



**WEST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of the First August Meeting

August 11, 2021

1. Call to Order

Chairman Rajesh Kumbhardare called to order the first August meeting at 6:31 p.m. This was a hybrid meeting with participants attending both in person at the Township Building and on-line via Zoom.

Those in attendance in addition to Mr. Kumbhardare were:

Theresa Santalucia, Vice-Chairman
Joshua Anderson, Supervisor
Mimi Gleason, Township Manager
Pam Gural-Bear, Asst. Township Manager
Ted Otteni, Public Works Director
Beth Jones, Finance Director
Marie Guarneri, Codes Director
Lee Benson, Police Chief
Andrew Rau, Solicitor
Pat Layman, Minutes

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Board of Supervisors met in executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss matters of real estate and litigation.

West Whiteland Friends of the Parks is hosting a concert at Miller Park on Sunday, August 22nd at 6:30 p.m. - music by Slippery Band.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

PRESENTATION:

1. Update from U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan's Office (Scott Nelson)

Mr. Nelson, of Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan's office, provided an update on congressional activity in Washington. The American Rescue Plan was passed and will provide funding for numerous projects including small businesses, manufacturing, and Head Start.

Mr. Nelson encouraged residents to let Ms. Houlahan's office know of any assistance they need. Representative Houlahan's office can function as a liaison to numerous federal government agencies such as the IRS, Social Security, and the State Department, as well as provide support

in seeking federal grants and tax refunds. There are also opportunities for student internships, and they can help secure tickets to various museums during planned visits to Washington D.C.

Mr. Anderson asked how the census data drop information will be used. Mr. Nelson said reapportionment will be decided by a committee in Harrisburg, but he did note that Pennsylvania will be losing one congressional district with the remaining districts becoming larger.

Ms. Gleason advised Mr. Nelson of a proposed project to add an additional northbound lane to Pottstown Pike in the vicinity of the Exton Train Station. This is a much needed improvement to mitigate the congestion in this area and provide better access to the Train Station. The Township is currently working to get this project on the State's TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan). Mr. Nelson indicated that Ms. Houlahan's office does a lot with transportation infrastructure and would be happy to help. Ms. Gleason also noted the Township's support for Septa's project to add a bus loop at Exton Train Station, which Congresswoman Houlahan included in her list of transportation projects recommended for funding.

2. "Development by Design" Video

In an effort to address resident concerns regarding the recent rapid growth in the Township, a video was developed explaining the Township's "Development by Design" philosophy and practice. The 7-minute video was viewed by the Board. It provides a brief history of the Township's role as the County's natural crossroads; how commercial development is focused along the busy corridors and preserving the character of residential neighborhoods. The video addresses positives that have occurred as a result of Township planning for anticipated development. These include transportation improvements, preservation of open space, and historic preservation of numerous historic structures that may have been lost. These positives are paid for by developers and not Township taxpayers. In addition, the apartment complexes provide support to the commercial businesses which in turn helps to keep taxes low.

The video will be posted on the Township's website and presented at various upcoming community group meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Santalucia, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

- Minutes of July 28, 2021
- Resolution 2021-38 Disposition of Media

Mr. Kumbhardare called for public comment, and there were none. The motion was unanimously approved.

BUSINESS:

1. Authorization to Proceed with Dual Track 2016 Bond Refunding Process

Ms. Jones reviewed her July 29, 2021, Memorandum. She said the markets are still good for considering a refunding of the Township's 2016 bonds to allow savings from the current

payment. As presented at the July 14 Board meeting, the dual track process would check bond rates as well as RFPs from various banks and return to the Board with results and recommendations in 4-6 weeks.

Mr. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Santalucia, to authorize staff to work with PFM Financial Advisors LLC as Financial Advisor and Lamb McErlane PC as Bond Counsel, in conjunction with the issuance of the Series of 2021 Bonds/Note, issued via a dual-track process between bond issue or a bank loan, the proceeds of which will be used to refund the Series of 2016 Bonds at a minimum net savings of at least 2.00% of refunded principal. Mr. Kumbhardare called for public comment, and there were none. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Police Policy – Cash Fiscal Management

Chief Benson explained that the Cash Fiscal Management Policy was previously approved by the Board on July 23, 2020. The policy has since been modified to include custodial details for funds held for the West Chester Regional Emergency Response Team.

Mr. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Santalucia, to approve the Cash Fiscal Management Policy for inclusion in the West Whiteland Township Police Policy and Procedure Manual. Mr. Kumbhardare called for public comment, and there were none. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Authorization to Sell Equipment

Ms. Jones reviewed Kimberly Pelcin's Memorandum dated August 3, 2021, which outlines the bids received for equipment and vehicles previously approved for advertising by the Board.

Ms. Santalucia made a motion, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to authorize the sale of the equipment and vehicles, approved for advertising on June 23, 2021, at the bid prices listed in Kimberly Pelcin's August 3, 2021, Memorandum:

- 1995 Haulmark Trailer – Winning Bid \$5,209, Next Bid \$5,200
- 1997 GMC Jet Truck – Winning Bid \$5,720, Next Bid \$5,620
- Grasshopper 725 mower – Winning Bid \$2,250, Next Bid \$4,200
- Miller Dialare Welder – Winning Bid \$725, Next Bid \$700
- 2002 Deck Tilt Trailer – Winning Bid \$570, Next Bid \$545

Mr. Kumbhardare called for public comment, and there were none. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Amendment to the 2021 Budget

Ms. Jones explained that liquid fuels funds cannot be used for this year's paving program. The proposed amendment shifts this cost from the liquid fuels fund to the general fund.

Mr. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Santalucia, to amend the 2021 Budget to increase the Roads and Bridges line item in the Roads general fund roads budget, account 01-4300-3680, from \$20,000 to \$265,000. Mr. Kumbhardare called for public comment, and there were none. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant Report

Ms. Santalucia made a motion, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant Report dated August 11, 2021. Mr. Kumbhardare called for public comment, and there were none. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Township Commission Updates from Board Liaisons

Mr. Anderson said the Historical Commission will be presenting the Historic Preservation Awards to both the 2020 and 2021 winners at a combined ceremony to be held at the recently renovated historic Ashbridge Manor House.

The Historical Commission has found someone interested in taking the Witch's Cap before the end of the year.

Mr. Kumbhardare reported that the Minor League Cricket games at Exton Park did not draw as many attendees as hoped for, but the League will be increasing marketing and advertising efforts for future games.

7. Staff Updates

Mr. Otteni advised that a plan for striping and sign improvements for Shoen Road has been received and will be shared with residents at the next Board meeting, if not before. He also reported that additional sinkholes have been found in Valley Creek along Clover Mill Road. He emphasized that sinkholes in this area have been naturally occurring for years. DEP will be making repairs.

Mr. Weller said the Planning Commission will be reviewing the land development plan for the convenience store and townhomes at the Ship Road/Lincoln Highway intersection at its next meeting on August 17. Also, two conditional use plans were received this week: a proposed Wawa on Whitford Road and the Columbia Cottage Care facility.

Ms. Gleason reported that Staff met with SEPTA and Chester County representatives today. The project for an additional northbound lane on Pottstown Pike has support from the County.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mimi Gleason
Recording Secretary