

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 31, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President William B. Miller at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Ruth A. O’Leary, Chip Bilger, and Sam Kalbach. David J. Batdorf was absent with prior notification to the Board. 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, Special Projects/Asst. Secretary Patricia Wylezik-Pfeiffer, and Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston.

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.

PUBLIC

A) Jeromy Pacana re: Rep. Chrissy Houlahan, PA-06

Mr. Pacana introduced himself as a constituent advocate for Rep. Houlahan.

B) Filming of “Brave the Dark” on the Poplar Neck Br.

Derrick Diener and Steve Buckwalter introduced themselves as representatives of Make Films, Inc., a movie production company. They requested permission to film on the Poplar Neck Bridge for one night, as part of a film called “Brave the Dark.” The movie is about a Garden Spot High School teacher who saves the life of a student. They have already been in contact with the 3 businesses that use the bridge and will schedule filming for hours that they are closed. Mr. Buckwalter requested a meeting with Township departments to coordinate emergency access and access to the yard waste site. Filming is tentatively scheduled for 10/15/2021.

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE GRANTING PERMISSION FOR MAKE FILMS, INC. TO CLOSE THE POPLAR NECK BRIDGE TO NON-EMERGENCY TRAFFIC FOR ONE NIGHT, SUBJECT TO PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION, AS APPROVED BY THE SOLICITOR.

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Vehicles 2022 – order

Chief Winchester stated that supply issues and price increases for police cars are of concern. He requested to place an order to 2 police vehicles, to be paid for in 2022, at a capital cost of \$96,000, including upfitting.

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MRS. O’LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING TWO POLICE VEHICLES TO BE ORDERED FOR 2022, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

Administration

A) T.S. Ida

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that departments went through pre-storm preparations.

B) Utility Project – update

- 1) pre-construction meeting 9/2/2021

Public Works

A) **2020-2021 Sewer Replacement Project**

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: recommendation for change order no. 1 and funds transfer, dated 8/30/2021

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1, OPTION 2, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700,051 FOR THE 2020-2021 SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FULL-DEPTH ROAD RECONSTRUCTION.

- 2) actions needed, if recommendations approved:
 - a) rescind prior motion for application for payment no. 6
 - b) approve change order no. 1, option 2
 - c) authorize budget transfer

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF \$2,000,000 FROM THE SEWER 803 FUND TO THE SEWER 809 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION FUND.

- d) authorize application for payment no. 6, as corrected

ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE RESCINDING A PRIOR MOTION FOR APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 6 AND APPROVING A REVISED APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 6 TO ANKIEWICZ ENTERPRISES FOR THE 2020-2021 SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450,365.40.

B) **Kenhorst Plaza Sewer – authorize testimony**

- 1) notice from Kenhorst Borough Zoning Hearing Board for dog kennel and grooming facility, hearing date 9/14/2021
- 2) application for Kenhorst ZHB

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the sanitary sewer serving the Kenhorst Plaza is owned by Cumru Twp. Mr. McNichols expressed concern for dog hair getting into the sewer mains. Controlling such solids is a requirement of the City of Reading sewer use ordinance, which both municipalities were required to adopt.

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BILGER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE KENHORST ZONING HEARING BOARD REQUESTING THAT, IF THE ZONING RELIEF IS APPROVED, THE APPLICANT BE REQUIRED TO ADHERE TO ORDINANCES WITH RESPECT TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM.

C) Salt Mixing Shed – bid results and disposition

- 1) advertised 8/18/2021
- 2) bid tabulation
- 3) Letter from lowest bidder re: error in bid, dated 8/30/2021

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE MIXING SHED AND AUTHORIZING THE ENGINEER TO RE-BID THE PROJECT.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Letter from Berks County Commissioners re: CARES grant for local businesses, dated 8/10/2021

COMMISSIONERS

A) Legal Update from PSATC

- 1) Use of radar by local police departments – legislation

Mrs. O’Leary asked that the Township send a letter of support in favor of use of radar by local police. Chief Winchester stated that he had already done so.

- 2) Small wireless facilities – standards

Mrs. O’Leary stated that a consultant attorney for PSATC recommended adopting standards about what can be put on poles.

- 3) Street openings – standards

Mrs. O’Leary recommended curb to curb trench repair for all street openings and acknowledged that a standard for non-curbed areas would need to be developed.

B) Executive Session

C) Reminders:

- 1) Planning Commission meeting rescheduled to 2nd Monday due to Labor Day, 9/13/2021 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Secretary/Manager