

**TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES  
OCTOBER 5, 2021**

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A. Call to Order by President Smith at 7:01 p.m.

Manager Jakubec read a statement explaining the virtual meeting procedures.

- B. Pledge of Allegiance led by President Smith.  
C. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Robert John Smith, President of Council; Charles A. Vogel, Vice-President of Council; George H. Stewart, Second Ward; Gregory Caprara, Third Ward; Allison Berger, Fourth Ward; Cassandra Eccles, Fifth Ward; John R. Denny, Jr., At-Large

Also Present: Ted Curran, Treasurer; Julie A. Jakubec, CPA, CGMA, Township Manager; Dan Garfinkel, Township Solicitor; Charles W. Steinert, Jr., P.E., Township Engineer; Jason Stanton, Lennon Smith Soulerett Engineers; Loren R. Kephart, Public Service Superintendent; Scott K. Slagel, Police Superintendent; Cathy Bubas, Manager's Secretary

II. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

- A. Application for Minor Land Development – Industrial Testing Laboratory Services

Manager Jakubec stated the subject application was reviewed by Planning Commission during the scheduled September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. It has been proposed by Industrial Testing Laboratory Services, owner of the property located at 635 Alpha Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, to construct a 3,136 square foot storage building. The Township Planning Commission has recommended to Council that approval be granted subject to the six conditions listed in the proposed resolution.

Mr. Stewart noted the only concern is the storm water management, for which they have an underground storage tank.

Manager Jakubec asked if the property owner would be getting a Knox box, as required. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. indicated he would ask the building inspector.

Vice President Vogel noted compliance of all zoning requirements.

President Smith noted the conditions of approval.

The consensus of Council was to include the resolution on the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda for consideration.

### III. MS-4 TRAINING

It was noted Dave Wingrove, of Lennon Smith Soulerett Engineers “(LSSE)” was to present the training, but became a first-time Dad on Saturday. The training was rescheduled for October 12, 2021.

### IV. CITIZENS COMMENTS CONCERNING NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Cindy Harris, Fox Pointe, inquired about any updates regarding the Long Range Comprehensive Plan Consultant. The Manager noted a kick-off meeting would be scheduled for the end of October at the community center. She was checking available dates. During the kick-off meeting, a schedule of future meetings would be established.

### II. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION CONTINUED

#### B. New Allegheny County Administrative Consent Order Agreement

Manager Jakubec referenced a copy of the new Administrative Consent Order Agreement with Allegheny County Health Department. LSSE also provided a letter noting the Phase 2 tasks and request for authorization to proceed. Jason Stanton of LSSE was in attendance to answer any questions.

Mr. Stanton indicated LSSE would provide support to Chuck Steinert, the Township Engineer, during Phase II of the Agreement. He noted all 60 separate storm water system municipalities that flow through ALCOSAN were presented the same agreement. The agreements are to be signed and returned by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Stanton presented slides to further explain the goals of the agreement, which does not expire until December 31, 2029. The agreement requires municipalities to do certain things to reduce source flows. He noted municipalities are able to self-regulate taps and are not required to go through DEP.

President Smith commented that the Township is in pretty good order.

#### C. Consideration of Cost Sharing Kittanning Pike Project with Penn D.O.T.

The Manager recalled prior discussion during the September 28, 2021 Council Special Workshop, and noted the estimated project cost is \$260,000, with \$130,000 coming from a Federal grant, Senator Williams is providing a \$65,000 grant, leaving \$65,000 to split between the Township and Penn D.O.T. Council is requested to provide guidance of the amount to be shared between the Township and Penn D.O.T. She explained the Township holds the easement and Penn D.O.T. is holding the contract with Pugliano Construction. The Pringles may need to sign another easement agreement adding Penn D.O.T., or an agreement to let Penn D.O.T. do the work.

President Smith noted staff is recommending \$30,000 to contribute to the project. Manager Jakubec explained the Township has already incurred costs related to the project.

Mr. Stewart questioned when work would start if an agreement is reached. The Manager stated Penn D.O.T.'s attorneys are making this more complicated. The contractor already ordered the pipe and could start at the end of October or in 60 days.

Mr. Stewart suggested if Penn D.O.T. insists on splitting the project 50/50, the Township should agree in order to get it done. Mr. Denny, Jr., Ms. Berger, and Vice President Vogel concurred.

Solicitor Garfinkel suggested Council consider a resolution. Mr. Caprara stated he would appreciate something in the record that Council voted on.

Mr. Denny, Jr. questioned what happens if the costs go over. Manager Jakubec noted the Township will be locked in at \$30,000. She noted Township staff has cleaned the road after flooding events.

Mr. Stewart questioned what if Penn D.O.T. says the work is complete but staff feels it is not. The Manager explained the Township Engineer will be involved and inspecting, and she would not pay the \$30,000. She was confident in Mr. Steinert's plan and DEP has signed the permit. Penn D.O.T. authorized the contract. She noted Murray Street will undermine if this is not fixed.

The consensus of Council was to include a resolution on the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda for consideration.

D. Ratifying a Proposed Police Department Labor Agreement for the Years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025

Manager Jakubec stated the ordinance authorizes the execution of a new Police Contract for the years 2022 through 2025. The union has already approved the contract. Changes in the new contract include an increase for longevity, district court time, 3% and 2.75% salary increases, clarification of vacation, holidays and sick leave.

Mr. Denny, Jr. noted a new phase of COVID which may cause another pandemic. He questioned including something in the new contract about being vaccinated. Mr. Caprara stated that is a legal question. He indicated he has been working with the Manager and things would be changing with regard to testing.

Solicitor Garfinkel recommended further discussion in Executive Session.

Mr. Denny, Jr. stated he would not be prepared to vote on the new contract next week until questions are answered.

Vice President Vogel, Ms. Eccles, Mr. Stewart and Ms. Berger favored including the ordinance on the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda for consideration.

President Smith stated Council would discuss the proposed contract in Executive Session this evening.

E. Request to Purchase Public Service Department Equipment

Manager Jakubec noted staff is requesting authorization to purchase a JPRO Diagnostic Toolbox to use on all diesel trucks and equipment. She referenced a memo explaining the general functions of the tool. The purchase would reduce costs the Township currently incurs when equipment breaks down and has to be towed to Hunters Truck for repair. She added it is the diagnostic tool dealers use to find out what is wrong with a vehicle.

Mr. Caprara inquired about the cost. The Manager indicated the cost is about \$7,000 and is under budget.

Treasurer Curran indicated the cost to savings seems close.

Manager Jakubec explained the Township Mechanic would be able to make the repair resulting in less down time.

Mr. Stewart questioned how often the tool would be used and if it could be shared with another municipality. Mr. Kephart stated the tool could be shared, but it would be designed for the Township's equipment. He noted the biggest savings is if a truck goes down in the winter, the Mechanic can get the parts and make the repair, resulting in the equipment getting back on the road as soon as possible. He noted this is a common problem for everyone in the winter.

Ms. Eccles inquired about the cost to tow equipment. Mr. Kephart the lowest tow cost is \$500, but if they have to pull the drive shaft and axles, it could cost as much as \$750.

The consensus of Council was to include the resolution on the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda for consideration.

F. National Fire Prevention Week - October 3 – 9, 2021

Manager Jakubec stated the week of October 3, 2021 is National Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety". Council has recognized National Fire Prevention Week for the last several years.

The consensus of Council was to include a proclamation on the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda for consideration.

G. Recognizing and Thanking the Township's Fire and Emergency Services Providers

The Manager recalled for the past several years Council has recognized fire and emergency services providers to the Township. It is suggested that Council extend gratitude during National Fire Prevention Week to the selfless volunteers who respond to residents in time of need. The resolutions recognize and thank the members of Parkview VFD/EMS, Pleasant Valley VFC, Aspinwall VFD, Blawnox VFC, Fox Chapel VFD and Sharpsburg VFD for their support and dedication to fire safety.

The consensus of Council was to include resolutions for consideration on the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda.

H. Solicitor's Invoice

No comments.

I. Proposed Agenda – October 12, 2021 Regular Meeting

Changes to the October 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda were noted.

V. CONCERNS OF COUNCIL

Mr. Caprara stated he is coaching the school district football team and encouraged Council to be visible at school events.

Treasurer Curran questioned what is going on with the Township website. The Manager stated the new website is up and running. New information is added daily.

Mr. Stewart indicated the new website is easier to use, which Ms. Harris concurred, and suggested updating what is going on with the Long Range Comprehensive Plan on the Township website.

President Smith inquired about the Ordinances Codification Project. Manager Jakubec stated questions were answered and sent back. Staff is waiting to hear from General Code.

Mr. Stewart asked if the bus shelter would be installed by winter in RIDC. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. noted a new location along Gamma Drive at the last bus stop approaching Alpha Drive is being considered. Mr. Stewart requested the Township Engineer to touch base with Mr. John Kight, of the RIDC Alliance.

VI. CONCERNS OF STAFF

No comments.

Manager Jakubec requested Council to remain after the workshop for an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The workshop adjourned at 8:15 p.m. and Council entered into Executive Session.

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Cathy Bubas, Manager's Secretary

Attachment: Attendance Sheet