

**WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY HALL
FAIRVIEW VILLAGE, WORCESTER, PA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER by Chair DeLello at 7:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:	RICK DELELLO	[X]
	LOU BETZ	[X]
	STEVE QUIGLEY	[X]

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Tommy Ryan, Township Manager, announced this evening’s meeting was being recorded for rebroadcast.
- Chair DeLello noted Worcester Township had received the Governor’s Award for Local Government Excellence in Fiscal Accountability, for its efforts to develop a sustainable Sewer Fund. Chair DeLello noted the Members’ attendance at the 2022 Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors Educational Conference.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Maeve Vogan, Worcester, commented on the former Assistant Manager.
- Bob Fesnak, Worcester, commented on an open space petition circulated at the 2022 Primary Election, resident survey results, and a potential open space referendum. Supervisor Quigley commented on an open space petition circulated at the 2022 Primary Election.
- Jeremy Quinn, Worcester, commented on the appointment of special counsel, comments made by Supervisor Quigley, and the posting of political signs. Mr. Ryan commented on political sign regulations and enforcement.
- John Hobson, Worcester, commented on an open space petition circulated at the 2022 Primary Election, the Palmer property, and a potential open space referendum.
- Kim David, Worcester, commented on an open space petition circulated at the 2022 Primary Election, and on the Meadow Lane lots. Supervisor Quigley commented on an

open space referendum in Whitpain Township, and the proposed use of open space funds in that Township.

- Rob Haynes, Worcester, commented on temporary sign regulations.
- Jim Mollick, Worcester, commented on an open space petition circulated at the 2022 Primary Election, the theft of political signs, the Worcester Township Open Space Preservation Program, and a potential open space referendum.

OFFICIAL ACTION ITEMS

- a) Consent Agenda – Chair DeLello asked if any Member wished to remove an item from the consent agenda. There were no requests to remove an item from the consent agenda.

Supervisor Betz made a motion to approve a consent agenda that includes (a) the Treasurer’s Report and other Monthly Reports for April 2022, (b) bill payment for April 2022 in the amount of \$578,748.38, (c) the April 20, 2022 Work Session minutes; and, (d) the April 20, 2022 Business Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

- b) Public Hearing – Bob Brant, Township Solicitor, opened a Public Hearing regarding a proposed multi-municipal pollution reduction plan at 8:21 PM.

The proceeding was transcribed by a court reporter.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:32 PM.

- c) bid award – Mr. Nolan provided an overview of bids received for the 2022 Road Program. Mr. Nolan commented on the impact of rising oil costs on the bids received, and on the PennDOT-required escalator clause included in the bid contracts.

Supervisor Betz made a motion to award a bid for the 2022 Road Program, base bid and three alternate bids, to Glasgow, Inc, Glenside, PA, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the amount of \$1,129,560.80. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley.

Ms. Vogan commented on the amount of work included in past and current programs.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

- d) motion – Mr. Nolan provided an overview of a Planning Module application for a proposed individual spray irrigation system at 2083 Bustard Road.

Supervisor Betz made a motion to approve the submission of a Planning Module for a proposed individual spray irrigation system at 2083 Bustard Road to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

- e) open space referendum – Chair DeLello commented on a potential open space referendum, Township efforts regarding open space preservation, the recently-established Worcester Township Open Space Preservation Program, and development of an open space inventory.

Chair DeLello commented on the property tax millage levied presently by the Township, and on the estimated increase in taxes at example property, with a higher millage rate.

Chair DeLello commented on the referendum process.

Chair DeLello and Supervisor Betz expressed preferences for a tax referendum in lieu of a debt referendum, that includes a property tax millage increase in lieu of an earned income tax increase.

Mr. Ryan commented on municipal debt limits.

Supervisor Quigley commented on the Township's current and past efforts to partner with Montgomery County to preserve farmlands in Worcester.

Supervisor Betz made a motion to direct the Township Solicitor to prepare that required to be submitted to the Montgomery County Board of Elections so to include a referendum on the 2022 General Election ballot seeking voter approval of an open space tax, funded by an increase in the property tax. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley.

Susan Smith, Worcester, thanked the Members for their consideration. Ms. Smith commented on an open space referendum in Whitpain Township. Mr. Fesnak commented on voter tallies for the 2022 Primary Election. Dr. Mollick commented on the earned income tax option, the size of properties to be purchased or preserved, and the use of Township reserve funds to purchase or preserve open space.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

- f) agreement of sale – Mr. Brant provided an overview of an agreement of sale for the purchase of a 40-acre property at Fisher Road.

Chair DeLello provided an overview of the existing site conditions and improvements at the property. Photographs of the property were presented, and an aerial video of the property was presented.

Supervisor Betz made a motion to execute an agreement of sale for the purchase of a 40-acre property at 3335 Fisher Road, in the amount of \$2,045,000. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley.

Ms. Vogan commented on property acquisition efforts. Dr. Mollick commented on public access to the property, and on the potential use of the property.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

- g) resignation – Supervisor Betz made a motion to accept the resignation of Stacy Crandell, Assistant Manager. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Quigley.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Supervisor Quigley commented on legal expenses incurred by the Township relative to the Palmer-Body application to the Zoning Hearing Board.
- Supervisor Quigley commented on legal expenses incurred by the Township in its consideration of applications made to the Zoning Hearing Board at properties created by the conservation subdivision provisions of the Township Code.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no additional comment at this evening's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Board, Chair DeLello adjourned the Business Meeting at 9:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tommy Ryan