

Police Presentations – began at 7:02 p.m.

Chief Molloy said on one Sunday afternoon in Elkins Park, Abington Police Officers were dispatched to a violent domestic assault involving multiple victims who had been stabbed with an “awl” (ice pick-type weapon). The Police Department received permission from one of the victim’s to play the 9-1-1 call and the recording of that call was played this evening before the Board of Commissioners as well as the police officers and victims. There were also multiple 9-1-1 calls coming in simultaneously from the victims at that time.

On March 4, 2018, Abington Police Officers were dispatched to 866 Jenkintown Road for a violent domestic assault. Responding units were advised that several victims had been stabbed by a male suspect. Prior to the officers’ arrival, Sergeant Kent immediately began to direct responding officers to specific assignments and to continue to ask emergency dispatchers for additional detail regarding the location and condition of the victims and the male suspect.

Upon the police officers arrival, one victim was located inside the Second Alarmers Rescue Squad vehicle and another victim was found at McKinley Fire House. Both victims had been stabbed and had significant injuries. The victims had informed police that the suspect was still inside the residence at 866 Jenkintown Road with yet an additional female victim and two young children. Paramedics of the Second Alarmers immediately began to treat these victims and the first arriving officers confirmed with one of the victims that the suspect and other victims were still inside the home.

Sergeant Kent developed a plan directing police officers to setup the perimeter as well as assemble an entry team. Knocks on the door were unanswered and the officers could see front shades moving around the door in which they believed to be the suspect. Sergeant Kent made the decision to force-entry into the home and Officer Petras kicked in the down front creating a safe method to enter the home.

Once inside, Sergeant Kent immediately observed the suspect at the top of the basement steps concealing his right arm/hand and there was a female screaming down the basement. Sergeant Kent gave the suspect repeated verbal commands to ‘let me see your hands’ and ‘come over here to talk to me’ and the suspect refused and responded by telling the officers with a few “expletives” that he was ‘holding a hostage in the basement.’

Fearing for the safety of this victim, Sergeant Kent led the officers through the residence and down the basement stairs where one of the victims was laying on the basement floor, and the suspect was standing over the victim who was pleading for help.

Sergeant Kent repeated loud verbal commands instructing the suspect to show his hands and the suspect refused and instead raised a handgun towards Sergeant Kent and the other officers on the stairs. Sergeant Kent immediately discharged his firearm striking the suspect saving the victim from further injury or death.

During this highly stressful encounter, Sergeant Kent remained laser-focused and continued to direct and coordinate critical tasks for additional officers responding on scene. Officers began assisting the female victim carrying her up the basement steps and then turned her over to the Second Alarmers. Also, CPR was administered to the suspect who had been shot in the basement.

Sergeant Kent's quick response, leadership and sound tactics combined with all of the officers on scene was critical in saving the lives of these victims.

Police Chief Pat Molloy presented Class I Certificate of Commendation for Valor to Sergeant Drew Kent before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 8th day of November 2018.

Police Chief Pat Molloy said Officer Petras, Officer Pfau, Detective Donald Lindenmuth, Officer Daniel Bullock and Officer Adrian Cehelsky-DeAngelo displayed courage and determination in coordinating a response, which was nothing short of heroic earning them Class III and Class IV Certificate of Commendations.

Commissioner Schreiber presented Class IV Certificate of Commendations to Detective Donald Lindenmuth, Officer Daniel Bullock and Officer Adrian Cehelsky-DeAngelo in recognition of their courage and heroic actions before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on the 8th day of November 2018.

Commissioner Schreiber presented Class III Certificate of Commendations to Officer Petras, Officer Pfau in recognition of their courage and heroic actions before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on the 8th day of November 2018.

Police Chief Pat Molloy recognized the victims who were present this evening; Elania Guzman, Heather Levy, Alicia Levy and Shardea Pennick for their bravery and for being so resilient during this violent domestic attack.

Commissioners Schreiber and DiPlacido presented certificates to Elania Guzman, Heather Levy, Alicia Levy and Shardea Pennick for bravery and recognizing their selfless acts of courage and heroic actions taken for the others before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 8th day of November 2018.

Commissioner Schreiber presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Assistant Chief Ken Davidson, Second Alarmers Rescue Squad, for performing outstanding services by rendering critical First Aid saving innocent lives during a violent domestic attack on multiple victims on March 4, 2018 before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 8th day of November 2018.

Presentation Ceremony adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

The stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with President Luker presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners MYERS, BRODSKY, ROTHMAN, DiPLACIDO, SANCHEZ, THOMPSON, SCHREIBER, CARSWELL, SPIEGELMAN, VAHEY, GILLESPIE, ZAPPONE, BOWMAN, KLINE, LUKER

Also Present: Township Manager MANFREDI
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER
Township Solicitor CLARKE
Finance Director BARRON
Chief of Police MOLLOY

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Vahey to approve items a. – d. as listed under Consent Agenda as follows:

To approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of October 11, 2018.

To approve the Clearing Fund, the Deferred Revenue/Expense activity and Petty Cash balances for the month of September. Clearing fund receipts and disbursements for the month of September 2018 were \$1,132.42 and (\$203.28), respectively. Deferred Revenue/Expense receipts and disbursements for the month of September 2018 were \$361,711.25 and (\$356,211.25), respectively.

To approve the Advance and Travel Expense activity for September 2018. Advance and Travel Expense reports were \$0.00 and \$551.89, respectively. Nine-month expenses totaled \$31,022.23.

To authorize an expenditure from Miscellaneous Expense in the Permanent Improvement Fund (account #07-00-000-5999) in the amount of \$77,513.00 to be distributed equally among the five volunteer fire companies serving Abington Township (\$15,502.60 each company).

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Administrative Code and Land Use Committee –

Item ACL-02-110818:

President Luker called on the applicant.

Ms. Aimee S. Farrell of Kaplin/Stewart, 910 Harvest Drive, PO Box 3037, Blue Bell, PA, 19422, representing the applicant of Family Dining, Inc. (Burger King), said proposal is to modify the drive-thru lane to be dual drive-thru lanes and build an internal playground. The application was originally submitted in May 2018 and we resubmitted in September to address engineering comments. Previously discussed was whether sidewalks need to be extended along Bradfield Road and there was concern about substantial mature trees being removed in order to do that work. Modified plans were submitted in October that show a portion of sidewalks along Bradfield; however, our proposal is to request a waiver not to install that sidewalk, but instead, the developer would post \$25,000 in-lieu-of to the Township for sidewalks to be installed elsewhere in the Township. We would like to move forward with the proposal including all waivers originally requested, although if the Board is not comfortable with the approval of waiver for sidewalks, we ask for approval to move forward with all waivers except the sidewalk and then we will need to price it out and then Burger King will then make the determination as to whether or not they will proceed with the project. All comments listed in Township staff review letter have been addressed and the applicant will comply.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for a “ballpark” figure of what the sidewalks will cost.

Ms. Farrell replied by removing the mature trees, we would be digging into substantial grade changes and the road widening would be approximately \$50,000 as a starting point that could increase.

Commissioner Gillespie said this is in her ward and she would really like to see improvements made to the Burger King; however, she is not in favor of having a sidewalk in that location and she would like the mature trees to be saved. Also, the EDC works hard in trying to bring business to the Township and this would be an improvement to the Burger King. Also, in this situation, it is not a good location for sidewalks, so she would approve it without requirement for sidewalks.

Commissioner Sanchez said there was previous discussion about the street being made one way, one direction and wider and so the sidewalks could be extended out.

Mr. Gary Tilford, Engineer with Charles E. Shoemaker Inc. said PennDOT has a project that will be getting underway on Edge Hill Road/Tyson Avenue. Edge Hill will be rebuilt, and as part of that rebuilding is the intersection of Bradfield Road and Edge Hill. The plans from PennDOT show a 22-ft. wide cartway for Bradfield Road extending, adjacent to the Burger King property, to about 50 feet beyond the intersection. Proposed to the Township is a modified plan including all the same waivers with the exception of the sidewalk. We did not look into the possibilities of one-way traffic.

Commissioner Gillespie clarified that in regards to the Edge Hill Road project; Edge Hill will be one-way to Bradfield and stop there, so it really does not involve Bradfield Road.

Commissioner Schreiber said she is in favor of installation of sidewalks as she sees people walking along there quite a bit. Is there a proposed second plan for a small stretch of sidewalks?

Ms. Farrell replied yes. The plan submitted in October shows a sidewalk/curb along there immediately adjacent to the street, but would not be as wide and would not meet Township specs. Also, trees would need to be removed.

Vice President Kline questioned when PennDOT's Edge Hill Road project is completed, will Edge Hill Road then have sidewalks, and if so, the gap without sidewalks would be the small piece on Bradfield. Is that correct?

Ms. Farrell that is correct.

Vice President Kline said the Board has discussed not granting waivers for installation of sidewalks. Sidewalk requirement is part of the SALDO and has been for a long time and we should continue to promote walkability and require installation of sidewalks.

Commissioner Rothman commented that although he is a huge environmentalist and concerned about the trees, the Board is committed to implementing sidewalks.

Commissioner Vahey commented that he wants to see improvements made to the Burger King as this project is important to Glenside. He respects Township's policy on installing sidewalks wherever possible, but it is not like you cannot get to the other corner without walking on sidewalks, so that is not the most defensible position. He supports this project including waiver request from installation of sidewalks.

Commissioner Gillespie said the applicant is making improvements inside their property line and not extending out, so she supports this project including waiver request from installation of sidewalks.

Commissioner Thompson said he is in favor of installation of sidewalks. A playground is proposed and this site is across the street from an elementary school with a residential neighborhood on the other side.

Commissioner Zappone said he has lived in this area for 35 years and there have never been sidewalks there. He clarified with ward Commissioner about how the neighbors feel and Commissioner Gillespie replied, 'they do not want the trees taken down.' The school has been there for 35 years and people have been going in/out of the Burger King, so he does not see the problem.

Commissioner Bowman said he is not in favor of granting any waiver from installation of sidewalks for the Burger King project.

Commissioner Myers said she is not a fan of what she considers "holding a business hostage" to make improvements that should have been made 30-some years ago. There are many areas where sidewalks are desperately needed in the Township more than this area. The ward Commissioner is not in favor of it, and along with the improvements being made to Edge Hill Road, she suggested a committee review what could be done there. It is not a good message to send to businesses who want to improve their property, to not do so because they will be made to do something that will cost an extreme amount of money. She hopes we do not go against the ward Commissioner.

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to approve the Land Development application for Family Dining, Inc. (Burger King) for the building expansion for a playground and a second drive-through lane and to DENY waiver requests from Sections 146-27-a. and 146-27-f. for installation of sidewalks/curbing.

Commissioner Spiegelman commented that he, along with Commissioner Sanchez previously visited this site and noted that people do walk there.

Vice President Kline questioned what is triggering the land development process, is it the second drive-thru lane?

Ms. Farrell replied yes, it is the addition of the second drive-thru lane reconfiguring internal traffic and the internal playground will be built on existing impervious surface and those are the only improvements. This is not a full land development project.

Manager Manfredi said land development application was filed because the ordinance requires it and installation of a second drive-thru land is due to requirements by Burger King.

Vice President Kline clarified that land development applications are held to requirements of SALDO. Is that correct?

Solicitor Clarke replied that is correct.

Vice President Kline clarified that SALDO requires sidewalks and curbing. Is that correct?

Solicitor Clarke replied that is correct.

Commissioner Myers said when this application was filed, she noticed that the second drive-thru lane was a great idea because at certain times of the day the existing drive-thru lane is so long that it is actually more of a danger because it wraps around the building. A double merging drive-thru lane would stack those cars differently creating a much safer situation. The suggestion of a committee to review this was just a suggestion and this can be accomplished, but we do not need to hold Burger King to it now.

Commissioner Vahey made a MOTION to AMEND the MOTION to GRANT the waiver requests from installation of sidewalks/curbing, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

President Luker asked for a roll call vote to be taken on the MOTION to AMEND the original MOTION, which is to grant the waiver for installation of sidewalks/curbing, as follows:

Commissioner Myers votes yes.

Commissioner Brodsky voted no.

Commissioner Rothman voted no.

Commissioner DiPlacido voted no.

Commissioner Sanchez voted no.

Commissioner Thompson voted no.

Commissioner Schreiber voted no.

Commissioner Carswell voted no.

Commissioner Spiegelman voted no.

Commissioner Vahey voted yes.

Commissioner Gillespie voted yes.

Commissioner Zappone voted yes.

Commissioner Bowman voted no.

Vice President Kline voted no.

President Luker voted yes.

MOTION FAILED 5-10.

President Luker asked for any public comments on the original motion on the floor.

Ms. Van Hellerslia, 1047 Huntingdon Road, applauded the democracy and said she was in favor of sidewalks as she felt they are in the best interest of the residents.

President Luker asked for a roll call vote to be taken on the original motion on the floor made by Commissioner Sanchez.

Commissioner Myers voted no.

Commissioner Brodsky voted yes.

Commissioner Rothman voted yes.

Commissioner DiPlacido voted yes.

Commissioner Sanchez voted yes.

Commissioner Thompson voted yes.

Commissioner Schreiber voted yes.

Commissioner Carswell voted yes.

Commissioner Spiegelman voted yes.

Commissioner Vahey voted yes.

Commissioner Gillespie voted no.

Commissioner Zappone voted no.

Commissioner Bowman voted yes.

Vice President Kline voted yes.

President Luker voted yes.

MOTION was ADOPTED 12-3.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Works Committee –

Item PW-01-110818:

President Luker called on Mr. Ed Micciolo.

Mr. Micciolo explained that the Township was awarded this grant in 2017 to upgrade two intersections; Jenkintown and Meetinghouse Roads and Greenwood Avenue and Washington Lane. At that time, it was approved by the Board and accepted by the Township and all paperwork was submitted to PennDOT. Since then, PennDOT changed its requirements so that accepting the grant has to be done online. A new agreement needs to be signed by Township Manager on behalf of the Township and the resolution needs to be site specific to those two intersections.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners.

Vice President Kline questioned whether notification by the County was received about approval of matches for the Green Light Go Grant.

Manager Manfredi replied he has not received specific notification.

Commissioner Sanchez commented that not only will this modernize those intersections, but solve the ponding issue on Greenwood Avenue as well as a crosswalk from Abington Friends and sidewalks on the other stretch of that road.

Commissioner Rothman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to adopt Resolution No. 18-047 authorizing the execution of a 2017 Green Light Go Program Grant/Reimbursement Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation and authorizing and directing the Township Manager, Richard J. Manfredi to sign on the Township's behalf and execute all future documents related to this grant.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Administrative Code and Land Use Committee –

Item ACL-01-110818:

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to advertise Ordinance No. 2162 an ordinance of Abington Township Zoning Ordinance of 2017, as amended, by amending Article VII A/O Apartment-Office District, adding H-12 Senior Apartment Units as a use permitted by Conditional Use in A/O Apartment-Office District; by amending Article XXI use regulations, adding H-12 Senior Apartment Units as a use; and by amending Article XXIII parking and transportation to include use H-12 Senior Apartment Units.

President Luker called on the applicant.

Robert W. Gundlach, Jr., Fox Rothschild, LLP, 2700 Kelly Road, Suite 300, Warrington, PA, 18976, representing the applicant BET Investments, Inc, and introduced Michael Markman, Peter Clelland, Matt Johnson of BET and John Kennedy of Kennedy & Associates, and stated we are here this evening requesting approval for the advertisement of a hearing to consider an ordinance amendment to allow senior housing use in the A/O District; to rezone four parcels to A/O Zoning District; and to schedule conditional use hearing.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Vice President Kline clarified that there is also a map amendment. Is that correct?

Mr. Gundlach replied yes, we submitted that and it is combined under same ordinance; however, there are two separate action items; one is the adoption of the text amendment to establish a new use and its regulations and the second is the map amendment for the four parcels that have been identified as part of this project.

Vice President Kline questioned whether the motion needs to include the map amendment.

Solicitor Clarke replied if the motion is approved tonight, we will be advertising the text amendment, map amendment and conditional use hearing at the same time and the motion will need to be amended.

Mr. Gundlach noted that the Board's meeting minutes from January 11, 2018 in which Commissioner Sanchez requested that there be a neighborhood meeting scheduled before the Planning Commission meeting and that did occur. There was a meeting held on January 29th and subsequent Planning Commission meetings held on April 10th, June 26th and August 28th, and if there is approval for advertisement, we would be on the next agenda of the Planning Commission for recommendation for all three items.

Solicitor Clarke clarified that, if the Board authorizes advertisement, the applicant will appear again before the Planning Commission on the conditional use application as well as text amendment and map amendment at the same time.

Vice President Kline said prior to amendment of the motion on the floor, there should be a date for the conditional use hearing.

Solicitor Clarke replied a date can be included in the motion, but it is not necessary.

Manager Manfredi added that dates for the hearing can be on December 11th, December 13th or December 18th.

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION to AMEND the MOTION to approve advertisement of Ordinance No. 2162 that includes advertisement of the text amendment, map amendment and conditional use hearing to be held on date certain of December 18, 2018 at 7 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman.

Vice President Kline said he has a lot of questions about this project; however, it is worth having a hearing on it, and that is not an indication of whether or not he supports it.

Commissioner Spiegelman said the advertisement of a public hearing is not an automatic approval, green light or "thumbs-ups" to the matter before the Board. He has heard from many who are opposed and many in favor of this project and he will be voting in favor of an advertisement, but he is undecided about this project.

Commissioner Zappone asked about the construction materials of proposed facility.

Mr. Markman replied construction has not been designed yet, but it will comply with Township requirements.

Commissioner Myers asked will a presentation be made of the final plan at the hearing?

Mr. Gundlach replied yes. The Board will receive a full package of information in advance of the hearing.

Solicitor Clarke added there may be a sketch of what the proposed building will look like; however, since it is not a land development process, there will not be fully-engineered plans.

Commissioner Zappone expressed concern about not seeing any plans for construction material at the hearing and so he does not see how the Board could vote on it.

Mr. Gundlach replied we will provide that information before the hearing.

Commissioner Thompson clarified that the packet of information will also be provided to the public. Is that correct?

Mr. Gundlach replied yes. Access to that information will be posted on Township website prior to the hearing.

Vice President Kline asked that the conditional use hearing process be explained for those who do not fully understand it.

Mr. Gundlach explained that uses under the zoning ordinance can either be by-right, conditional use or special exception. Special exception use goes before the ZHB and by-right use goes through land development process. Conditional use begins with a hearing, and as part of the hearing, the applicant has the burden to show compliance with all specific and general requirements of the zoning ordinance. Witnesses are called on behalf of the applicant as well as any neighbors who might want to provide testimony and then the Board of Commissioners takes a vote on whether or not the applicant has complied with the requirements.

Also, the Board of Commissioners has a right to impose reasonable conditions to insure that the project is completed in accordance with the testimony given by the applicant from the hearing as well as compliance with the ordinance. All testimony will be on record and the Board can close the record that evening or continue the hearing for another night. Then the Board reviews the materials and makes a decision subject to conditions that the applicant is subject to and then the project proceeds to land development process.

President Luker asked for any public comments.

Herb McMahon, 1046 Huntingdon Road, said back in January, the recommendation was for the applicant to go before the Planning Commission for one visit in which there was actually two and he has never seen a written report or recommendation by that committee either "up or down," but what he has seen from those meetings was a "50/50" vote in favor/opposed.

Solicitor Clarke said last January, a motion was made to send the applicant to the Planning Commission as well as have community meetings. The intent of the motion was to begin the process by which the plan would be reviewed by the Planning Commission that would eventually come back before the Board of Commissioners to make a determination as to whether or not they wanted to hear this matter.

The text amendment application is within the discretion of the governing body and does not have same time limits as land development applications, which are controlled by the MPC. This application was before the Planning Commission on multiple occasions, and in August, the applicant asked the Planning Commission for a final determination and the recorded vote was 4-4. Planning Commission is an advisory board and their decision to recommend approval or denial or a split vote is not binding on the Board of Commissioners.

The applicant is now requesting a hearing by the Board of Commissioners, and if approved, the next step will be that the applicant will go back before the Planning Commission for another review of text amendment, map amendment and conditional use and then the actual hearing will be held on December 18th.

Vice President Kline said that the Planning Commission meeting minutes from August were approved by the Planning Commission and available on Township website.

Mr. McMahon said he is opposed to the text amendment as he feels it will set a dangerous precedent. Also, he requested the hearing to be scheduled for next January.

Van Hellerslia, 1047 Huntingdon Road, agreed that it would be proper to have a formal hearing, but requested that it be held after Christmas.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for a “no” vote to advertise a hearing and she is against the date proposed.

President Luker asked for a roll call vote to be taken on the motion on the floor as follows:

Commissioner Myers voted yes.

Commissioner Brodsky voted yes.

Commissioner Rothman voted yes.

Commissioner DiPlacido voted yes.

Commissioner Sanchez voted yes.

Commissioner Thompson voted yes.

Commissioner Schreiber voted yes.

Commissioner Carswell voted yes.

Commissioner Spiegelman voted yes.

Commissioner Vahey voted yes.

Commissioner Gillespie voted no (due to the date).

Commissioner Zappone voted no (due to the date).

Commissioner Bowman voted yes.

Vice President Kline voted no (due to the date).

President Luker voted yes.

MOTION was ADOPTED 12-3.

Commissioner Myers questioned whether the Board will be required to vote at the end of the hearing.

Solicitor Clarke replied since this is not under the same time limits as a land development application, and because it is discretionary, if the Board of Commissioners at the hearing on December 18th determines they need more information and/or wants to hear from additional witnesses, the vote does not need to be taken that evening.

Commissioner Schreiber questioned whether the Board will receive recommendations made by the Planning Commission prior to the hearing.

Mr. Markman replied we will appear before the Planning Commission and receive a recommendation and the MCPC also needs to provide review letter prior to the hearing.

Commissioner Schreiber expressed concern about not having information by the Planning Commission prior to December 18th.

Manager Manfredi replied if the Board of Commissioners requires having that information prior to the 18th he will communicate that the Planning Commission meeting should be scheduled in sufficient time, so that if they need more than one meeting, the Board will have that information.

Vice President Kline clarified that this matter will be on the Planning Commission's meeting agenda on November 15th. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied he needs to clarify that with Mr. Penecale and Ms. Montgomery.

Vice President Kline said he would prefer it not be scheduled on November 15th since a definitive determination cannot be made at this time.

Solicitor Clarke said the applicant is prepared to go before the Planning Commission on November 15th and he is not sure what the impediment would be for this matter to be heard at that time.

Vice President Kline agreed as long as that date is made certain tonight so the residents will know when that meeting will be held.

Commissioner Zappone questioned whether this project is 100% designed.

Mr. Gundlach replied no.

Manager Manfredi clarified that if the Planning Commission feels they need to hold another meeting following November 15th, the applicant will comply. Is that correct?

Mr. Gundlach replied yes, if the Planning Commission needs more time, we can select a subsequent date before December 18th and we will inform the residents about that date.

President Luker recessed the meeting at 9:26 p.m. until 9:35 a.m.

Public Safety Committee –

Item PS-01-110818:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner DiPlacido to review and approve Purchasing Agreement and Body/Fleet Camera Systems and funding from 2019 budget appropriations.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Thompson clarified that these are funds designated in 2019 budget. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied that is correct once it is approved.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PS-02-110818:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to advertise Ordinance No. 2163, an ordinance amending Chapter 156 - Vehicles and Traffic, Article II – Traffic Regulations, Section 14 - Stop Intersections to add the following Stop signs at; Zane Avenue at Shelmire Street; Rosemore Avenue at Roberts Avenue; Osbourne Avenue at Rossiter Avenue; Roberts Avenue at Ardsley Avenue, and Article II – Parking Regulations, Section 25 - Parking Prohibited At All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here To Corner to add the following, at Woodrow Avenue and Garden Road and to repeal the following at Hilldale Avenue.

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION to AMEND the MOTION to amend Section 156-4.A. – relating to experimental time limit regulations with respect to “Stop” signs, and it is extended to a period of 180 days as opposed to current 90-days, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Myers clarified that that the amendment is to extend experimental time period in order to evaluate it further. Is that correct?

Commissioner Schreiber replied that is correct.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION to AMEND the MOTION – PASSED 15-0.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff on amended motion. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments on amended motion. There were none.

MOTION as AMENDED – PASSED 15-0.

Item PS-03-110818:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to adopt Resolution No. 18-045, a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington adopting the 2017 Montgomery County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PS-04-110818:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to accept the 2018 Firemen's Association of the State of Pennsylvania (FASP) Recruitment and Retention Local Grant Award Grant.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Public Affairs Committee –

Item PA-01-110818:

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber to adopt Resolution No. 18-046, a resolution of the Township of Abington, Pennsylvania closing out Community Conservation Partnership Grant project BRC-TAG-21-127.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PA-02-110818:

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber to approve the public advertisement to solicit competitive construction bids for the street reconstruction work at the 2200 block of Parkview Avenue.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PA-04-110818:

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to reject all bids received for the Abington Libraries door replacement project.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Thompson asked for the reason to reject all bids.

Manager Manfredi replied bids came in over budget. It may be re-bid or put on hold depending on quotes.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item PA-05-110818:

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to approve an addendum to the July 2014 executed agreement with Vision Technology Services for the hosting and maintenance of the Township's website until December 22, 2023.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Finance Committee –

Treasurer's Report:

Vice President Kline announced that the Township Treasurer's report is on file in Township Manager's Office for review and/or copies.

Item FC-01-101618:

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to approve the September expenditures in the amount of \$3,619,411.97 and salaries and wages in the amount of \$1,879,527.83, and authorizing proper officials to sign vouchers in payment of bills and contracts as they mature through the month of December 2018.

Roll call resulted in motion being passed 15-0.

Item FC-05-101618:

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to extend the current agreement with Boston Mutual for FY 2019-2020 with no increase in premiums.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

Item FC-06-110818:

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Zappone to approve \$17,500.00 from the contingency fund (01-01-002-5299) to rebuild a structure at the Public Safety Training Center for the Animal Control Officers' use.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

President Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 15-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Michael Curtis, Sr., 1137 Tyson Avenue, expressed concern about bamboo growing onto his property. Members of the Shade Tree Commission have been to his neighbor's property twice to put some type of barrier into the ground to try and stop bamboo from growing onto his yard, and it does not work. He wants it stopped so he does not have to continue cutting it down.

Sharon Kind, 1330 Old Ford Road, thanked the Board to be able to speak in support of our shared commitment to encroaching health disaster with regard to current water quality and the effects of PFAS on human health. With many people working together on this issue, the result of this contamination is unimaginable and all of our lives have been dramatically impacted by the water we are drinking causing health issues.

She asked the Commissioners to do whatever the Township can do to make certain that our water is safe and help advocate to Aqua Pennsylvania to put the correct filters in to get to the correct numbers possible, and non-detect is what she wants. Also, she thanked the Board for their time and hard work.

Joe Rosack, 1927 Susquehanna Road, commented that he is surprised this request for change to the zoning ordinance has gotten as far as it did because there is a vision for this Township and “live with it.”

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, expressed concern about the hearing date.

REMARKS OF COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Bowman congratulated Commissioner Sanchez on his appointment and wished him “Good Luck” in January.

Commissioner Zappone reminded the residents of Abington that the Ardsley Community Association will be holding its Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Ardsley Community Center on December 1st at 5:30 p.m. This event is free and open to all residents of Abington Township.

Commissioner Gillespie asked for everyone to take some time to pray for the Veterans. She wished a “Happy Birthday” to the Marine Corp. She congratulated the police officers who did a wonderful job and it was such an emotional presentation this evening.

Commissioner Vahey thanked the many members of the police department who attended his Town Hall meeting and he appreciates everything they do every day. Also, the Keswick Village Business Association is holding its Annual Holiday event on Sunday, December 2nd.

Commissioner Spiegelman reminded everyone that “Anything with a Plug” recycling event will be held on Saturday, November 17th from 9 a.m.-noon at the Township Yard on Florey Lane.

Commissioner Carswell congratulated Commissioner Sanchez.

Commissioner Schreiber announced there will be a block party on December 1st from 1-5 p.m. on Bradfield Road.

Commissioner Myers gave sincere congratulations to Commissioner Sanchez and she knows well the work he has in front of him and wished him all the best.

Commissioner Brodsky wished Commissioner Sanchez well in Harrisburg and congratulated him on his recent victory and he knows Ben will do a great job representing all of us.

Also, he invited everyone to Chabad of Abington's Annual Hanukkah Celebration on Monday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at Willow Grove Park Mall and on Wednesday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m. with a Menorah Lighting at Jenkintown Square. He wished everyone a "Happy Hanukkah."

Commissioner Rothman congratulated Commissioner Sanchez and wished him the best. He also thanked everyone who came out to vote and gave a shout out to those who perform that civic duty. On December 15th, the McKinley Fire Company will have its Holiday Party. He thanked the police officers for the great work that they do every single day.

Commissioner DiPlacido thanked Chief Molloy for putting that awareness presentation together as it was tastefully done. He congratulated Commissioner Sanchez who will be missed. Also, as always, "when driving through Abington, drive like your kids live here."

Commissioner Sanchez thanked everyone for the well-wishes and kind messages that he received as it is heartwarming. He looks forward to continuing to serve the residents of Abington, his hometown, in a different capacity as well as his colleagues and friends. We can do great things working together in the same direction. He also thanked all of the voters.

Commissioner Thompson reminded everyone that the PUC (Public Utility Commission) will be holding hearings on Aqua Pennsylvania's rate increase that they applied for. The first hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 14th at 1 p.m. at the MCCC (Montgomery County Community College) and the second will be held on Thursday, November 15th at 6 p.m. at Upper Dublin High School.

He congratulated Commissioner Sanchez and Abington is in great hands and we look forward to seeing Ben serve.

Vice President Kline congratulated Commissioner Sanchez, State Representative-elect, and due to the aftermath of two most recent events in Pittsburgh and California, he requested that Ben work on doing something about the gun laws.

President Luker congratulated Commissioner Sanchez as it is well-deserved. Ben has done a great job and will be missed. He thanked Chief Molloy as well as Sergeant Kent and their entire Platoon for a job well-done. He wished a “Happy Veterans Day” to the veterans.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

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Resolutions adopted by the Board of Commissioners on November 8, 2018 were as follows:

Resolution No. 18-047

Resolution No. 18-045

Resolution No. 18-046

RESOLUTION NO. 18-045

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON ADOPTING THE 2017 MONTGOMERY COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Township of Abington is vulnerable to natural hazards which may result in loss of life and property, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5165, enacted under paragraph 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), requires local governments to prepare and adopt mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain federal disaster grants and loans and to update these plans every five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, previous Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan was prepared in 2012 and adopted by the Abington Township Board of Commissioners on June 13, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Montgomery County Planning Commission in cooperation with other county departments, and officials of Abington Township; and

WHEREAS, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted develop the Montgomery County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

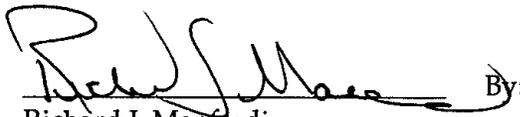
WHEREAS, the Montgomery County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan recommends mitigation activities that will reduce losses to life and property affected by natural hazards that face the county and its municipal governments,

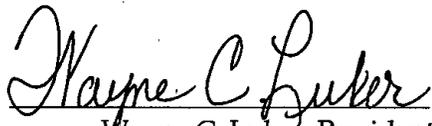
NOW, THEREFORE, be it **RESOLVED** and **ADOPTED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington hereby adopts the 2017 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

RESOLVED and **ADOPTED** this 8th day of November, 2018.

Attest:

TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON


Richard J. Manfredi
Township Manager & Secretary

By: 
Wayne C. Luker, President
Board of Commissioners

TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Resolution No. 18-046

Resolution of the Township of Abington, Pennsylvania closing out Community Conservation Partnerships Grant Project BRC-TAG-21-127.

WHEREAS, the Township of Abington has prepared a Pool Feasibility Study for the Crestmont and Penbryn Pools; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the plan is to guide future recreation conservation needs; and

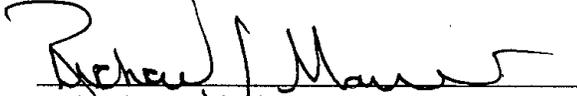
WHEREAS, the Plan was financed in part by a Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, under contract number BRC-TAG-21-127.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Abington Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania that:

- a. The project was completed in accordance with the Grant Agreement.
- b. All project expenditures have been made and were in accordance with the Grant Agreement.
- c. The Plan and related materials are acceptable to the Township of Abington.
- d. The Plan and related materials will be used to guide future recreation and conservation decisions.

ADOPTED, this 8th day of November, 2018.

ATTEST:


Richard J. Manfredi
Township Manager and Secretary

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ABINGTON TOWNSHIP


Wayne C. Zuker
President, Board of Commissioners

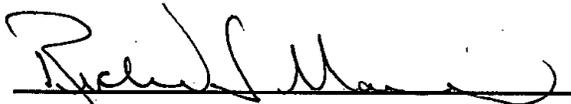
RESOLUTION #18-047

A RESOLUTION, BY AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A GREEN LIGHT-GO PROGRAM GRANT/REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the authority of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington, Montgomery County, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager, who is also a dotGrants Authorized Official, be authorized and directed to sign on its behalf the attached Green Light-Go Program Grant/Reimbursement Agreement with the Department of Transportation and to execute all future documents related to this Grant.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON


Richard J. Manfredi,
Township Manager and Secretary


Wayne C. Luker, President
Board of Commissioners

I, Wayne C. Luker, President of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners held this 8th day of November, 2018.

DATE: 11.15.18


Wayne C. Luker, President Board of
Commissioners