

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**May 13, 2019**

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

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**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

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**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) 20 Years of Service Resolution - Edward Lowery - ACTION-** Ms. Bramblett read the resolution recognizing Edward Lowery who has served the Plymouth Township Public Works Department since May 17, 1999, thereby completing twenty years of service. Plymouth Township Council desires to recognize the diligent and valuable services rendered by Edward Lowery and publicly expresses its appreciation. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Gannon.

Mr. Higgins thanked Mr. Lowery for his 20 years of service.

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) National Public Works Week Resolution- ACTION -** Mr. Manero read the resolution declaring the week of May 20<sup>th</sup> through May 26<sup>th</sup>, as National Public Works Week. Mr. Manero commended the Public Works employees for doing so much more than their jobs by going above and beyond every day. The department leadership and the employees are an integral part of this Township.

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

Ms. Bruno thanked everybody for their dedication to Plymouth Township. Ms. Bramblett also commended the Public Works Department and said that a week doesn't go by without seeing an email or note from a resident stating how wonderful they are in performing their jobs.

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) Commendation of Merit - Jeffrey McGee** - Mr. Manero read the commendation for Detective Jeffrey McGee. In 2014, Detective McGee commenced an assignment with the FBI Task Force in the City of Philadelphia. While there he investigated a bank robber, who also committed a bank robbery in Plymouth Township in 2015. Through investigation, Detective McGee collected evidence which resulted in the federal indictment of the suspect on 11 counts of bank robbery, weapon offenses, and related charges. Richard Boyle, dubbed the "straw-hat bandit", is facing 200 years in prison. Detective Jeffrey McGee is recognized for an important arrest, accomplished through highly intelligent police performance.

Mr. Manero made a motion to approve this commendation of merit. The motion 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.

**4) National Police Week Resolution- ACTION** - Mr. Gannon read the resolution declaring the week of May 13<sup>th</sup> through May 19<sup>th</sup> as National Police Week and recognized the Township Police Department for its valor, service, and dedication to the Township. Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve this resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Manero.

Mr. Higgins thanked the police officers for what they do every single day of the year. Mr. Manero expressed how much recognition the Police Department gets on social media. Mr. Manero also stated that the residents speak volumes for what the police officers do for our community.

Ms. Bruno thanked the Police Department for their dedication and said they are greatly appreciated by the residents and herself. Ms. Bramblett also thanked the police officers. She stated she always hears residents say how quickly the officers respond, show respect, and professionalism when on a call. She thanked them for their bravery.

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.

**5) RETIREMENT RESOLUTION - CHIEF JOSEPH LAWRENCE - ACTION -** Ms. Bruno read the resolution recognizing the retirement of Chief Joseph Lawrence who has diligently served the Plymouth Township Police Department faithfully since August 24, 1987. He has led the department with integrity and honor. His retirement date will be June 2, 2019. Plymouth Township wants to publicly recognize Chief Lawrence for his 32 years of service in keeping Plymouth Township a safe place to live and work. Chief Lawrence is to be commended for his outstanding leadership and dedication to his department.

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

Ms. Bruno thanked Chief Lawrence for his service to our Country and to our Police Department. He is respected throughout the County for his leadership and service.

Mr. Higgins thanked Chief Lawrence for his compassion, dedication, and leadership to Plymouth Township especially during the dark time of Officer Brad Fox's death.

Ms. Bramblett thanked Chief Lawrence for leading this great department, and for the service that he has given to Plymouth Township for many years.

Mr. Gannon thanked the Chief and the Chief's family for supporting him in this position.

Mr. Manero thanked Chief Lawrence for working with Council.

The Plymouth-Whitemarsh Baseball Team thanked Chief Lawrence and presented him with commemorative t-shirts.

Mr. Sheldon Simpson thanked Chief Lawrence for his service to Plymouth Township.

Mr. Rich Schickling, 111 Boulder Rd also thanked Chief Lawrence for his service.

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.

Mr. Higgins announced that John Myrsiades will be the next Police Chief for Plymouth Township. He will be sworn in as Chief on June 10, 2019.

Deputy Chief John Myrsiades thanked Council for this opportunity and is looking forward to the challenge.

Chief Lawrence thanked Council for recognizing him tonight, he stated it's been an honor to work at Plymouth Township and to be the Chief. Chief Lawrence also thanked the officers for their support and dedication to the Township.

**ANNOUNCEMENT - Executive Session held April 15, 2019**  
**Executive Session held May 6, 2019**

Mr. Higgins announced that executive sessions were held on April 15, 2019 and May 6, 2019 in order to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

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

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- April 1, 2019
- b. Regular Meeting ----- April 8, 2019

Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the minutes without the necessity of reading. 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 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.

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**ADMINISTRATION**

a. **Fulton Street Dedication Ordinance- First Consideration** - 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 to approve was made by Mr. Gannon, and seconded by Ms. Bramblett.

Ms. Betham asked if Mr. Clarke could explain it in a simpler context. Mr. Clarke stated that Fulton Street is not a public road, and that opening Fulton Street as a public road, the Township will be responsible for the maintenance of it. Ms. Betham also asked if the road will be black topped.

Ms. Weiss stated that Council is not opening the portion of the 500 block of Fulton Street on Ms. Betham's side of the Blue Route, instead it's the 600 block that the ordinance refers to.

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.

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**POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY**

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**PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER**

**a. Short Line Bid Award** - Mr. Manero stated there was one bidder for this project and Mr. Loschiavo is recommending the bid be awarded to Traffic and Safety Signs, Inc. in the amount of \$49,855. 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.

**b. Street Paving Award** - Mr. Manero read another memorandum from Mr. Loschiavo regarding the recommendation of bids for 2019 highway materials, plant materials and pavement milling and overlay. Plant material is as follows:

Item 1A, HMA Fine-Graded Course, 9.5 mm mix, Glasgow, \$5,025.00  
Item 1B, HMA Wearing Course, 9.5 mm mix, Glasgow, \$4,925.00  
Item 1C, HMA Wearing Course, 12.5 mm mix, Glasgow, \$4,750.00  
Item 1D, HMA Wearing Course, 19.0 mm mix, Glasgow, \$4,500.00  
Item 1E, HMA Binder Course, 19.0 mm mix, Glasgow, \$4,500.00  
Item 1F, HMA Binder Course, 25.0 mm mix, Glasgow, \$4,050.00  
Item 1G, HMA Base Course, 25.0 mm mix, Glasgow, \$4,050.00

Pavement milling and overlay was also recommended to be awarded to Glasgow, Inc., the low bidder, in the amount of \$304,400.00.

Mr. Manero 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.

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**ENGINEERING**

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**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)Extension granted to September 3, 2019 - **ACTION** - Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve the extension. 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.

**e.L.D. 18-6 Colonial Middle School/Colonial School District**

1.Time Limit Waived - **ACTION** - Matt McHugh read the conditional resolution for the preliminary final land development plan. Ms. Bruno made a motion to approve the resolution, and Mr. Gannon seconded the motion.

Mr. Higgins mentioned that the Township has worked together with Colonial School District for the new middle school and is accommodating them with an access road which is partially located on the Township's property.

Mr. Schickling asked if the access road will be used by Police and Emergency vehicles. Mr. Higgins stated yes, but it is primarily for buses.

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

1)Extension granted to August 15, 2019- **ACTION** - Mr. Clarke read the letter from Glasgow, Inc.'s attorney for an extension on the applicant's lot line change and subdivision application.

Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve, and Mr. Manero seconded 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.

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

1)Expiration date July 7, 2019

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

1)Extension granted to December 1, 2019 - **ACTION** - Mr. Higgins read the letter for a 6 month extension for 3116 Jolly Road. Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve, 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.

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

1) Expiration date July 24, 2019

**j. Extension Requests- ACTION-**

1) Bimbo Bakeries to August 13, 2019- Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve this extension until August 13, 2019 and 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.

2) Lilvin to July 31, 2019- Mr. Gannon made a motion to approve the extension until July 31, 2019 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.

**k. Escrow Release Request- ACTION-**

1) 135 Pleasant Road- Mr. Manero read the letter from Mr. Manai, Woodrow & Associates, stating that sufficient work has been completed to release the amount of \$16,200 and by releasing this amount the remaining balance will be \$74,305.30. Mr. Manero 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.

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**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

a) **Contractor Registration Resolution- ACTION** - Mr. Clarke read the resolution establishing a \$100 annual fee for contractor registration.

The motion to approve was made by Mr. Manero. Mr. Gannon seconded the motion.

Ms. Bruno stated that she opposes this resolution due to the fact that she does not think it is necessary, and that contractors do hire responsible sub-contractors. Also, she feels it's a way for entities to find out who's working in Plymouth Township.

Mr. Gannon said the resolution only establishes the fee, not the registration. Mr. Clarke stated that was correct, the registration ordinance was adopted last month.

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.

b) **Code Appeals Board Resolution- ACTION** - Mr. Clarke read the amendatory resolution for a Building Code Appeal, which has a filing fee in the amount of \$1,500. If actual costs exceed \$1,500 the applicant is responsible for the difference.

Mr. Manero made a motion to approve this resolution. The motion 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.

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## ZONING

**a. Zoning Hearings** - Ms. Bruno announced that the Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 20, 2019, commencing at 7:00 p.m., in the Plymouth Township Building on the following applications: 1) Marc & Christen Kamin- 64 Red Rowen Lane, fence variance in the front yard setback, 2) Stronghold Properties- 115 Plymouth Road, 2350 Butler Pike, 105 Plymouth Road- to allow a restaurant of 4,104 square feet, whereas 4,000 square feet is allowed. 3) E. Kahn Development- 1103 & 1113 West Ridge Pike. The old 7-Up building to allow 513 parking spaces, without berming and bumper guards, where 593 parking spaces are required on the 1113 West Ridge Pike parcel; to allow 147 parking spaces, without berming and bumper guards, where 207 parking spaces are required on the 1103 West Ridge parcel; to allow parking areas that are not within 200 feet of an entrance to a building; to allow a reduction in the aggregate amount of shared parking by more than 25%. 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. Plymouth Township Day- Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>- 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. - EPV Park** - Ms. Bramblett 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. All are welcome to attend.

**b. SDM Announcement** - Ms. Bramblett 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.

**c. Parks Board Appointment** - Mr. Manero stated that Ms. Naomi Winchester expressed an interest of serving on the Parks Board. Mr. Manero made a motion to approve Ms. Winchester to fill the vacancy on the Parks board. The motion 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.

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## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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### MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Manero stated that some of his students were in the audience to observe how local government works.

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### AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ms. Betham stated she needed further explanation of the dedication of Fulton Street. Ms. Weiss stated that when a developer builds a development they dedicate it to the Township to maintain. However, Fulton Street was never dedicated to Plymouth Township. The Council is only working on the Norristown side as of now. Ms. Betham was concerned about the Conshohocken side.

Ms. Betham also stated the two houses on the 500 block of Fulton Street, have neglected to cut their grass. Ms. Weiss stated she will inform Mr. Jack Fessler on this issue.

Mr. Rich Schickling stated on April 30<sup>th</sup> there was a meeting at the Barren Hill fire house, regarding the reconstruction of Ridge Pike. He stated they will take the property on both sides to widen the street. Also, he visited the sink hole under the RR bridge on Butler Pike. Both County projects will take 3 to 4 years to complete.

Ms. Thompson, 408 Park Drive, wanted to thank Ms. Weiss, Linda, and Ms. Bramblett for looking into this obstruction. However, Ms. Thompson stated that it's still hard to turn off Plymouth Road onto her street because cars come down the street fast. Council stated they will ask The 1912 Club to trim their bushes that block vision.

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### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Annalisa Primus*

Annalisa Primus  
Recording Secretary