

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**November 12, 2018**

Plymouth Township Council held its Regular Meeting at the Plymouth Township Building. The following officials were in attendance:

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**Council:** Chris Manero ----- Vice-Chairman  
Karen Bramblett  
Lenore Bruno  
David Gannon

**Staff:** Karen Weiss ----- Manager  
Michael Clarke ----- Solicitor  
John Myrsiades ----- Deputy Chief of Police  
Tim Woodrow ----- Woodrow & Associates

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**Pledge of Allegiance** - The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Manero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-** Mr. Manero asked if there was any public comment pertaining to any of the items advertised on the agenda and there was none.

**Fire Companies Recognitions**

**1) Harmonville Fire Company No. 1** - Ms. Bramblett read the Certificate of Recognition whereas, Plymouth Township has been faithfully protected by the Plymouth Fire Company No. 1 and Harmonville Fire Company No. 1 since 1906 and 1924 respectively and whereas, this volunteer service to the residents and businesses of Plymouth Township is invaluable and second to none, and whereas, training is the key to successful emergency operations, namely the prevention of injury and the loss of life, and the protection of property and the environment. Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Plymouth Township Council commends the following individuals for successfully completing national and state certifications and for the honor which their dedication brings to the Township. Ms. Bramblett read the list of names for those who completed the following: Firefighter I - Justin Coogan - 2016, Aaron Voegtli-2018; Firefighter II - Geatano Carlomagno - 2016, Justin Coogan - 2017, Michael Coogan - 2017, David McGuigan - 2016, Joe Picard - 2016, Michael Olszewski - 2016 and Andrew Phipps - 2016; Vehicle Rescue Tech - Andrew Phipps - 2015, Justin Coogan - 2015, Kyle Blundin - 2016, Michael Coogan - 2017, and Daniel Staufenberg - 2018; General Rescue Requirement - Justin Coogan - 2017, and Aaron Grewe - 2017; Fire Officer I - David McGuigan - 2016; and Fire Instructor I - Aaron Grewe - 2015, David McGuigan -

2016, and Michael Olszewski - 2016. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the Certificate of Recognition and was seconded by Ms. Bruno. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**2) Plymouth Fire Company No. 1** - Ms. Bruno read the Certificate of Recognition whereas, Plymouth Township has been faithfully protected by the Plymouth Fire Company No. 1 and Harmonville Fire Company No. 1 since 1906 and 1924 respectively, and whereas the volunteer service to the residents and businesses of Plymouth Township is invaluable and second to none, and whereas, training is the key to successful emergency operations, namely the prevention of injury and the loss of life, and the protection of property and the environment. Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Plymouth Township Council commends the following individuals for successfully completing national and state certifications and for the honor which their dedication brings to the Township: Firefighter I - Chuck Gallagher, Jake Gum, Steve Karwoski, Adam Lloyd, Truman Means and John Papalitskas; Firefighter II - Chuck Gallagher, Daniel Smith and Erik DeLapp; Fire Instructor I - Mark O'Neill; Fire Officer I and II - Mark O'Neill; Driver Operator Aerial - Andrew McIntyre; Surface Water Rescue 1 - Andrew McIntyre; General Requirements for Technical Rescue - Chuck Gallagher and Dave Luthy; Vehicle Rescue Technician - Chuck Gallagher and John Papalitskas; Vehicle Rescue Level I Pro Board - Chuck Gallagher; Water Rescue and Emergency Response - Jon Drozd, Chuck Gallagher, Daniel Smith, Erik DeLapp; Emergency Boat Operations & Rescue - Chuck Gallagher; and Surface Water Rescue II - Andrew McIntyre. Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the Certificate of Recognition and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**3) Edward Garbacz, Jr. - Plymouth Fire Company No. 1 - 50 Years of Service** - Mr. Gannon read the Certificate of Recognition honoring Edward Garbacz, Jr. who has faithfully served the residents of Plymouth Township for fifty (50) years in membership with Plymouth Fire Company, and Plymouth Township Council desires to formally recognize the diligent and valuable service rendered by Edward Garbacz, Jr. and to publicly express its appreciation. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the Certificate of Recognition and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**4) Frank Heleniak - Plymouth Fire Company No. 1 - 50 Years of Service** Ms. Bruno read the Certificate of Recognition honoring Frank Heleniak who has faithfully served the residents of Plymouth Township for fifty (50) years in active fire service with Plymouth Fire Company No. 1. After joining the Plymouth Fire Company in 1967, Frank Heleniak served in many capacities during his tenure including Treasurer (23 years), Captain (3 years), Chief Engineer (11 years), Assistant Chief Engineer (15 years), Engineer (12 years), and Mr. Heleniak has also volunteered on many committees including delegate to the Plymouth



Township Firemen's Union Relief Association; Apparatus, Building, Fund Drive, and Fund Raising Committees; and the Plymouth Township Joint Emergency Management Committee to create a zoned response agreement between both fire companies. Plymouth Township Council desires to formally recognize the diligent and valuable service rendered by Frank Heleniak and to publicly express its appreciation. Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the Certificate of Recognition and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENT - Executive Session held October 15, 2018  
Executive Session held November 5, 2018**

Mr. Manero announced that Executive Sessions were held on October 15<sup>th</sup> and November 5, 2018 in order to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Vice-Chairman Manero called for the approval of the minutes.

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- October 2, 2018
- b. Regular Meeting ----- October 8, 2018
- c. Budget Meeting ----- October 15, 2018
- d. Budget Meeting ----- October 22, 2018

Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the minutes without the necessity of reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bruno; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND BILLS:** Vice-Chairman Manero called for the approval of the departmental reports and bills.

Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the departmental reports and bills and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

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**ADMINISTRATION**

**a. 2019 Budget Meeting - November 27<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 p.m.** - Mr. Gannon announced that that there will be a Budget Meeting held on November 27<sup>th</sup> commencing at 6:00 p.m.

**b. Reorganization Meeting Announcement - January 7<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 p.m.** - Ms. Bramblett announced that Council will hold a Reorganization Meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, commencing at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

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## POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

**a. Harmonville Fire Co. Capital Request** - Ms. Bramblett stated that Council is in receipt of a request from Harmonville Fire Company asking for a release of \$400,000 from their Capital Improvement Fund to be used toward a new rescue truck. Their current rescue truck is due for replacement in 2018. Their new truck is under contract with Pierce Manufacturing. The Fire Company was able to save \$25,000 by completing the contract by the end of September, 2018. The truck will be further paid for by their own funds, and through financing from Volunteer Financial Services. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the request to release the funds and was seconded by Ms. Bruno. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

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## PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER

**a. Handicap Parking Request - 523 Old Elm Street** - Mr. Gannon reported that Council is in receipt of a request from William Caban who resides at 523 Old Elm Street asking for a designated handicap parking space. The Police Department has investigated and determined that the parking space is warranted. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the request and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

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## ENGINEERING

### SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

**a. L.D. 17-2 Conicelli Auto Group/906 Ridge Pike**

1) Expiration date April 20, 2019

**b. L.D. 18-2 Lilvin Enterprise, LLC/800-820 Brook Road**

1) Expiration date December 31, 2018 - **ACTION** - Mr. Clarke read the resolution approving the final Land Development Plan, 18-2 for Lilvin Enterprise, LLC, located at 800-820 Brook Road under and subject to the conditions read. The applicant is planning to consolidate two parcels and construct a gravel storage area. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**c. L.D. 18-3 Paone Assoc./2418 Butler Pike**

1) Time Limit Waived

**d. S.D. 18-1 Paone Assoc./2424 Butler Pike**

1) Time Limit Waived



**e.L.D. 18-4 SMG Hotels/201 Plymouth Road**

1) **Extension granted to January 31, 2019 - ACTION** - Ms. Bruno made a motion to grant the extension and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**f.L.D. 18-5 CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a/ VERIZON WIRELESS/700 Belvoir Road**

1) **Expiration date December 3, 2018 - ACTION** - Mr. Clarke read the resolution approving the final Land Development Plan, 18-5 for CELLCO Partnership d/b/a/ VERIZON WIRELESS, located at 700 Belvoir Road under and subject to the conditions read. The applicant is proposing to remove an existing silo structure and construct a 96 foot wireless telecommunication tower. Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**g.S.D. 18-2 356 Fairfield Road**

1) **Expiration date January 9, 2019**

**h.Extension Requests - ACTION**

1) **101 North Lane to November 15, 2019** - Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the extension request and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

2) **Driscoll Tract to April 30, 2019** - Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the extension request and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

3) **Plymouth Hospitality to January 31, 2019** - Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the extension request and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

**i.Escrow Release - ACTION** - The Township is in receipt of correspondence from Woodrow and Associates recommending the following escrow release.

1) **Plymouthtowne Apts.** - Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the escrow release for Plymouthtowne Apartments in the amount of \$375,992.01. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bruno; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon and Mr. Manero in favor. Mr. Higgins was absent.

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**CODE ENFORCEMENT/HEALTH/ZONING**

**a.Zoning Hearings** - Ms. Bruno announced that the Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 19, 2018, commencing at 7:00 p.m., in the Plymouth Township Building on the following applications: 1) TY JENKINS - 2764 NARCISSA ROAD AND 2) THE 1912 CLUB, LLC - 888 PLYMOUTH ROAD - Any citizen of Plymouth Township or interested party may attend

the public hearing and have an opportunity to be heard.

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#### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

**a.SDM Bricks and Pavers** - Ms. Bramblett announced that there are currently bricks and pavers available for purchase for those who want to honor a loved one who has served in the armed forces or emergency services. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Department is still seeking monetary donations from businesses.

**b.Veterans' Recognition Ceremony Announcement - Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m.** - Mr. Manero announced that a Veterans' Recognition Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 2:00 p.m.

**c.Holiday Tree Lighting Announcement - Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 p.m.** - Mr. Manero announced that the annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

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#### **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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#### **MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS**

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#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

John Milligan - 1729 DeKalb Street stated that he is the president of the Greater Norristown NAACP. Mr. Milligan is concerned that the Plymouth Township Police Department is targeting people of color. According to an article that was published in the Philadelphia Inquirer on October 7, 2018, the arrests of people of color is alarming. Some 60% of marijuana arrests are black with 30% being white. A deeper analysis provides evidence of Plymouth Township targeting blacks. Over a five year period arrests of blacks increased by 1,000% and 700% for Hispanics. Mr. Milligan believes that the year of the Presidential election deepened the racial divide. Mr. Milligan believes that anyone in a position of authority should not be encouraging this.

Mr. Milligan mentioned that on Chief Joe Lawrence's Facebook page it shows Michael Bennett from the Philadelphia Eagles burning the American flag. It also includes jokes about gays. Mr. Milligan stated that these need to stop. This is sending a clear message that this type of hatred is acceptable.

Mr. Milligan would like to have a meeting to discuss these issues with Council. In addition he is asking that a commission be



formed that would complete a study to identify bias and to identify any officers who are displaying such and that they be disciplined. He asked that Council demand high ethical and moral standards of all of its employees. Finally, Mr. Milligan asked that Council ask the District Attorney's office to suspend some cases until a study has been completed.

Mr. Manero stated that Chief Lawrence is not present at the meeting this evening. Mr. Manero advised that Council will set up a time to meet with Mr. Milligan.

Bill Mascio - 631 Fulton Street stated that there are twenty-seven homes on the street and sixty-two cars. There is now an issue with Mr. Haines charging for parking on his property where he previously allowed residents to park there for free. People are territorial about their spot. Mr. Haines is charging Mr. Mascio \$3.00 per day or \$90.00 a month to park at the location. Mr. Mascio's wife has a handicap parking spot on the street and he is concerned that she will lose it. Council will look into this.

Margaret Stark - 641 Fulton Street mentioned that she is a sixty-nine year resident of the street. She asked if Mr. Haines would be responsible if something were to happen to one of the vehicles of the homeowners that parked in the spot that he owns. Mr. Clarke stated that an owner of private property can rent space if he chooses. This is an arrangement between two private individuals and that the Township can't get involved. The area in question is Mr. Haines's property. Mr. Gannon will talk to Ms. Stark about this issue following the meeting.

Raymond Stocchi - 1602 Hallowell stated that two new homes were constructed on Kirk Street. The homeowners asked for a "No Parking" sign from the property line to Butler Pike. The sign was installed 10' before the property line and cars can park in this space. Ms. Weiss stated that there is a gas line located in the grass strip between the curb and the sidewalk. The sign was placed where the Township ordinance states it should be.

Sarah Monastero - 675 Fulton Street stated that she has lived at her residence for fifty-four years. She echoed what Mr. Mascio and Ms. Stark commented. She mentioned that there is a boarding house in the middle of the block and the owner rents to five men. They are taking up extra parking spots. Parking is extremely bad. Ms. Weiss stated that the Township will look into the rental property to ensure that the owner applied for a rental license. Also, no more than three unrelated people are permitted to reside in a rental property.

Paul Quinn - 1806 Harmon Road stated that he moved to Plymouth Township in 2003. At that time it was very quiet. Now there is so much development and traffic. Harmon Road is now a cut through street in both directions, in addition to being narrow. There are also no sidewalks. Originally the neighbors wanted a barrier. Mr.

Quinn said that it is now time to fix the problem. He would like to see a "Do Not Enter Authorized Vehicles Only" sign installed. More stop signs were proposed but he feels there are already too many signs in the neighborhood.

Deputy Chief Myrsiades advised that the "Do Not Enter" sign would not be enforceable. Vehicles have a right to access Harmon Road. He stated that a "One Way" sign is enforceable.

Ms. Weiss stated that perhaps stop signs could be installed at Kirk and Keys Streets and one at Progress Drive. In addition, PennDOT has been contacted and asked if it would be possible to delay the green time on the traffic signal at Keys Street and Butler Pike.

Mr. Manero stated that Council would have concerns on installing signs that would not be enforceable. The traffic on Harmon Road has been an ongoing issue.

Mr. Gannon stated that Council would like to help but also wants to be sure to do the right thing on Harmon Road.

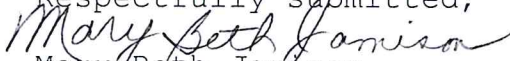
Mr. Manero thanked the students from his government class that attended the meeting this evening.

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#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mary Beth Jamison  
Recording Secretary