

**MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING JUNE 23, 2014
OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION**

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, held an Adjourned Meeting that began at 8 P.M., on Monday, June 23, 2014, at the Municipal Building, 710 Washington Road. President Linfante called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Manager Stephen M. Feller called the roll. Present were Commissioners John Bendel, Dave Brumfield, Kelly Fraasch, and Kristen Linfante. Commissioner Steve Silverman was not present. Also present were Public Works Director Kelley, Finance Director McCreery, Recreation Director Donnellan, Deputy Police Chief Lauth, Planning Officer McGill, Public Information Officer Morgans, Assistant to the Manager Cross, and Inspections Officer Berkley. Also present were Phil Weis of the solicitor's office and Matt Bagaley of the engineer's office.

MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Feller stated that the commission met in executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss legal issues with the solicitor relating to an assessment appeal, a right to know issue, the sale of property, a deed restriction issue, and appointments to boards and authorities. Following tonight's meeting, the commission will go back into discussion session to discuss the remaining items on the agenda. The next regular meeting of the commission is scheduled for Tuesday, July 8, 2014, at 8 p.m. While the renovated swimming pool opened on June 15, 2014, the pool's formal grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony are scheduled for Sunday, June 29, at 11 a.m.

Mr. Feller also recognized various members of Mt. Lebanon Relay for Life, including co-chairs Kate Truver and Kathy Noorbakhsh, and congratulated them on their efforts to help raise approximately \$1 million in Mt. Lebanon to fight cancer over the past five years.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER HEATHER HEIDELBAUGH

Heather Heidelbaugh of 144 Woodhaven Drive, County Councilmember at Large, spoke about a letter that the Commission sent to County Executive Rich Fitzgerald regarding assessments of properties. She indicated that she concurs with Mt. Lebanon's position on assessments, adding that she supports regular updates to assessed values for all properties.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stephen M. Poularis of 114 Markham Drive had concerns with possible chemicals in artificial turf as well as the costs involved with maintaining the turf.

John Strong of 570 Crystal Drive and John Brown of 590 Crystal Drive stated that the 500 block of Crystal Drive is a private roadway that is in disrepair. They stated that the municipality receives annual funds for liquid fuels tax, which incorporates all streets in Mt. Lebanon; therefore, they believe that the municipality should repair all private roads.

Patricia Jasionowski of 237 Castle Shannon Boulevard stated that approximately 15 homes use an alley behind their homes to park their vehicles. She said the alley is in disrepair, and while she understands that the municipality is not responsible for the alley, she feels that it is unsafe. She asked the municipality to assist with repairing the alley.

John Lyon of 1238 Firwood Drive spoke about appeals to the assessment of recently sold properties. He asked that the municipality negotiate with the property owners who purchased homes in 2013/2014. Mr. Weis asked that the representative of the group contact him.

Phil Compton of 913 Summer Place stated that he was speaking on behalf of the owners at 918 and 920 Summer Place. He stated that part of Summer Place is a private roadway, but the street is used by many people as a cut-thru to St. Clair Hospital, the high school and recreation center. He asked that the municipality take measures to make the roadway public instead of private.

Donna Mulvihill of 917 Summer Place asked that the municipality take over maintenance of the one block of Summer Place that is considered private. She stated the road connects to major streets with traffic signals, and it has a heavy volume of vehicle traffic. She stated that she was also speaking on behalf of the Shlude's who moved to Minnesota but still own their home on Summer Place.

Kathryn Aby-Eva of 914 Summer Place stated that prior to the potholes being filled in on Summer Place, vehicles would drive into her yard to avoid hitting them. She asked that the municipality take measures to make the road public.

Barbara Szefi of 501 Austin Avenue said that her street borders on Summer Place. She asked that the municipality make the private portion of Summer Place public.

Gwen Chute of 904 Valleyview Road spoke against artificial turf, believing it was unsafe. She also spoke about the municipality's policy on appealing assessments of recently sold homes.

Edward Chute of 904 Valleyview Road spoke against artificial turf. He also said he didn't like the manner in which the turf forum was done, adding that his questions were not answered. He also spoke against the municipality's appeal of certain property assessments.

Marty Murray of 615 Washington Road had concerns with the municipality being able to financially sustain itself. She inquired new revenue sources. Ms. Fraasch stated that the stormwater fee pays for stormwater infrastructure repair. Mr. Bendel indicated that the municipality is looking to increase density in the uptown area by developing a 40-60 unit complex by the T line. He also noted that housing is being developed on Castlegate, which would further expand the tax base.

M.G. Tilman of 1316 Firwood Drive asked when the information regarding which chemicals are being used in the artificial turf will become available. Ms. Linfante stated that the municipality received the bids a few days ago, and the engineer is going back to the bidders to specifically ask about any chemicals that would be in the infill materials.

Elizabeth Kelly Scanlon of 723 N. Meadowcroft Road stated that her next door neighbor placed a beehive on his property close to her house. She also stated that she was disappointed with the artificial turf forum and that she was against artificial turf.

Barbara Sollenberger of 120 Newburn Drive expressed disappointment with the artificial turf forum. She also spoke against artificial turf.

Paul Greiner of 777 Brafferton Drive stated that he resides at the dead end part of Brafferton. He noted that Columbia Gas has been working on the new gas lines in their area, using this part of Brafferton to store their equipment. He would like to see Brafferton paved curb to curb.

Jim Gorham of 208 Vee Lynn Drive spoke against synthetic turf.

Richard Heyse of 152 Rock Haven Lane had concerns with athletes wearing the wrong foot wear on artificial turf fields, which he believed could cause injury. He also spoke about assessment appeals.

Bob Algaier of 248 Vee Lynn Drive stated that the pool looks great. He also spoke about the effect that toxins have on children as well as MRSA. He also spoke about the municipality's policy on appealing certain property assessments.

Yvette Yescas of 1243 Arrowood Drive, chair of the Historic Preservation Board, stated that on June 10, she went before the state review board in Harrisburg for the National Register Nomination. She thanked the commission for the letter of support. Mt. Lebanon was approved unanimously. She stated the next step is to go to the National Park Service and hope to have a determination by Labor Day. She also spoke in support of replacing brick streets with brick and not asphalt. She submitted a petition from residents on Rae Avenue, who are requesting that the street remain a brick street after the sewer construction is completed.

David and Anita Radin of 160 Rae Avenue stated that they have lived on this street for 20 years, and they have never had a maintenance problem with the brick street. They noted there is a drainage problem in the area that requires uprooting the bricks on Rae. They wanted the street to be restored with bricks, noting that bricks require no maintenance and last a long time.

Charles Bachorski of 637 Moreland Drive stated that he is a proponent of youth sports, but he does not support an artificial turf field, believing it's too costly to construct and maintain.

Elaine Gillen of 735 Vallevista Drive asked that the turf project be stopped.

Tyler Herget of 952 Country Club Drive spoke in support of a settlement for the 2013 assessment appeals. He also felt artificial turf was too costly, stating that funds should be spent in other areas.

Kimberly Schevtchuk of 519 Lyndhurst Drive thanked the municipality for listening to Dr. Johnson, who spoke about toxins and artificial turf. She also spoke about the project costs for artificial turf.

James Cannon of 1306 Craigview Drive stated that he read a report about the median income of residents in Mt. Lebanon declining. He spoke against artificial turf.

Charlotte Stephenson of 110 Crescent Drive thanked the municipality for allowing Dr. Johnson to speak about toxins. She also spoke against artificial turf, believing it was not safe.

Ninamary Langsdale of 419 Gladds Drive spoke against artificial turf.

Maria Joseph of 221 Cedar Boulevard spoke against artificial turf, believing the chemicals associated with turf were dangerous.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM
THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 10, 2014**

Mr. Brumfield moved and Mr. Bendel seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO SCHEDULE
A PUBLIC HEARING ON CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

Mr. Bendel said the Code requires that following receipt of the prior year's final financial statements, the Manager shall schedule a Capital Investment Discussion and Hearing. The purpose of such a hearing is to debate the use of any funds in excess of the minimum threshold for unassigned fund balance. The ordinance states that unassigned funds shall be used as follows:

- Cannot be used for regularly scheduled and reoccurring operational expenditures
- Can be used for non-debt capital items
- Can be used to cover operational expenditures that were not budgeted due to unforeseen circumstances

The possible projects that have been discussed so far include:

1. Wildcat/Middle field remaining allocation
2. School safety signage
3. Recycling cans
4. Robb Hollow park improvements
5. Deer sterilization and other deer management practices
6. Traffic pedestrian upgrades
7. Bird Park and Twin Hills trail signs
8. Iroquois fill and grass
9. Church Place concrete pad
10. Rockwood Park concrete pad
11. Other park improvements
12. Consultant to develop design guidelines and HARB ordinance
13. Golf course pavilion
14. Firing range improvements
15. Public Works facility improvements
16. Private street contribution
17. Expanding street reconstruction and maintenance
18. Prescription drug incinerator
19. Sidewalks at the tennis center
20. Other projects identified in the 2014-2018 Capital Improvement Program

The public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE EXPENDITURE
LIST FOR MAY TOTALING \$4,888,547.60**

Ms. Fraasch moved and Mr. Brumfield seconded to approve the expenditure list for May totaling \$4,888,547.60. The vote was called. Mr. Bendel stated that he would be abstaining from the vote since his son is employed part-time at the tennis center. The motion passed with three votes.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mr. Brumfield asked that the reports be received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.