

The stated meeting of the Public Works Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Chairman Commissioner Rothman presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners ROTHMAN, BOWMAN, ZAPPONE, BRODSKY, CARSWELL

Township Manager MANFREDI
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER
Township Solicitor CLARKE
Director of Engineering MONTGOMERY

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, KLINE, GILLESPIE, THOMPSON, SCHREIBER, DiPLACIDO, VAHEY, SPIEGELMAN, MYERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Rothman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Brodsky to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2018 Public Works Committee Meeting.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

PRESENTATION: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item PW-01-121318:

Commissioner Rothman said this is to consider transfer of \$5,000.00 from Account No. 07-07-566-7523 (Sump Pumps) and transfer \$5,000.00 from Account No. 07-07-566-7524 to Account No. 07-07-566-7526 (Engineering Study – 1400 block of Highland Farms (Edge Hill to Highland between Keith and Rockwell)).

Commissioner Rothman called on Manager Manfredi.

Manager Manfredi said this item is listed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Spiegelman and it is necessary to make appropriations from the two accounts to fund this study.

Commissioner Rothman said he supports this in trying to help residents who are dealing with this type of issue. He asked for any comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Spiegelman said this is an area where residents have suffered for many years and in need of remediation. He asked for support by the committee as well as the full Board for this essential remediation project going forward.

Commissioner Brodsky commented that he supports this as well.

Vice President Kline asked for the parameters of the study and who will perform it?

Ms. Montgomery replied this will be done by Township's consulting engineers.

Vice President Kline clarified that the study will only be done in public right-of-way and easement areas and not on private property. Is that correct?

Ms. Montgomery replied the study is for the area described in the Public Works Committee agenda item and consultants will ultimately come up with a recommendation as to what the problem is and how to solve it and it would specifically be done in the right-of-way of Township roads.

Vice President Kline asked has the funding source for any corrective action been incorporated into 2019 budget or will it be taken from unallocated funds?

Manager Manfredi replied if the project moves forward to construction phase following the study, it would come from construction loan and bond money.

Vice President Kline replied he does not have a problem with investigating the drainage issue; however, he strongly recommends that any work be done in Township right-of-way or public easements and not on private property.

Commissioner Rothman asked is it known whether the cause is from private property or is that what the study will reveal?

Ms. Montgomery replied it will reveal where the water is coming from and where it is going. Storm sewer in this area will also be analyzed to see if it is of adequate size and then possibly upgraded.

Manager Manfredi added that this project will also include curbing.

Commissioner Spiegelman commented that whatever BCM comes up with to resolve this problem he will be advocating for it as remediation is necessary.

Commissioner Rothman asked for any public comments.

Rick Malone, 1431 Wheatsheaf Lane, said he has lived in this Township for 47 years and this water problem is not new. Stormwater runs down to his house causing the sump pump to run every 20 seconds and the fence is falling down. \$175,000 was proposed to be put in the 2016 budget for this issue, and again in 2017 and 2018, and nothing was ever done, and this problem needs to be resolved.

Vice President Kline asked what type of work was to be done for that \$175,000 mentioned by the speaker.

Manager Manfredi replied there was request by previous Township Engineer to include \$175,000 in the budget, but because there were no specifics, the plan was not approved to be in the 2017 budget.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked “for that information to be tracked down.”

Commissioner Rothman explained that there was no support because there was no study done, so this is the next step required for that project.

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Bowman to approve transfer of \$5,000.00 from Account No. 07-07-566-7523 (Sump Pumps) and transfer \$5,000.00 from Account No. 07-07-566-7524 to Account No. 07-07-566-7526 (Engineering Study – 1400 block of Highland Farms (Edge Hill to Highland between Keith and Rockwell)).

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Rothman asked for any general comments relating to Public Works.

Commissioner Bowman announced that the leaf collection schedule is a few days behind, but will be done.

Vice President Kline asked about schedule for paving of Mill Road.

Ms. Montgomery replied contractor has committed to getting that done before the end of the year and Mr. Tim Clark has been in contact with them to get that final schedule.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked “how she could get Commissioner Rothman to consider writing some legislation that might fix something in Public Works Department.”

Commissioner Rothman replied that the speaker can reach out to him and he will respond.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

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