

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pat Breslin, Vice-President
Thomas Nolan, Commissioner
Malissa Davis, Commissioner
Kim Jenkins, Commissioner
Michael Hudak, President

OTHERS PRESENT

Wendy Nicolosi, Township Solicitor
Melissa Shafer, Township Manager
Doug Bruce, Assistant Township Manager
Nathan Jones, Planning Director

CALL TO ORDER

President Hudak called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Nicolosi announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session on February 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss litigation and personnel issues.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

There were no comments or questions during Courtesy of the Floor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion (Breslin-Davis), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2017 regular public meeting as presented.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF
HOUSENICK FOUNDATION
PUBLIC MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2016**

Upon motion (Davis-Nolan) the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the November 7, 2016 Housenick Foundation public meeting minutes as presented.

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION R014-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BENCHMARK ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES TO APPLY FOR A PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT FOR CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS ON FREEMANSBURG AVENUE INCLUDING A FLASHING PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL, SIDEWALK AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ON BEHALF OF BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP RELATED TO THE BIRCHWOOD COMMONS DEVELOPMENT

Upon motion (Davis-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R014-17 authorizing Benchmark Engineering Associates to apply for a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Highway Occupancy Permit for certain improvements on Freemansburg Avenue including a flashing pedestrian signal, sidewalk and stormwater management on behalf of Bethlehem Township related to the Birchwood Commons development, conditioned upon Indemnification Agreement and 3 improvements.

MOTIONS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 42, MANAGER SECTION 42-7, POWERS AND DUTIES, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING SUBSECTION C AND ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION Q AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT THEREWITH

Upon motion (Jenkins-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion authorizing the township manager to advertise an ordinance amending Chapter 42, Manager Section 42-7, Powers and Duties, of the Township of Bethlehem Code of Ordinances by amending Subsection C and adding a new Subsection Q and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent therewith.

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BID REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER

Upon motion (Davis-Jenkins), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve a motion authorizing the township manager to advertise for bid repairs and improvements to the Bethlehem Township Community Center.

MOTION

A MOTION APPROVING MODIFICATION REQUEST NO. 4 FROM ENTECH ENGINEERING FOR THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION AND IMPROVEMENTS

Upon motion (Jenkins-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion approving Modification Request No. 4 from Entech Engineering for the Bethlehem Township Community Center renovation and improvements.

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING THE TEXT OF THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 275, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA FACILITIES AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH

Upon motion (Nolan-Jenkins), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion authorizing the township manager to advertise an ordinance amending the Township of Bethlehem Code of Ordinances by amending the text of the Bethlehem Township Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 275, to provide for the establishment and regulation of medical marijuana facilities and repealing all ordinances inconsistent herewith.

MOTION

A MOTION APPROVING A CHANGE IN SCOPE FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF THE HOUSENICK PARK AND TRAIL PROJECT FROM PHASE 2 TO PHASE 3 AND 4, AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO CONTACT THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTY TO REQUEST SIMILAR PERMISSION

Upon motion (Davis-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to approve a motion approving a change in scope for the next phase of the Housenick Park and Trail Project from Phase 2 to Phase 3 and 4, and authorizing the township manager to contact the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Northampton County to request similar permission. The motion passed 4-1. Mr. Breslin opposed.

MOTION

A MOTION TO MODIFY THE SCOPE OF WORK OF TCA INC.'S AGREEMENT WITH BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP FOR COMPLETION OF THE 2017 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE AND ASSOCIATED BUDGETARY MODIFICATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,500.00

Upon motion (Breslin-Jenkins), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion to modify the scope of work of TCA Inc.'s agreement with Bethlehem Township for completion of the 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update and associated budgetary modification in an amount not to exceed \$9,500.00.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS

PO 20170152 – Pimlico Holdings LLC – Finance – \$4,110.59
PO 20170158 – New Holland Auto Group – PPIS – \$25,527.00
PO 20170174 – John Deere Construction Retail – Public Works – \$16,215.61
PO 20170273 – TrafficGuard Direct Inc. – PPIS – \$4,397.00

Upon motion (Davis-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Purchase Orders PO 20170152, PO 20170158, PO 20170174, PO 20170002 and PO 20170273 as presented.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

EMPLOYEE MANUAL

President Hudak said staff is working diligently the Employee Manual as it has been out of date for some time. He said the Board would like to take a closer look before voting on it.

FARMERSVILLE ROAD REALIGNMENT/BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

President Hudak said a representative of the Bethlehem Area School District reached out to the Township Manager to set up a meeting to discuss the realignment of the road. Ms. Davis commented that it would be great if they can get that intersection.

OLD BUSINESS

LIBRARY REFERNDUM

Mr. Breslin said he spoke with the Northampton County Solicitor who confirmed that the language of the question on the referendum could not be changed. President Hudak said the topic would remain tabled which would afford staff time to explore other options. Ms. Davis said a survey would be good. President Hudak agreed.

COMMENT

Mr. Breslin mentioned that today is Ronald Reagan's birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, upon motion (Nolan-Jenkins), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Zapata
Recording Secretary