

WHITE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 9, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Herb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated ‘Adequate Notice of this meeting of June 9, 2016 has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting to the Express-Times and Star-Gazette; and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and the township website. Formal action may be taken at this meeting. Public participation is encouraged. This agenda is subject to last minute additions and deletions by the White Township Committee’.

FLAG SALUTE

The Mayor asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Herb, Committeeman Race, Committeewoman Mackey, Attorney Tipton and Clerk Kathleen Reinalda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Dec, 15 Old Phillipsburg Road, requested information on the vacation of Old Phillipsburg Road. Attorney Tipton explained that several years ago the county had chosen to vacate the road. This meant that the maintenance of the road reverted to the landowners abutting the road. The township has no jurisdiction in the matter, therefore, Attorney Tipton suggested she contact the county for further information.

RESOLUTIONS

Res. 2016-27: Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION 2016-27

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of White, County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society

amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the White Township Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2016-2017 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$5,392.00
Cash Match	\$1,618.00
In-Kind	\$4,044.00

2. The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Res. 2016-28: Motion made by Mr. Race, seconded by Mrs. Mackey and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution adopted.

WHEREAS, White Township has a tax collection department for the municipality;

WHEREAS, Jamie McDermid desires to work as a Tax Clerk for White Township to assist the Tax Collector in her statutory duties; and

WHEREAS, The White Township Committee and the Tax Collector feel that this position will be a benefit to the Township and its residents to provide additional coverage for the office; and

WHEREAS, Jamie McDermid will be performing the duties of taxability, collection, enforcement and reporting while working in the tax collection department; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Clerk position will be paid at \$10 per hour for 2016 and no benefits will be associated with this position; and

WHEREAS, the position is limited to a maximum of 15 hours per week.

NOW, therefore, be it resolved, that the Township hereby appoints Jamie McDermid as

Tax Clerk for the Township of White.

Res. 2016-29: Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF PREMIUM TO OUTSIDE LIENHOLDER

WHEREAS, the Municipal Tax Sale held on December 17, 2015, a lien was sold on Block 16 Lot 44 also known as Hazen Oxford Road for 2014 delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate No. 15-00061 was sold to US Bank Cust for PC6, LLC for a 0% redemption fee and a \$12,000.00 premium.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$12,000.00 (premium account) payable to US Bank Cust for PC6 LLC Tax Lien Services Group 50 S. 16th St STE 2050 Philadelphia, Pa 19102 because the lien was redeemed.

Res. 2016-30: Motion made by Mr. Race, seconded by Mrs. Mackey with Mayor Herb abstaining to approve the following resolution. Herb – abstain, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WHITE TOWNSHIP TO PARTICPATE IN THE ACQUISITION OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS OF OXBOW ACRES

WHEREAS, property owned by Arthur and Joan Rothman, known on the official tax map of White Township (the "Township") as Block 33, Lots 20 and 20.02 (the "Property"), consisting of approximately 58.32 acres, was designated as a property to be protected under the Township farmland preservation plan; and

WHEREAS, the owners of the Property are willing to sell their development rights to the Township and County; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, Department of Agriculture, State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), provided White Township with a grant under the Municipal Planning Incentive Grant (Muni PIG) Program to purchase development rights on active farms within the Township; and

WHEREAS, two fair market appraisals were obtained by the Township to establish the value of the development rights on this property; and

WHEREAS, the SADC certified a market value of \$4,000 per acre for the development rights; and

WHEREAS, the Property will include one 2-acre non-severable exception area around the existing dwelling, garage and other improvements that will remain with the Property; and one 8-acre severable exception that is currently vacant and wooded, and may be severed and subdivided from the Property, resulting in a net acreage of the easement of approximately 48.32 acres; and

WHEREAS, the Township has negotiated a purchase price of \$4,000 per acre for the development rights on the Property, or a total of approximately \$193,280, the exact compensation to be determined by a final survey; and

WHEREAS, the SADC will provide a grant through the Muni PIG Program in the amount of \$2,800 per acre, or total of approximately \$135,296 for the development rights; and

WHEREAS, the County of Warren will provide a grant in the amount of approximately \$600 per acre for the development rights, for a total of approximately \$28,992, and will handle the closing of the easement and will own the easement; and

WHEREAS, contingent upon the aforementioned grants from SADC and the County of Warren being made available for the acquisition, the remaining funds for the purchase of the development rights are available in, and will be paid from, the White Township Open Space Trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Township of White, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes participation in the purchase of the development rights for the Property, as follows:

- 1) The Township authorizes up to \$28,992, the precise amount to be determined after completion of the survey to be paid from the Township's Open Space Trust.
- 2) The above being contingent on grants from the County of Warren and the State of New Jersey through the Municipal PIG Program to cover the balance of funds needed to purchase the development rights.
- 3) Due diligence for the acquisition will be completed by the Township with the assistance of The Land Conservancy of New Jersey. It is anticipated that the cost of due diligence will be funded from the Township's Open Space Trust Fund, and authorized under a separate resolution. It is anticipated that 50% of the cost of due diligence will be reimbursed by SADC from the Township's municipal PIG grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White that it hereby authorizes the municipal clerk, Township attorney and The Land Conservancy of New Jersey to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the intent and purpose of this resolution.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor and Committee discussed the status of the Belvidere sewer agreement. Attorney Tipton will draft an amendment to clarify the billing procedures for Belvidere’s review.

Mayor and Committee reviewed a letter received from Peter Iorio, offering a donation of property, Block 68 Lot 3, which is approximately 1/3 of an acre and wooded. After thorough review, it was determined that this would not be in the best interest of the township. It was suggested Mr. Iorio contact the NJDEP to see if that department may be interested in the offer.

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to accept and incorporate the suggested modifications to the Personnel Policy Manual by the Township Attorney and Risk Manager. The revisions clarify the meaning of ‘at will’ employment, jury duty compensation, and updates the “communicable disease policy’. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

The committee confirmed their commitment to Alamo Insurance as the township’s risk management company. Alamo’s representative left the company for Fairview Insurance and requested the governing body do the same. After discussions with the township’s JIF representatives, it was determined that the resolution appointing the Risk Manager is actually an appointment of the Insurance Company and not an individual. Therefore, no changes were made and Alamo remains the township’s risk management company.

NEW BUSINESS

The clerk updated the committee on the ‘Day of Dedication’ for Oscar Unangst and Connor Barbaro. No action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

On motion by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Committee approved the following list of bills:

<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payee</u>
14534	1,481.65	Allied Oil LLC
14535	650.00	Arae Network Solutions LLC
14536	340.00	Brookfield Glen Condo Association
14537	942.00	Caesars Atlantic City
14538	660.12	CenturyLink
14539	456.18	Certified Laboratories
14540	562.99	Clarke Caton Hintz

14541	199.80	Comcast
14542	77.39	Elizabethtown Gas
14543	76.11	Elizabethtown Gas
14544	4,039.27	Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Fader
14545	344.38	Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ
14546	2,132.78	JCP&L
14547	500.00	Linda Gabel
14548	618.25	Maser Consulting P.A.
14549	1,300.00	Matt Musum
14550	280.00	Mr. John Inc.
14551	3,662.50	Newport Landscaping
14552	40.00	NJ League of Municipalities
14553	36.00	NJ Division of ABC
14554	41.02	NJ Advance Media
14555	42,000.00	Oxford Volunteer Fire Dept.
14556	32,000.00	Oxford Emergency Squad
14557	135.00	Pitney Bowes
14558	269.12	Recycling Promotions.US
14559	1,000.00	Reserve Account
14560	536.78	Sanico Inc.
14561	2,010.00	S&L Equipment Rental
14562	207.32	Staples Credit Plan
14563	60.00	SWTCTA
14564	555.38	Tilcon New York Inc.
14565	54.38	Verizon Wireless
14566	732.60	Vital Communications
14567	573,011.00	White Township Board of Education
14568	375.00	William Gold, Esq.
14569	521.65	Xerox Corporation
14570	166.25	Maser Consulting P.A.
14571	50.00	Treasurer – State of NJ

TOTAL.....\$672,124.92

SEWER ACCOUNT

1306	532.00	Maser Consulting P.A.
1307	50.00	Vital Communications

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

1513	800.00	Maser Consulting P.A.
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DEVELOPER ESCROWS

2793	337.50	William Gold Esq.
2794	300.00	William Gold Esq.
2795	375.00	Maser Consulting P.A.
2796	32.50	Maser Consulting P.A.
2797	465.50	Maser Consulting P.A.

CURRENT FUND – MANUAL

2234	11,409.90	Payroll Account
2235	27,720.44	Payroll Account
2236	11,913.77	Payroll Account
2237	344.38	Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ
2238	23,165.40	Payroll Account

TOTAL ALL FUNDS.....\$749,571.31

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the May 12, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes and the May 12, 2016 Executive Session Meeting Minutes as presented. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable vote, the following Resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION - EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion, and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter, June 9, 2016, 8:08pm:

Litigation
(COAH)

Contract Negotiations
(North Warren Municipal Court Agreement)

2. It is anticipated at this time, the above-stated subjects will be made public at such time when the matters discussed are no longer sensitive. Motion passed.

On motion by Mr. Race, seconded by Mrs. Mackey, the meeting was re-opened to the public at 8:29p.m. Motion passed. No action was taken in Executive Session.

OTHER MATTERS

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to authorize Attorney Tipton to prepare a letter to the Hope Township Committee notifying them (as per the joint court agreement) that White Township wishes to exercise its option to leave the court effective 12/31/2016. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to authorize the clerk to send out letters to all Warren County municipalities seeking interest in a shared or joint court arrangement. Herb – yes, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm on motion by Mr. Race, seconded by Mrs. Mackey and carried by unanimous favorable vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen R. Reinalda, RMC
Township Clerk