

WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
October 12, 2020 AT 7:00 pm via Zoom

The Regular Meeting of the Willistown Township Board of Supervisors came to order at 7:00 pm. Supervisors William R. Shoemaker, Robert T. Lange, and Barbara L. Handelin were present. Also present were Township Manager Sally Slook, Police Chief Robert Klinger, Public Works Director Bill Hagan, Finance Director Martin McKenzie, Solicitor Vince Pompo, and Assistant to the Township Manager Jennifer Jacobs.

Supervisor Shoemaker led a moment of silence for military personnel, first responders, and front-line workers in the current pandemic.

Announcements

The Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on October 12, 2020 to discuss real estate and legal matters.

New Business

Minutes – Supervisor Lange moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2020. Supervisor Shoemaker seconded the motion. Supervisor Handelin abstained from voting due to her absence from the previous meeting. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 2-0.

Expenditures - Supervisor Lange moved to approve the list of expenditures and interfund transfers dated October 9, 2020. Supervisor Handelin seconded the motion. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Malvern Library Presentation – Maggie Stanton, Library Director at the Malvern Library, shared that while the library was closed during the height of the pandemic, they still were able to offer residents e-materials and online programs as storytime, kids yoga, and virtual tours. The library reopened June 15 with scheduled curbside pick up, summer reading programs for kids, and Girls TogetHER, non-profit girls mentoring program to foster female empowerment and leadership for girls entering grades 4 to 6. This September, the library opened on Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm for browsing and hold picks up. Patrons can browse the new collection of “7 Day Books.” These are popular, recent titles that are non-holdable and non-renewable. The library has planned outside programs such as pumpkin painting and outside book clubs in October and November. Also new are the “Book Bundles” for younger children. These feature a theme such as bugs or transportation and includes five books, an activity packet, and a DVD. Like many libraries in the area, Malvern Library has experienced a loss of revenue and donations this year, so the 2020 aesthetic changes they had planned have been put on hold. They are currently updating their phone system from 1 phone line to a more current system with multiple phone lines.

Supervisor Shoemaker thanked the Malvern Library for all they have done to keep the community engaged and informed during the pandemic through outreach and creative and unique programming.

Paoli Library Board Appointment – Supervisor Lange moved to approve Christa Melotti to fill a vacancy for a three-year term from 10/17/20 to 10/17/23 on the Paoli Library Board. Supervisor Handelin seconded. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Authorization to Advertise a Public Hearing – Supervisor Lange moved to authorize to advertise a public hearing to consider an ordinance pursuant to section 139-135.A-C, providing for revisions to the zoning map as well as authorization to refer the zoning map amendment to the Chester County Planning Commission pursuant to section 139-136.B. This ordinance will amend the zoning map of Willistown Township for 3 Beryl Road in Paoli, tax parcel 54-1K-70 from R3 Residential District to Highway Business District. Supervisor Handelin seconded. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Resolution #16 of 2020: Commendation to First Responders serving the people of Willistown Township. Supervisor Shoemaker read the Resolution into the record.

Whereas since the early months of this year 2020, the Nation, the Commonwealth, and Willistown Township have been faced with the unprecedented effects and challenges of the Covid-19 global pandemic; and

Whereas all members of the Willistown Township Police Department and all the members of the Fire and EMS services of the Goshen, Malvern, Paoli, and Newtown Square Fire Companies have been serving the people of Willistown Township with undaunted courage and devotion during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas these selfless First Responders, at greatly enhanced risk to their personal safety, have and continue to respond to calls that expose them to potential infection far above and beyond the normal risks inherent to Police and Emergency Services; and

Whereas the community is required to avoid infection, to engage in social distancing, wear masks, avoid persons known to be infected, and to otherwise engage in many other similar measures, our Police and EMS professionals are doing the equivalent of 'walking into burning buildings' by attending to people needing police and medical assistance who may be known to be carrying the virus, placing Police, Fire, and EMS personnel in harm's way; and

Whereas the professionalism of the Willistown Police Department and the Goshen, Malvern, Paoli, and Newtown Square Fire Companies in meeting these extraordinary circumstances is exemplary, the Board also recognizes that the risk of COVID infection faced by each member of the Police and EMS services on each and every emergency call is not only for them but further extends to their families who can be exposed in the course of living with these Police and EMS professionals.

Therefore, The Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the people of Willistown Township, do hereby declare the deepest gratitude and commendation to all members of the Willistown Township Police Department and to all the members of the Fire and EMS services of the Goshen, Malvern, Paoli, and Newtown Square Fire Companies and additionally to their families also go our gratitude and commendation for extraordinary sacrifice for our community.

Duly adopted this 12th day of October 2020, by the Board of Supervisors of Willistown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

Supervisor Handelin moved to approve Resolution 16 of 2020. Supervisor Lange seconded. Supervisor Handelin commented there were several members of the area fire departments and the Willistown Township Police Department on the Zoom call and thanked them for taking the time to call into the meeting. She suggested the Township deliver official signed and sealed copies of the Resolution to the local fire departments. Supervisor Shoemaker expressed his gratitude to first responders' families for the challenges they face when their loved one leaves for work every day. Bob Fleming, President of Goshen Fire Company, thanked Willistown Township for the continued support. There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried 3-0.

Police Report – Chief Klinger reported they arrested a 63-year-old male for possession of drugs relating to Paoli Hospital. A 39-year-old female was arrested for simple assault and a 27-year-old male for marijuana possession and illegal firearms as a felon. A 50-year-old male was arrested for stalking and harassment of an ex-girlfriend, and a 33-year-old male was arrested for driving under the influence on West Chester Pike. There was a theft of \$2300 of lawn equipment from a trailer parked along the 300 block of Paoli Pike. Finally, there was a fatality involving a bicyclist and motorist on October 3 at Hillview and Davis Roads. Chief Klinger also thanked all the first responder partners listening in tonight – Paoli, Malvern, Newtown Square, and Goshen Fire Departments. Willistown Police Department appreciates their service and assistance during this time. Chief Doug Everlof of Newtown Square Fire

Company thanked the Board of Supervisors for all their support this year and years past and were especially thankful for the additional funding this year to help purchase additional PPE equipment to keep the fire company safe during COVID-19.

Citizens' Comments

Elizabeth Jekot, 18 Applewood Road, asked if there would be a shredding event this year. Supervisor Shoemaker commented all recycling events had been canceled for this year due to COVID-19, but the County did reference companies that will do shredding. Jennifer Jacobs also commented the Willistown Recycling Commission wrote an article for the Great Valley InCommunity Magazine on the canceled recycling events for 2020 and included a listing where residents could recycle e-waste and take items for shredding. She will repost the article on Facebook and post it under "Latest News" on the Township Website. Ms. Jekot also commented on the bicycle fatality and what can be done to keep residents safe. Supervisor Shoemaker said there are a few roads in Willistown with bad sightlines and blind spots and are very narrow, making it difficult for bicyclists and motorists to share the road. Both drivers and cyclists should take extra care on these roads. Chief Johnson from the Malvern Fire Company thanked the Board for their continued support before and during the pandemic. He also thanked the Willistown Township Police Department for continuing to work with them during these unique times.

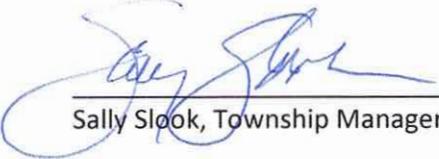
Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2020, at 7:00 pm and will be held via Zoom. On October 29th at 7:00 pm, there will also be a Special Public Meeting on the Sewer Evaluation Results.

Adjournment

Seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,



Sally Slook, Township Manager