

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JULY 20, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President William B. Miller at 7:06 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Ruth A. O'Leary, David J. Batdorf, Chip Bilger, and Sam Kalbach. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Fire Chief James A. Beane, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of assisting in the preparation of meeting minutes. The audio file of the meeting will be destroyed after official meeting minutes for this meeting have been adopted.

Pledge to the Flag.

SWEARING IN

Lt. James Griffith

Lt. George Kuriger

Ms. Johnston swore in James Griffith and George Kuriger to the position of lieutenant in the Cumru Twp Police Dept.

PUBLIC

A) Gerald Potochnik re: fireworks

Mr. Potochnik identified himself as a resident of 207 John Glenn Ave. He asked the Township to encourage residents to move cars off of the street during snow plowing. He also complained about the new fireworks law. He expressed concern for flying embers creating a fire hazard and the noise disturbing dogs. Mr. Potochnik informed the Board that he has sent emails to Harrisburg about his concerns.

Mr. Potochnik asked that the Township require fireworks permits. Mr. Setley said that the Township cannot require permits. Residents should call the police immediately.

Chief Beane informed the Board that there is not enough staff to go around on nights when there is a high volume of fireworks use, like on July 4th. Chief Winchester reported 10 calls for fireworks. Two calls resulted in warnings and one call was false.

Attendance: Duane Briscoe; Kimberly Nagle; Marilyn Hoffman of Flying Hills; David and Susan McCoy; Bev and Greg Leonti; Gerald Potochnik; Leslie, Patti, George, and Nancy Kuriger.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

A) Monthly Report – June 2021

There were 167 EMS calls in Cumru Twp in April, with a year to date total of 1130. Calls were within contracted times. One call was covered by the City of Reading

APPROVE MINUTES
ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE
APPROVING THE MINUTES 6/15/2021 and 6/29/2021.

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report – June 2021

TAX COLLECTOR

A) June 2021 Report

1) Year 2021 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$370,303.62

Cash collected – \$163,013.71

Balance collectable end of month - \$208,711.90

2) Year 2021 Refuse

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$81,180.00

Cash collected - \$34,452.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$46,728.00

3) Year 2021 SMP

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$5,980.00

Cash collected - \$2,795.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$3,185.00

CONSENT AGENDA

2021-01 665 FAIRMONT AVE. EXPIRATION DATE 10/06/2021

(preliminary/final) Owner: Seth Moorhouse; Agent: OTM, LLC, Bradford Grauel

Location: south side of Fairmont Ave. and Old Lancaster Pike; plan no. 20-150; proposal summary: subdivide 2 lots, one existing dwelling unit

a) Letter from OTM, LLC re: waiver requests, 6/11/2021, revised 7/7/2021

ACTION:

GRANTED WAIVERS TO THE SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE AS FOLLOWS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPER'S WAIVER REQUEST LETTER, REV. 07072021:

- 1) SECTION 509(F) TO PERMIT A SHARED DRIVEWAY;**
- 2) SECTION 509(F)(2) TO PERMIT AN ACCESS EASEMENT LESS THAN 54 FT WIDE;**
- 3) SECTION 509(F)(3) TO PERMIT A PAVED MACADAM SURFACE OF LESS THAN 16 FEET WIDE;**
- 4) SECTION 509(F)(4) TO PERMIT THE INSTALLATION OF STABILIZED AREAS ALONG THE SHARED DRIVEWAY;**
- 5) SECTION 502(F)(5) TO GRANT RELIEF FROM A COMMON OFF-STREET PARKING AREA;**

- 6) SECTION 509(F)(9) TO PERMIT THE USE OF THE EXISTING MACADAM;
- 7) SECTION 402(D)(3) AND 404(D)(3) TO PERMIT THE USE OF A LOCATION MAP AT A SCALE GREATER THAN 1":800';
- 8) SECTION 405 TO GRANT RELIEF FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT;
- 9) SECTION 406 TO GRANT RELIEF FROM A COMMUNITY FACILITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT;
- 10) SECTION 408 TO GRANT RELIEF FROM A UTILITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT;
- 11) SECTION 507(A) TO GRANT RELIEF FROM THE INSTALLATION OF CURBING;
- 12) SECTION 507(B) TO GRANT RELIEF FROM THE INSTALLATION OF SIDEWALK.

b) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: plan review, dated 07/06/2021

ACTION:

GRANTED PRELIMINARY/FINAL APPROVAL TO THE 665 FAIRMONT AVE. SUBDIVISION PLAN, SUBJECT TO RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING ITEMS IN GREAT VALLEY CONSULTANTS REVIEW LETTER DATED AND WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY FUTURE SUBDIVISION OF LOT 2 WILL BE LIMITED TO TWO LOTS (THREE LOTS TOTAL FROM THE PARENT TRACT).

672 Old Lancaster Pike – waiver of land development

a) Memorandum from Manager re: Planning Commission recommended waiver, dated 7/12/2021

ACTION:

GRANTED A WAIVER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FOR AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE AT 672 OLD LANCASTER PIKE, SUBJECT TO RECEIPT AND APPROVAL OF A BUILDING PERMIT.

Wingate Terrace Subdivision (mostly in Kenhorst Borough)

a) Memorandum from Manager re: Planning Commission recommended partial waiver, dated 7/12/2021

ACTION:

GRANTED A PARTIAL WAIVER OF SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FOR WINGATE TERRACE, RETAINING AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO SANITARY SEWER AND STORMWATER AS IT AFFECTS LAND IN CUMRU TOWNSHIP.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA.

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Monthly Report – June 2021

- 1) press release re: theft, dated 7/15/2021

Chief Winchester reported that 45 fraudulent unemployment claims have been filed in the past month. There have been 3 industrial burglaries in the past month, two at the former Titus Station and one at the Met Ed substation. Several individuals have been identified as suspects. During a series of thefts from autos, one gun was stolen and a juvenile was arrested. Officer Gupta disrupted a theft in progress at Ollie's and arrested one person.

Fire Department

A) Monthly Report – June 2021

Chief Beane reported a house fire on 6/29/21 on Gold St.

B) Civil Service

- 1) written test 7/17/2021

Chief Beane reported that 5 candidates took the written test. Results are pending.

C) Utility Project

- 1) NPDES permit received

Chief Beane noted that the contractor for the utility project is the same as the contractor for the sewer replacement project under construction. The current project is taking much longer than anticipated. Mr. Setley stated that the contractor cannot be disqualified for being slow. Mr. Bilger requested that the Township meet with the contractor and develop a schedule for transition to the utility project.

Administration

A) Codes Report – June 2021

Building Permits Issued- 15

Use Permits Issued- 6

Zoning Permits Issued- 14

Notices of Violations- 20

Citations issued- 0

Violations complied- 18

Phone calls from contractors, realtors & public approximately- 217

Permit Inspections Done – 40

Permit Inspections with Fire Dept. – 2

B) American Rescue Plan Funds – update

Mr. Bilger asked the Board to authorize the Manager to work with the Borough of Shillington to apply for County ARP funds to expand public water service on Lancaster Pike. The Board concurred when that program is available.

C) Sewer Rate Increase

- 1) ordinance adopted 2/16/2021
- 2) new rate effective with the 8/2021 billing
- 3) treatment rate increase to Township 13%, sewer billing rate increase 5%
- 4) \$125 for minimum metered bill, \$174 unmetered bill

Ms. Johnston reported that the sewer rate increase is to maintain funding for capital projects required by the PaDEP to address the sewer connection moratorium in point of connection 8.

D) Traffic Signal SR 10 and Freemansville Rd.

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that residents in the area were sent a notice about the pending construction.

E) Sunshine Law Amendment (Act 65 of 2021)

Ms. Johnston informed the Board about an amendment to the Sunshine Act that will take effect on 8/29/21. The amendment will require the agenda for public meetings to be posted a minimum of 24 hours in advance on the website and at the building. There are conditions on adding items to the agenda.

Public Works

A) 2020-2021 Sewer Replacement Project

B) Storm 7/13/2021

Mr. McNichols reported extensive clean up from a thunderstorm on 7/13. Mr. Miller thanked public works for their efforts.

Engineer

A) 2021 Road Work – friction course

Mr. Rogosky stated that the documents were reviewed and found to be in order. The contract has been submitted for signature.

B) Hampshire Culvert Replacement

Mr. Rogosky stated that construction is expected to begin the first week of September.

Solicitor

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 6/18/2021, 6/25/2021, 6/30/2021 - PLGIT, 7/2/2021, 7/9/2021, AND 7/16/2021.

CORRESPONDENCE

A) Zoning Hearing Board notice for July 2021

B) Letter from Reading Terminals re: downstream notification, dated 07/01/2021

- C) Letter from PaDEP re: corrected surface mining permit for Empire Wrecking, dated 6/29/2021
- D) Letter from Bergmann Architects re: Act 67/68 notice for Freemansville Rd. bridge, dated 6/30/2021

COMMISSIONERS

A) Executive Session

8:05 P.M. – The Board went into executive session to discuss one matter concerning Township owned real estate.

8:20 P.M. – The meeting reconvened. Mr. Setley announced the Board had discussed one matter concerning Township owned real estate. The matter is pending.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Secretary/Manager