

**MINUTES OF PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2022**

1. Call to Order: The September 27, 2022, work session meeting of the Plumstead Township Board of Supervisors was held at Plumstead Township Municipal Building, 5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA. Chair, Daniel Hilferty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Daniel Hilferty	Chair
James McComb	Vice Chair
Kenneth Lichtenstein	Assistant Secretary*
Pete Busillo	Member*
Greg Bankos	Assistant Treasurer

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Township Manager:	Angela P. Benner
Township Public Works Director:	Alan Bleam
Township Police Chief:	David Mettin
Township Solicitor:	Jonathan J. Reiss, Esq.*
Township Engineer:	Timothy Fulmer, PE*

* Not Present

2. Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance:

3. Public Comment: No Public Comment at this time.

4. 2023 Budget Discussion: Ms. Benner led the Board in a discussion about the proposed 2023 Budget.

Water Fund: Mrs. Terry Funk, from Gilmore & Associates and Alan Bleam, Township Public Works Director, provided the Board with an overview of the Township's entire water system and then discussed the need to plan for future expansion of the Southern System. Mrs. Funk shared that there is currently no redundancy at Summer Hill and if any of the wells would be unusable or depleted, the Township would have to pump and haul water into the development. Mrs. Funk presented different routes that the expansion could go from Patriots Ridge to Summer Hill. The longest route would allow for water connections to Tohickon Middle School, Groveland Elementary, Arbor Estate's and the development that is in the planning stages on the Urich Tract. Ms. Benner stated that she wants to the Board to be aware of this need, so that we can plan for it and if the Schools were to participate in the expansion, then it would make sense and be feasible for going the longer route. If the school district would not be interested, then the Township could go a shorter route instead. Ms. Benner added that the township could use a portion of their ARPA funds for the project and recapture costs from any property that would connect after the line would be installed. Ms. Benner also discussed the water main expansion to the Township building and explained that costs have significantly increased. The Board had additional conversation about the water system and provided a consensus to have staff over the next year approach the School District about the water main extension and ask that the extension to the township building be put off for a year, in hopes of the material costs coming back down.

Mr. Bleam presented the Board with the proposal for the updated needed for the Township's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. Mr. Bleam stated that the importance of upgrading the technology is for more efficient and effective monitoring and reporting of the Township's water system.

Ms. Benner stated that the budget also includes an expense in the amount of \$15,000 for a Water Study to be completed. The objective of the study is to have a rate recommendation ready for implementation in late 2023/early 2024. Ms. Benner stated that this rate study would take into consideration planned future capital projects and current costs of maintaining the water system.

Parks & Recreation Fund: Ms. Benner stated that this proposes \$12,000 to be expended at Jennifer Schweitzer Memorial Park to extend the trail through the open space, connecting the trail to the existing sidewalks on Downs Run and the multi-purpose trail along Potters Lane. Ms. Benner added that this trail segment is in the trail plan and that she would be submitting for a PECO Green Region Grant that would cover 50% if awarded.

General Fund: Ms. Benner reviewed the anticipated revenue and expenses of the General Fund with the Board. Ms. Benner summarized the IT work needed and the importance and integration of upgraded systems for workflow and cyber security. Ms. Benner added that in addition to the upgrades needed for cyber security, that included the cost to switch the Township to Office 365.

Chief Mettin reviewed his budget with the Board that included the Automatic Red Light Enforcement systems in the cross keys area, fence installation at the pole barn and body camera replacement.

Ms. Andrea Susten gave a brief presentation on upgrading and revamping the Township Website.

Tax Millage: Ms. Benner went over the mills that are collected and how they are currently allocated. Ms. Benner stated that the Board could reallocate 2 mills from debt service to general fund to build reserves, as those mills are no longer needed to cover the debt payments from the Debt Service Fund. Ms. Benner added that the Board could also reallocate those mills to the Stormwater Fund, Open Space Fund and EMS Fund to start building reserves for future capital expenses.

Mr. Bankos expressed his concerns with reallocating the mills and stated he would rather see them returned to the residents instead of increasing the general fund. Mr. Bankos stated he would like to see this evaluated further. The Board asked Ms. Benner to provide an additional debt service analysis that would not show the mills being reallocated from Debt Service to the General Fund.

Ms. Benner stated that at the October work session the Fire and EMS Chiefs will be present to discuss their budget requests and that her and Alan will be presenting the road program.

Budget is scheduled to be considered for preliminary approval at the November 7, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting.

5. Board of Supervisors Comments: Mr. McComb expressed his concern with giving a donation to the Historical Society as they are a tax-exempt organization.

Mr. Bankos asked if there were any updates on the BCWSA and Ms. Benner provided the Board with an update on the status of the consortium and lateral issues in the Township.

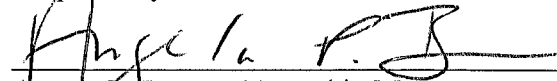
6. Bills List date September 27, 2022 in the amount of \$262,968.54, subject to audit

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. McComb, seconded by Mr. Bankos, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated September 27, 2022 in the amount of \$262,968.54, subject to audit.

7. **Adjournment:** Upon motion by Mr. McComb and seconded by Mr. Hilferty the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Date Approved: 10/11/22

Respectfully Submitted,



Angela P. Benner, Township Manager