents of Benner, College, Harris, Ferguson, and Patton Townships. Based on local, state, and federal information, the Centre Region has the potential to remove 3,600 tons/year of organic waste from the landfill and put it to beneficial use. Typically, through the Centre Region Refuse and Recycling Program, residents landfill 11,000 tons of refuse a year. While the data supports a regional organics recycling program, the success of this type of program hinges on the resident's willingness to use the service. A residential survey to determine interest in organics recycling was done from April 1 - May 31, 2015. Survey results from over 700 residents (4.85% of the 15,100 customers) indicated over 80% of the respondents are very likely or somewhat likely to participate in a weekly curbside organics recycling program in which residents could recycle both yard trimmings and food waste. It also revealed that 66% of the respondents are willing to pay a nominal fee for participation.

Ms. Adams stated that this program would be strictly for residents and not for businesses.

Ms. Adams stated that the organic compose would be available for residents to buy at the Compose Facility, Glenn O'Hawbaker Recycling Center.

Questions regarding the development of an organics recycling program:

Should the organics carts be owned by COG/Municipality or by the provider of the service?

- In the next bid for refuse/recycling services, define that after contract the COG owns the carts (get the benefit of the 10-year warranty period). Also, in bid specify that the hauler (organics or refuse) will be responsible for storage and delivery of carts. Customer may be offered 2 cart sizes for the organic materials.

Should COG consider carts for trash collection in the next contract?

- Yes, carts for trash and organics will be the most effective. Offer 2 carts sizes. Contract language will need to address that carts will not work for approximately 10% of the households and will need to be picked up manually. Also contract language is needed for handling bulky items and heavy users (additional carts).
- The cans for trash and organic recycling should be alike so that they can be stored to save space.
- The old recycling cans should be recycled.

How are costs distributed for the organics recycling program?

- All households will pay the same rate. Roll costs for the organics program into the recycling fee. Currently, hauler invoices for regular 8-bag service include a monthly fee of \$11.99 for refuse and \$3.62 for recycling collection. In the next contract, the organics costs would be rolled into the recycling collection fee, which is expected to increase while the refuse fees should decrease.
- Apply for grants and utilize an appropriate amount of the Refuse and Recycling fund balance to help offset costs for the organics recycling carts.
- Study and determine the rate structure for refuse and organics recycling. Different size carts (35 gallons and 95 gallon) should have different rates. Provide incentives for customer to use smaller refuse carts.

Should the program provide organics collection to properties outside the Regional Growth Boundary (RGB)? Should Implementation outside the RGB be phased in later?

- The organics recycling program should serve all households in the COG Refuse and Recycling Program. Keep same rate structure for all households.

Is there support for a drop off program to begin in the interim?

- The Board expressed support of a drop off program.
- Organic drop offs should correspond with other recycling drops offs.
- Only residents with municipal trash will be able to participate, with a goal that others will use drop offs.

4. Discussion on Support of Equity and Inclusion

Mr. Miller read a draft resolution that included language provided by the League of Cities. A number of additions were made to the draft resolution and the Board agreed to place this resolution on the December 5th Board agenda.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Miller adjourned the worksession at 8:19pm.

Regular Meeting

I. ATTENDANCE

The Board of Supervisors held its second regular meeting of the month on Monday, November 21, 2016 at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building. In attendance were:

Board: Steve Miller

Janet Whitaker
Laura Dininni
Rita Graef

Staff:

Mark Kunkle, Township Manager
David Pribulka, Assistant Township Manager
Dave Modricker, Director of Public Works

Others in attendance included: Jendi Ammerman, Recording Secretary;

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Miller called the Monday, November 21, 2016, regular meeting to order at 8:19pm.

III. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Whitaker stated concern was brought to her about bicyclist not using the bike lane on Whitehall Road. Mr. Miller stated that there is not a bicycle lane at the area in question, there is only a paved shoulder.

Ms. Dininni mentioned that communication was received on the DCNR Grant for Whitehall Regional Park and that there will be follow up.

Ms. Graef inquired as to whether the Board would want to look into a left turn signal for Clinton Avenue at North Atherton Street Motorists are finding it difficult to make that left turn. Mr. Miller suggested adding it to a future agenda to determine the interest of the Board.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS – RESOLUTIONS

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON, CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR WEST COLLEGE AVENUE STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Pribulka stated this resolution authorizes the Township to submit an application to the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund for financial assistance with the installation of 35 ornamental streetlights along the West College Avenue Corridor in the Terraced Streetscape District. The Township was awarded a PennDOT Transportation Alternatives Program Grant in 2015, for the installation of sidewalks between Buckhout Street and Corl Street, and a Green Light Go Grant in 2016, for a traffic signal upgrade at the intersection of Corl Street and West College Avenue. This grant application, if successful, would continue the installation of design standards in the Terraced Streetscape District by providing decorative street lighting for enhanced vehicular and pedestrian safety. The project has an estimated cost of \$480,000, and the Township would be seeking \$370,000 from the grant program and would be required to match a minimum of thirty percent. If successful, the funding would not be appropriated until 2018.

Ms. Dininni moved that the Board of Supervisors adopt Resolution 2016-34, authorizing the Township to submit a PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Application for the installation of ornamental street lighting on West College Avenue in the Terraced Streetscape District. Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion.

Ms. Dininni expressed concern about the number of lights. Mr. Pribulka stated that a light would be placed approximately every 100 feet. However, design work would be done to determine how many, the location and what type of lighting would be used.

Ms. Dininni expressed concern about adding street parking and losing the turning lane.

ROLL-CALL VOTE: Ms. Dininni: YES; Ms. Graef: YES; Mr. Miller: YES; Ms. Whitaker: YES

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON, CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ADOPTING THE 2017 FERGUSON TOWNSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN

The Board reviewed a draft of the Ferguson Township Strategic Plan at its Regular Meeting on November 7th. Several suggested amendments from the draft have been incorporated into the final document. Mr. Pribulka, Assistant Township Manager, presented a summary of the amendments that have been incorporated. The 2017 Ferguson Township Strategic Plan has been the product of three public focus groups held in each of the Township's Wards, a non-scientific online survey, and a public worksession with senior staff and the Board of Supervisors. The Township engaged the services of Peter Marshall of Peter S. Marshall & Associates, LLC to facilitate the update of the plan.

Ms. Graef moved that the Board of Supervisors adopt Resolution 2016-35, approving the 2017 Township Strategic Plan. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion.

ROLL-CALL VOTE: Ms. Graef: YES; Mr. Miller: YES; Ms. Whitaker: YES; Ms. Dininni: YES

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. GUENOT SUBDIVISION – PLAN LAST DATED NOVEMBER 3, 2016; PLAN DEADLINE FEBRUARY 2, 2017

Mr. Stolas stated that this subdivision was initially reviewed by the Ferguson Township Planning Commission on October 24, 2016. Ronald L. & Pearl P. Guenot propose to subdivide Lot 2 of 1.012 acres from the existing Lot 1R of 84.393 acres at 2245 West Gatesburg Road., T.P. 24-005-,018M-,0000-, straddles both Ferguson and Halfmoon Townships boundary line. Lot 2, which fronts West Gatesburg Road, contains soil testing for a proposed in-ground septic system and a 30' drainage easement to be relocated from Lot 2 to the remaining lot frontage area on Lot 1R. A majority of comments have been addressed on the proposed plan.

Ms. Whitaker moved that the Board of Supervisors approve the Guenot Subdivision subject to completion of the outstanding conditions for approval set forth in the Director of Planning and Zoning memorandum dated November 16, 2016. Ms. Graef seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. DISCUSSION OF TOWNSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLEARWATER CONSERVANCY, SLAB CABIN RUN INITIATIVE AND DISCOVERY SPACE

Mr. Kunkle stated that on November 17th the Board of Supervisors received presentations on two requests for funding contributions. Discovery Space requested that the Board consider a \$10,000 contribution each year for the next three years. The second request is from ClearWater Conservancy for the Slab Cabin Run Initiative. Neither of these funding requests have been included in the draft 2017 Township Budget. Options for the Boards consideration include: a) Direct that one or both contributions be included in the 2017 Proposed Budget. b) Modify the requested amounts of contributions. c) Attach conditions to one or both contributions. d) Defer a decision until a later date. (If after December 12ths budget adoption, this would require a budget amendment, if the Board decided to provide funding.) e) Deny one or both requests.

Discovery Space:

Ms. Whitaker and Ms. Dininni expressed strong support of Discovery Space.

Ms. Graef also expressed support of Discovery Space, but concern of donating such a large sum of money to one non-profit organization, when there are many.

Mr. Miller felt that the sum of \$10,0000 may be too high. \$5,000 might be more reasonable.

Ms. Dininni stated that she believes Discovery Space would be an economic driver, and bring individuals to the area.

The final decision/vote was delayed to the following meeting so that all Board members would be present and able to vote.

ClearWater Conservancy, Slab Cabin Run Initiative:

Ms. Dininni was concerned that the topic will be postponed to a later meeting, where everything will ultimately be repeated.

Ms. Whitaker expressed support of a donation. Although the donation is high, she believes the donation will have to be made.

Ms. Graef suggested donating half of the \$150,000 then work to engage residents for their direct input through a referendum. Mr. Miller and Ms. Dininni stated that a referendum may not work for this particular project.

Ms. Dininni stated she is in support of the ClearWater project. She inquired as to who the adjacent property owners are to the ClearWater easement. It appears to only be one parcel between the proposed ClearWater easement and the Penn State land. Therefore, maybe something can be negotiated with Penn State. She also inquired about the Shingletown Reservoir status. She suggested exploring Pine Grove Mills as a place for stream restoration.

Ms. Graef inquired about municipal credits. Mr. Kunkle stated to obtain those credits and meet reduction standards, municipalities must have control of the easement where the improvements are to be made that are intended to reduce those nutrient loads on impaired streams etc.

Ms. Dininni stated she believes that the State College Borough Water Authority (SCBWA) should be putting up more funds for the project. A representative for the ClearWater Conservancy, stated that a request for \$750,000 was sent to SCBWA. The initial discussions the Source Water Protection Committee had, on November 17th, recommended SCBWA pay \$350,000. No motion was made at that meeting, and will be discussed again at the Source Water Protection Committee meeting in December.

The representative for the ClearWater Conservancy, stated that a \$1.12million deadline is set for December 31st and the full \$2.75 million deadline is September 30th.

Ms. Dininni motioned to postpone the discussion to the next meeting. Ms. Graef seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. APPOINTMENT OF TREE COMMISSION MEMBER

The Township has a vacancy on its Tree Commission for the remainder of the unexpired term of Troy Bayletts who resigned in October. The vacant seat is an at-large appointment with a term expiring on December 31, 2018. The Township received two applications for the vacant seat: Patricia Stephens of 1406 Linn Street (Ward III), and Jerry Learn of 222 Val Verda Drive (Ward I).

Ms. Whitaker nominated Jerry Learn to the open position on the Tree Commission. Ms. Dininni nominated Patricia Stephens for the open position on the Tree Commission. Jerry Learn received three votes. Patricia Stephens received one vote, ultimately appointing Jerry Learn to the open position.

4. DEP ALTERNATIVE FUELS INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Mr. Pribulka stated that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has announced its latest round of Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant (AFIG) funding with applications due December 30, 2016. In the past, the Township has partnered with Centre County and others to successfully apply for funding to convert four of its Chevrolet Tahoes used by the Police Department to bi-fuel Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles. The vehicles have been retrofitted with an EPA-Compliant fueling system by Jeff's Performance Plus of Shipperville, Pennsylvania. The vehicles have performed well and reduced the Township's fuel costs and consumption of gasoline. The Police Department has requested an appropriation for the purchase of one Chevrolet Tahoe police vehicle in the 2017 Operating Budget. Staff recommended that this vehicle be retrofitted to bi-fuel CNG, and that an AFIG application for a match of fifty percent of the anticipated \$9,999 cost to convert the vehicle be submitted.

Ms. Whitaker moved that the Board of Supervisors approve the submission of an application to the DEP Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant Program for the conversion of the one Police Chevrolet Tahoe to bi-fuel Compressed Natural Gas. Ms. Graef seconded the motion.

Mr. Miller expressed concern that the full cost is not worth the benefits.

The motion to approve the application failed two to two.

5. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2016 VOUCHER REPORT

Ms. Dininni moved that the Board of Supervisors approve the October 2016 voucher report. Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. October 2016 Treasurer's Report
- b. The Crossings Time Extension

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

VI. CALENDAR ITEMS – November/December

VII. MINUTES

1. November 7, 2016 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting

Ms. Dininni made a motion to APPROVE the November 7, 2016 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes. Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dininni requested that an invitation be sent to John Lichman, General Manager of the SCBWA to attend the December 5th meeting to answer any questions about the ClearWater Conservancy for the Slab Cabin Run Initiative, that the Board may have for them.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Dininni made a motion to ADJOURN the meeting. Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion.
With no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Miller adjourned the regular meeting at 9:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Kunkle, Township Manager
For the Board of Supervisors

Date approved by the Board: 12/05/2016