

COUNCIL MEETING
November 23, 2015

In attendance:

Council

Mark McCouch
Tom Johnson
Gregory S. Nesbitt
Deborah Tustin
W. William Whiteside

Staff

William T. Walker - Township Manager
Richard Sabol - Finance Director
Mary Eberle, Esq. - Solicitor
Erik Garton, PE - Engineer

Mr. McCouch called to order, at approximately 7:30PM, a public hearing on amending the Township Code to regulate the planting, controlling, and removal of bamboo. Mr. Walker identified problems associated with the growth of bamboo in the municipality. He projected photographs of the invasive plant's damaging effects, and this included its encroachment on public roads, leaning during snow and ice weather, and encroachment onto neighboring properties and on building foundations. Christopher Bechtle, 409 A Saw Mill Lane, reported problems associated with the encroachment of bamboo from his neighbor's property and asked several questions about future relief from the ordinance. Mr. McCouch explained that it was a good ordinance and that, if the ordinance is passed, enforcement would be through the Department of Code Enforcement. The hearing adjourned at approximately 7:40PM.

Mr. McCouch called the Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:40 PM and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. McCouch asked for any questions or comments from the public and none were provided.

Mr. McCouch asked for the will of Council concerning the List of Checks. It was moved by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Whiteside, to approve the List of Checks in all funds in the amount of \$192,130.20 and to authorize payment of same. Motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the subdivision and land development plan of a minor subdivision application identified as the Heinrich Tract (15-5-D). The subject property is located at 522 Mullen Road within the R-2 Residential District. The application proposes the subdivision of a 12.062 acre flag lot into three separate parcels. As proposed, a 50'-wide private road with associated cul-de-sac would be created and take access off of Mullen Road. All three proposed lots would have frontage on the private road cul-de-sac. Additionally, a shared driveway easement is proposed along the common property line of Lots 1 & 2. Although no improvements are currently proposed on Lots 2 & 3, the Applicant intends to construct a new single family dwelling on each plot. Public water is proposed to be extended from McKean Road and service the new dwellings on Lots 2 & 3. A low pressure force main is proposed to convey the sewage from Lots 2 & 3 to the existing sewer on McKean Road. The existing dwelling on Lot 1 is currently serviced by a well and on-lot septic system and is proposed to continue as such. The Council and Applicant reviewed the plan's waivers, discussed the placement of trees, and the importance of a driveway agreement. The Township Solicitor will prepare a resolution for action at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Walker explained the 2015 PECO Green Region Open Space Program for the Kohler Park Pond Project. A resolution had been prepared authorizing the project and an application for \$10,000 in funding. Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whiteside, to adopt the Resolution as proposed authorizing a PECO Energy Green Regions Grant application. ROLL CALL VOTE

Mr. Johnson - Aye
Mr. Nesbitt - Aye
Ms. Tustin - Aye
Mr. Whiteside - Aye
Mr. McCouch - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

Mr. Walker explained an ordinance that authorizes a borrowing from Montgomery County and the issuance of a promissory note in the amount of \$500,770.40 for emergency radios. The financing is through the Delaware Valley Regional Financing Authority (DVRFA) and does not include any interest or administrative fees. Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whiteside, to adopt the Ordinance as proposed to authorize a borrowing from Montgomery County and the issuance of a promissory note in the amount of \$500,770.40 for emergency radios and authorize advertisement of same.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mr. Johnson - Aye
Mr. Nesbitt - Aye
Mrs. Tustin - Aye
Mr. Whiteside - Aye
Mr. McCouch - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

Mr. Walker made brief remarks about the 2016 Budget. The 9 December 2015 meeting of Township Council will provide an opportunity for adoption of the 2016 budget ordinance and tax levy.

Mr. McCouch asked if the public had any additional comments or questions. Diane Bond, Pine Avenue, asked about pedestrian and traffic signaling near her home. Mr. Walker stated that lights in the area are designed to have pre-emptive signaling, and that he would have municipal staff make sure they are functioning properly.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned to discuss real estate matters at approximately 8:00PM.

William T. Walker