

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

April 8, 2019

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

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

Staff: Karen Weiss ----- Manager
Michael Clarke ----- Solicitor
Joe Lawrence ----- Chief of Police
John Myrsiades ----- Deputy Chief of Police
Lonnie Manai ----- Woodrow & Associates

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

Conditional Use Hearing and Meeting - Sage

A Conditional Use Hearing was opened and immediately postponed to May 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

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

1)20 Years of Service Resolution - Karen Bowman - ACTION - Mr. Manero read the resolution recognizing Karen Bowman who has served the Plymouth Township Police Department faithfully since April 25, 1999, thereby completing twenty years of service. Plymouth Township Council desires to recognize the diligent and valuable services rendered by Karen Bowman and publicly expresses its appreciation. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Ms. Bruno.

Mr. Higgins thanked Ms. Bowman for her service to the Township. He stated that the dispatchers are the unsung heroes of the Township. The dispatchers perform their duties 24/7, 365 days a year.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

2)Ready 100 Resolution - ACTION -

Ms. Bramblett summarized the Ready 100 Resolution as follows: Plymouth Township recognizes that it has a responsibility to future generations to take an active stance to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and fight climate change. The Township will reduce its energy usage by implementing energy efficiency at the municipal building, and lighting and energy systems at the Community Center. The Township has already replaced traffic signals with LED lights. The Township will work towards using renewable energy and will work with other municipalities in setting goals for changing to renewable energy in the future. The Township will also work to implement 100% clean renewable electricity by 2035.

Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Manero.

Mr. Manero thanked Bill Sabey from the Environmental Advisory Board for his passionate work and taking the leadership on this. At the local level, we can all do our part to keep the environment clean.

Mr. Sabey appreciates Council's interest and attention to the resolution. He is grateful that the Township has an opportunity to make a difference. The Environmental Advisory Board thanks Council. Plymouth Township will be the fifteenth community to adopt the resolution.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENT - Executive Session held March 27, 2019 Executive Session held April 1, 2019

Mr. Higgins announced that Executive sessions were held on March 27, 2019 and April 1, 2019 in order to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Higgins called for the approval of the minutes.

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- March 4, 2019
- b. Regular Meeting ----- March 11, 2019

Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the minutes without the necessity of reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Manero; and passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins, and Mr. Manero in favor.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND BILLS: Chairman Higgins 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 Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

ADMINISTRATION

a.Civil Service Ordinance Amendment - Final Consideration - ACTION

- Mr. Clarke read the ordinance amending and restating Chapter Two, Article Two, Division Five, Civil Service Commission rules and regulations, Section 122, applications and qualifications, Section (e)(5) of the general qualifications. The Council does hereby enact and ordain that the Code of Ordinances be amended by deleting paragraph 5 of Section 2-122 (e). Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett.

Mr. Higgins stated that this ordinance amendment is eliminating the requirement whereby new police officers need to have Act 120 Certification before they are hired. The requirement has limited the pool of candidates for the police department.

Chief Lawrence thanked Council for amending the ordinance.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

b.Contractor Registration Ordinance - Final Consideration - ACTION

- Mr. Clarke read the ordinance amending and restating Chapter Five, Article One, Section 5-11 (a). The ordinance requires the registration and licensing of contractors and/or subcontractors engaged in the new construction or in the alteration, maintenance, or repair of structures and land. The ordinance also includes insurance requirements and the submission of an annual fee for contractors and or subcontractors. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Manero.

Mr. Gannon believes that the ordinance strengthens what the Township already has and emphasizes that workers should be registered.

Ms. Bruno stated that she is opposed to the ordinance and believes that it is a solution in search of a problem that the Township doesn't have.

Mr. Gannon stated that the ordinance will ensure that contractors are doing what they are supposed to be doing.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-1 with Ms. Bramblett, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor. Ms. Bruno was opposed.

c.E+ Collect Agreement - Mr. Clarke stated that this is an

agreement between the Township and E+ Collect PA, LLC located at 804 Fayette Street. E+ Collect will assist the Township with identifying companies who are not paying Mercantile and Business Privilege Taxes. The company will audit and collect unpaid taxes. It will be a one year contract with four, one year renewals. There will be a graduated fee structure. If E+ Collect does not identify at least \$50,000 in fines during the first term of the agreement, E+ Collect will credit back to Plymouth Township all commissions paid in accordance with the agreement.

Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the agreement and was seconded by Mr. Manero.

Mr. Manero stated using E+ Collect provides an additional layer of protection to the tax collection that is already done in the Township and will help with collecting monies owed from commercial businesses.

Mr. Higgins stated he believes that it is a good idea. The Finance Department already does a superb job collecting taxes and this company will assist the department.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

d.Small Games of Chance - Mr. Gannon stated that this is an annual application for the Township's Small Games of Chance License.

Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the application and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

e.Parks Recreation and Facilities Fund - Mr. Manero stated this is an annual application for the Township's 501.C.3 to certify the Board of Directors for the Parks, Recreation and Facilities Fund effective April 1, 2019.

Mr. Manero made a motion for approval and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

a.Emergency Management Coordinator Appointment - Ms. Bramblett stated with the retirements of Andy Mount and Karen Mabry, it is time to appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to appoint Michael S. Matusheski as Emergency Management Coordinator and Brian Wagner as Deputy

Emergency Management Coordinator. This request must be approved by the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management before being forwarded to Governor Wolf for the official appointment.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Manero; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER

ENGINEERING

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

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

1) **Extension granted to August 20, 2019 - ACTION** - Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the four month extension and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

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

1) **Time Limit Waived**

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

1) **Time Limit Waived**

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

1) **Expiration date June 3, 2019**

e.S.D. 18-3 Travis & Nicole Lick/1929 Johnson Road

1. **Expiration date April 19, 2019 - ACTION** - Mr. Clarke read the resolution approving the final subdivision plan, S.D. 18-3 for Travis & Nicole Lick under and subject to the conditions and waivers read. The subdivision application is for a 2-lot subdivision at 1929 Johnson Road creating one additional lot for a future single family dwelling. It is a one acre property that will be divided into two half acre lots. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

f.L.D. 18-6 Colonial Middle School/Colonial School District

1. **Time Limit Waived**

g.S.D. 18-5 Glasgow, Inc./1100 & 1200 Conshohocken Road

1) **Extension granted to June 1, 2019 - ACTION** - Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the extension until June 1, 2019 and was seconded by Mr. Manero. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

h.S.D. 19-1 Alba Family, LLC/Fairfield Road

1) **Expiration date July 7, 2019**

i.S.D. 19-2 3116 Jolly Road

1)Expiration date May 30, 2019

j.Extension Requests - ACTION

1)PHI Belvoir Road to June 10, 2019 - Mr. Gannon made a motion to grant the extension and was seconded by Mr. Manero. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

2)1927 Hallowell Road to October 12, 2019 - Mr. Manero made a motion to grant the extension and was seconded by Mr. Gannon. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

k.Escrow Release Request - ACTION - Woodrow and Associates has approved the following escrow release.

1)135 Pleasant Road - Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the escrow release for 135 Pleasant Road in the amount of \$20,170. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gannon; and passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bruno, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Manero in favor.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/HEALTH/ZONING

ZONING

a.Zoning Hearings - Ms. Bruno announced that the Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 15, 2019, commencing at 7:00 p.m., in the Plymouth Township Building on the following applications: 1)PAMELA PARKER - 701 CLOVER LANE, 2) COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT - 716 BELVOIR ROAD, AND 3) CARL SHORLEY - 1523 SANDY HILL ROAD. Any citizen of Plymouth Township or interested party may attend the public hearing and have an opportunity to be heard.

PARKS AND RECREATION

a.Plymouth Township Day - Saturday, June 1, 2019 - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - EPV Park - Mr. Manero announced that Plymouth Township Day will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at East Plymouth Valley Park. Activities will included community booths, amusements, food, vendors, games and more. All are welcome to attend.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS

a.Citizen Board Vacancies - Mr. Manero stated that there are

vacancies on the following Citizen Boards: Building Code Appeals Board - (2), Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board, and Parks, Recreation & Shade Tree Advisory Board. Anyone interested in serving on one of these boards can submit a resume or letter of interest to Karen Weiss, the Township Manager.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Carol Bethem, 519 Old Elm Street, voiced concerns regarding Fulton Street. Ms. Weiss stated the street has not been dedicated to the Township. Ms. Betham stated that she spoke to a representative from PennDot and was informed that Fulton Street is owned by the Township. Ms. Weiss will look into this.

Mr. Higgins stated that Council has been discussing this issue in order to come up with a solution.

Tom Parkin, 100 Patriot Circle, was concerned about the increased truck traffic on Belvoir Road and also the speeding. He suggested that a four way stop sign be installed at Patriot Circle and the Colonial Middle School driveway. Chief Lawrence stated that trucks are permitted for local deliveries.

Vivian Lotz, 7 Timberfare Circle thanked Karen Franck, the Parks and Recreation Director for helping the Bocce League. The League approached Ms. Franck with concerns about dogs and children playing on the courts. Ms. Franck was incredibly helpful and understanding. She initiated the installation of signs on the courts.

The League is also going to construct a split rail fence.

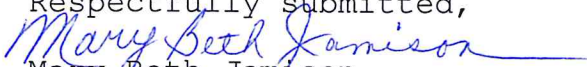
Mr. Manero stated that there are a couple of Scouts present at the meeting this evening. They are fulfilling the requirements for a merit badge for citizenship in the community. As part of the requirements, they need to attend a meeting of Council or the School Board.

Mrs. Linda Murphy thanked Council for trying to make the Township renewable energy efficient.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mary Beth Jamison
Recording Secretary