

**WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY HALL
FAIRVIEW VILLAGE, WORCESTER, PA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2017 – 6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Caughlan at 6:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: SUSAN G. CAUGHLAN [X]
ARTHUR C. BUSTARD [X]

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Tommy Ryan, Township Manager, noted he will maintain the five-minute clock for public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no public comment received at this evening's Work Session.

PRESENTATIONS

equestrian activities – Chair Caughlan noted certain Township trails and open spaces were recently posted so as to not allow equestrian activities.

Supervisor Bustard noted the current and previous Township Manager do not favor equestrian activities in proximity to other trail users, for safety concerns.

Supervisor Bustard noted Whitpain Township allows equestrian uses on its passive recreational properties only, and requires riders to collect horse manure.

Supervisor Bustard noted the Township Solicitor had reviewed the Township's liability exposure for incidents involving equestrian activities at Township properties, and the Township Solicitor noted municipalities are generally immune to such actions.

Supervisor Bustard noted he does not support equestrian activities in the vicinity of athletic fields.

Bob Brant, Township Solicitor, commented on the Township's liability exposure for incidents involving equestrian activities at Township properties.

Jan Blegan, Worcester, stated her support for equestrian activities at Township properties, and commented on the community's rural character.

Kim David, Worcester, stated his support for equestrian activities at Township properties, and commented on the impact of open space on property values.

Michelle Romano, Worcester, stated her support for equestrian activities at Township properties, and commented on the signage recently posted at Township properties.

Fred Machini, Worcester, stated his support for equestrian activities at Township properties, and commented on the community's rural character.

Cynthia Coccio, Worcester, stated her support for equestrian activities at Township properties, and commented on horse manure and on signage recently posted at Township properties.

Dede McGrane, Worcester, stated her support for equestrian activities at Township properties, and commented on the impact of open space impact on property values, multi-use trails in Montgomery County, and the community's rural character.

Dana Comly, Worcester, commented on resident feedback to equestrian uses at Township properties.

Joan Machini, Worcester, commented on signage recently posted at Township properties and budgeted expenditures for Heyser Field and Township trails.

Tom Messner, Whitpain, commented equestrian activities in Whitpain Township. Supervisor Bustard noted Whitpain Township enumerates the properties upon which equestrian activities are permitted in its Township code.

Eliza Walbridge, Whitpain, commented on public education on equestrian activities on multi-use trails, and on signage on multi-use trails.

Kelly Kissinger, Sebastian Riding Association, commented on public education on equestrian activities on multi-use trails, and on signage on multi-use trails.

Kristen Roma, Whitpain, commented on resident feedback to equestrian activities at Township properties.

Mr. Ryan stated he supports amending the Township Code so to enumerate the properties upon which equestrian activities are appropriate and permitted.

Jennie Steigerwalt, Worcester, stated her support for equestrian uses at Township properties, and commented on equestrian easements, connections to public properties, signage recently posted at Township properties, multi-use trails, equestrian activities at Philadelphia-owned properties, resident feedback to equestrian activities at Township properties, and the Township Manager's previous experience in West Whiteland Township.

Mr. Ryan stated he supports amending the Township Code so to enumerate the properties upon which equestrian activities are appropriate and permitted.

OTHER BUSINESS

- There was no other business discussed at this evening's Work Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Board, Chair Caughlan adjourned the Work Session at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tommy Ryan
Township Manager