

WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
May 10, 2021 AT 7:00 PM via Zoom

The Regular Meeting of the Willistown Township Board of Supervisors came to order at 7:00 PM. Supervisors William R. Shoemaker, Barbara L. Handelin, and Robert T. Lange were present. Also present were Township Manager Sally Slook, Police Chief Robert Klinger, Finance Director Martin McKenzie, Director of Planning and Zoning Robert Smiley, and Solicitor Bill Christman.

Supervisor Shoemaker led a moment of silence for military personnel, first responders, and all front-line workers in the current pandemic.

New Business

Minutes – Supervisor Lange moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 26, 2021. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Expenditures - Supervisor Lange moved to approve the list of expenditures and interfund transfers dated May 7, 2021. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Public Hearing for Application #C-1-21 - Supervisor Shoemaker introduced a public hearing in the application of Jeffrey & Lindsay Gehret for Conditional Use Approval pursuant to Section 73-32.D (1) of the Willistown Township Code (Environmental Protection). The application requests to allow the construction of a pool within a precautionary slope at the property located at 7 Sugarbrook Road (TM #54-3-311.4). The property is located within the RU Rural District.

Mr. Bill Christman, Esq., Township Solicitor, conducted the public hearing. A court reporter was present to record the proceedings, and the transcript will be on file in the Township Administrative Offices.

Resolution #9 of 2021 - Supervisor Handelin moved to approved Resolution 9 of 2021: Acceptance of Low Bid of John A. DiRocco General Contractors, Inc. in the Amount of \$281,573.91 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Supervisor Lange seconded. Supervisor Shoemaker explained the Township had already accepted the bid at a previous meeting, but PennDOT requires municipalities to adopt a resolution to accept the bid formally. Mike Kerr, 33 Stonehenge Lane, asked for the second bidder and amount. Discussion ensued. There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Motion to Advertise a Conditional Use Hearing for Application #C-1-20 – Supervisor Handelin moved to advertise the Conditional Use Hearing for the Application #C-1-20 for Applebrook Meadows on June 14, 2021 to delineate and to allow activity within Zone 2 of the Riparian Buffer Area Conservation District as well as revise the Riparian Buffer Management Plan on the property located at Paoli Pike and Line Road. The Willistown Township Planning Commission recommended approval of the application at their April 21, 2021 meeting. Supervisor Lange seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Motion to Advertise a Conditional Use Hearing for Application #C31-21 – Supervisor Lange moved to advertise the application #C-3-21 for Costel Talanca on June 14, 2021 for the construction of a sanitary sewer lateral and stormwater management facility within Zone 2 of the Riparian Buffer Area Conservation District on the property located at 613 Warren Avenue, pending review of the application by the Willistown Township Planning Commission. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Police Pension Advisory Board - Supervisor Lange moved to accept the recommendation from the Police Pension Advisory Board to lower the discount rate from 6.75% to 6.00%. Supervisor Handelin seconded. Supervisor Shoemaker explained the management of pension plans is based on a presumption on a rate of return on investments, also known as the discount rate. The current rate on the Police Pension Plan is 6.75%, and the Police Pension Advisory Board recommends reducing the discount rate to 6%. Based on marketplace changes and growth in the last couple of years, the pension is currently overfunded, and the Township is not in a negative position. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Police Report – Chief Klinger reported a theft from a vehicle of 3200 block of Woodview Way. The Chief reminded residents to lock their cars and keep valuables out of sight when parking on the street, driveways, and the Willistown parks and preserves. A 32-year-old female from Devereux was arrested for simple assault and endangering the welfare of a child from an incident in April.

Resignation of Supervisor Handelin – Supervisor Shoemaker announced the resignation of Supervisor Handelin effective May 14, 2021. Supervisor Handelin stated she is moving out of state and regrets not being able to finish her term of office. She hopes whoever takes her place will continue what she worked to bring to Willistown Township while serving on the Board. Her ideas include bringing a more diverse perspective to Township governance and engaging residents in shaping the community through things like the Comprehensive Plan. She also hopes the Township will continue to support fire and EMS services which have been relying on a dwindling volunteer base over the last several decades. Finally, she encourages all residents to run for office and serve the public. It takes a lot to run a successful municipality, and she learned a lot during her tenure. Supervisor Shoemaker thanked Barbara for her service and contribution, and assured her fire and EMS services would remain a top priority for the Board.

Supervisor Shoemaker commented the Board has 45 days to select a replacement to fill out Supervisor Handelin's term for the remainder of 2021. For the 2021 November elections, both political parties will have the opportunity to place a candidate on the November ballot.

Citizens' Comments

Betsy Allinson, 21 Wistar, thanked Supervisor Handelin for her years of service to the Township.

Elizabeth Jekot, 18 Applewood Road, thanked Supervisor Handelin for her service to the Township and wished her luck.

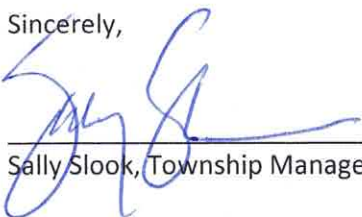
Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be on Monday, May 24, 2021, at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Adjournment

Seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,



Sally Slook, Township Manager