

The stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Thursday, March 9, 2017 in the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with President Luker presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners ZAPPONE, SPIEGELMAN, SANCHEZ, ROTHMAN, MYERS, MARKMAN, SCHREIBER, BOWMAN, FARREN, GILLESPIE, HECKER, KALINOSKI, KLINE, LUKER
Excused: DiPLACIDO

Township Manager LEFEVRE
Township Tax Collector BLUMENTHAL
Township Solicitor CLARKE
Chief of Police LIVINGOOD
Finance Director BARRON
Township Engineer POWERS
Director of Parks & Recreation OLES
Director of Public Works MICCIOLO
Director of W.W.T.P. WRIGLEY
Assistant Fire Marshal ROHRER
Community Development Director STROTHER
Planning & Zoning Official PENECALE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SWEARING IN of two new Sergeants by District Justice John D. Kessler:

Chief Livingood said Sergeant Roger Gillespie has been a police officer with the department since January 1994. During his time, he has served as a Field Training Officer, Critical Incident Stress Management Routine Member and a Hostage Negotiator.

In addition to numerous departmental commendations, in 2005, Roger received the Montgomery County District Attorney's Medal of Valor for a confrontation with an armed suspect.

In 2010, he was selected to be a member of the department's Anti-Crime Team, and in September 2011, Roger was chosen to join Community Policing Division as Division Coordinator, and his responsibilities included crime prevention and educating the public about crime trends. Roger has also been involved with the department's social media effort including "Coffee with a Cop" and Facebook chats.

He has also done presentations for senior citizens to alert them about the dangers out there as well as presentations made to children about the danger of texting while driving.

Roger believes that connecting with the community especially with youth is a vital part of police work. In addition to his work with the PAL program, he helped to develop the Abington Police Explorers program; one of the only police explorers programs in the area.

Sergeant Drew Kent joined Abington Police Department in 2009 and previously worked for a year in the Philadelphia Police Department serving on the 23rd District. Drew has a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice from Rowan University and he is a proud member of Abington Police Department's Patrol Division. He also served as a member of the Honor Guard, a Field Training Officer and he successfully trained nine officers since 2011.

He is a Range Instructor, an Oral Interview Board member, a Police Recruiting member and he is also on the Commendation Review Board.

District Justice John D. Kessler administered the Oath of Office to newly promoted Sergeant Roger Gillespie of the Abington Township Police Department before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 9th day of March, 2017.

District Justice John D. Kessler administered the Oath of Office to newly promoted Sergeant Drew Kent of the Abington Township Police Department before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 9th day of March, 2017.

PRESENTATION TO Former Chief Kelly:

Chief Livingood said Bill Kelly served as Chief of Police in Abington Township from December 1985 until January 2017. He came to Abington during a very difficult period in our department's history and he was able to create order out of a chaos and pride out of bitterness. He completely turned our department around and taught us a new way of doing police work. He introduced us to a number of new concepts including the need to build partnerships with the community creating volunteer opportunities and to work side-by-side with our community partners to make Abington an even better place to live and work.

Largely, through Chief Kelly's vision and initiative, we formed the Abington Community Policing Division; Abington Community Task Force (ACT); Abington Police Athletic League (PAL); and Citizens and Police Together (CAPT) and many other initiatives.

During his tenor in Abington, Chief Kelly also served in a leadership capacity in a number of other organizations including President of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association; President of Police Chiefs Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania; President of Police Chiefs Association of Montgomery County and Chairman and founding member in 2001 of the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission.

We thank Bill Kelly for all he has done for Abington Police Department and the citizens of Abington Township and wish him well in his new position as Chief of Criminal Investigations for Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General.

Commissioner Schreiber presented former Chief of Police William J. Kelly with Certificate of Commendation in recognition of his outstanding leadership, vision and commitment to the Abington Township Police Department and the Abington community before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 9th day of March, 2017.

President Luker recessed the meeting at 7:52 p.m. until 7:53 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice President Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of February 9, 2017.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for a list of the major changes of the zoning ordinance rewrite. Also, she asked that the “Lubavitch rental to be kept short and to look for opportunities for others.”

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Bid Award for 2017/2018 Consortium Sign Bid

Commissioner Hecker made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Farren to accept the lowest responsible bids and enter into contracts with the following companies for the purchase of materials as shown:

Chemung Supply Corp. Sign Posts Material Portion- Items #1 thru #6, #8 thru #15 and Item #26.

Garden State Hwy Prods. Item #7 and Items #16 thru Item #25.

Garden State Hwy Prods. Aluminum Blanks Material Portion – Complete.

Garden State Hwy Prods. Reflective Roll Goods – Type III Material Portion – Complete.

Garden State Hwy Prods. Reflective Sheeting and Sign Faces – Finished Signs – Type III Material Portion – Complete.

Garden State Hwy Prods. Reflective Sheeting and Sign Faces – Type III Material Portion – Complete.

Ennis Paint Inc. Hot Tape Pavement Markings Portion – Complete.

Garden State Hwy Prods. Miscellaneous Items Portion – Complete.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Inter-Municipal Contract with Cheltenham Township

Commissioner Hecker made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Farren to have the proper officials enter into an Inter-Municipal agreement with Cheltenham Township for maintenance on eight (8) traffic signals that are shared intersections with Abington Township.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Subdivision SD-17-01 – Nancy Posel – 1060 Mill Road Circle, Rydal, PA

Commissioner Sanchez made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Markman to approve the subdivision application of Nancy Posel, owner of property located at 1060 Mill Road Circle, Abington Township. The applicant proposes to subdivide the existing property of 4.26 acres into two parcels. Lot No. 1 will consist of 1.71 acres in size and is proposed to be deeded to the Township of Abington as passive deed restricted open space. Lot No. 2 is proposed to be 2.55 acres in lot area and will contain the existing single-family dwelling, swimming pool and tennis court. No additional development is proposed to either of the two proposed lots. The property is zoned within the R-1 Residential District in Ward No. 2 of the Township of Abington.

This motion is subject to the following conditions:

1. The deed restriction and easement agreement language is required to be submitted and approved by the Board of Commissioners prior to the recording of the final plan.
2. The items listed within the Staff Review letter dated, February 13, 2017 is to be taken under consideration by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington.

This motion is subject to the following waivers:

1. Waiver from Section 146-11.A – Property Identification Plan – this plan is required to supply tax parcel information, owner’s name and lot area for all properties within 400 feet of the site involved in this application. Staff supports this waiver.
2. Waiver from Section 146-11.B – Existing Features Plan – The plan is required to plot the location of all utilities on the sites and within 400 feet of the properties involved in this application. Staff supports this request.
3. Waiver from Section 146.11.C – Proposed Layout Plan - the plan is required to plot the location of all existing improvements proposed to remain and be removed. Staff supports this request.
4. Waiver from Section 146.11L – Architectural Plan – an architectural plan is required to be submitted with this subdivision plan. A rendering of the proposed single-family dwelling has been submitted.
5. Waiver from Section 146.11. D – Grading Plan – this application proposes no alterations to the existing topography.

Commissioner Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Sanchez thanked Ms. Posel for the donation to the Township.

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 2131 – Chapter 162 – “Zoning” Article III
“Establishment of Zoning Districts” Related to the Medical Marijuana Act

President Luker opened Public Hearing at 8:02 p.m.

President Luker called on Vice President Kline.

Vice President Kline gave a power point presentation on Pennsylvania’s Compassionate Medical Cannabis Legislation PA Act 16 of 2016 to the Board.

State law has been split between six regions and Region 1 - Southeast will receive 10 dispensary permits and two grower/processor permits issued under State law.

Total permits that will be issued will be 25 grower/processors and 50 dispensaries; however, in Phase I, only 12 of the 25 permits will be issued for grower/processors and 27 out of 50 dispensaries. Application timeframe is until March 20th. Permit distribution – one dispensary permit equals up to three locations and the first will need to be opened within their own county and the other two needs to stay within the same region as the permit was issued to.

Region 1 dispensary permit breakdown – there will be three opening in Philadelphia and two in Montgomery County and one for Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Lancaster Counties.

Shown in the presentation were lawful uses of medical marijuana per State law. Permitted forms of medical marijuana were also shown. Plant-based (leaf) forms of medical marijuana are NOT permitted. No plant-based material will leave the growing/processing facility.

Medical marijuana may only be dispensed to patients who receive a certification from a practitioner and is in possession of a valid identification card issued by the PA Dept. of Health and a caregiver who is in possession of a valid identification card issued by the PA Dept. of Health.

Tax on medical marijuana is imposed on gross receipts of a grower/processor received from the sale of medical marijuana by a grower/processor to a dispensary, to be paid by the grower/processor, at the rate of 5%. The tax shall be charged against and be paid by the grower/processor and shall not be added as a separate charge to the price paid by a dispensary, patient or caregiver.

Application period open now through March 20th and applicants seeking letter of support from community showing support for the use (s); ability for applicant to secure necessary permits; and ability for applicant to meet local ordinances.

Growing/processing facilities are proposed to be 10,000 sq. ft. or larger; more than half of the facility is used for cultivation of plants; lab and processing area usually takes up to 5%-15% of facility; water and energy-intensive such as promote sustainability-grey water recycling, rainwater, catchments, solar, geothermal, green roof, etc; and opportunity for adaptive reuse.

Grower/processor facility may only grow, store, harvest or process medical marijuana in an indoor, enclosed, secure facility, which includes electronic locking systems, electronic surveillance and other features required by the PA Dept. of Health and features an enclosed secure loading area that is out of the public view.

There are fees and other requirements as shown in the presentation. A grower/processor shall meet the same municipal zoning and land use requirements as other manufacturing processing and production facilities that are located in the same zoning district.

A dispensary may not operate on the same lot as a growing/processing facility and it may not be located within 1,000 feet of the property line of a public, private or parochial school or a daycare center.

A dispensary shall have a physician or pharmacist onsite at all times during the hours the dispensary is open (training required). Loading/unloading of medical marijuana shall be conducted in a secure, interior loading area out of public view.

A dispensary shall meet the same municipal zoning and land use requirements as other commercial facilities that are located in the same zoning district. Other regulations were listed in the presentation.

President Luker asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Farren said regarding the rewrite of the zoning ordinance and new industrial zoned area; would this use be permitted or prohibited?

Vice President Kline replied grower facilities would only be permitted in the SI District.

Commissioner Farren clarified that the State requires only dispensaries need to be 1,000 sq. ft. from the property line of a public, private or parochial school or a daycare center. Is that correct?

Vice President Kline replied yes, but Township's ordinance will include that requirement for both dispensaries and grower/processors per Township's ordinance. However, we need to discuss further with Township Solicitor and Manager LeFevre as to where it would be permitted in the Township so as to meet the State's requirement.

Commissioner Spiegelman commented that feedback from residents about this matter has been 100% positive.

Commissioner Zappone questioned whether the Township is being mandated by the State to adopt this ordinance.

Solicitor Clarke replied yes. Legislature has made it clear that municipalities may not prohibit these uses within their municipality and it has to be provided for somewhere in the municipality.

Also, in review of the ordinance with the MCPC and after review and discussion with Mr. Penecale, it has been determined that the Township's ordinance does in fact prevent this use in the Township because of the additional 1,000 feet restriction that has been placed on residentially zoned properties. The ordinance before the Board tonight does act as an outright ban, so we are going to suggest an amendment to the ordinance and suggest a second amendment to the ordinance making sure it is consistent with proposed zoning rewrite.

Code does not currently have a provision for this use, and until 2016, it was not a legal use in the Commonwealth. Proposed ordinance allows dispensaries by-right in the town commercial, special commercial, planned business and mixed use districts subject to requirements set forth in the ordinance. As an example; they need proof of registration with the Dept. of Health and submission of their security plan. It would also allow a grower/processor by-right in the suburban industrial district subject to requirements set forth in the ordinance subject to requirements of proof of registration by the Dept. of Health; a minimum lot size of two acres; submission of a security plan; fencing around the facility is required and proposed ordinance parking requirements related to the two uses.

In addition, there is a portion of the Act that has not been completely flushed out by regulations, but there are certain classes of eight medical centers in Pennsylvania that are also eligible for a separate grower/processor license to use for research and also for creating the product for their own patients. As of yet, those guidelines have not been established and there could be more grower/processors in the region than originally anticipated.

By adding the 1,000 sq. ft. from residential, the Township would be creating a de facto prohibition on this and we suggest that the 1,000 sq. ft. restriction be removed and adhere to State law requirements. We also suggest clarifying the issue regarding daycare centers.

The act says, it cannot be 1,000 feet from daycare centers and the current Abington zoning ordinance treats adult daycare centers and child daycare centers identically. The proposed zoning amendment will breakdown daycare center into four different categories: adult daycare center, child daycare center, daycare home and a daycare home group.

We are suggesting that the ordinance be amended in Section C. where it describes a Medical Use – C37.C indicating a daycare center; we are proposing that the language should now read: “from the nearest point on the property line of a residentially zoned property or parcel containing a public, private or parochial school and child daycare center as defined and regulated by the Department of Health.”

Legislative history for the medical marijuana act is clear that it is speaking about child daycare centers and not adult daycare centers. The legislation was reviewed by various State departments and the Dept. of Health.

It is clear that both changes to the ordinance would constitute a substantial amendment that would require re-advertising and require a hearing to be held on a second date after re-advertising. Also, current Abington zoning code requires that when any amendment is made after advertising that it needs to be re-advertised.

If these changes are made this evening, they will be covered under the pending ordinance doctrine, so if the Board authorizes these changes tonight, the pending ordinance doctrine will control those who will submit an application in the next few days.

Mr. Penecale questioned whether places of worship, public parks and community center will remain in the language of the ordinance.

Solicitor Clarke replied no, those will be removed and the ordinance will mirror State law.

Commissioner Gillespie clarified that the Township is required by the State to do this. Is that correct?

Solicitor Clarke replied yes.

President Luker said if the Township is not able to prohibit the use based on State regulation, does that mean the Township would have to waive an application for a variance?

Solicitor Clarke replied no, the applicant still needs to comply with zoning and any other requirements that may apply to this use.

Commissioner Kalinoski asked to see the locations where these dispensaries will be permitted at the next hearing.

Commissioner Bowman clarified that no special conditions can be placed on these facilities as it would go against the First Class Code. Is that correct?

Solicitor Clarke replied that is correct. No requirements can be added to the facilities themselves because it is only controlled by the Act and by the Dept. of Health. The Township can only regulate the zoning.

Commissioner Myers questioned whether a dispensary and a grower/processor need to be in the same municipality, and can one grower/processor service several dispensaries?

Solicitor Clarke replied they do not need to be in the same municipality and one grower/processor can service several dispensaries.

Commissioner Myers clarified that it is likely that the Township will get more applications for dispensaries than grower/processors. Is that correct?

Solicitor Clarke replied that is correct.

Fred Skilton, 2072 Maplewood Avenue, clarified that the Township has to have a place for at least one dispensary and one grower to meet requirements of the law. Is that correct?

Solicitor Clarke replied that is correct. This use has to be provided for within the Township.

Vice President Kline added that the Township has to provide for the use, but the applicant still needs to go through the application process.

Mr. Skilton questioned how many "spots" have to be preserved for growers and dispensaries?

Solicitor Clarke replied the Township does not need to provide for any "spots." The Township has to provide for the use within in the Township in certain districts and the legislative history shows they want them to be treated similarly to pharmacies.

Mr. Skilton said 1,000 feet is less than two-tenths of a mile, and he asked that the Township be as restrictive as possible since "we are being forced to have this in our Township."

President Luker closed Public Hearing at 8:40 p.m.

Vice President Kline made a MOTION to AMEND the MOTION so as to amend C37 Use – Dispensaries Subsection C to add the word “child” in front of daycare as defined and regulated by the Department of Health and to eliminate the words “residentially zoned properties, place of worship, public park or community center,” as well as the same amendment to the D18 Use-Grower/Processor in subsection D and to re-advertise the ordinance with those amendments, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman.

MOTION to AMEND the ordinance and re-advertise – PASSED 14-0.

Zoning Ordinance Update – For Information Only

Commissioner Sanchez announced that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington have scheduled a public hearing for Monday, March 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the boardroom to discuss the proposed updates to the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Abington. The proposed zoning ordinance update is a comprehensive re-write of the current Zoning Ordinance that was adopted in May of 1996.

Commissioner Kline noted that Township website includes notes from meetings held before the Planning Commission and Board of Commissioners back in 2015, and also there is a power point presentation explaining the changes that were a result of edits previously made by the Board of Commissioners that will be discussed during the public hearing.

Commissioner Hecker questioned whether a vote will be taken at the hearing.

Commissioner Kline replied there are two changes that need to be made; one is related to the sign ordinance-administrative section and one minor map change and that will require a continuance, so we do not anticipate a vote other than to continue the hearing.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Ordinance No. 2137 – To Amend Chapter 156 (“Vehicles and Traffic”), Article III “Parking Regulations” Section 25 “Parking Prohibited At All Times: No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here to Corner; Parking Prohibited Except Certain Hours; No Stopping Or Standing

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to advertise Ordinance No. 2137 amending Chapter 156 (“Vehicles and Traffic”), Article III “Parking Regulations” Section 25 (Parking Prohibited At All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here to Corner; Parking Prohibited Except Certain Hours; No Stopping Or Standing) for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners on April 13, 2017 at 7:30 PM.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Conditional Appointment – Probationary Police Officer

Commissioner Schreiber made MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to appoint candidate Morgan Pfaff from the Certified Civil Service Eligibility List to the position of Probationary Police Officer provided she successfully completes the Background, Physical and Psychological tests and all entry requirements of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission for Act 120 Training. Appointment will be effective July 5, 2017.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Police Lieutenants Contract

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve an employment contract with the Police Lieutenants incorporating the same employment benefit changes resulting from the 2016 arbitration award for the Township Police Association. All other benefits to remain the same.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Community Facility at Crestmont Park

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to reject all bids received and authorize re-bidding to construct a new community facility at Crestmont Park.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Funding of the Community Facility at Crestmont Park

Commissioner Spiegelman announced that this item has been deleted from agenda.

Lubavitch of Abington – Lease Extension-Alverthorpe Manor

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to approve a seven (7) year lease extension at Alverthorpe Manor for the Lubavitch of Abington effective August 1, 2017 at a base rate of \$20,025.21 annually with all other terms remaining the same.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Policy on the Naming of Township Facilities

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve the adoption of the revised policy on the naming/renaming or dedication of municipal property, buildings, park elements, streets or other facilities.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Acquisition of Undeveloped Ground on Robinson Avenue

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve the acquisition for \$1 each two undeveloped parcels (30-00-57076-00-8) (30-00-57080-00-1) on Robinson Avenue off of Clearview through a repository sale from the Montgomery County Tax Claim Bureau and to authorize the Township Manager to execute any necessary documents to effectuate the bid. Acquisition contingent on receipt of a favorable title search and Phase I Environmental Assessment.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Bid for Datacenter Upgrade

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to advertise bid for Datacenter Upgrade.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Crestmont Park – Basketball Court Replacement

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Rothman to reject all bids received and authorize re-bidding through PennBid.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Treasurer's Report:

Township Treasurer Jay W. Blumenthal reported that monies received from various departments deposited into Republic Bank for the February 2017 were in the amount of \$4,107,459 as compared to last year in the amount of \$4,823,359 representing a decrease in the amount of (715,900); YTD \$5,256,641 as compared to last year in the amount of \$6,045,548 representing a decrease in the amount of (788,907).

Deposits of real estate taxes for February 2017 was in the amount of \$697,986 with remaining balance to be collected in the amount of \$26,411,809.

Investments

Commissioner Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Hecker to approve investments for the month of January as previously circulated to the Board. It was noted that investments for the month totaled \$490,000.00. Interest rate yields ranged from 1.000% to 1.400%.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Expenditures/Salaries and Wages

Motion to:

- (A) Approve the January expenditures as previously circulated to the Board, in the amount of \$2,597,404.83 and salaries and wages in the amount of \$2,232,790.33.
- (B) Authorize the proper officials to sign vouchers in payment of bills and contracts as they mature through the month of April 2017.

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

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

Training and Conference Expenses

Commissioner Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Hecker to approve the Advance and Travel Expense activity for January 2017 as previously circulated to the Board. Advance and Travel Expense reports were \$0.00 and \$1,172.06, respectively.

One-month expenses totaled \$1,172.06.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

Clearing Fund/Deferred Revenue and Expense/Petty Cash

Commissioner Kline made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Hecker to approve the Clearing Fund, the Deferred Revenue/Expense activity and Petty Cash balances for the month of January as previously circulated to the Board.

Clearing fund receipts and disbursements for the month of January 2017 were \$512.81 and (\$0.00), respectively.

Deferred Revenue/Expense receipts and disbursements for the month of January 2017 were \$1,500.00 and (\$21,985.18), respectively.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 14-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for a brief summary of the main points of the zoning ordinance re-writes. Also, she sent a letter to the Board about the vacant property ordinance.

REMARKS OF COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Zappone announced that the Ardsley Family Committee will be hosting three upcoming events. The first is Breakfast with the Easter Bunny to be held on April 9th; the next event will be our Annual Designer Bag Bingo to be held on April 21st; and the third will be the Annual Oldies Night to be held on May 13th. All of these events will be held on the North Penn VFW on Jenkintown Road in Glenside and all events are open to all residents of the Township. Please call him for info and/or tickets.

Commissioner Spiegelman congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent as well as former Chief Kelly.

Commissioner Sanchez congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent. Also, he announced that the owners of the McKinley Market will be retiring and sold the business and a ceremonial closing will be held on the last day.

Commissioner Rothman invited everyone to the McKinley Fire House this Sunday from 8-12 p.m. for their Annual Pancake Breakfast that benefits the volunteer fire department.

Commissioner Myers congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent. Also, she gave a special “thank you” to former Chief Kelly for all of his years and for taking our police department from a troubled one to a stellar police department. We are still in good hands and we look forward to working with Chief Livingood and we know that he will keep the police department exactly the way we are used to seeing it.

Also, “to some of my fellow Commissioners, don’t pop the cork on the champagne yet, down, but not out.”

Commissioner Schreiber congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent.

Commissioner Bowman announced there will be a PAL event this Saturday at the Keswick Theater.

Commissioner Farren echoed Commissioner Bowman's statements about the Keswick event. He congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent. He wished "Good Luck" to all of the runners at the Copper Beech 5K Run this Saturday. Also, the Pennsylvania State Legislature are considering CPR legislation, and being involved with Ally Turner's "Just Fight" Foundation, that is one of the key parts of the foundation as it can save a lot of lives.

Commissioner Gillespie announced that "Keep the Parade Running" event will be held on April 8th at 8 a.m. in memory of her late husband, Mike Gillespie, and it supports the Greater Glenside Patriotic Association.

Commissioner Hecker congratulated Abington High School's Boys & Girls Basketball Teams as both of them won the district's championship last weekend. Also, there is a fundraiser to be held this coming Sunday afternoon at the Chipotle at the Abington Shopping Center from 3-6 p.m. to support the Senior High Boys Basketball Team.

Vice President Kline commented that there is no simple way to explain the changes of the draft zoning ordinance. There were extensive presentations made before the Planning Commission as well as before the Board of Commissioners. If you are truly interested in the all of the changes that were incorporated into the new zoning ordinance, please read the information posted on Township's website.

Also, he congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent.

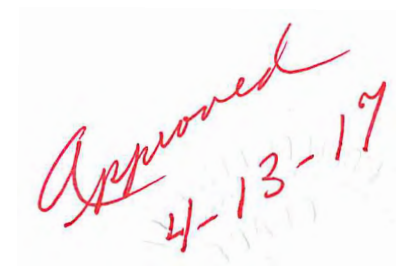
President Luker echoed Commissioner Hecker's comments about Abington High School's Basketball Teams. Also, he thanked Vice President Kline for the overview he presented in regards to Pennsylvania's Legislation on medical marijuana. He congratulated Sergeants Gillespie and Kent. He also congratulated and gave his "Best Wishes" to former Chief William Kelly for all of his years of service to Abington Township. He congratulated and welcomed Chief Livingood and the Board looks forward to good days with him.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael LeFevre, Township Manager

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Approved
4-13-17