WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-20

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WORCESTER TOWNSHIP TO COMMIT FUNDS FOR AN AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG VALLEY FORGE ROAD AND OWNED BY MARY LOUISE GRAHAM.

WHEREAS, MARY LOUISE GRAHAM ("Owner") is the owner of certain land located along Valley Forge Road in Worcester Township, which land is more particularly identified as Montgomery County Tax Parcel Nos. 67-00-00892-508 and 67-00-00893-003 (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, Owner has applied to the Montgomery County Agricultural Land Preservation Board ("Farm Board") regarding the sale of an agricultural conservation easement on the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Farm Board has designated the Property as a priority for farmland preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Farm Board has completed an appraisal to determine the value of the agricultural conservation easement on the Property, which amount is the maximum offer permitted to be made to Owner for the purchase of the easement; and

WHEREAS, Act 138 of 1998 amends the Agricultural Area Security Law to allow a municipality to be a partner in holding an agricultural conservation easement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Worcester Township has been notified that, through the proposed sale of an agricultural conservation easement, the Property may become

permanently preserved for agriculture by the Farm Board and that the Township may contribute funds toward the purchase of that easement pursuant to Act 138; and

WHEREAS, the Farm Board shall be responsible for completing all steps in the procedure to finalize the purchase and preservation of the easement on the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Township acknowledges that a formal offer from the Farm Board may be rejected by Owner, in which case the Township may withdraw any financial commitment authorized by this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- The Board of Supervisors of Worcester Township hereby authorizes the contribution of Ninety-nine Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$99,000) for the purchase of an agricultural conservation easement on certain property located on Valley Forge Road, which property is owned by Mary Louise Graham and more particularly identified as Montgomery County Tax Parcel Nos. 67-00-00892-508 and 67-00-00893-003.
- 2. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Farm Board may send a formal written offer to Owner for the purchase of the aforementioned agricultural conservation easement, which written offer shall include the Township's contribution and a contribution from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Montgomery County of no less than \$561,000.00.
- 3. The contribution authorized by this Resolution is specifically conditioned upon Owner's acceptance of the aforementioned written offer and shall be considered withdrawn if Owner rejects the offer.

APPROVED this 5th day of October, 2009, by the Board of Supervisors of Worcester Township.

WORCESTER TOWNSHIP

By:

Arthur C. Bustard, Chairman

Board of Supervisors

Attest:

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. Cornell, Township Manager