

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF A PORTION OF POPLAR NECK RD.
NOVEMBER 29, 2016**

A public hearing before the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth A. O'Leary at 6:46 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Sheri Hoover, and Lorri K. Swan. Commissioner Tony Sacco was absent with prior notification to the Board. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager Jeanne E. Johnston, and Secretary Latoya Procopio. Mrs. O'Leary turned the public hearing over to Mr. Setley.

Mr. Setley described the proposal to vacate a portion of a public road, Poplar Neck Rd., due to the demolition of an unsafe bridge which had been part of Poplar Neck Rd., and open a former private road as a substitute for the portion to be vacated. This would provide access to properties that would otherwise have been cut off due to the demolition.

Mr. Setley entered the following as exhibits:

- 1) Proof of publication of the hearing and ordinance; advertised 11/14/2016
- 2) Notices to property owners, dated 11/9/2016
- 3) Drawing of the public road after vacation.

Mr. Setley informed the Board that the landfill uses both lanes of the road to be vacated. At a certain point, Norfolk Southern Railroad becomes the adjoining property owner. When the Township vacates the road, the lanes would be divided between the landfill and the railroad. The landfill requests that the vacating be deferred until they talk with the railroad about access.

Mr. Setley suggested closing the portion of Poplar Neck Rd. to be vacated and obtaining a hold harmless agreement from the landfill. If the Board concurs, a new ordinance would be advertised for adoption at the December meeting to close a portion of Poplar Neck Rd. and ordain a new portion of Poplar Neck Rd. The matter of vacating the closed portion of Poplar Neck Rd. would be revisited in the summer of 2017. The Board concurred with this strategy.

PUBLIC

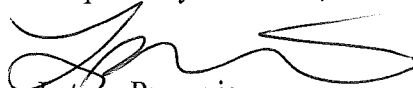
Mr. James Strunk, a resident of 475 Poplar Neck Rd., expressed his gratitude to the Board of Commissioners for resolving the access problem to his home after demolition of the bridge, "Thank you, thank you, thank you." He also thanked Western Berks Landfill for supporting the Township.

Mr. Strunk presented information on the historic cemetery on the landfill property.

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MRS. HOOVER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE
TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:56 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Latoya Procopio
Secretary