



Township of Concord

DELAWARE COUNTY

*COUNCIL: Dominic A. Pileggi, John J. Gillespie, John L. Crossan,
Thomas J. Mahoney, Dana M. Rankin, Colleen P. Morrone, Vinita Deshmukh*

PUBLIC MEETING Tuesday, February 2, 2021

John J. Gillespie called to order the Public Meeting of the Concord Township Council starting with the Pledge of Allegiance on February 2, 2021 at 7:01 pm. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was held via the Township's Zoom Webinar platform that was live streamed, and residents were asked to email in their public comment(s) in advance of the meeting. Council members in attendance were John J. Gillespie, John Crossan, Dana Rankin, Colleen Morrone and Vinita Deshmukh. Also in attendance were Amanda Serock (Manager), Nate Cline (Engineer) and Hugh Donaghue (Solicitor). Dominic A. Pileggi and Thomas Mahoney were not in attendance.

J. Gillespie commended the Public Works Department for a job well done plowing snow during the past storm and welcomed Vinta Deshmukh to her first public meeting on Council.

COUNCIL'S APPROVAL

J. Crossan motioned to approve the Council's January 4, 2021 Organization/Regular Meeting Minutes and January 26, 2021 agenda meeting minutes. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was seconded by C. Morrone, V. Deshmukh abstained from voting and the motion was adopted by the Council (4-0).

D. Rankin made a motion to approve the total expenditures for January of \$809,630.77, the January payroll of \$157,484.18, the current Township bills totaling \$314,252.01 and the current Sewer bills totaling \$337,894.58. As there was no comment or discussion, the motion was seconded by C. Morrone and unanimously adopted by the Council.

RECOGNITION

J. Gillespie announced the **Park & Rec Holiday Contest Winners** and noted they will be posted on the website. Winners for the **Tree Ornament Contest** include **1st Place Winner Linda Quinney (Manger)**, **2nd place winner Hannah Smith (Gumball)** and **3rd place winner Jennifer Rolecki (Mask Angel)**. Winners for the **Gingerbread Contest** include **1st place winner Brenda Orso (Gingerbread Village)**, **2nd place winner Ron & Lia Pronio (Colorful House)** and **3rd place winner Sandy Bakey (Log Cabin)**. Congratulations to all winners! The Snow Creation Contest is still accepting entries through the end of March.

C. Morrone motioned to approve **Resolution No. 14-2020** in recognition of **Richard Julason's service on the Planning Commission**. The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. C. Morrone thanked him as she had previously served with R. Julason on Planning Commission. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORTS

The following *monthly reports for January have been made a part of the minutes: Sewer Department, Code Enforcement Officer/Zoning Officer, and Planning Commission. Trooper Jessica Tobin was in attendance to give the Pennsylvania State Police Report. Trooper Tobin reported from this same time from 2020-2021 there was a 40% decrease in crashes, 50% decrease in DUI arrests, 50% decrease in traffic stops, no change in property crimes, 30% decrease in thefts, 50% decrease in retail thefts, 100% decrease in fraud thefts. She gave specifics on several incidents: a burglary in January 2021 involving a storage unit containing an ATV which had also been burglarized in October of 2020 for a similar make and model ATV; A proactive traffic stop on January 12th involving two troopers who initiated a traffic stop on Naamans Creek Road and Route 202 (a search warrant was issued) and State Police recovered a 9mm pistol, a ¼ pound of marijuana and a \$1,000; On January 19th a retail theft at Target involving two females (one of which had a warrant) who were apprehended with approximately \$1,376.00 worth of stolen merchandise; and that 195 security checks were conducted. J. Gillespie inquired about the security check and Trooper Tobin responded that security checks are done periodically-residents/business owners should call the State Police at 484-840-1000 or Trooper Tobin at 610-558-7074 with the span of dates they will be gone, and State Police will do recurring checks on the property. The State Police are now participating in a data collection program relating to traffic stops which will be analyzed by researchers at the University of Cincinnati to try to identify patterns due to ethnic or racial disparities. Additionally, the Media Barracks unit recently welcomed six new troopers in January. In the fourth quarter December of 2020 the State Police had collected more than \$5 million dollars' worth of illegal drugs that were seized, and drugs collected from prescription boxes. Prescription drug drop off boxes are available at the State Police Barracks inside the lobby. The Amber Alert System was issued in 2002 by the PSP and has issued 100 Amber Alerts since the program began which resulted in children being recovered.

D. Rankin read the *Sewer Department report.

H. Donaghue, Solicitor reported: Judge Whelan entered an order about the Concord Ventures matter on October 20th indicating the matter was remanded back to Concord Township Council for the limited purpose of scheduling a hearing for the introduction of additional evidence as set forth in the Appellant's above referenced motion. Attorney Kaplan on behalf of Concord Ventures is attempting to supplement the record with approximately 30 additional pieces of evidence which primarily concern emails and texts between various representatives of the parties. Council will not be making any decisions; it is purely an evidentiary proceeding. H. Donaghue requested Council to pass a motion to appoint retired Judge Proud to schedule a hearing for the introduction of additional evidence as ordered by Judge Whelan the date being February 25th at 5pm. J. Crossan motioned to approve, the motion was seconded by D. Rankin. H. Donaghue noted this will be a public ZOOM meeting. Previous parties may participate. H. Donaghue will reach out those parties to make them aware of this meeting. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

N. Cline had no new updates on School House Lane and Baltimore Pike other than he has spoken to PennDOT regarding various options and will present them next month to present a game plan for the larger items. One short term fix includes the stop bars and red reflective devices on the stop signs on all the School House Lane approaches. N. Cline will work with Public Works to get them installed. He appreciates the feedback from Council and residents. J. Gillespie would still like to see a stop light installed. D. Rankin motioned to keep Pennoni moving forward and continue with these measures for the intersection of School House Lane and Baltimore Pike and continue the dialog from month to month. The motion was seconded by V. Deshmukh. J. Crossan interjected stop bars help to reinforce where intersections are throughout the township and they have helped where they have been added. J. Gillespie noted the speeding on Baltimore Pike is terrible coming down the hill to School House. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

A. Serock commended the Public Works Department for its snow removal and thanked the Public Works Director for coordinating those efforts. She announced the Township will be hiring for new positions in the Public Works Department and that the positions will be posted on social media and the Township's website. She reminded residents to call or email the Township with any issues instead of placing on social media. The Parks & Rec Department's Snow Contest is accepting pictures thru March 31st and the Township is now accepting inspiration story ideas to be posted for Feel Good Friday on the social media. J. Gillespie thanked A. Serock for her leadership in keeping Council abreast during the recent storms.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Serock reviewed comments submitted to Council. *Jim Carr (39 Park Lane) commented on the Baltimore Pike turn lane not being wide enough to turn on to School House Lane. *Dave Cleary (72 School House Lane) asked if Council was reviving the Public Safety Advisory Committee, commented on the number of vehicles using School House Lane, inquired if Council would consider using speed bumps on School House Lane and where he could find information on applying for speed bumps, and remarked about the right-hand turn lane not being wide enough on Baltimore Pike to turn on to School House and also remarked if a volunteer could read Public Comment emails rather than the Solicitor to save on costs. N. Cline responded that road counts are done at critical times and the information on speed humps can be found in the Township Code Book under Chapter 185. *Gene Goebel (7 Quaker Lane) commented on the date of the Zoning Hearing Board listed on tonight's agenda, requested Public Comment be moved under "New Business" and requested Resolutions be posted on the website prior to Council's Public Meeting. A. Serock responded that Mr. Goebel was correct on the date for ZHB meeting. J. Crossan responded "if Public Comment were moved under New Business, Council would have already acted on it" and stated that the Township was discussing Resolution draft copies to be posted on the website but that there are some procedural difficulties and draft iteration issues if posted early that Council will need to consider and discuss further. *All Comments discussed will be attached to the meeting minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 15-2021 – D. Rankin motioned to approve Resolution-15-2021- Sewer Easement on Walters Lane. The homeowners granted a utility easement to extend the main to provide sewer for three other homes. The motion was seconded by J. Crossan. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council

Resolution No. 16-2021 – A. Serock described the Resolution that would allow the Township to apply for reimbursement funding from PEMA/FEMA for COVID related expenses to date in the amount of approximately \$40,000. The eligible reimbursements are for PPE, cleaning, technology needs, etc. J. Crossan inquired if the Township applied for the Cares Act from the County. A. Serock noted yes and that the County denied funding through the CARES Act to the local municipalities for 2020. C. Morrone motioned to approve Resolution No. 16-2021 COVID-19 PEMA/FEMA Funding. V. Deshmukh inquired if the fund requests could continue as we are still incurring COVID costs, and A. Serock noted yes that the Township can continue with reimbursement requests through this program with PEMA/FEMA. The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Resolution No. 17-2021- J. Crossan motioned to approve Resolution No. 17-2021 **Valley Point Church** reaffirming Resolution No 15-2019. The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Resolution No. 18-2021- J. Crossan motioned to approve Resolution No. 18-2021 **136-150 Mattson Road (Substitute Applicant)**. The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Resolution No. 19-2021- D. Rankin motioned to approve Resolution No. 19-2021 **Astoria Chadds Ford** reaffirming Resolutions No. 29 and 30-2020. The motion was seconded by J. Crossan. The demolition has occurred on this site. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Connect the Dots Professional Proposal for Public Engagement-This initiative for public engagement is for Council to collaborate with the public on shared communication and on shaping the vision of the Township's future. J. Crossan motioned to approve the Connect the Dots Professional Proposal. The motion was seconded by C. Morrone. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

J. Crossan motioned to appoint **Larry Mutschler** to the **Planning Commission** (term to expire June 2023). The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

J. Crossan motioned to appoint **Lesley Berkeyheiser** to the **Historical Commission** (term expires October 2022). The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

D. Rankin motioned to reappoint **Brenda Orso** to the **Library Board** (term expires December 2023). The motion was seconded by V. Deshmukh. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

C. Morrone motioned to reappoint **Lauren Green** to the **Parks & Recreation Board** (term expires September 2025). The motion was seconded by D. Rankin. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

D. Rankin motioned to **authorize advertisement of Lawn Maintenance Bids**. The motion was seconded by V. Deshmukh. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

D. Rankin motioned to approve the bid for the **Smithbridge Estates Sewer Project** for \$460,117.00 to **DOLI Construction Corporation**. The motion was seconded by C. Morrone. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

D. Rankin motioned to approve the **McKenney Construction** bid for the **Beaver Valley Road Sewer Project** at **\$379,586.00** and the **Mattson Road Sewer Project** at **\$148,257.00**. The motion was seconded by J. Crossan. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

D. Rankin motioned to approve the **Certificate of Payment No. 1** for **\$161,252.10** to **DOLI Construction Corporation** for the **Penns Grant Sewer Project**. The motion was seconded by C. Morrone. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

There were no Financial Security Releases.

D. Rankin motioned to accept the following applications as complete for filing: **Demo Application for Historic Class I structure at 1126 Smithbridge Road** and **Final Minor Subdivision for 400 Smithbridge Road LLC at 400 Smithbridge Road**. The motion was seconded by J. Crossan. As there was no comment or further discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

J. Crossan recognized the recent deaths of two longtime residents: Dr. Chris Panarello, Sr. and Julius Flynn, Jr.

UPCOMING TOWNSHIP MEETINGS/EVENTS

All the following meetings will be held virtual due to COVID:

February 4, 2021	Park & Recreation Board Meeting
February 15, 2021	Township Offices Closed for Presidents Day Holiday
February 16, 2021	Planning Commission Meeting (Tuesday due to Holiday)
February 18, 2021	Zoning Hearing Board (Thursday)
February 25, 2021	Concord Ventures Evidentiary Hearing - 5pm

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business to conduct, D. Rankin made a motion that the February 2, 2021 public meeting be adjourned at 8:16 p.m. The motion was seconded by J. Crossan and approved.