

Board of Supervisors

April 5, 2022

Board Members Present: Scott Lambert, Chair; Rich Orlow, Vice-Chair; and Peter Fixler, Member

Staff Present: John Nagel, Township Manager; Steve Brown, Assistant Township Manager; Donna Wikert, Board Secretary; John Neild, Director of Public Work; Zach Barner, Director of Planning and Development; Chris Yeager, Police Chief; Bernadette Kearney from HRMML

Mr. Lambert called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Briefings:

Executive Session(s) were held on March 30 at 4pm (legal, personnel and real estate) and April 5 at 5pm (legal, personnel and real estate)

Route 30 Infrastructure Project Application using Federal (U. S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity [RAISE] Discretionary Grant) Funds

Mr. Lambert announced that East Whiteland Township has successfully submitted a federal infrastructure grant application for an award up to \$25 million for multimodal transportation improvements on Rt 30. December 2021 our Planning Commission chair Deb Abel and I met to discuss supporting the township applying for a Federal Infrastructure Grant for improvements.

Mr. Lambert read a letter he composed outlining Route 30 Infrastructure Project Application process here are a few statements from the letter, which will be posted to the website.

Mr. Lambert started off with, while we did not have a completed engineered approved project, the Board, staff, and our engineering consultant agreed that this type of infrastructure project funded by Federal grants was worth pursuing. Part of the process included John Nagel and I conducting external outreach, research and, consulting with our solicitor. We did not have the resources to tackle a project of this size. In January township staff, our traffic engineer, Deb Abel, and the Board began interviewing two of the top economic development consultants who could help us. We gathered information on available grants, process's and whether our potential "projects" could qualify under the various grant criteria. Both consultants, Long & Nyquist & Delta Development Group recommended that we should apply for the" RAISE "grant with an award amount up to \$25 million and focus on the Rt 30 corridor improvements.

The grant, national in scope is extremely competitive. Last year a similar grant was awarded to only two (2) projects in PA. The due date was April 14, 2022, so time was of the essence. On January 17, following three interviews with each consultant, we had staff and board consensus to proceed with the grant application and to hire Delta Development Group to assist us in managing the process, completing a comprehensive 30-page application, lobbying for the grant award, and helping with a completion audit.

Our township consists of eleven sq miles current population of 13,917. Major business's that reside here include Vanguard, Cerner, Saint -Gobain, Vishay, several Bio Tech Companies, and countless small

businesses. Penn State Malvern campus, Immaculata University, Drexel Lebow College of Business Main Lines, Paoli Hospital, and the Great Valley School District. With Route 30 being the “Main Street” of the township the corresponding North South feeder roads to Route 29,252,352, and 401, contribute to us seeing 20,000 commuters daily on our roads. (Per PennDOT)

The discussion of multi-modal transportation improvements along Rt 30 began in earnest in 2018 with the Route 30 masterplan corridor study and has gained momentum as Route 30’s issues have become more problematic. We felt we could not put off it any longer, that the bottle neck & safety issues caused in part by the expansive growth will not by themselves improve and now was an opportunity to take advantage of the newly available grant programs to fund the project. The scope of the project impacts Route 30 between Church Rd and Planebrook.

Improvements include, reducing congestion by widening to five lanes (2 in each direction and a turn lane, improving intersections, adding bike lanes sidewalks and bus stop improvements

In addition, the project would meet the grant criteria, positively impact one of the townships greatest roadway needs, help with the revitalization of this corridor and by utilizing the previously completed Route 30 Corridor Master Plan document would allow the narrative to be expertly documented. The Board and staff completely agreed.

Sewer System Sale - Mr. Nagel gave a brief overview on the sewer sale to Aqua. The application was filed on February 4, 2022, the PUC should be ruling on the sale on August 4, 2022, and August 9, 2022, is tentatively set for settlement date. Please check our website for information on sewer sale.

[Proposed Sewer Sale | East Whiteland Township, PA](#)

Campus Master Plan – Mr. Nagel gave a brief overview on the new Police Building.

Design development started early this year. Scheduled to submit land development plan in June. We will be looking for Board of Supervisors approval at the November 2022 meeting. Bidding would go out in January of 2023, construction hopefully to start in the end of March 2024, occupying in May of 2024. This is a long-term approach, and is expected to have scheduled changes throughout the process.

[Campus Master Plan - Timeline | East Whiteland Township, PA](#)

Julia Bitto memorial playground update – Mr. Brown announced the playground ribbon cutting is set for May 14, 2022, rain date May 15.

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from Government Finance Officers Association for Fiscal Year 2020

Mr. Nagel discussed how we are fortunate to be recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association for an Excellence in Financial Reporting due to the fine work that Usha Hogan and Joe Meehan have done on behalf of East Whiteland Township. Mr. Nagel wanted to recognized Ed Furman not only as a professional CPA who worked for Maillie LLP, he also had years of experience in

business, government, and non-profit accounting. He was a Drexel University graduate, he served as Township Supervisor in Towamecnin Township, he also served as a Township Auditor in Whitpan Township and was a dear friend. Ed's biggest contribution to East Whiteland Township was guiding us to Excellence in Financial Reporting. Ed retired and soon after that was diagnosed with cancer and passed away on March 20, 2022, leaving his wife Ruth, two sons and daughter behind.

Designate by Proclamation April 29, 2022, as Abigail Adams Day (Peoples Light Executive Artistic Director for Over 10 Years doing wonderful things for Peoples Light for over 40 years) Day.

Ms. Wikert introduced April 29, 2022, as "Abigail Adams Day" Dianne Bricker spoke on behalf of Peoples Light and Theater. She wanted to Thank the Board for proclaiming April 29 as "Abigail Adams Day" Abby is well deserving of this honor. She is an extraordinary person, strong woman, great educator, forward thinking leader. Abby has kept the theater going throughout this pandemic. She kept staff employed and the theater opened. Abby is well deserving of this honor.

Mr. Lambert made a designation by proclamation for April 29, 2022, as Abigail Adams Day. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Public Hearings:

CU-03-2022 for Great Valley School District Outdoor Recreation – [Conditional Use Application](#) to allow both passive and active recreation facilities in a residential zoning district. The plan proposes outdoor play areas, relocated garden/greenhouse facilities, and a multi-use recreational trail adjacent to the existing KD Markley Elementary School and proposed 5/6th Grade Center. The property, located at 348 Swedesford Road, is within the R-1 (Residential) Zoning District.

Full details of the hearing are contained with the transcript prepared by a court reporter. The transcript is available to view at the Township Building. The hearing ended and Ms. Kearney reconvened into the regular Board meeting to vote upon CU-03-2022 for Great Valley School District Outdoor Recreation. Mr. Lambert made a motion to accept the Conditional Use Application as read by Ms. Kearney. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion the motion was approved 3-0.

Board Motions & Resolutions:

Ratify Appointment of Patricia McDonald to Environmental Advisory Council (for term expiring 2026)
Mr. Lambert made a motion ratify the appointment of Patricia McDonald. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Ratify Appointment of Ruben Garrett to Historical Commission (for term expiring 2026)

Mr. Fixler made a motion to ratify the appointee of Ruben Garrett. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Appoint Greg Lewis as Chief Fire Marshal - Mr. Fixler made a motion to approve the appointment of Greg Lewis as Fire Marshal. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Appoint Mark Moses as Deputy Fire Marshal - Mr. Fixler made a motion to approve the appointment of Mark Moses as Deputy Fire Marshal. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Bacton Hill Park Phase 1 Consider authorization to include restrooms and fencing in phase 1.

After a lengthy discussion on the need of the bathroom all three members of the Board decided to hold off and continue looking into this but not include in Phase 1. The cost estimated is \$200,000 to \$300,000 and it is 300 sf., the cost is more for the pre fabrication buildings themselves. At this time there is no sewer hookup either by the time Phase 1 is completed we would have to pay AQUA for tapping fees.

As for the fencing, Medical Home Supply has agreed to cost share with the Township which could be in the range of \$25,000. The Board felt there is more of a need to put a fencing structure up then a bathroom at this time.

Mr. Orlow made a motion to approve including fencing in Phase 1 of Bacton Hill Park at this time and to continue investigating the cost for restrooms. Mr. Fixler seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Motion to Advertise:

2022 Road Paving Project

Mr. Neild gave the Board the list of roads to be paved in their Board Packet. Mr. Neild introduced Al Vennettilli from ARRO who will be replacing Darrell Becker when he retires in May.

Mr. Fixler made a motion to approve the advertising of the 2022 Road paving project. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Advertise on Muncibid - 2015 Dodge Charger & 2000 Suzuki ATV

Mr. Fixler made a motion to approve the advertising of the 2015 Dodge Charger & ATV. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Planning & Development:

Consider Rendering a Decision on the Following [Development Applications](#):

LD-07-2021 for Great Valley School District five-sixths Grade Center (Great Valley School District) Final Subdivision & Land Development application to construct a new 172,000 square foot 5th and 6th Grade School. The property, located at 354 Swedesford Road, is within the NS (Neighborhood School) and OS (Open Space) Zoning Districts

Mr. Freimuth updated the Board on the PennDOT traffic signal condition, which has been discussed at previous meetings. Mr. Freimuth said the proposed signal at Church and Swedesford may not be warranted based on updated traffic counts, but the district is aware of the condition which will require the School District to pursue the signal or to pay the traffic impact fee if the signal is not approved by PennDOT. The condition states the School District is required to study the intersection for up to 5 years, which the district is willing to do. Mr. Freimuth asked that the Township be mindful that additional development may lead to additional traffic at that intersection. Mr. Orlow asked if, during the study period it requires a signal, who pay for the actual signal installation. Mr. Freimuth said the way it reads is that the Township would pay for the installation with the impact fee collected from the School District. Ms. Kearney asked Mr. Freimuth if the school District aware of the draft resolution and whether they are in agreement with the conditions. Mr. Freimuth confirmed acceptance of the resolution

as drafted and said the only possibility is that the School District may come back to the Township with sanitary sewer data showing lower flows than the original EDU estimate.

Mr. Orlow made a motion to approve LD-07-2021 for Great Valley School District five-sixths Grade Center (Great Valley School District). Mr. Fixler seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0

Consider Extension of Time to Render a Decision on the Following [Development Applications](#):

LD-01-2022 for 41 Moores Road Parking Structure – extension until to July 31, 2022

Mr. Fixler made a motion to extend the time thru July. Mr. Orlow seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Zoning:

Property Maintenance Codes – Recent Activity (Report Submitted)

Mr. Orlow read Property Maintenance on properties that have been given 30-day notices to clean up their property. Residents on several of these properties are taking care of the trash citations and cleaning up.

Public Comment: General

Dr. Tom Miles wanted to share his good news that is has been proven by the historians that George Washington's headquarters in 1777 was at Malin Hall. Dr. Miles asked about the status of an application he submitted in 2018 for the historical Commission he asked the Board if they could vote on that tonight or table to another night or if necessary, reapply. He spoke to the Board about being a business owner in the Township for 28 years, 5 years as a resident at Malin Hall. He is proud to be able to restore and keep up with the maintenance of the historical home. He again asked the board to consider the application he has submitted.

Mr. Wise wanted the Board to know he is in full support of Dr. Miles request to be on the Historical Commission. Mr. Wise has worked on Historical District and Overlay ordinances himself; he knows you need a strong Historical Commission to guide the Community and he feels that Dr. Miles is that person. The Township would benefit having Dr. Miles as part of the Historical Board not only his home, but his vision and knowledge would be an asset to the Township.

Dr. Sadanage also spoke on behalf of the Dr. Miles highly recommending him for the Historical Commission his knowledge and restoration of Malin Hall is to be commended and he would be an asset to the Township.

Mr. Scheibe wanted a status on his property as being part of the water run off project on three-ton rd. Mr. Brown said the Township is waiting for a proposal from ARRO and that he will reach out to Rick once it is received.

Mr. Barret, president of the Great Valley School Board wanted to Thank the Board for all that they have done to move the school district project along. Mr. Lambert thanked the school district on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for being flexible and working thru this process.

Consent Agenda (Consider Board Action):

- a) Approve Meeting Minutes from March 9, 2022
- b) Ratify Payment of Bills: \$1,217,639.74 (January 2022)
- c) Accept Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2022
- d) Ratify Continued Environmental Consulting Support by BSTI (\$10,000) Related to development of the Knickerbocker Site
- e) Approve Resolution for Retention and Disposition of Records
- f) Authorize appraisal for purchase of property adjacent to Down East Park
- g) Authorize appraisal for sewer easement acquisition of 1 Lapp Road
- h) Ratify Proposal from All Covered for Police Cloud Disaster Recovery Systems (Increases from \$7,845 to \$9,177 Monthly)
- i) Approve One Year Extension (to December 2023) of Police Collective Bargaining Agreement
- j) Authorize expenditure for Valley Creek Park Eagle Scout Project (Shreyas Sao, Troop 78) construction of six four' benches and planting of two shade trees for playground (\$1,000) Shreyas Sao talked about his Eagle project, and he needed to add wood strainer to his cost. The cost will be near \$1400.
- k) Mr. Lambert added this item to the consent agenda – Authorize Application to DCED for Strategic Management Planning Program Phase 2 Grant Fire and EMS.

Mr. Orlow made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read. Mr. Fixler seconded the motion; the motion was approved 3-0.

Meeting Adjournment: **9:26**

Donna Wikert
Board Secretary