

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**September 9, 2024**

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

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**Council:** Karen Bramblett ----- Chair  
Nicholas Whitney  
Kristin Frederick Leonard  
Aaron Nelson

**Staff:** Karen Weiss ----- Manager  
Mike Clarke ----- Solicitor  
John Myrsiades ----- 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 Chairwoman Bramblett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Brad Fox Remembrance** - Chief Myrsiades thanked Council for giving him the opportunity to say a few words of remembrance for our fallen hero, Brad Fox. Twelve years ago, Brad Fox was taken from us, surrendering his life in defense of his community. Brad Fox left behind his loving wife, Lynsay, and his two children; Cadence and Brad Jr. Chief Myrsiades expressed how much we all miss him and will forever remember his sacrifice.

**30 Years of Service Resolution - Mark Lacy - ACTION** - Ms. Bramblett read the resolution recognizing Mark Lacy for his generous and outstanding service and contributions rendered while serving in the Police Department since August 30, 1994, thereby completing 30 years of service. Council extends its appreciation to Mark Lacy who served with commitment and dedication. Plymouth Township Council desires to recognize the diligent and valuable service rendered by Mark Lacy. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve this resolution and was seconded by Mr. Whitney. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

**20 Years of Service Resolution - Douglas Copestick - ACTION** - Ms. Viscio read the resolution recognizing Douglas Copestick for his generous and outstanding service and contributions rendered while serving in the Police Department since October 4, 2004, thereby completing 20 years of service. Council extends its appreciation to Douglas Copestick who served with commitment and dedication. Plymouth Township Council desires to recognize the diligent and valuable service rendered by Douglas Copestick. Ms. Viscio made a motion to approve this resolution and was seconded by Mr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENT-** Executive Session held August 12, 2024  
Executive Session held September 3, 2024

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chairwoman Bramblett called for the approval of the minutes.

- a. Workshop Meeting ----- August 5, 2024
- b. Regular Meeting ----- August 12, 2024

Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

**APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND BILLS:** Chairwoman Bramblett called for the approval of the departmental reports and bills.

Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve the departmental reports and bills. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leonard. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

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#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**a. Single Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance- Final Consideration-ACTION** - Mr. Clark read the Single Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance. Mr. Whitney made a motion to adopt this ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Nelson. Ms. Bramblett stated Council tweaked this ordinance to address some of the concerns they had. Ms. Ardis Lukens asked if the ordinance is posted anywhere. Ms. Bramblett stated it is posted on the Township website. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

**b. 2025 Budget Meeting Schedule Announcement** - Mr. Whitney announced the Budget Meeting dates as follows: Monday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., and Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**c. Announcement- Town Hall Meeting Re: Sidewalks- Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building Auditorium-** Ms. Leonard made an announcement that the Town Hall Meeting regarding sidewalks will be held on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building Auditorium.

**d. Announcement- October Regular Council Meeting Change of Date to Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** - Mr. Nelson stated the date of the Plymouth Township Council Regular Meeting for October has been changed to Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**e. Pension Fund- Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2025 Announcement** - Ms. Bramblett said the actuary has determined the Township shall contribute \$1,434,630 to the Police Pension Plan and \$469,691 to the Civilian Pension Plan. The actuary is also recommending that we budget revenue of \$920,806 for the anticipated State Pension Aid in 2025. The net pension cost to the Township for both pension plans in 2025 will therefore be \$983,515. This represents a decrease of \$12,728 from the 2024 contribution.

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#### **POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY**

**a. Harmonville Fire Company Loan-** Chief John Hoffman stated he is here tonight to discuss the Station 2 replacement plan on Germantown Pike. Chief Hoffman stated they were able to raise \$2.3 million in grant funding as well as the Township matching 50% for the RACP Grant. Chief Hoffman stated they have two plans, Plan A would consist of a two-story firehouse, with drive-thru bays, four bunk rooms, two full baths, an elevator, conference room, and a day room. Plan B would be a scaled back version of Plan A and would not be gaining much of anything. Chief Hoffman stated Plan A would cost \$5.57 million and Plan B would cost \$4.5 million. Chief Hoffman is asking Council to re-evaluate the loan agreement so they can move along with Plan A.

Ms. Bramblett asked if the scaled back version would have a second floor. Chief Hoffman stated no, it would be designed to put a second floor on, but it is not in Plan B. Ms. Bramblett asked if the drive-thru bays would be incorporated into Plan B. Chief Hoffman stated yes, that was his number one ask since backing up on Germantown Pike is a huge safety issue.

**b. PTPD Back to School Bash - September 28<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** - Chief Myrsiades stated the Plymouth Township Police Department is hosting a Back to School Bash as a result of National Night Out being cancelled. Chief Myrsiades stated it will be on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Police Station from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**c. Emergency Police and Fire Alarm Ordinance- First Consideration** - Mr. Clarke read the Emergency Police and Fire Alarm Ordinance. Ms. Bramblett stated we don't want residents to hesitate including our police when their security or fire alarms go off.

**d. Parking of Motor Carriers Ordinance- First Consideration** - Mr. Clarke read the Parking of Motor Carriers Ordinance. Ms. Bramblett stated parking larger vehicles on the street, especially on narrow streets, can make it difficult for our first responders.

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#### **PUBLIC/WORKS/SEWER**

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#### **ENGINEERING**

**a. Lighting Ordinance- First Consideration** - Mr. Clarke read the Lighting Ordinance. Ms. Bramblett stated the Township always had someone to perform and review the lighting plans, however he has sadly passed away. Ms. Bramblett stated this ordinance will set forth requirements to make sure businesses and their parking lots are safely lit.

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#### **SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT**

- a. L.D. 18-4 SMG Hotels/201 Plymouth Road**
  - 1) Expiration date December 31, 2024
- b. S.D. 20-2 Marchese/751 Belvoir Road**
  - 1) Time Limit Waived
- c. L.D. 21-1 Kelman and Magliari Realty, LLC/2070 Butler Pike**
  - 1) Expiration date December 31, 2024
- d. L.D. 22-1 1508 Sandy Hill Road/Riverview Land Development**
  - 1) Extension granted to December 15, 2024- **ACTION-** Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve this extension request and was seconded by Mr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.
- e. L.D. 24-1 1402 Ridge Pike Associates, LLC/KIA Service Drive-Thru Garage**
  - 1) Time Limit Waived

- f. **L.D. 24-3 St. George Coptic Orthodox Church/2907 Jolly Road**  
1) Expiration date October 25, 2024
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**CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROJECTS NOT YET RECORDED**

a. **Extension Request- ACTION**

1) **Royal Farms - 906 Ridge Pike to November 27, 2024-** Mr. Whitney made a motion to approve this extension request and was seconded by Mr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

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**PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

a. **Escrow Release - ACTION -**

1) **2622 Butler Pike-** Ms. Bramblett stated this communication is from Woodrow & Associates, stating sufficient work has been completed to release \$22,434.50. Ms. Bramblett made a motion to approve this escrow release and was seconded by Mr. Whitney. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

2) **Chase Bank-** Mr. Nelson stated sufficient work has been completed to release all but \$63,928.11 per Mr. Manai's letter dated August 19, 2024. Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve this escrow release and was seconded by Mr. Whitney. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Whitney, Ms. Leonard, Mr. Nelson, and Ms. Bramblett in favor. Ms. Viscio was absent.

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**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

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**ZONING**

a. **Zoning Hearing -** Ms. Bramblett announced that the Zoning Hearing Board of Plymouth Township will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 16, 2024, commencing at 7:00 p.m., on the following applications: 1) RJS Construction, Inc. and 2) Michael Delucca. 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. **Upcoming Events-** Mr. Nelson stated the following are upcoming events: Halloween Family Bingo on Friday, October 4; HWP Campfire and Hayrides on Saturday, October 19; Pool Pumpkin Patch on Sunday, October 20, Veterans Day Celebration on Wednesday, November 6; Outdoor Holiday Market on Saturday, November 16; Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on Wednesday, December 4; Bus Trip to NYC on Friday, December 6; Graham Cracker House Workshop on Saturday, December 7; Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 14. Mr. Nelson stated the GPCC is looking for fall sponsors. Also, GPCC is giving 10% Off Annual Passes from Monday, October 5 to Friday, October 11. For further information, please visit the Greater Plymouth Community Center's website or by calling (610) 277-4312.

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## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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### MISCELLANEOUS/OLD BUSINESS

a. **Citizen Board Vacancy Announcement-** Ms. Bramblett stated the following citizen board positions are open: three positions on the Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board, one on the Historical Architectural Review Board, and one on the Human Relations Commission. Anyone interested in serving on one of these boards can submit a resume or letter of interest to Karen Weiss, the Township Manager.

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## AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Shelly Simpson- stated someone on Clover Lane is housing roosters. He has complained before, but nothing has been done. Also, 731 Clover Lane has several cars parked in front of their house and it looks like they are renting to college kids. Lastly, he heard 712 Woodbrook will be a halfway house and does not see a reason why there should be two on that street.

Mr. Steven Simpson- stated he is concerned about the halfway house near his home. They don't take care of their property and do not have a fence around their pool which poses a danger for his younger children. Mr. Simpson stated he has complained to Code Enforcement before.

Ms. Kimberly Simpson- stated her concerns about the group home as well as people speeding on her street.

Ms. Ardis Lukens- stated she would like the status of the crosswalk at Light Street along with a light that was supposed to be replaced. Ms. Weiss stated the Director of Public Works stated it was a PECO problem. Ms. Weiss stated she is aware that it has been reported several times. Ms. Bramblett stated Council is staying on top of the crosswalk. Chief Myrsiades stated PADOT is waiting on data. Ms. Leonard asked if we could give the residents PADOT's information. Chief Myrsiades stated they have shared their information.

Ms. Genevieve Boland- stated Conshohocken Road poses a safety issue regarding pedestrian safety and litter of broken glass. Ms. Lukens stated she asked Cliff Steel about a sidewalk, and they stated they would take it to their higher ups.

Ms. Patti Smith- stated she also lives on Fulton Street and addressed her concerns with the sidewalks as well. She stated there is no process with installing a sidewalk, in which there is a lot of back and forth. Ms. Smith stated the feasibility study has taken several months and is unclear. Ms. Bramblett stated the Township Engineer has visited that location. Ms. Bramblett stated it involves engineering, private property, PADOT, and money.

Mr. Nick Liermann- stated he lives on Fulton Street and would like communication from Council since he has emailed several members regarding sidewalks. Mr. Liermann has emailed Greg Scott to see if he could help with this concern.

Mr. Bill Sabey- asked if the grant money has a deadline from when it needs to be spent regarding the firehouse. Ms. Weiss stated yes. Mr. Sabey suggested fundraising with the school students. Mr. Sabey asked when will the Single Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance be put into effect. Mr. Clarke stated 30 days from today. Mr. Sabey suggested the EAB put together a page with frequently asked questions that can be posted on the Township website. Mr. Sabey asked how retailers will be notified. Ms. Bramblett stated she is unsure how they will alert retailers. Mr. Sabey asked if we could put a reminder in the Spring Newsletter.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Annalisa Primus*

Annalisa Primus  
Recording Secretary