

The stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with President Luker presiding.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Commissioners MYERS, BRODSKY, ROTHMAN, DiPLACIDO, SANCHEZ, THOMPSON, SCHREIBER, HECKER, VAHEY, GILLESPIE, ZAPPONE, BOWMAN, KLINE, LUKER  
Excused: SPIEGELMAN

Also Present: Township Manager MANFREDI  
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER  
Township Solicitor CLARKE  
Chief of Police MOLLOY  
Director of Engineering & Code MONTGOMERY  
Community Development Director STROTHER

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **BOARD PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENT:**

President Luker announced that for public comment, we will be treating tonight's Board meeting as a committee meeting since there were no committee meetings in the month of July with the exception for the Finance Committee. As such, we will be following the same rules regarding public comment after each agenda item. He asked that the Committee Chairpersons introduce their agenda items and to manage their respective committees including public comment and all pertinent business of their committees.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### Swearing In – Officer Troy Senne as Sergeant:

Chief Molloy introduced Abington Police Department's next Sergeant, Officer Troy Senne. Troy joined our police department in 2011 and served in the Patrol Division for his entire seven-year career. Troy was selected to be one of the department's Field Training Officers and he is also a member of our SWAT Team and a Use of Force Instructor.

District Judge John D. Kessler administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Sergeant Troy Senne of the Abington Township Police Department before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2018.

Recognition of Sergeant Jennifer Doyle and Canine Bella for receiving the National Explosives Detector Dog Certification:

Chief Molloy said the United States Police K9 Association Region 6 Officers hold a yearly Patrol Team Certification called, "Patrol Dog 1" (PD1), and from 2015 to 2017, Sergeant Doyle and Canine Bella have certified and competed in PD1 trials, and through their efforts, they earned an unprecedented 11 individual K9 Team Placement Trophies and finished in first place last year and by earning their Annual Regional Certification Explosives Detection through United States Police K9 Association. In 2015 and in 2018, Sergeant Doyle and Canine Bella earned their National Odor Recognition Certification through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Sergeant Doyle introduced Corporal Mike Decker of the Northampton Police Department who is the President and cofounder of the PA K9 Assistance Foundation and Board Trustee Bernadette Wilkinson. PA K9 Assistance Foundation was founded in 2010 for the sole purpose of providing equipment and training for K-9 teams across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to help keep us safe and help keep communities safe. In 2018, she applied for a grant from the PA K9 Assistance Foundation for explosive detection equipment that costs approximately \$4,700 that the Township would had to pay, and the grant was awarded, and she thanked them along with Corporal Mike Decker and Bernadette Wilkinson.

Commissioner Schreiber presented a Certificate to the PA K9 Assistance Foundation in appreciation of their generous support of the Abington Township Police Department's K9 Unit on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2018, and on behalf of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington, she thanked them for their support of the Abington Township Police Department's K9 Training Program.

Robert Montgomery Award:

Commissioner Vahey said June Parkinson is so much more than an environmental advocate, she is a true community leader and the keystone of the Glenside Patriotic Association's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, but today, we are here to honor her environmental advocacy, specifically the work she has done to improve the Keswick Avenue train underpass.

The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington expressed its sincere appreciation for June's dedication to maintaining the Keswick Avenue train underpass by bringing together volunteers from Cheltenham and Abington Townships who cleaned up trash, mulched shrubs and donated plants each year that symbolizes the spirit of this environmental leadership award. The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington in the name of the entire Township shows its appreciation for June's community involvement and dedication to Abington Township by presenting June with the 2018 Robert W. Montgomery, Jr. Award.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Phyllis Redman, 540 Wanamaker Road, said she lives in the Baeder Creek floodplain, and about 12 years ago, there was a buyout in which she was denied because she lives in a twin home and her neighbor did not want to sell and so she was not permitted. Her home has flooded twice in the past five years and previously a pipe was installed putting more water into the creek from Baeder Road. She expressed concern about more water funneled down into Baeder Creek.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Vice President Kline noted that business items listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired by members of the Board of Commissioners, that item is to be identified by the Board member and will be identified and removed from consent agenda and will be considered separately at the appropriate place on the agenda. Every one of these agenda items was discussed in detail during committee meetings last week.

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Vahey to approve the following items a. - e. as listed under Consent Agenda.

President Luker asked if any Board member would like to pull an item from Consent Agenda. There were none.

Consent Agenda Items a. - e. were as follows:

To approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of June 14, 2018.

To accept December 31, 2017 Township of Abington CAFR and Audited Financial Statements, Single Audit Report, Tax Office Financial Statements and Agreed Upon Procedures, as presented by Township independent auditors, Bee Bergvall & Co.

To approve investments for the month of May as previously circulated to the Board. It was noted that investments for the month totaled \$1,544,000.00. Interest rate yields ranged from 2.150% to 2.450%.

To approve the Clearing Fund, the Deferred Revenue/Expenses activity and Petty Cash balances for the month of May 2018 as previously circulated to the Board. Clearing fund receipts and disbursements for the month of May 2018 were \$1,040.98 and (\$18,722.93), respectively. Deferred Revenue/Expense receipts and disbursements for the month of May 2018 were \$11,138.73 and (\$0.00), respectively.

To approve the Advance and Travel Expense activity for May 2018 as previously circulated to the Board. Advance and Travel Expense reports were \$0.00 and \$5,921.04, respectively. Five-month expenses totaled \$20,089.91.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Administrative Code and Land Use Committee -**

Item ACL-01-061418:

Commissioner Sanchez said this item is a motion to approve the Minor Subdivision Application of Harrise Yaron, Jennifer Parke, Scott Taitleman and Jamie Frey for the property located at 936 Moredon Road and to grant the waiver of Section 146-27 of the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance related to the installation of sidewalks. The granting of the waiver is subject to a note being placed on the minor subdivision plan that the waiver granted from the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance Section 146-27 relating to installation of sidewalks is granted only for the minor subdivision application of Harrise Yaron, Jennifer Parke, Scott Taitleman and Jamie Frey approved by Resolution No. 18-030 of the Abington Township Board of Commissioners. Any future work at 936 Moredon Road that 1) requires subdivision that creates a build-able lot; and/or 2) requires land development approval, shall be required to install sidewalks and curbing and shall not be eligible for a waiver request, and he called on the applicant's attorney.

Julie L. Von Spreckelsen, Attorney with Eastburn and Gray, PC, 470 Norristown Road, Suite 302, Blue Bell, PA., 19422, representing the applicants, Harrise Yaron, Jennifer Parke, Scott Taitleman and Jamie Frey owners of properties located at 936 Moredon Road and 1407 Mill Road, Meadowbrook, PA, introduced Nick Rose, PE of Protract Engineering and said this is a simple lot line change and it is not creating a build-able lot or any type of development on this property. Resolution of approval drafted by the Township Solicitor has been reviewed and the applicant agrees with it with the exception for the condition on the waiver because "it is unfair, unreasonable and violates the Township's SALDO."

She provided an exhibit booklet showing that property owners of Moredon Road are conveying about 8,269 sq. ft. to the Mill Road property and it not only benefits the two abutting property owners, but also the Township because the two parcels are irregularly shaped, which is not permitted by the Township's SALDO and will help increase the nonconforming nature of the Mill Road. In addition, Mill Road is triangular with no backyard and there is encroachment on the Mill Road property. Mill Road property is conveying 3,551 sq. ft. to Moredon Road property to gain access to Dale Road.

Also, the photos in the booklet show progression along the property line of Moredon Road and the topography where the sidewalks would need to be installed is on a major slope and extensive re-grading of that entire frontage would need to be done. It is a lot of vegetation and it would need to be removed to put in sidewalks and utility poles would need to be removed as well as street signs. Estimate cost for installation of sidewalks is \$30,000 for a lot line change where no building will be done and that is the hardship.

Commissioner Sanchez said the compromise is that a note be placed on the plan that sidewalks should be installed for any future land development and they do not need to be installed at this time.

Ms. Spreckelsen said placing that restriction would be a problem for her client because she wants to sell this property and the applicant has shown a hardship to install sidewalks. Since 2016, there have been five lot line subdivision changes and this waiver was requested and granted without restriction. The applicant is requesting that the note not be placed on the plan.

Commissioner Sanchez said those other properties do not set precedent as each property is unique and the Board has agreed to compromise with a note on the plan, and if that is not satisfactory, the Board can deny the waiver request.

Ms. Spreckelsen continued that it is questionable whether sidewalks are required for this plan because minor subdivisions do not require street plans where sidewalk installation is shown.

Commissioner Kline said following the June committee meeting, there was another meeting held with the applicant and their attorney. What are the criteria for waivers to be granted as he understands a "hardship" relates to zoning applications?

Solicitor Clarke replied a recent Commonwealth Court decision has brought the concept of proving an "undue hardship" into the area of waiver requests. The granting of waivers is at the discretion of elected officials and there are various factors that need to be proven for an applicant to be eligible for a waiver.

Commissioner Kline said if a street plan is not required for a minor subdivision, does that preclude the Board from granting waiver requests specifically for sidewalk installation.

Solicitor Clarke replied the granting of waivers is at the discretion of elected officials, and under the Township's SALDO, the applicant needs to comply or request a waiver.

Commissioner Kline agreed that the lot line change will benefit the property owner on Mill Road and create ample frontage on Dale Road to allow for both properties to have a larger building lot in the future. Sidewalks are in the public's interest as residents of Moredon Road walk to the train station, and previously discussed was installing "Stop" signs at Moredon and Mill Roads to make the intersection safer for pedestrians and traffic. Exhibit 4 shows that sidewalks do turn onto Moredon Road.

Regarding the other minor subdivisions that the applicant's attorney mentioned; the only one close to this property is a property on Warner Road with a dead-end road and no sidewalks come close to Moredon Road.

It was previously discussed with the applicant's attorney that the Board has the ability to grant the waiver request for sidewalks, and initially, he did not want to grant the waiver and require the sidewalks; however, it is a lot line change and he does not want to place burden on future Boards because he would like to see sidewalks installed on this road, and going forward future property owners will know that sidewalks will need to be installed.

He suggested that the applicant accept the note as it is the least burdensome and he requested Board support in not granting waiver request for installation of sidewalks.

Solicitor Clarke added that the applicant can present the plan as is or risk it being denied or table it for tonight and continue discussions with Township staff.

Commissioner Kline agreed that the three options before the Board are to approve the plan with the note that for future subdivision of lots that sidewalks will be installed or approve the plan and not grant waiver request for installations of sidewalks or the applicant can table it and have further discussions with Township staff.

Ms. Spreckelsen requested that this application be tabled to have further discussion with Township staff.

Amy Montgomery, Director of Engineering and Code, noted that if this is tabled the applicant will need to provide an extension of time.

Ms. Spreckelsen agreed to provide an extension of time on the application.

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION to TABLE this application at the request of the applicant who agreed to extension of time of applicable deadlines as required by the Municipalities Planning Code; Pennsylvania Law and Abington Township statutes, seconded by Commissioner Hecker.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Item ACL-03-061418:

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the waiver of two permit fees for the Roslyn VFW. The first waiver is for the construction permit in the amount of \$854.00. The second permit fee waiver is for onsite stormwater management and inspection fees totaling \$360.00; grand total \$1,214.00.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Schreiber said she will consider voting for waiver requests for both the Roslyn VFW and Salem Baptist Church because there has not been a clear discussion on how this issue will be handled and they have been considered on a case-by-case basis. She suggested that a resolution be drafted for not waiving fees for nonprofits.

Manager Manfredi said ordinance prescribes certain fees for building permits, inspections, etc., and if the Board wants to allow for the waiver of fees with some criteria or guidelines that would be done in the ordinance and not a separate policy. If the Board wants to establish a rule to not consider any fee waivers, then he would not place any items on the agenda for the Board to consider. When fees are established in the ordinance they can be reviewed on an annual or biannual basis and then build into those documents under what conditions those fees would be waived.

Commissioner Schreiber suggested that possibly fees would be waived for a nonprofit due to a natural disaster, fire or horrific event causing damage to their property of no fault of their own. However, if nonprofits are trying to improve their property then permit fees should be considered with construction costs and should not be waived.

Commissioner Kline said previous discussion on a policy about not waiving fees was tabled and the Township should not be waiving fees for any nonprofits as they pay no property taxes and still receive Township services. It is a "slippery slope" because it is possible that in the future a nonprofit could request a waiver of fees for something that the Board feels is undesirable and that will be problematic for the Township, so no fees should be waived for nonprofits.

Commissioner Bowman agreed with Commissioner Kline. And his comments during committee were that the School District is a taxing entity and should receive waiver of fees; however, no one else, and he supports a future resolution to ratify that.

Commissioner Zappone said a waiver should only be granted in a real hardship case such as for a senior citizen who cannot afford a permit fee because of living on a fixed income, but he is not in favor of granting waivers for any other reason.

Commissioner DiPlacido said when waivers of permit fees are requested, does Township staff recommend vendors to be used for construction or are the vendors reviewed to see whether they are reputable and licensed to work in the Township?

Ms. Montgomery replied vendors are not recommended. Contractor's certifications are required, and those contractors need to be registered with the Township.

Commissioner DiPlacido agreed to not waive any further permit fees for any institution.

Commissioner Zappone clarified that if these two waiver requests are approved, there will be no further granting of waiver requests for permit fees. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi said he has not heard any objection of waiving fees for these nonprofits; however, in the future the Township will not waive fees for nonprofits and there will be no agenda items for fee waivers. If the Board wants to establish criteria in the future for fee waivers it would be housed in the ordinance or resolution and presented at a public meeting.

Commissioner Kline clarified that he is opposed to waiving fees for both nonprofits listed on the agenda as well as any nonprofits in the future. What are the costs for Salem Baptist Church?

Manager Manfredi replied there are no total costs for Salem Baptist Church as construction will be done in phases and we do not have the second phase.

Commissioner Hecker suggested grandfathering these two fee waiver requests and then direct Township Manager to not accept any requests for fee waivers until the Board decides upon the criteria by which we want to establish review of hardship in terms of what Commissioner Zappone said.

Commissioner Gillespie questioned how much will be waived for the church.

Commissioner Myers replied ballpark figure is \$63,000.00, and she wants to explain why we should grant that waiver, but discussion has become about policy and not on the motions on the agenda.

Commissioner Kline asked is the amount of \$63,000.00 a permit fee or construction cost?

Commissioner Myers replied ballpark permit fee is amount she received from Code Department.

Commissioner Sanchez withdrew the motion on the floor and Commissioner Gillespie withdrew the second on the motion.

Commissioner Zappone commented that he is not surprised by that amount all the buildings are in disarray.

Commissioner Vahey questioned whether any of the applicants were present this evening and they were not.



Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Hecker to approve the waiver of two permit fees for the Roslyn VFW. The first waiver is for the construction permit in the amount of \$854.00. The second permit fee waiver is for onsite stormwater management and inspection fees totaling \$360.00; grand total \$1,214.00.

Commissioner Luker asked for any further comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

Commissioner Luker asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, said waivers should not happen because everybody should be treated equally, and if someone is in dire need of help, there are so many ways to help them. She asked the Board to say “no” to this waiver.

Commissioner Luker asked for a roll call vote on the motion as follows:

Commissioner Myers voted yes.

Commissioner Brodsky voted yes.

Commissioner Rothman voted yes.

Commissioner DiPlacido voted no.

Commissioner Sanchez voted yes.

Commissioner Thompson voted yes.

Commissioner Schreiber voted yes.

Commissioner Hecker voted yes.

Commissioner Spiegelman was absent.

Commissioner Vahey voted no.

Commissioner Gillespie voted no.

Commissioner Zappone voted yes.

Commissioner Bowman voted yes.

Commissioner Kline voted no.

Commissioner Luker voted yes.

MOTION was ADOPTED 10-4.

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Myers to approve the waiver of permit fees for the Salem Baptist Church including the construction permit, onsite stormwater management and inspection fees.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Myers said that Salem Baptist Church has purchased the St. John's property. It is a large property consisting of the church, the chapel, a large school, the convent and rectory as well as athletic fields. This church from Jenkintown Borough grew out of its venue and that is why it is purchasing St. John's. This church will bring in approximately 1,200 members coming into Abington Township, specifically Roslyn, and they will not just go to church, but as consumers help businesses in Roslyn.

They plan is to completely renovate the existing church, construct an addition to include an entry lobby, elevator and elevator machine room, repair existing roof and that will just be in the church alone. The school will be gutted, and new floors will be constructed, new ceilings, new windows, air conditioning where there was none, and full-sized gymnasium will be renovated and getting air conditioning. The school at this time houses a nonprofit autistic school and other community organizations and athletic organizations will be using this space.

Church officials want this church to be more than just a church, but also a community center. It is correct that they will be using Township services, but they will also be providing many services and it is for that reason that she asked the Board for their vote to waive these permit fees, so this church can do what it wants to do in its entirety to help the community of the Township of Abington, specifically the community of Roslyn.

Commissioner Schreiber questioned whether there are any other figures besides the permit fees.

Commissioner Myers said this is incomplete; however, the addition will be approximately \$18,000; HVAC appliance, plumbing, electrical, another alteration and another HVAC, plumbing, electrical and another alteration and plumbing and electrical for all the buildings. They also plan to use the convent as a senior center and the school will be used not only for their activities, but also for community organizations as well as the autistic school that resides there now.

Commissioner Schreiber asked if the church is funding the projects through a capital campaign or from grants.

Commissioner Myers replied she did not hear of any grants; however, she suspects they are funding it through loans.

Commissioner Vahey said he will support this as Commissioner Myers gave a good case and no one was here to speak on behalf of the VFW.

Commissioner Myers continued that this church was built in 1953 and there have not been many renovations since then.

Commissioner Bowman said he supports the waiver. He attended that school and what Commissioner Myers said was accurate, and if they are going to invest in that building, he is all for it, but they are getting in under the wire because he will support a ban on this in the future.

Commissioner Kline said he would like to know why someone from the church was not here to represent them. Also, the church is selling their property in Jenkintown and will receive funds from it, and once again this is a “slippery slope.” He understands that keeping St. John’s an institutional use is a huge benefit to the neighborhood, but a nonprofit may come to the Board with a waiver request that might not be desirable, so he will be voting against it.

Commissioner Myers said Pastor Marshal Mitchell had every intention of being here tonight, but at the last minute he was unable to attend; however, he sent his statement that she read into the record.

Commissioner DiPlacido said Salem Baptist Church is a wonderful church and his vote will not be against the church, but his vote is for the policy and a “no” vote because there are no numbers listed and his vote is for setting a precedent.

Commissioner Schreiber said we discussed tabling this item until we received the numbers and she cannot vote for it until we have those numbers.

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Rothman to TABLE the request for waiver of permit fees by Salem Baptist Church.

Commissioner Luker asked for a roll call vote on motion to TABLE as follows:

Commissioner Myers voted no.

Commissioner Brodsky voted yes.

Commissioner Rothman voted yes.

Commissioner DiPlacido voted yes.

Commissioner Sanchez voted no.

Commissioner Thompson voted yes.

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Commissioner Schreiber voted yes.

Commissioner Hecker voted yes.

Commissioner Spiegelman was absent.

Commissioner Vahey voted yes.

Commissioner Gillespie voted yes.

Commissioner Zappone voted no.

Commissioner Bowman voted no.

Commissioner Kline voted no.

Commissioner Luker voted no.

MOTION was ADOPTED 8-6.

Commissioner Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber that no further waivers should be considered until a policy is adopted by the Board of Commissioners with the exception for the matter of unfinished business of Salem Baptist Church waiver request of permit fees.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Public Works Committee -**

Item PW-01-071218:

Commissioner Hecker made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to execute Resolution No. 18-029 to ratify the submission, approve and support the filing of the inter-municipal grant application for the upgrade of the traffic signal at Township Line Road and Washington Lane.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Vahey asked how was this intersection selected for the grant application?

Manager Manfredi replied there are three municipalities and this intersection is our one share. It was selected by Cheltenham Township, PennDOT and Jenkintown who requested Abington Township to participate.

Commissioner Vahey clarified that Abington Township is applying for the grant for only our share of the total cost for intersection upgrade. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied we agreed to one-third of the application cost and will not agree to pay anything other than our share.

Commissioner Vahey clarified that Abington Township is applying for a grant of \$350,000.00, and if our 25% share of this intersection upgrade is less than \$350,000.00, the Township will only get a grant for that much?

Ms. Montgomery replied there is no match requirement for the ARLE grant; however, the grants are so competitive, and if we are not awarded, we would apply for future grant applications with match components.

Manager Manfredi replied the fact that Abington has red light cameras and the others do not will strengthen the application for that intersection and that application can still be used for other grants if the Township is not awarded.

Commissioner Vahey questioned whether Cheltenham Township can apply for this grant without Abington Township.

Manager Manfredi replied yes.

Commissioner Vahey expressed concern that Abington Township benefits from the red-light camera program and that we will be sharing those benefits from this program with municipalities that do not participate in it.

Manager Manfredi said by supporting this we can make an improvement to that intersection.

Commissioner Vahey asked will the \$350,000.00 pay for the entire upgrade to this intersection?

Manager Manfredi replied yes.

Commissioner Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 13-1. Commissioner Vahey opposed.

Item PW-02-071218:

Commissioner Hecker made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Schreiber to adopt Resolution No. 18-028 authorizing the Township Manager to sign and submit all Traffic Signal Approval Applications pertaining to the 2015 Green Light Go Grant-Traffic Signal LED Upgrades.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Kline said today, grant awards for the 2018 Green Light Go Grant were announced and Abington Township received approximately \$400,000.00 for Greenwood Avenue and Washington Lane. So now that the Green Light Go Grants have been awarded, the County Transportation Grant Program will begin its process and he suggested sending this application to the County as soon as possible.

Commissioner Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

**Public Safety Committee –**

Police Department Report:

Chief Molloy reported there has been an up-tick on service calls about fireworks and that was a result in the change in law, so the department sent out a public service announcement of zero tolerance response after a warning notice. With the change in law, sales of fireworks have increased 60% and reaction on social media about this new response has been positive.

Also, a notice of “No Solicitation” is in PDF form on the department’s website where it can be printed by residents or they can come into the station and pick one up. Residents can also register on the “Do Not Solicit” list.

Commissioner Schreiber announced that on Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, the First Responders will be holding a Food Drive at the Giant Food Store in both Roslyn and Huntingdon Valley from 9 a.m. – noon that helps the various food cupboards throughout the Township.

Item PS-01-071218:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner DiPlacido to adopt Ordinance No. 2157, amending Chapter 156 – “Vehicles and Traffic,” Article II – “Traffic Regulations,” Section 14 – “Stop Intersections,” and Article III – “Parking Regulations, “ at Sections 25 – “Parking Prohibited At All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here to Corner”, and 28 – “Special Purpose Parking Zones,” to add Stop intersections on King Road, Garden Road and Wesley Avenue; add “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on Keswick Avenue; repeal “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on Fairhill Avenue, add Special Purpose parking restrictions on Rockwell Road and repeal Special Purpose parking restrictions on Arlington Avenue, as set forth in the Ordinance.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff. There were none.

Commissioner Luker asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

**Public Affairs Committee –**

Item PA-01-071218:

Commissioner Bowman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kline to adopt Resolution No. 18-027 Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington, Montgomery County approving the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Annual Action Plan for the use of Federal CDBG Funds.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Vahey asked how are these programs selected for funding?

Mr. Strother replied the Township, following Federal regulations, prepares a five-year consolidated plan in which we solicit public comment, citizen participation and speak with other service providers to understand the needs for the loan in the Abington Township area. This action plan is consistent with the five-year consolidated plan that consists of housing and infrastructure; however, the action plan is project-specific. Two categories the Township has addressed are public improvements such as streets, curbing and sidewalks and stormwater management as well as owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program for Abington residents.

Commissioner Vahey clarified that the areas for just curbing and curbing and sidewalks need to be clarified in this budget. Is that correct?

Mr. Strother replied yes.

Commissioner Vahey clarified that the curbing and sidewalks and wheelchair lift are not specified in the in five-year plan. Is that correct?

Mr. Strother replied yes.

Commissioner Vahey asked then how were those three projects selected for this budget?

Mr. Strother replied he works in conjunction with the Engineering Department that has a master list of public improvement projects that are eligible for CDBG funding to be done in certain sections of the Township.

Commissioner Vahey questioned when this budget needs to be submitted to HUD for funding approval.

Mr. Strother replied the deadline is August 15, 2018

Commissioner Vahey expressed concern about the costs of these projects and why shouldn't the funds go into the owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program as there is a very long wait for it. He feels there should be greater input by the Board in how this budget is created with a more deliberated process and policy needs to be set by the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Strother replied it is a three-month process where public notification is done in May where it is publicly advertised that the Township is soliciting comments for the use of the funds and that runs for a 30-day period. If there are no comments, then the Township puts forth a suggested budget, which is another 30-day period to receive comments on proposed budget. Following that 30-day period, comment period is closed and then it is brought before the Board.

Commissioner Vahey said this week was the first time he saw the advertisement, and while complying with the law, he would like greater input.

Mr. Strother replied that he will work to improve reaching out much sooner.

Commissioner Thompson questioned how many comments were received during comment period.

Mr. Strother replied none.

Commissioner Thompson commented that these numbers are general, and he asked for a further breakdown and questioned whether the 20% for administration is mandated by the Federal government.



Mr. Strother replied once the allocation is made then 20% is set aside for administration that pays for staff time and advertising. It is a cap set by the Federal government and we work within that budget. There is also underwriting for the projects where we look at those that can be completed within a 12-18-month process. Numbers listed for public improvement projects are not cost of project, but allocations so that when bids come in there are funds to cover it.

Manager Manfredi said going forward, additional time will be put into the process, and if it is decided that this matter will be reconsidered next month, Mr. Strother can provide greater detail on each project.

Mr. Strother replied failure to act on it tonight will result in loss of funding because the Township would not meet the deadline. The package needs to be submitted to HUD by August 15, 2018. It was already publicly advertised that the Board will be making a decision on the use of the funds.

Commissioner Kline questioned whether this could be tabled until a date-certain.

Mr. Strother replied no, because the Township would fall out of compliance.

Commissioner Kline clarified that because it is CDBG funds; contractors are paid by prevailing wage. Is that correct?

Mr. Strother replied that is correct.

Commissioner Hecker said based on Mr. Strother's comment he urged the Board to act on it tonight. This was sent out for advertisement in June and that is when the Board should have been notified, so there would have been sufficient time to review what is being proposed and create opportunity for discussion.

Commissioner Bowman commented that it is a needed sidewalk on Old Welsh Road, so he supports it.

Commissioner Luker asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked why the sidewalks are so expensive?

Commissioner Luker replied retaining walls are needed as part of the sidewalks.

Mr. Strother added that it is a much more expensive project due to regulatory requirements.

Commissioner Gillespie clarified that it is HUD funds and the Township needs to pay prevailing wage. Is that correct?

Mr. Strother replied yes, it is Federal law.

Commissioner Schreiber called the question.

MOTION was ADOPTED 13-1. Commissioner Vahey opposed.

Commissioner Bowman asked for an update on the Summer Meal Program.

Mr. Strother replied that the 2018 Summer Youth Meal Program has been a successful operation, and to-date, 376 meals have been provided at no cost to children of the age of 18 years and younger at Crestmont Park. That is double the amount of meals served over last year as it is a more of an efficient and safe operation due to the food being refrigerated. By Board's approval, we contracted directly with the Department of Education as a sponsor, which opened opportunities for better meal selection. He thanked the Board for their support of this project.

**Finance Committee –**

Commissioner Kline announced that Township Treasurer Jay Blumenthal is not present this evening; however, his report is on file at the Township Manager's Office.

Item FC-03-061918:

Commissioner Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Hecker to approve the May expenditures, as previously circulated to the Board, in the amount of \$3,950,575.99 and salaries and wages in the amount of \$1,822,240.01, and authorizing the proper officials to sign vouchers in payment of bills and contracts as they mature through the month of August 2018.

Roll call vote resulted in motion being passed 14-0. Commissioner Spiegelman was absent during roll call.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Joanna Kyme, 1843 Guernsey Avenue, expressed concern that she received an email/map informing her that her street used to be zoned Residential and now it is zoned Main Street Village.

Commissioner Kline said he chaired the Rewrite Zoning Ordinance Committee, and during that extensive process there were advertised public meetings. That street is still zoned R-4 Residential and was never rezoned and he will show that on the map after tonight's meeting.

Kate Fisher, 1215 Johnston Avenue, introduced herself and announced that she just opened her tutoring company, MK Tutoring, located at 2878 Limekiln Pike.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, said she emailed the link and it is possible she had an old link stored. Also, she asked for trees to be planted on Baeder Road.

**REMARKS OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Hecker announced that he will be resigning as Ward 10 Commissioner next month on or about August 15, 2018 and so the August Board meeting will be his last meeting as Ward 10 Commissioner. It has been his privilege to have this honor and his honor to have this privilege. This has been the experience of a lifetime dating back to the initial days of his campaign to the ice storms that hit when he was first sworn in back in 2014, and the important work he had the opportunity to do together with this Board in the last four and a half years.

He has mixed emotions as he sees good things for this Township and there is a part of him that would like to continue being part of these strategic initiatives, but to quote John Lennon, "Life is what happens when you are busy making other plans." The good news for him and his family is that our plans involve us remaining as active members of Abington Township and we will stay in this community and his children will have the opportunity to finish their schooling.

We have been very public over the years about his wife's struggle with Multiple Sclerosis and she is his champion and his rock, and this move to a new home will set us up now and, in the future, so it is absolutely the right move, and while he is disappointed in stepping down, he is happy that he and his wife are doing this together. He will remain engaged and will figure out how to give back to this community in new ways. He thanked each of his fellow Board members for their time, assistance and support when he reached out to let them know the news. It has been a pleasure working with all of them. He has an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the opportunity to represent this community for the past four and a half years. Thank you!

Commissioner Gillespie said to Commissioner Hecker, "You have done an excellent job." Also, she thanked everyone who participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. It was a great event and she thanked the Police Department of a stellar job as well as Public Works and Emergency Management Departments.

Commissioner Vahey announced that the "I am Abington" Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at Glenside/Weldon Park at 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

To Commissioner Hecker: "We'll miss you and I appreciate all you have done for the Township and for me as a mentor. Thank you."

Also, he wants to pay tribute to former Sergeant Dan Buckley, who passed away recently. His term on this Board did not coincide with Sergeant Buckley's service to the police department; however, his service to the State Representative's Office did. While working in the State Representative's office there were so many people who needed so much when there was so little to give, and Larry Matteo and Sergeant Buckley moved heaven and earth to find the funds or any other resource that could be found to help every single citizen in this Township. Sergeant Buckley was a true asset and a true public servant.

Commissioner Schreiber said to Commissioner Hecker: "I will miss you Tom."

Also, Sergeant Dan Buckley helped to set up the Roslyn Pet Fair as he was an animal lover and Dan will be missed by the Board of Commissioners.

She congratulated our new Sergeant Troy Senne.

She also reminded everyone about the Food Drive at the Giant in Roslyn and Huntingdon Valley from 9 a.m. – 12-noon.

Commissioner Myers said Sergeant Dan Buckley passed away on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and he was very special to many of us. He retired in 2011 and Dan's 30-plus years in Abington Township were huge especially as Commander of Community Policing and Dan was part of so many of the initiatives from that organization. Dan Buckley was absolutely the "go-to-guy" when something needed to be done in this Township and he found a way to get it done. He was a friend to many of us and he will be really missed.

Commissioner Brodsky encouraged everyone to attend the Food Drive at the Giant in Huntingdon Valley.

To Commissioner Hecker: "I want to express my heartfelt thanks for a job well-done and I hope you stay around for a long time. Thank you for your service, guidance and insight over the last year, which were invaluable. Thank you."

Commissioner Rothman thanked those who sent their congratulations to him on the new addition to his family. It is the greatest thing that has happened to him and he thanked everyone for their support.

Also, one of the greatest things that has happened to him was being friends and working with Tom Hecker. To Commissioner Hecker: "You are a great guy and it has been a pleasure working with you and you are a great family guy and you and your wife are lucky to have each other. Wish you all the best!"

Commissioner DiPlacido said to Commissioner Tom Hecker: "I will speak to you next month."

Also, "when driving through Abington Township, please drive like your kids live here."

Commissioner Sanchez said to Commissioner Tom Hecker: "I will speak to you next month as well and it has been an honor."

Also, he congratulated Commissioner Rothman on the new addition to his family.

Commissioner Thompson welcomed Ms. Fisher to North Hills Limekiln Pike and he hopes her business does well there.

President Luker said this past week, he sadly announced the passing of Mrs. Lillian Palmer, who was longstanding resident of Ward 5. Mrs. Palmer is the mother of Peggy Palmer as well as his friend Johnny Palmer, who is affectionately known as the “Mayor” of Crestmont Park for all the work he has done over the years of community service to the park and pool area; just a selfless person that he feels very close to. Services for his mother, Lillian will be held on Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at the First Baptist Church in Crestmont with Dr. Pastor Jerome Coleman presiding.

To Commissioner Tom Hecker: “I say goodbye to a true friend, a real professional, a great Commissioner and all around sincere and honest gentleman. Thank you for all of the good conversations that we had on your long trips to/from work and I sincerely wish only the best to you and your lovely wife and children.”

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

sev

The following resolutions and ordinance were adopted by the Board of Commissioners on July 12, 2018:

Resolution No. 18-029  
Resolution No. 18-028  
Ordinance No. 2157  
Resolution No. 18-027

Approved  
August 9, 2018



**RESOLUTION # 18-029**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by authority of the  
of the \_\_\_ Township of Abington  
(Name of POLITICAL SUBDIVISION)

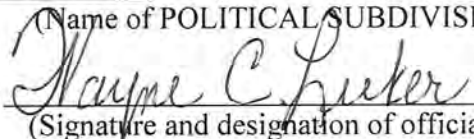
Board of Commissioners  
(Name of governing body)  
, Montgomery County, and it

is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that the \_\_\_\_\_ Township Manager \_\_\_\_\_ of  
(designate official title)

said POLITICAL SUBDIVISION be authorized and directed to sign the attached Automated Red Light  
Enforcement Program Project Funding Agreement on its behalf.

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature and designation of official title)

Abington Township  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of POLITICAL SUBDIVISION)  
By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature and designation of official title)

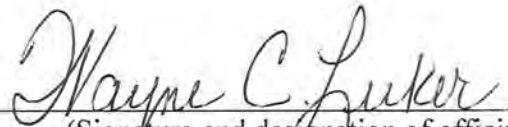
I, \_\_\_\_\_ Wayne C. Luker \_\_\_\_\_, President of Board of Commissioners  
(Name) (Official title)

of the \_\_\_ Abington Township \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
(Name of governing body and POLITICAL SUBDIVISION)

is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the

\_\_\_\_\_ Board of Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_, held the \_12th\_ day of \_July\_, 20\_18\_.  
(Name of governing body)

DATE: 7.25.18

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature and designation of official title)

RESOLUTION #18-028

A RESOLUTION, BY AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE 2015 GREEN LIGHT GO GRANT TRAFFIC SIGNAL LED UPGRADE PROJECT AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Be it RESOLVED, by authority of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington, Montgomery County, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that the Township Manager of said MUNICIPALITY is authorized and directed to submit the attached Applications for Traffic Signal Approval to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and to sign this Application on behalf of the MUNICIPALITY.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON  
(Name of MUNICIPALITY)



*(Signature & designation of official title)*

Richard J. Manfredi, Secretary  
Township Manager

By:

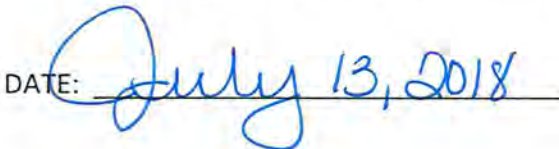


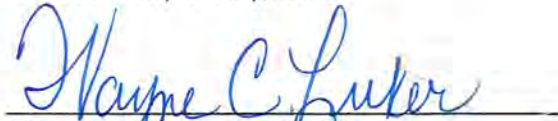
*(Signature & designation of official title)*

Wayne C. Luker, President  
Board of Commissioners

I, Wayne C. Luker, President of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners held this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

DATE:





*(Signature & designation of official title)*

Wayne C. Luker, President  
Board of Commissioners

**TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2157**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING  
CHAPTER 156 – “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC,”  
ARTICLE II – “TRAFFIC REGULATIONS,” SECTION 14 – “STOP  
INTERSECTIONS”;  
ARTICLE III – “PARKING REGULATIONS”  
SECTIONS 25 – “PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES; NO PARKING BETWEEN  
SIGNS; NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER”,  
AND 28 – “SPECIAL PURPOSE PARKING ZONES”**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Abington is a Township of the First Class, duly organized and existing pursuant to the applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 1502.44 of the First Class Township Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 53 P.S. §56544, the Board of Commissioners has the authority to enact and amend provisions of the Abington Township Code (“Code”) at any time it deems necessary for the health, safety, morals, general welfare, cleanliness, beauty, convenience and comfort of the Township and the inhabitants thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 1502.10 of the First Class Township Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 53 P.S. §56510, the Board of Commissioners has the authority to take all needful means for securing the safety of persons or property within the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 1502.49 of the First Class Township Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 53 P.S. §56549, the Board of Commissioners has the authority to regulate traffic and parking; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington has determined that the Code of Ordinances of the Township of Abington shall be amended at Chapter 156 – “Vehicles and Traffic,” Article II – “Traffic Regulations,” Section 14 – “Stop Intersections,” and



Article III – “Parking Regulations,” at Sections 25 – “Parking Prohibited at All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here to Corner,” and 28 – “Special Purpose Parking Zones,” should be amended for the health, safety, morals, general welfare, cleanliness, beauty, convenience and comfort of the Township and the inhabitants thereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington does hereby **ENACT** and **ORDAIN** as follows:

1. The Code of the Township of Abington is amended at Chapter 156 - “Vehicles and Traffic,” Article II – “Traffic Regulations,” at Section 14 – “Stop Intersections,” Article III, “Parking Regulations,” Section 28 – “Special Purpose Parking Zones,” to **add** the following restrictions:

<b>Name of Highway</b>	<b>Side</b>	<b>Location</b>
King Road	West	Southbound at Dale Road
Garden Road	West	Southbound at Cross Road
Wesley Avenue	West	at Rockledge Avenue
Jericho Road	4 Way	Horace Avenue
Benezet Road	East	at Cumberland Road

2. The Code of the Township of Abington is amended at Chapter 156 - “Vehicles and Traffic,” Article III – “Parking Regulations,” at Section 25 – “Parking Prohibited at All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here to Corner,” to **add** the following restrictions:

<b>No Parking Here to Corner Side</b>	<b>Location</b>
Keswick Avenue                      South	30 ft. East and West of Oakdale Ave.

3. The Code of the Township of Abington is amended at Chapter 156 - "Vehicles and Traffic," Article III - "Parking Regulations," at Section 25 - "Parking Prohibited at All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here to Corner," to **repeal** the following restrictions:

<b>Name of Highway</b>	<b>Authorized Purpose of Vehicle</b>	<b>Location</b>
Fairhill Avenue	Parking Prohibited between 8AM and 4PM	2300 Block

4. The Code of the Township of Abington is amended at Chapter 156 - "Vehicles and Traffic," Article III - "Parking Regulations," at Section 28 - "Special Purpose Parking Zones," to **add** the following restrictions:

<b>Name of Highway</b>	<b>Authorized Purpose of Vehicle</b>	<b>Location</b>
Rockwell Road	Handicapped Parking	in front of 1746 Rockwell Road

5. The Code of the Township of Abington is amended at Chapter 156 - "Vehicles and Traffic," Article III - "Parking Regulations," at Section 28 - "Special Purpose Parking Zones," to **repeal** the following restrictions:

<b>Name of Highway</b>	<b>Authorized Purpose of Vehicle</b>	<b>Location</b>
Arlington Avenue	Handicapped Parking	in front of 2452 Arlington Avenue

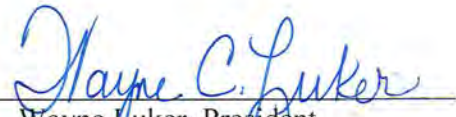
6. All other ordinances, portions of ordinances, or any section of the Code inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

7. This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after enactment.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.  
TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Attest:

  
Richard J. Manfredi, Secretary

By:   
Wayne Luker, President

**TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
RESOLUTION NO. 18-027**

The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, approving the FY 2018 Annual Action Plan for the use of Federal CDBG Funds.

**WHEREAS**, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to extend financial assistance to communities in the prevention or elimination of slums or urban blight, or activities which will benefit low- and moderate-income persons, or other urgent community development needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has advised the Township of Abington that under Fiscal Year 2018, the Township is eligible to apply for an entitlement grant under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in the amount of \$784,501; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township's Office of Community Development has prepared an Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2018, that the Township expects to initiate in October 2018, which proposes how the entitlement grant funds will be expended to address the housing and community development needs identified in the Township's Five Year Consolidated Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, a draft of the FY 2018 Annual Action Plan was on public display from Monday, June 11, 2018 through Wednesday, July 11, 2018 and the Township held a series of public hearings on the said Plan and the comments of various agencies, groups, and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final document.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Annual Action Plan for the Fiscal Year 2018 CDBG Program is hereby in all respects APPROVED and the Township Manager is hereby directed to file a copy of said Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2018 with the Official Minutes of this Meeting of this Board.

**SECTION 2.** That the Township is COGNIZANT of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of the Community Development Block Grant Program with Federal financial assistance, including those relating to (a) the relocation of site occupants, (b) the prohibition of discrimination because of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin, and other assurances as set forth under the certifications.

**SECTION 3.** That the President of the Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the Township of Abington, Pennsylvania, is AUTHORIZED to file an Application for financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which has indicated its willingness to make available funds to carry out the CDBG Program in the amount of \$784,501; and its further AUTHORIZED to act as the authorized representative of the Township of Abington to sign any and all documents in regard to these programs.

**SECTION 4.** That the President of the Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the Township of Abington, Pennsylvania, is AUTHORIZED to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; and any other supplemental or revised data which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may request in review of the Township's Application.

**ADOPTED INTO A RESOLUTION THIS 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2018 BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA**

**APPROVED:**

**ABINGTON TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

7.18.18  
Date

Wayne C. Luker  
Wayne C. Luker, President

**ATTEST:**

Richard J. Manfredi  
Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager

**ADOPTED:** 7.12.18