

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

December 12, 2022

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

Council: Chris Manero ----- Chairman
Karen Bramblett ----- Vice-Chairman
Kathy Bandish
Lynne Viscio
Nicholas Whitney

Staff: Karen Weiss ----- Manager
Mike Clarke ----- Solicitor
Alex Glassman ----- Solicitor's Office
John Myrsiades ----- Chief of Police

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

Recognitions-

State Rep. Matthew Bradford- Mr. Manero made a motion to approve the recognition for State Rep. Matthew Bradford and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

State Rep. Mary Jo Daley- Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the recognition for State Rep. Mary Jo Daley and was seconded by Ms. Bandish. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

State Senator Amanda Cappelletti- Ms. Viscio made a motion to approve the recognition for State Senator Amanda Cappelletti and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

Harmonville Fire Co. acknowledged these three public officials for helping them obtain grants for their new fire station for Plymouth Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT- There was no public comment pertaining to any items advertised on the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENT- Executive Session held November 28, 2022
Executive Session held December 5, 2022

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

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- November 9, 2022
- b. Special Hearing and Meeting ----- November 14, 2022
- c. Regular Meeting ----- November 14, 2022
- d. Budget Meeting ----- November 15, 2022
- e. Special Meeting ----- November 28, 2022

Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Viscio. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

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

Ms. Bandish made a motion to approve the departmental reports and bills. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

ADMINISTRATION

a. 2023 Budget Ordinance- First and Final Consideration- ACTION-
Mr. Clarke stated that this is an ordinance pursuant to Section 702.D of the Home Rule Charter adopting the operating and capital budgets, expenditures, and expenses for the fiscal year 2023 and levying a Real Estate Tax on all property within the Township for fiscal year 2023 at the rate of 1.9 mils on each dollar of assessed valuation, or the sum of nineteen (19)cents on each one hundred dollars of assessed valuation and levying a separate assessment dedicated to the Plymouth Township Fire Services on all property within the Township for fiscal year 2023 at the rate of .72 mils on each dollar of assessed valuation, or the sum of seven.two (7.2) cents of each one hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve the ordinance for first and final consideration and was seconded by Ms. Bandish. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

b. Sewer Rate Increase Ordinance- First and Final Consideration-ACTION- Mr. Clarke read the ordinance. Ms. Viscio made a motion to approve this ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Whitney. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

c. Reorganization Meeting Announcement- Tuesday, January 3, 2023- 7:30 p.m. - Ms. Viscio announced that Council will hold a Reorganization Meeting on Monday, January 3rd, 2023, commencing at 7:30 p.m.

d. Renovation Project Change Orders- Ms. Bramblett stated the project manager for the municipal building renovation is recommending an approval for change orders. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve these change orders and was seconded by Ms. Bandish. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER

a. Snow Announcement- Mr. Whitney reminded residents that the Township Snow Policy is in effect and then read the official policy.

b. Recycling Consortium Ordinance- First and Final Consideration-ACTION- Mr. Clarke read the ordinance for the recycling consortium. Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve this and was seconded by Ms. Viscio. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

ENGINEERING

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

- a. **L.D. 17-2 Conicelli Auto Group/906 Ridge Pike**
 - 1) Expiration date February 20, 2023
- b. **L.D. 18-4 SMG Hotels/201 Plymouth Road**
 - 1) Extension granted to December 31, 2023- **ACTION-** Ms. Viscio made a motion to approve this extension and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.
- c. **S.D. 20-2 Marchese/751 Belvoir Road**
 - 1) Time Limit Waived
- d. **L.D. 21-1 Kelman and Magliari Realty, LLC/2070 Butler Pike**
 - 1) Extension granted to December 31, 2023- **ACTION-** Ms. Bandish made a motion to approve this extension and was seconded by Mr. Whitney. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.
- e. **S.D. 21-3 David Erb, Jr./101 North Lane**
 - 1) Expiration date March 30, 2023
- f. **L.D. 22-1 1508 Sandy Hill Road/Riverview Land Development**
 - 1) Expiration date January 15, 2023
- g. **L.D. 22-2 Conicelli Autoplex/1208 Ridge Pike/Hyundai**
 - 1) Expiration date February 28, 2023
- h. **S.D. 22-1 Royal Farms/906 Ridge Pike**
 - 1) Extension granted to March 1, 2023- **ACTION-** Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve this extension and was seconded by Ms. Bramblett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROJECTS NOT YET RECORDED

- a. **Extension Requests- ACTION-**
 - 1) **Metroplex Phase 3 to December 31, 2023-** Ms. Bandish made a motion to approve this extension request and was seconded by Ms. Viscio. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.
 - 2) **2928 Walton Road to December 31, 2023-** Ms. Viscio made a motion to approve this extension request and was seconded by Ms. Bandish. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

a. Escrow Releases- ACTION-

1) **Plymouth Meeting Park-** Ms. Bandish stated this communication is from Woodrow & Associates, stating the \$24,000 that has been held in escrow for Lot 6 can be released. Ms. Bandish made a motion to approve this release and was seconded by Mr. Whitney. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

ZONING

a. **Zoning Hearings-** Ms. Viscio announced that the Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 19, 2022 commencing at 7:00 p.m., on the following applications: 1) Freedom Fence (Kristina Oldham), 2) Jared Bazewicz, 3) Brandon Savran, Esq., Pritzker Law Group, Representing Veterinary Emergency Group (Brixmor Plymouth Square, LLC), and 4) Greg Lavin. Any citizen of Plymouth Township or interested party may attend the public hearing and have an opportunity to be heard.

PARKS AND RECREATION

a. **Upcoming Events-** Ms. Bramblett stated the following are upcoming events: Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 17th; The Holiday Lights Contest judging is going on from December 9th through December 15th; GPCC Holiday Eve Programing Pool and Fitness December 24th and December 31st. Ms. Bramblett stated applications are being accepted for Veteran banners that will be hung at the GPCC Park, deadline is April 1st. Also, winter brochures are now available either online or at the front desk. In addition, 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. For further information, please visit the Greater Plymouth Community Centers website or by calling (610) 277-4312.

MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS

a. Citizen Board Vacancy Announcement- Mr. Whitney stated the following citizen board positions are open: three positions on the Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board, two on the Historical Architectural Review Board, one on the East Norriton-Plymouth-Whitpain Joint Sewer Authority Board, and one on the Environmental 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.

b. ENPWJSA Appointment- Kyle Elliott- Mr. Manero stated he would like to make a motion to appoint Kyle Elliott to fill the East Norriton-Plymouth-Whitpain Joint Sewer Authority Board position and was seconded by Ms. Bandish. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Bramblett, Ms. Bandish, Ms. Viscio, Mr. Whitney, and Mr. Manero in favor.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Carol Betham- asked how many firefighters are being hired. Mr. Manero stated Plymouth Township does not employ any firefighters; they are hired through the fire company. Mr. Manero stated they have some paid positions, but most are volunteers. Ms. Betham asked if the Township gives them money. Mr. Manero stated they are given an allowance every year, but Council cannot dictate how it is spent. Ms. Betham asked if the Township is giving Plymouth Ambulance money. Mr. Manero stated they do receive a contribution as well. Ms. Betham asked if street light instructions could be included in the newsletter along with rent rebates.

Ardis Lukens- stated she is concerned because there is a lot of speeding and traffic on Conshohocken Road. She spoke with the Police Department on numerous occasions. Vehicles have been going through or around when school buses put their flashers on. She is asking that the police come down past Light Street and watch.

Eileen Brewick- stated she is also concerned about Conshohocken Road. She has spoken with the Police Department as well, and was told that PennDOT controls Conshohocken Road. Ms. Brewick stated if Plymouth fills out paperwork, a crosswalk with a pedestrian sign could be installed.

Dennis Hammes- stated the stop sign at the Blue Route did help. However, they now they go through the stop signs.

Edith Kenderdine- voiced her concern that vehicles do not stop at the stop sign at Conshohocken Road and New Elm Street.

Warren Layre- stated the construction in Conshohocken Borough will make traffic unbearable around Conshohocken Road.

Joanna Barr- stated she too is concerned about the speeding in the area. She does not have a driveway, so when she goes out she fears she is going to be hit. Ms. Barr stated there needs to be a four way stop sign at Light Street and New Elm Street.

Michael Bailey- stated the speeding was so bad that Colonial School District changed the route so that children did not have to cross the street.

Alex Hummel- stated he agreed with what everyone else stated before him regarding Conshohocken Road.

Greg Piotrowski- stated he brought the issue up of construction trucks coming in and out of Old Elm Street creating dust in a previous meeting. In which, Mr. Whitney, Chief Myrsiades, and Code Enforcement all went down to look at the issue. However, the trucks are creating loud noises around 6:33 a.m.

Amy Teeters- stated pulling out of Light Street is very dangerous because of speeding; all of her children drive and she is fearful.

Chief Myrsiades addressed the residents' concerns. He stated the problems that the residents are concerned about are there. Chief Myrsiades stated regarding Mr. Piotrowski's concern with the noise, to call the Police Department and they can cite them for violating the noise ordinance. He has been working with Mr. Tornetta since this is his property. Chief Myrsiades stated regarding Conshohocken Road, it is PennDOT's decision to install stop signs on their road. In addition, PennDOT takes into consideration statistics such as, how many accidents are in the area. Chief Myrsiades stated within the last three years, there have been no accidents.

Chief Myrsiades stated speed has been recorded in that area, in which 85% of people are well over the speed limit. Unfortunately, vehicles have to be going 11 miles over the speed limit to enforce the matter. Ms. Kenderdine asked if our Council members and/or state representatives could take action. Mr. Manero stated it is our responsibility to take those concerns wherever they need to go.

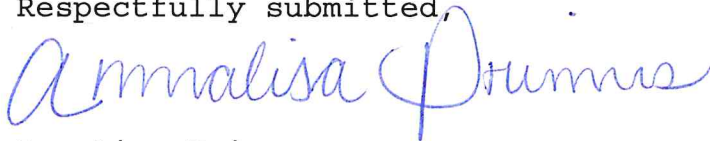
Mr. Manero asked for a point person from the group for communication. Ms. Ardis Lukens nominated herself as the point person to exchange information between Council and the residents. Chief Myrsiades stated they have done 20 more traffic stops ahead of last year, installed traffic calming measures, signs, flashing signs, and speed signs. Ms. Lukens asked if a camera could be installed. Chief Myrsiades stated he would have to see if PennDOT could approve them. Ms. Bramblett suggested using the big mirrors to see who is coming.

She also wondered if Colonial School District would install cameras on the buses since Norristown School District is currently doing this. The cameras take pictures of cars that go around the school buses, so citations can be issued. Chief Myrsiades asked everyone to give their email addresses to Ardis Lukens and that way everyone will be kept up-to-date with our correspondence to PADOT.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Annalisa Primus
Recording Secretary