

CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
5th TUESDAY MEETING **MAY 30, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth A. O’Leary at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President David J. Batdorf, Sam Kalbach, and Lisha Rowe. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Fire Chief James Beane, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Asst. Superintendent of Public Works Michael Yost, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Special Projects/Asst. Secretary Patricia A. Wylezik-Pfeiffer. Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants was excused with prior notification. Bill Miller arrived at 7:05 with prior notification.

NOTICE:

Public comment will be accepted in person. Please include your first name, last name and address for all comments. Any comments without a name or address will not be considered. To accommodate as many people as possible, we request that each person’s comments be limited to 3 minutes. The meeting comment period is limited to a total of 60 minutes. This time period may be extended at the discretion of the Commissioners. While public comments will be given due consideration, immediate responses will be done at the discretion of the Commissioners.

PUBLIC

Attendance: Jeff Skinner of Atlas Engineering, Greg Miller, and Perry Haas.

No one from the public indicated a desire to speak.

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A.) Fishing Derby – May 20, 2023

Chief Winchester reported that the Fishing Derby went very well and approx. 40 children attended.

Fire Department

A.) Fire Station Phase 1 – update

1) Notice to residents re: reconstruction of intersection of Church and Welsh Rds. 5/30/2023

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the DEP permit amendment and Met-Ed’s approval of the loading application were still outstanding. Met-Ed needed to move a pole and Verizon had to move an overhead wire.

B.) Civil Service

Chief Beane reported that the Fire Department will need to do civil service testing in the fall to be ready for the CPAT testing in the Spring.

Administration

A Community Days

Ms. Johnston explained that the midway would be open earlier this year. Mr. Kalbach, this year's President of the Greater Governor Mifflin League, said that only the Penn Valley Shows vendors will be on-site beginning June 30, 2023. Community Days opening night is July 3, 2023. Ms. Johnston stated that there will be a lot of resources on the ground, especially for the fireworks on Saturday, July 8, 2023. The Police Department is training 4 people for the bike squad.

B.) Salsa Burrito in Shillington Plaza

- 1) grand opening 6/3/2023

Ms. Johnston reported that there would be a ribbon cutting on Saturday, June 3, 2023. Salsa Burrito also has a stand at the Santander Arena.

Ms. Johnston announced that Harbor Freight is moving into the old K-mart garden area next to Ocean State Job Lots. Another business is slated to go in between, so the Shillington Plaza should be fully occupied by the end of the year.

C.) Refuse and Recycling Bid Specifications

- 1) question of "toters" or "carts"

Ms. Johnston explained "toters" and some problems associated with using these containers for trash collection. Using Spring Township as an example, she said that they use "toters" in the populous areas, but the residents in the rural areas must contract their own service.

- 2) assign liaison(s)

Ms. Johnston requested assigning liaisons from the Board to assist with the refuse bidding process. Mr. Kalbach volunteered. Mrs. O'Leary appointed Mr. Kalbach and herself as liaisons.

Ms. Johnston reported that the Township will be going to the various Flying Hills trash collection areas to take pictures to be used in the bidding process.

Public Works

A.) Freemansville Rd. Bridge Replacement (PennDOT project)

Mr. McNichols reported that a zoom meeting was held last Wednesday with PennDOT to discuss this project. A new 2-lane bridge will replace the current double box culvert. The project will involve moving a utility pole that is in the Angelica Creek.

Ms. Johnston explained that between June 2023 and March 2024, PennDOT will be dealing with utilities. The actual reconstruction of the bridge will occur after the utilities have been moved.

B.) Lancaster Pike

- 1) oil and chip by PennDOT

Mr. McNichols reported that PennDOT used oil and chip on Lancaster Pike from the pretzel factory to Paolo's Restaurant. This was not a Township project.

C.) Madison St. (Mohnton)

1) closed 6/1/2023 for tree cutting, including use of a crane

Mr. McNichols reported that the Township was notified that a portion of Madison St. near Sycamore Rd. in Mohnton will be closed on 6/1/23 for tree cutting.

Mr. Kalbach asked how Public Works liked the new paver. Mr. McNichols said that the Public Works employees noted that the new paver is faster and easier to use. Mr. Setley replied that it is saving the Township money.

Engineer

Solicitor

COMMISSIONERS

A.) Planning Commission – one vacancy, 3 candidates

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MS. ROWE, A MAJORITY VOTE TO APPOINT GERALD POTOCHNIK TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION. MRS. O'LEARY, MR. BATDORF AND MS. ROWE VOTED YES. MR. MILLER AND MR. KALBACH VOTED NO.

B.) Reminders:

1) Zoning Hearing Board

- May 31, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Gov. Mifflin Intermediate School Cafeteria
– zoning map appeal
- June 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Township Building – regular meeting

2) Board of Commissioners meetings for June and July 2023

- 6/20/2023 at 7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting
- 7/18/2023 at 7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting

3) Planning Commission – 6/05/2023 at 6:00 p.m.

C.) Executive Session

7:31 p.m. – The Board met in executive session to discuss 1 matter of real estate, 1 matter of litigation and 1 personnel matter.

8:17 p.m. – The executive session ended. 1 matter of real estate, 1 matter of litigation and 1 personnel matter had been discussed.

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF FIREFIGHTER ANDREW SHOWALTER WITH REGRETS.

**ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE TO AUTHORIZE CIVIL SERVICE TESTING FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
IN THE FALL.**

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:18 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Manager/Secretary