

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2014  
OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION**

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, held a Regular Meeting that began at 8 p.m., on Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at the Municipal Building, 710 Washington Road. Vice President John Bendel 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 Dave Brumfield, Kelly Fraasch, Steve Silverman and John Bendel. Commissioner Kristen Linfante was not present. Also present were Finance Director Andrew McCreery, Police Chief McDonough, Public Works Director Kelley, Recreation Director Donnellan, Inspections Officer Berkley, Planning Officer McGill, and Public Information Officer Morgans. Also present were Phil Weis of the solicitor's office and Dan Deiseroth of the engineer's office.

Mr. Bendel stated that Mt. Lebanon was notified today that the Municipality received national designation as a historical district, which reflects the diligent work of so many people over the years. He stated that it's an honorary designation, and with this comes economic development opportunities for the municipality.

Mr. Brumfield stated that a lot of hard work went into this designation, and he thanked all involved for their efforts. Ms. Fraasch said that it's a great day for Mt. Lebanon.

Mr. Bendel stated that item nine regarding the private streets policy was being removed from the agenda.

**MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Feller stated that prior to tonight's meeting, the Commission met in executive session and discussed tax assessment appeals, property acquisition, legal issues regarding a personnel matter and some construction projects legal issues with the solicitor. Following tonight's meeting, the Commission will go back into discussion session to talk about unfinished items that are listed on the discussion session agenda. The next adjourned meeting of the Commission is scheduled for October 27, 2014.

Mr. Feller recognized Michael Nalepa, a resident of Carnegie, who could not attend the meeting, and who witnessed a medical emergency at the Fireplace and Patio Place on McFarland Road, and immediately aided the victim by administering CPR until the police arrived. Mr. Feller also recognized Officer Tom Rutowski, who responded to the distress call, and once on the scene, administered CPR and then used the automatic external defibrillator. The heroic actions of both Mr. Nalepa and Officer Rutowski saved the life of the victim.

**JUNIOR COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Nikola Ranick spoke about the Allstate X to Text driving program, an agreement for students that was developed to keep students safe at the various school dances, the Mt. Lebanon alumni award, and the FBLA club (Future Business Leaders of America).

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Phil Compton of 913 Summer Place spoke in support of the municipality taking over the maintenance of the private portion of Summer Place.

Donna Mulvihill of 917 Summer Place thanked the commission for developing a private street policy.

Kevin Hambelton of 910 Summer Place stated that he is a new resident, and he supports the municipality assuming maintenance responsibility for the private portion of Summer Place.

Barbara Logan of 838 Valleyview Drive spoke about a petition she circulated regarding the municipality developing a deer culling program. She said that many of the people she spoke to had stories about aberrational or aggressive behavior of the deer.

Anne Barchowsky of 134 Inglewood Drive spoke in support of deer management. She spoke about deer/vehicle collisions and Lyme disease.

Marilyn Narey of 256 Baywood Avenue submitted a petition in support of deer culling. She stated that she submitted another packet of signatures at a previous meeting in support of this issue.

Bill Hoon of 456 Coolidge Avenue spoke against killing the deer. He stated that erecting a fence would solve any problem residents may have with the deer by keeping them out of the yards.

Gregory Bank of 1037 Firwood Avenue asked that the commission reconsider installing artificial turf on Wildcat Field because of the recent national news reports.

Bruce O'Neill of 257 Merion Drive stated that the municipality needs effective deer management. He said that both the USDA and the Pennsylvania Game Commission stated that effective deer management is an ongoing process which should be in the budget yearly. He asked that the commission budget \$75,000 for deer management.

Dave Egler of 121 Poplar Drive asked about the progress of the Castle Shannon Boulevard repairs. Mr. Feller indicated that PennDOT is going through the process of developing the specifications. Their preferred alternative is to put asphalt on top of the existing base, which is in good shape. They are also going to make drainage improvements and signal improvements at the intersection of Scott Road. The total cost is \$1.5M. The issue of replacing the bricks is still being reviewed by PennDOT. A public meeting will be held by PennDOT on November 6 to discuss reconstructing the roadway.

Mr. Egler also stated that he supports deer culling.

Barbara Sollenberger of 120 Newburn Drive spoke against the use of rifles to kill deer.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES  
FROM THE ADJOURNED MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 22, 2014**

Ms. Fraasch moved and Mr. Brumfield seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)**

Mr. Silverman said as required by the Charter, the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for 2015-2019 was submitted to the Commission on July 31, 2014. Copies of the document have been placed at the library, municipal building, and website. A public hearing is required to be held on this program prior to the issuance of the Manager's Recommended Budget.

Mr. Bendel declared the public hearing opened.

Mr. Feller stated that over the five-year period, there are 57 projects in the proposed Capital Improvement Program, with a cost of \$75M, with 28 of the projects being proposed for 2015, with a cost of \$13M.

Mr. Brumfield stated that just because a project is listed in the CIP, it doesn't mean it will be funded in the budget.

Because there were no further comments, Mr. Bendel declared the public hearing closed.

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 11-14)  
AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE REGARDING FENCE DESIGN**

Ms. Fraasch said a Shadowbox Fence is one where the boards are placed on either side of the fence rail, spaced so they block vision but still allow airflow through the fence.

The Ordinance permits a Shadowbox Fence up to six feet in height in all districts. The Ordinance currently allows this type up fence up to four feet in height.

On July 22, 2014, the Planning Board recommended that the Ordinance not be approved and that the amendment be considered as part of a comprehensive review and update of the Zoning Ordinance that is proposed for 2015. This ordinance was introduced August 25, 2014, and the public hearing was held September 22, 2014.

Ms. Fraasch moved and Mr. Brumfield seconded to enact Ordinance (Bill No. 11-14).

Mr. Silverman stated that the police chief feels this is not a good idea, so he would be voting no.

Mr. Brumfield agreed with Mr. Silverman, adding that he would support the Planning Board's recommendation not to approve the ordinance.

Ms. Fraasch said she has read articles about the advantages of fencing to keep deer out of yards. She stated that by permitting six-foot shadowbox fencing, residents would incur the expense to keep deer out of their yards.

The vote was called. Ms. Fraasch voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Bendel, Mr. Brumfield and Mr. Silverman voted against the motion. The motion failed 3 to 1.

**CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-16-14 TO REIMBURSE PENNDOT  
FOR THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND INSPECTION COSTS ASSOCIATED  
WITH CURB RAMPS ON S.R. 3044 (CASTLE SHANNON BOULEVARD)**

Mr. Brumfield said that this Resolution authorizes the proper Municipal Officials to sign an agreement to construct pedestrian facilities that are ADA compliant as part of the proposed street improvement project at 11 intersections along Castle Shannon Boulevard. The estimated cost for this ADA work is \$86,044, and the estimated PennDOT cost for the street, signal, and drainage work is approximately \$1,500,000.

Mr. Brumfield moved and Mr. Silverman seconded Move to adopt Resolution No. R-16-14. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-17-14 TO APPLY FOR  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS  
THROUGH THE SOUTH HILLS AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

Ms. Fraasch said a pre-application was prepared and provided to the South Hills Area Council of Governments for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The pre-application was for 50% funding of handicapped sidewalk construction to take place in 2015 in the amount of \$17,500.

Mt. Lebanon has successfully used this program over the past several years to address the installation of handicapped sidewalk ramps throughout the Municipality.

Ms. Fraasch moved and Mr. Silverman seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-17-14 authorizing the filing of an application for CDBG funds for handicapped sidewalk construction in the amount of \$17,500 for the year 2015. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION OF A TAX APPEAL STIPULATION FOR  
PROPERTY LOCATED ON DORCHESTER AVENUE (L&B 97-L-170)**

Mr. Brumfield said the Mt. Lebanon School District and Brookdale Senior Housing, LLC, have reached an amicable settlement of the property owner's 2011 assessment appeal. The parties have stipulated to the following assessment:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>
2011	\$15,000,000
2012	\$16,000,000
2013	\$18,000,000
2014	\$19,000,000

The 2014 value would carry on to future years unless further appealed by either party.

Mr. Brumfield moved and Mr. Silverman seconded to authorize the Municipal Manager and/or Solicitor to sign the order of settlement and discontinuance. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO INSTALL STOP SIGNS AT ALTOONA PLACE  
AND SERPENTINE DRIVE AND ALTOONA PLACE AND SERRANO AVENUE**

Ms. Fraasch said on October 1, 2014, the Traffic Board recommended stop signs at two locations:

1. Altoona Place and Serrano – it was determined that Serrano Avenue operates as the minor street with respect to Altoona Place given the proximity to the signalized intersection at Cochran Road. Therefore, installation of a stop sign on the Serrano Avenue approach to Altoona Place is recommended.
2. Altoona Place and Serpentine – given the steep grade of the Altoona Place approach to Serpentine Drive as well as the potential for sight distance issues with on-street parking along Serpentine Drive, it is recommended that stop signs be placed on the Serpentine Drive approaches to Altoona Place.

Ms. Fraasch moved and Mr. Silverman moved to approve the installation of stop signs as recommended by the Traffic Board and Traffic Engineer. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO RESTRICT LEFT TURNS OUT OF THE  
GOVERNOR'S DRIVE OF JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY ON RUTH STREET**

Mr. Silverman said at the October 1, 2014 Traffic Board meeting, the principal from Jefferson Elementary spoke about the backup of vehicles that is created on Ruth between Bower Hill Road and Linda Lane during school drop-off and pick-up. The Traffic Board recommended that the left turn restriction be implemented. This would prohibit vehicles leaving Jefferson Elementary from turning left onto Ruth toward Bower Hill from 7:30-9 a.m. and from 3-4 p.m.

Mr. Silverman moved and Mr. Brumfield seconded to approve the restrictions as recommended by the Traffic Board and Traffic Engineer. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.