

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP MEETING JULY 29, 2014**

The Workshop Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Tony J. Sacco at 7:08 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Treasurer Ruth O'Leary, Sheri Hoover, and Lorri K. Swan. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police Jed Habecker, Fire Chief Scott R. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Assistant Superintendent James A. Beane, Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Recreation Director Samson Gausch, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, Robert Schoenen of STV Engineers, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

PRESENTATION

Commissioners Award

Mr. Sacco presented a plaque to Dr. Diane Bonaccorsi, on behalf of Green Hills Family Medical Associates, in recognition of many years of service to Township residents.

PUBLIC

A) Poplar Neck Bridge over Norfolk Southern

Larry Solomon from Allegheny Towing asked if the Township would move Poplar Neck Rd. away from the 10 Ton bridge and through the power plant. Mr. Setley responded that the Township has initiated discussion, but NRG has made no commitment.

DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

A) Poplar Neck Bridge over the Schuylkill River

1) Study by STV, Inc. re: proposed maintenance

Mr. Schoenen informed the Board that full-scale rehabilitation or replacement of the Poplar Neck Bridge over the Schuylkill River would cost many millions of dollars. The study conducted by STV was intended for the short-term rehabilitation of the bridge, with a goal of a 10 year life for the work. Water is the enemy for the bridge and the recommended repairs were to minimize water damage. Repairs were prioritized, resulting in 2 estimates, one of approximately \$200,000 and another of approximately \$300,000. The recommendations are in the report.

Mr. Sacco asked Kevin Bush of Western Berks Landfill about the life of the landfill. Mr. Bush responded that it was approximately 10 years. Mr. Schoenen confirmed that the repair proposal tried to match that time frame.

One of the issues is potential shut down of the bridge during repairs. The work could be done at night, leaving the bridge open during the day. Mr. Bush stated that the landfill hours are 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. Mr. Solomon stated that there was some truck movement at night, but it was not significant. Mr. Setley asked Mr. Schoenen if the price would be higher for night work. Mr. Schoenen responded that night work might be cheaper, due to the lack of need for flaggers. Work time was estimated

at 1-2 months for day work, possibly less time for night work. Mr. McNichols noted that Met Ed could need night access in emergencies.

Mr. Schoenen informed the Board that bids could be out next spring for construction next summer.

Ms. Swan asked if grants were available. Ms. Johnston stated that she was not aware of grants at this time. Grants that have been available in the recent past require that the engineering work be done up front. This bridge is not available for the PennDOT bundling program because it is unique.

The Board asked about possible contributions from businesses. Mr. Setley informed the Board that he and administration met with Mr. Bush from the landfill. Mr. Bush asked for an alternative if the proposed repairs do not work. Ms. Johnston noted that it would not be different from the current situation. The bridge is subject to reductions in weight rating with each inspection, as occurred in 2013. Mr. Bush asked if there was a guarantee. Mr. Sacco responded that STV recommended arresting the deterioration of the bridge, but there was no guarantee. Mr. Setley noted that it was easier to show the bridge's importance to the Township if the corporate taxpayers demonstrate the importance of the bridge by contributing. Mr. Bush stated that he needed reassurance that more money would not be requested 5 years from now.

The Board noted that the Township had not yet spoken to Met Ed and directed administration to contact them.

B) 2014 Road Work – award bid

- 1) bid tabulation – letter from Great Valley Consultants, dated 7/24/2014

BIDDER	AMOUNT
BURKHOLDER PAVING	\$436,282.98
READING MATERIALS	\$549,045.75

Mr. Rogosky informed the Board that Forino Co. was the subcontractor for the concrete work.

ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AWARDING THE 2014 ROAD WORK BID TO BURKHOLDER PAVING AT AN AMOUNT OF \$436,282.98.

- C) Transportation Alternatives Program Grant – grant approved for \$25,000

- 1) Letter from Reading Area Transportation Study re: Lancaster Ave. crosswalks project approved, dated 7/18/2014

Fire Department

A) Fire Apparatus Purchase – award bid

- 1) bid tabulation – memorandum from Fire Chief, dated 7/18/2014

BIDDER	AMOUNT	PRE-PAY DISCOUNT YES/NO
TOYNE	\$566,022.29	YES
SUTPHEN	\$631,136.96	YES

- 2) bid evaluation – memorandum from Assistant Chief, dated 7/20/2014

Chief Brady informed the Board that the Fire Dept. recommended awarding the bid to Toyne. The pre-pay option on the Toyne unit would take the price down to \$550,637.00. Mrs. O'Leary recommended that the Township pay the discounted price up front for the unit because the Fire Capital Fund has sufficient reserves and projected revenues.

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AWARDING THE 2014 FIRE APPARATUS BID TO TOYNE AND AUTHORIZING THE PRE-PAY AMOUNT OF \$550,637.00.

Administration

2013-05 DOLLAR GENERAL APPROVED 01/28/2014

Applicant: Shillington DPP VIII, LLC; Agent: Steckbeck Engineering; location: between Lancaster Pike and Old Lancaster Pike.; plan no. 1450-13-009; proposed land development; variances obtained for loading, parking, and on lot water

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE REAFFIRMING FINAL APPROVAL OF THE DOLLAR GENERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONDITIONED UPON:

- 1) Confirmation of outside agency approvals;**
- 2) Provision of drawings with seals and signatures;**
- 3) Resolution of any outstanding comments on Great Valley Consultants review letter dated 1/3/2014.**

Police Department

A) Disposition of Former Police Cars

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF FORMER POLICE CARS AS FOLLOWS:

- TWO CARS SHALL BE REPURPOSED FOR ADMINISTRATION;**
- SELL ONE VEHICLE STRIPPED;**
- SELL ONE VEHICLE AS-IS, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE PURCHASERS.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Letter to Jorge Negrón re: recreation building rental, dated 7/21/2014
- B) advertisement in the Reading Eagle for workshop meeting to begin after public hearing

COMMISSIONERS

A) Executive Session

7:53 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss 1 real estate issue and 1 personnel issue.

8:46 p.m. – Mr. Sacco stated that the Board of Commissioners discussed potential litigation and a personnel issue.

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING A DECLARATION OF TAKING FOR CERTAIN EASEMENTS FOR DRAINAGE AND GRADING AT 194 AND 264 GOUGLERSVILLE RD., TO BE ACTED UPON ONLY IF NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNSUCCESSFUL OVER THE NEXT 2 WEEKS.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne E. Johnston
Manager/Secretary