

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

July 9, 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 (Absent)  
Michael Clarke ----- Solicitor  
John Myrsiades ----- 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.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-**

**1) Promotions to Lieutenant- Brian Wagner and Douglas Copestick-** Chief Myrsiades read a list of Officer Wagner's and Officer Copestick's accomplishments. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the promotions 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.

**2) Promotions to Sergeant- Christopher Schwartz and Joseph DiDonato-** Chief Myrsiades read a list of Officer Schwartz's and Officer DiDonato's accomplishments. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the promotions and was seconded by Ms. Bruno. 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.

**3) Retirement Resolution- Lt. Karen Mabry- ACTION-** Ms. Bruno read the resolution recognizing the retirement of Lt. Karen Mabry who has diligently served the Plymouth Township Police Department faithfully since February 20, 1989. Her retirement date will be July 30, 2019.

Plymouth Township wants to publicly recognize Lt. Karen Mabry for her 30 years of service in keeping Plymouth Township a safe place to live and work. Lt. Karen Mabry is to be commended for her outstanding leadership and dedication to the department.

Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the resolution 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.

**4) Proclamation for Nick DiDomenico's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday-** Mr. Manero read the proclamation recognizing Nick DiDomenico on the occasion of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. Manero read a couple of quotes from Mr. DiDomenico's experiences while serving in WWII. Plymouth Township would like to proclaim August 9<sup>th</sup> as Nick DiDomenico Day in honor of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the proclamation 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.

**ANNOUNCEMENT- Executive Session held July 1, 2019**

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

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- June 3, 2019
- b. Regular Meeting ----- June 10, 2019

Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bramblett 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 minutes. 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.

---

**ADMINISTRATION**

**a. Tax Settlement-** Mr. Clarke read the proposed settlement of a real estate assessment appeal between Plymouth Meeting KPG, LLC and Montgomery County, Colonial School District, and Plymouth Township. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the settlement 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.

---

**POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY**

---

**PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER**

---

**ENGINEERING**

---

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT**

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

1) Expiration date August 20, 2019

**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 September 3, 2019

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

1) Expiration date August 15, 2019- **ACTION-** Mr. Clarke read the conditional approval resolution for the subdivision plan for Glasgow, Inc. The purpose of the subdivision is to transfer 3 acres of land from lot 1 to lot 2. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve and was seconded by Ms. Bruno. 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.S.D. 19-1 Alba Family, LLC/Fairfield Road**

1) Expiration date September 7, 2019- **ACTION-** Mr. Clarke read the conditional approval resolution for Alba Family for a 5 lot subdivision. Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Gannon.

Mr. Rich Schickling- 111 Boulder Road- asked if the reduction in the size of the cul-de-sac would allow for trash trucks and emergency vehicles getting through. Mr. Higgins stated it will be big enough for trucks to turn around.

Mr. Terry Tschopp- 1405 Colwell Lane- stated he was concerned with cutting so many trees down with no real replacement. Mr. Manero stated the developer is required to replace the trees, however, in this case since there is not enough room to do so, they will pay the cost of the trees to the Township. In return, the Township will plant trees in other locations throughout the Township.

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.

**g.S.D. 19-2 3116 Jolly Road**

1) Expiration date December 1, 2019

**h.L.D. 19-1 PR Plymouth Meeting Limited Partnership/500 W. Gtn. Pike**

1) Extension granted to August 12, 2019- **ACTION-** Mr. Higgins stated he had a letter from Mr. Michael Mattioni granting an

extension to August 12, 2019. Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve 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.

**i. Extension Requests- ACTION-**

1) **Colonial Middle School to October 10, 2019-** Mr. Gannon stated the District is requesting an extension of 60 days to record the Middle School plan. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve 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) **Lilvin Enterprises to September 30, 2019-** Mr. Gannon stated the Township received a letter from Mr. Randy Wolf regarding 800 and 820 Brook Road, Lilvin Enterprises requesting an extension. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve this and was seconded by Ms. Bruno. 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.

3) **Exeter 527 Plymouth to August 11, 2020-** Mr. Higgins stated the Township received a letter from Ms. Denise Yarnoff requesting an extension to record for one year. Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve 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.

**j. Escrow Release Requests- ACTION**

1) **Knights Court-** Ms. Bruno stated the Township received a letter from Woodrow & Associates, stating sufficient work has been completed to release \$81,880. Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve 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) **Arbour Square-** Mr. Higgins stated the Township received a letter from Woodrow & Associates, stating sufficient work has been completed to release \$35,497. Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve 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. Colonial Middle School Fee Waiver Request- ACTION-** Ms. Bramblett stated the Township is in receipt of a fee waiver request from Dr. Michael Christian, Superintendent of Colonial School District. The fees that are being requested to be waived are the Transportation impact fee, the Recreation fee, and the Outfalls fee. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve 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.

1. Colonial Middle School Grading Permit Request- **ACTION-** Ms. Bramblett stated the Township received a letter from D'Huy Engineering, requesting to issue a grading permit in advance of recording. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Manero.

Mr. Manai stated a clarification: the grading permit is dependent on the applicant getting a NDPEs permit, until then the Township cannot issue their grading permit. Mr. Manai stated D'Huy is well aware of this. Ms. Bramblett amended the motion.

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.

---

### CODE ENFORCEMENT

a. **Records Disposition Resolution- ACTION-** Ms. Bramblett stated that records disposition is done periodically. These plans for Code Enforcement and Land Development have been digitized. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve and was seconded by Ms. Bruno. 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.

---

### ZONING

a. **Zoning Hearings-** Mr. Manero said the Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 17, 2019 commencing at 7:00 p.m in the Plymouth Township Building, 700 Belvoir Road, on the following applications: 1) Saint George Coptic Orthodox Church of Greater Philadelphia (Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth Township) - 2907 Jolly Road and 2) Colena Johnson Kemp and Ramon Kemp (Harry T. Triolo & Judith A. Triolo) - 699 West Germantown Pike.

---

### PARKS AND RECREATION

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

b. **Movies and Concerts Announcement-** Mr. Manero listed the 2019 performances in the park beginning, July 10<sup>th</sup> Movie: Hotel Transylvania 3, July 17<sup>th</sup> Concert: Shot of Southern, July 24<sup>th</sup> Movie: The Incredibles 2, July 31<sup>st</sup> Concert: Crunch Daddy's, and August 7<sup>th</sup> Movie: Beauty & the Beast. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. and movies start at dusk.

c. **HWP Courtyard Bid Award-** Mr. Gannon stated the low bidder is Barclay Design and Construction for the Harriet Wetherill Park Courtyard in the amount of \$208,000.

Mr. Gannon made a motion to award the bid to Barclay Design and Construction 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.

---

## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

---

## **MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS**

---

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Terry Tschopp- 1405 Colwell Lane- said he is not affected by the odor but expressed his concern that when Covanta shuts down at 3 o'clock in the morning it is very loud. He also stated the traffic along Conshohocken Road, where Covanta is located is terrible, trucks are always speeding. He asked for more police presence here.

Ms. Julie Simon- 51 Cricket Drive- stated she is concerned about the Covanta facility. On June 11, she felt sick when the odor was in the air. She said she fears for her son's health. Mr. Higgins stated Council is just as concerned and is in contact with Covanta and DEP. Ms. Simon stated Covanta has been investigated in another state and would think that's a concerning issue. Mr. Higgins stated he has not heard of that. Ms. Simon asked when this issue will be put on the table or if there's a timeline. Mr. Higgins stated there is not a timeline, but Council is working on this.

Mr. Greg Piotrowski- 511 Old Elm Street- indicated that his neighbor on the 500 block of Fulton Street is dumping items such as concrete in the backyard and growing high weeds. Mr. Piotrowski put a fence up, however, it is leaning now due to the fact that his neighbor is placing these items against his fence. Ms. Bramblett asked if Code Enforcement is aware of the dumping of items. Mr. Piotrowski stated no. Mr. Clarke asked if the fence is directly on Mr. Piotrowski's property line. Mr. Piotrowski stated it's a little in from his property line. Mr. Higgins stated he will contact Mr. Jack Fessler about this concern.

Ms. Carol Betham- 519 Old Elm Street- stated she brought up the issue that Mr. Piotrowski spoke of last year. Also, wants a sign placed on her side of Fulton Street due to the fact that the opposite side has a sign.

Ms. Maura McGee- 506 Beacon Hill Circle- stated she is disappointed by the Covanta issues. She has a little baby and shouldn't have to be concerned about when to open her windows.

She has convinced two of her friends not to move to Plymouth Township due to the Covanta facility.

Ms. Sarah Sterious- 1421 Sandwood Road- addressed her concern regarding the Covanta electrical malfunction. She stated and shared Covanta's current involvement in a whistle blower lawsuit in New York. Ms. Sterious stated Covanta is in a federal criminal investigation regarding emissions data. Ms. Bramblett asked about the criminal investigation happening in Tulsa. Ms. Sterious stated if you go onto the EPA's website, you can find the article there. Ms. Bramblett asked about the charge with manipulating their data. Ms. Sterious stated Covanta self-reports, in December when there was emissions in the air, Covanta reported that the emission was zero. Mr. Gannon asked if Covanta reported that to DEP. Ms. Sterious stated that is correct, because they self-report.

Mr. Michael VanBuren- 345 Oxford Road- stated that he is a part of the Environmental Advisory Board for Plymouth Township. Thanked Ms. Bramblett for all of her research. Mr. VanBuren stated he's here to help with any Covanta issues that arises. Also, he has a video called Trash, which mentions Covanta because of their concerns over pollution. Mr. VanBuren urges Council to look at other ways to dispose our trash. Ms. Bruno asked Mr. Clarke if there is any way from a legal standpoint of how we can get better information from Covanta or DEP. Mr. Clarke stated DEP works well with municipalities, it's just a matter of asking for the information. Ms. Bruno also addressed that she and Council should look into other methods of trash disposal. Mr. Manero stated that Council will have to bring in Mr. Loschiavo for that conversation. Ms. Bramblett stated that she'd like to find out more from DEP about self-reporting.

Mr. Tom McArthur- 1427 Sandwood Road- addressed his concerns about Covanta.

Mr. David Sharp- 1155 Conshohocken Road- representing from Covanta, stated he is fully committed to working transparently with the municipality and that they take offense to those who suggest Covanta is lying about the malfunction that happened a couple months ago. Mr. Sharp stated he will have a more complete report within the next week, week in a half at most. Ms. Bramblett asked what is making the odor smell bad. Mr. Sharp stated he does not think it's appropriate to comment at this time due to the fact that it's currently being investigated. Ms. Bruno stated she did smell the odor one of the days and it was pungent. Mr. Higgins also stated his son in Conshohocken smelled it, which he described as burnt popcorn. Ms. Bruno asked if there was any monitoring equipment outside that would pick up the odors being emitted. Mr. Sharp stated an odor will be connected to some kind of particulate, however he is not aware of any equipment outside relating to that. Someone from the audience asked when the facility was last overhauled. Mr. Sharp indicated it is being overhauled on a continuous basis and ongoing maintenance. Mr. Gannon asked if he's willing to bring in an expert to see where this is coming from. Mr. Sharp stated absolutely.

Mr. Mike Delucca- 1417 Sandwood Road- addressed his concerns about Covanta.

---

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Annalisa Primus*

Annalisa Primus  
Recording Secretary