

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

June 10, 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
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.

Executive Session- 5:30 p.m.

Hearing- Fulton Street Dedication- 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT-

1) Swearing In New Police Chief- John Myrsiades- Mr. Higgins spoke about Chief John Myrsiades and highlighted his many accomplishments. Council was unanimous in that they have high hopes for John. District Justice Frank Bernhardt presided over the swearing-in of Chief John Myrsiades.

Chief John Myrsiades thanked Council, and values the trust that Ms. Weiss has in him. He thanked his family and the employees.

Mr. Higgins mentioned that during his interview John was very well prepared and answered the questions with honesty.

Ms. Bramblett said Chief Myrsiades was so well prepared and is impressed that he served in every rank.

Ms. Bruno stated she knows he will do a wonderful job and wished John the best.

Mr. Manero stated the community has a lot of trust in John. Mr. Manero said he is impressed by John's commitment to take on more responsibilities.

Mr. Gannon welcomed John and is looking forward to working with him.

a. 30 Years of Service Resolution - Paul Gregory - ACTION - Ms. Bruno read the resolution recognizing Paul Gregory for his generous and outstanding service and contributions rendered while serving in the Public Works Department since June 12, 1999, thereby completing 30 years of service. Council extends its appreciation to Paul Gregory who served with commitment and dedication. Plymouth Township Council desires to recognize the diligent and valuable services rendered by Paul Gregory. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT **Executive Session held May 13, 2019**
 Executive Session held June 3, 2019
 Executive Session held June 10, 2019

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

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- May 6, 2019
- b. Regular Meeting ----- May 13, 2019

Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bruno 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. Fulton Street Dedication Ordinance- First Consideration - ACTION - Mr. Clarke read the ordinance opening Fulton Street as a public street pursuant to the first class Township Code which states a Township may declare a road open for public use upon a finding that such action is necessary for public convenience.

The motion was approved by Mr. Gannon, and seconded by Ms. Bramblett.

Mr. Gannon stated he liked this ordinance because it's the first step to alleviate the parking problem.

Ms. Carol Betham, 519 Old Elm St., asked what side of the street they were referring to, Norristown or Conshohocken. Mr. Higgins stated Norristown, which is the first step of this process.

Ms. Margaret Stark, 641 Fulton St., asked if the street is eligible to have a speed limit sign. Also, by the park she'd like to see speed bumps. All that's there now is a "seesaw" sign; she would rather have a "children at play" sign.

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. Covanta Renewal- Mr. Gannon explained that new information has come up regarding Covanta. Mr. Gannon made a motion to postpone this to a later date 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.

c. Colonial School District Permit Fees- Ms. Bramblett stated there was a letter sent by Dr. Michael Christian, Superintendent of Colonial School District, which seeks a reduction in building permit and escrow fees. Council discussed waiving the Township's portion of the building permit fees and the requirement for an escrow account.

Ms. Bramblett made a motion, 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.

POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

a. Lexipol Policy Management- Mr. Manero stated this is for a new policy management system, which is recommended by our insurance company. \$29,261 is due at the time of signing, with an annual 15% discount through DVIT. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve this request, and was seconded by Ms. Bruno.

Mr. Higgins said this was suggested by our new Chief in lieu of accreditation. The policies are defensible and will help down the road for our Police 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.

PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER

a. **Ridge Pike Sewer Proposal-** Ms. Bruno stated this pertains to a proposal from Pennoni to engineer the sewer replacement on Ridge Pike from Belvoir to the Mid-County expressway. The design costs \$72,250. The design will also produce the cost of replacement while the road is being reconstructed.

Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve this request for option 3 to study all of the sewers, and was seconded by Mr. Manero.

Mr. Higgins said it makes sense to check our sewer pipes since the County is already digging up the road. Also, he stated this is just for Pennoni to look into and give us an estimate on how much it will cost.

Mr. Rich Schickling, 111 Boulder Road, asked if Aqua and PECO gas have been informed. Ms. Weiss stated yes, she attends the meetings, and everybody with utilities in the road is taking advantage to upgrade at this time.

Mr. Tom McArthur, 1427 Sandwood Road, asked about the other end of Ridge Pike, from Mid-County up to Butler. Ms. Weiss stated from Mid-County to Chemical Road will be reconstructed, but Chemical Road to Butler Pike already has a center turn lane, so that segment will not be reconstructed. Mr. McArthur also asked about widening of Ridge Pike. Ms. Weiss said they are creating two lanes with a center turn lane throughout Plymouth and Whitemarsh. Mr. McArthur then asked about Plymouth Square Shopping Center. Mr. Higgins stated they are not working on that yet. Ms. Bramblett stated from Harmon Road to Butler Pike there are going to be some improvements.

Ms. Sara Picard, 2361 Hickory Road, asked if Pennoni was chosen by RFP relating to this expenditure. Ms. Weiss said yes the County selected Pennoni for this segment. The Township does go out for RFP's on certain occasions. Ms. Weiss stated on the first segment the work was bid and the Township piggybacked on the County contract. Ms. Picard was concerned about Plymouth obtaining the best price and not relying on Montgomery County's RFP.

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.

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

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

1) Extension granted to September 7, 2019- **ACTION-** Mr. Gannon referred to a letter from Shawn Tamaro asking for a time extension from July 7, 2019 to September 7, 2019. Mr. Gannon made the motion, 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.

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) Expiration date July 24, 2019

i. Extension Requests- ACTION-

1) 356 Fairfield Road to September 6, 2019- Mr. Gannon referred to a letter from Dean Eisenburger Sr. requesting a 90 day extension to September 6, 2019. Mr. Gannon made a motion to grant this 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) PHI- Belvoir Road to August 12, 2019- Mr. Gannon referred to a letter from Nicolas Cuce requesting an extension to August 12, 2019. Mr. Gannon made a motion to grant this 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.

3) 1929 Johnson Road to October 5, 2019- Mr. Manero said we have correspondence from Nicole Lick, seeking an extension for three months. Mr. Manero made a motion to grant this extension, 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.

j. Escrow Release Requests- ACTION

1) Arbour Square- Mr. Higgins stated we received a letter from Lonnie Manai of Woodrow & Associates, stating sufficient work has been completed to release \$242,947.00. Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve this escrow release, 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) 135 Pleasant Road- Mr. Manero stated we received a letter from Lonnie Manai of Woodrow & Associates, stating that sufficient work has been completed to release the amount of \$29,429. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve this escrow release, 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.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

a. **Plymouth Fire Co. Permit Fee-** Ms. Bruno read a letter from Mr. Jim Wallace requesting to waive the permit fees for the Plymouth Fire Company's new roof. Keystone is also waiving its fees as well. Ms. Bruno made a motion to grant this request, 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.

ZONING

a. **Zoning Hearings-** Mr. Manero said The Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 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, 2) Matt Outdoor (PECO)-1330 Conshohocken Road, 3) Philip Mandrack- 827 Plymouth Road, 4) Brian & Nancy Road-1509 Plymouth Boulevard, 5) Jon Williams-Safstor Real Estate Co, LLC (Plymouth Park DFC, LLC)-100 Lee Drive. Any citizen of Plymouth Township or interested party may attend the public hearing and have an opportunity to be heard.

b. **Opposition- 1330 Conshohocken Road-** Mr. Manero made a motion to send the Township Solicitor in opposition to this 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

PARKS AND RECREATION

a. **Movies and Concerts Announcement-** Ms. Bramblett listed the 2019 performances in the park beginning with the June 26th Movie: The Lion King, July 3rd Concert: The Quake, July 10th Movie: Hotel Transylvania 3, July 17th Concert: Shot of Southern, July 24th Movie: The Incredibles 2, July 31st Concert: Crunch Daddy's, and August 7th Movie: Beauty & The Beast. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. and movies start at dusk.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Higgins stated that the next meeting, July 8th, is the same evening Plymouth Little League is hosting the State Championships. Mr. Manero wanted to see if we can change the date to the next night. Ms. Bruno, Mr. Clarke, Ms. Bramblett, Mr. Gannon, and Mr. Higgins are all okay with having the meeting on July 9th instead. This change of meeting date will be advertised.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ms. Carol Betham, 519 Old Elm Street, wanted to know if it was permitted to put campers or boats in Plymouth Fire Company's & Harmonville Fire Company's parking lots, due to the fact that there are several of them being storage there. Mr. Higgins said not that he's aware of. Ms. Weiss stated the fire companies own their properties. Mr. Higgins stated you cannot store your belongings there, that's their private property.

Ms. Sarah Sterious, 1421 Sandwood Road, addressed her concern regarding the Covanta electrical malfunction.

She stated she stood before Council in January voicing her concerns about alternatives for trash removal. Ms. Sterious stated that Covanta is trash to toxic ash not trash to steam. Mr. Manero stated Council just found out about the new information and that Council needs to figure out what's going on before they address the public. Ms. Sterious stated 2016, 2018, and now in 2019, this facility has had some kind of malfunction, which is becoming a reoccurring theme. Ms. Sterious indicated that incinerators last 23 years and were beyond that number now. Mr. Gannon stated the vote tonight was only where to take our trash.

Ms. Trish Parrish & Ms. Sara Picard, 2361 Hickory Road, want to put on record that they feel they are being treated unfairly regarding the curb.

Ms. Parrish & Ms. Picard signed an agreement with the Township in 2017. In the agreement it states they would install sidewalks, and that "curbing, driveways, road improvements if any in the future and cartways as shown in the plans, including utility pole and other utility improvements shall be by the Township at its sole expense at such later date as the Township may wish to construct."

Ms. Picard stated Vic Meitner was their builder's attorney, not theirs. Ms. Parrish estimated it would cost \$3,400 to put curb on her frontage.

Ms. Picard wants the curb for protection.

Mr. Higgins stated his answer still stands from the last meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Annalisa Primus
Recording Secretary