

The stated meeting of the Public Affairs Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Commissioner Spiegelman presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners SPIEGELMAN, BOWMAN, SCHREIBER, KALINOSKI

Excused: ROTHMAN

Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER

Township Solicitor CLARKE

Director of Parks and Recreation OLES

Community Director STROTHER

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, KLINE, HECKER, FARREN, MYERS, SANCHEZ, MARKMAN, DiPLACIDO, ZAPPONE, GILLESPIE,

MINUTES: Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2017 Public Affairs Committee Meeting.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Environmental Advisory Council Report – Power Presentation on Accomplishments and STAR Communities:

Jennifer Sherwood, Chairperson of the EAC, provided an annual report of 2016's objectives, goals and enhancing sustainability. The EAC's volunteers achieved a three-star rating out of five from Star Communities, and since Penn State has become a Star-affiliate, we will be working with them on future plans. She thanked the Board of Commissioners for their help as well as community partners for their assistance in their 3-Star Achievement. Future plans to improve sustainability include the Master Bike Plan, Walk and Park Train Abington project, Shop Local Program and Go Green Rewards Card program. The EAC helps the Township meet its water quality requirements as part of the Clean Water Act and MS4 requirements and Rain Barrel Town. We also partner with stormwater management projects in the Township as well as hold Clean-Up Events.

2017 Earth Day Cleanups have been scheduled and we provide education to the public. In 2015, we partnered with Audubon Society to become an Audubon Bird Town. 2017 upcoming events have been scheduled and posted on www.eac-abington.org as well as goals and how to help the EAC. Nominations for the Montgomery Award are due by April 30th.

Commissioner Markman thanked Ms. Sherwood and the members of the EAC for all the positive work they do for the Township and we are lucky to have you.

Parks and Recreation Report:

Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Andy Oles, reported that the Township's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8th at Alverthorpe Park at 10 a.m. Last day for pool discount is Monday, April 17th. Alverthorpe Spring Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, April 29th with a rain date on April 30th.

Also, upcoming in May will be a trip to Annapolis, MD. Activities guide should be arriving at resident's homes this week and they are also located at the Post Office, Township building, Ardsley Community Center, Alverthorpe Park, the Parks Main Office and the Library. He encouraged everyone to get their account setup for online registration for Township programs and pool membership.

Bid Award – Community Facility at Crestmont Park

(Bids were opened on Tuesday, February 4th)

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to accept the lowest Responsible Bidder and enter into a contract with L.J. Paoella Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,545,571.00 to construct a new community facility at Crestmont Park.

Commissioner Spiegelman called on Community Development Director, Mr. Van Strother.

Mr. Strother explained that three bids were received and the lowest bidder is listed in the motion and he recommends award to that contractor.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Kline asked about items deducted from the project in terms of bids received.

Mr. Strother replied deduct alternates were listed in the bid submitted and two of the deduct bids were reducing field stone on the exterior and interior of the building for an amount of \$44,000. There was an alternate bid to reduce the fire alarm pull stations since it is a one-story building and code does not require it and that brought cost down to amount listed on the agenda.

Commissioner Kline clarified that the basement was also eliminated and it is now a slab on grade. Is that correct?

Mr. Strother replied that is correct.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Funding of the Community Facility at Crestmont Park

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to authorize the use of funds from BB&T Account Number 1390000740639 in the amount of \$119,027.62 (as of 01/31/2017) to fund the construction of the new community facility at Crestmont Park. This account was established on August 31, 1990 for affordable housing purposes that has been replaced by funding from HUD and DCED. (The intent is to close the account and apply all funds to this project).

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Grant Award Acceptance for TAP Grant Trail Development

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to accept the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant from PA Department of Transportation in the amount of \$450,000.00. The grant will support the construction costs for phase one of the bicycle plan.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Kline commended Assistant Township Manager Wehmeyer for her work on the grant and Simone Collins who was also involved in grant application as well as the Master Bike Plan Committee, who worked on putting this plan together. This will be 3.26 miles in the western part of the Township connecting to Ardsley and Crestmont Train Stations.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Grant Award Acceptance for DCNR Grant for Design and Engineering for Bike Lane Implementation

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to accept the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant in the amount of \$90,000.00. The grant will support the design and engineering expenses to implement phase one of the bicycle plan.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Kalinoski clarified that the entire Master Bike Plan was funded by grants. Is that correct?

Assistant Township Manager Wehmeyer replied construction, design and engineering costs were funded by grants for Phase I.

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Proposal Acceptance for Professional Services – Abington Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Trail

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to accept the proposal from the team of Simone Collins Landscape Architecture to prepare the construction documents through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant for the Abington Trail Project at a cost not to exceed \$65,348.00.

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

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any public comments.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Old York Road Historical Society Lease – Alverthorpe Manor

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve a Lease Addendum effective December 1, 2017, extending the Old York Road Historical Society lease at Alverthorpe Manor ten additional years and increasing the total leased area by 927 square feet. The annual rent obligation including utilities will increase to \$15,183.36 effective December 1, 2017.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any comments from Commissioners or staff.

Commissioner Hecker questioned how the 10-year duration came about.

Mr. Oles replied the Old York Road Historical Society requested the additional 10-year lease because they want to expand their storage area in the Manor.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for a shorter contract to be considered and she feels the contract does not cover all costs of that building

Commissioner Spiegelman replied rent from tenants decreases tax payers' dollars that go to care for that building.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Bill Condenser Replacement Project

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to advertise bid for the Condenser Replacement Project at the Abington Library.

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Resolution No. 17-013 – Authorizing the Disposition of Certain Human Resources Records

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to adopt Resolution No. 17-013 authorizing the disposition of certain Human Resources records as set forth in Exhibit "A."

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

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked what records are being disposed.

Commissioner Hecker read each record as listed in Exhibit "A."

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any general comments relating to Public Affairs.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, expressed concern that she feels the “Manager’s contract allows for setting his own time schedule.” Also, she expressed concern about “ads on the channel.”

ADJOURNMENT: 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael LeFevre, Township Manager

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