

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

April 10, 2019

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their reorganization and regular meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 in the Township Building, 175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Tom Kohler, Chairman
Lou Zotti, Vice-Chairman
Carlton Stuart, Secretary
Noah Marlier, Rudolph Clarke, LLC
Geoff Hickman, Director of Public Works
Jack Smyth, Jr., P.E., Consulting Engineers, Boles Smyth Associates, Inc., (BSA)
Nicholas Hiriak, Director of Finance
Greg Philips, BOS Liaison

ABSENT

Marvin Meneeley, Treasurer
Sally Slook, Executive Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Kohler announced that there is a quorum tonight with Mr. Meneeley not able to attend, and Mr. Zotti, and Mr. Stuart present.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Zotti, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of March 13, 2019 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Geoff Hickman, Public Works Director, stated that there are three new properties, Top Golf, one for Brandywine and the last is Realen. Mr. Hickman noted that the fees have not yet been calculated but when they are, they will be passed on to the authority.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Relocated North Gulph Road

Mr. Smyth noted that there is a continuation of the Draft Categorical Exclusion Evaluation (CEE). For the noise report, no noise mitigation is feasible or reasonable and FHWA concurred with the report recommendations. Mr. Smyth stated that this element of the Environmental Clearance is done. One of the sub-consultants is Ground Reconsidered and they are doing the landscaping of sheds for the relocated North Gulph Road. Since Ground Reconsidered was involved early, the PennDOT

maintenance and roadside was included because they are the ones that have to maintain the recommendations by the landscaping. Ground Reconsidered is updating that landscaping plan based on the coordination with the roadside unit. One of the other big elements for the project is right-of-way. The right-of-way needs to be transferred and we are doing it within the National Park therefore a higher level of execution is required. The preliminary right-of-way plans have been sent to PennDOT and the right-of-way unit. It was also noted that BSA is currently responding to the comments provided by the Department and anticipates submitting the revised ROW Plan to PennDOT and NPS by the end of April 2019. BSA is advancing the Section 106 Consultation process (cultural resource impact assessment) for the Gulph Road (SR3031) Granite Block repair with the support of our sub-consultant, CHRS, Inc. The PA Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) requested additional correspondence related to PennDOT coordination with the NPS and the project team is compiling the documentation as requested. Mr. Smyth stated that a meeting was held with key stakeholders to determine what portions of the proposed trail, if any, should be incorporated into this 2NG project. It was also noted that the Park Service was very much in favor of keeping the trail on the existing cart way of PA 23.

Trout Creek Bridge

Continued progress in the Safety Review phase of this project and preparing Safety Review plans.

Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line

Mr. Smyth noted that since the last meeting, the executed temporary construction easement that SEPTA has signed through Mr. Marlier, has pulled together the right-of-way package and submitted it to PennDOT to gain right-of-way clearance for the project. Mr. Smyth reminded the Authority that there are four things we need to get out to bid, right-of-way clearance, utility clearance, environmental clearance and construction plans clearance. If there are any comments from the right-of-way unit and we will address them. As of the last meeting there were two utility companies that still needed to give documents. Documents have been received from Aqua and there is active coordination with PECO Gas, which is the last one needed. Since the last meeting, we found out we also need an agreement with both Aqua and PECO Gas because they are attaching on to the new bridge and that work gets split between what the utility company does versus what the contractors need to do to install the lines on the bridge itself rather than having every bidding contractor come up with a different price on what that is going to cost. The utility company provides their estimate for how much it should cost and that gets put into the bid as a predetermined amount so that every contractor doesn't have the ability to raise or lower it and it also gives them a level playing field of what that number is. That agreement is between the Township and the utility company needs to reimburse the cost of the construction to the project. Mr. Smyth noted that an agreement was drawn out and sent to Mr. Marlier for review which he gave the go ahead with some minor comments and they were sent to the utility companies for their review and to prepare those costs. Regarding the Environmental Clearance, it was confirmed by SHIPO that Section 106 does not have any National Register Eligibility. Now the final piece can be prepared which is a 4(f) form, another element of Environmental Clearance. Once this is at hand, PennDOT can issue the Environmental Clearance for this project which was already received but needed to be re-evaluated. The two remaining things are the Traffic Control Plan (TCP) which is a lower priority and the construction plans for the bridge itself. Mr. Smyth noted that the final thing need because SEPTA is involved, is the Reimbursement Agreement that they need to provide for the flagging services and all those elements which is what Mr. Marlier is following up on. Mr. Marlier stated that he has continued to email SEPTA at least once or twice a week to get the Reimbursement Agreement.

Prince Frederick Extension and Potential New PA Turnpike Interchange at Henderson Road

Mr. Smyth stated that DVRPC is in the process of doing their peak hour forecasting for the potential of a Henderson Road Interchange. DVRPC is also in the process of getting the No Build 2045 volumes where the interchange is not built but projects that would be built by 2045 will be included in their modeling effort such as the Prince Frederick Extension. Mr. Smyth stated he coordinated with the DVRPC and provided his engineering judgement for how much traffic in the peak hours would be diverted to the Prince Frederick Extension based on the percentage of people making a left from Henderson Road onto 202 and how many people are making a right from 202 onto Henderson Road. Mr. Smyth said a meeting was held at PennDOT with the development team as it relates to the Prince Frederick Extension. He also stated that the Chester Valley Trail Project is on a very advanced deadline at this point where it has to be out to contractors by the end of the year. It was noted that there is a lot of coordination between all three entities, Montgomery County, the Township, the development team and the Authority. Mr. Smyth stated that Montgomery County is doing as much as they can to accommodate whatever the Prince Frederick Extension needs to the extent possible like recognizing the deadlines on the project. It was also noted that there is a big question whether a double left will be needed from Prince Frederick onto 202 North and right now the volumes do not merit that.

Board Comments:

Mr. Kohler raised a question regarding acquiring the Rossi property and start moving forward to which Mr. Smyth responded that yes and recalled that last May or June we were looking into getting appraisals for the property. Mr. Smyth also stated that in the upcoming months we can reengage in getting an appraiser to get this done.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – None.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH OF 2019

Mr. Nick Hiriak, Finance Director, commented that there is a little bit of interest earned income because of the quarter end.

REQUISITIONS – April 10, 2019

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 969.70	Trout Creek Bridge Replacement Project for work performed for the Period 2-1-19 thru 2-28-19 INVOICE #36
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 19,468.91	Relocation of North Gulph Road (SR 3039) for work Performed 2-1-19 thru 2-28-19 INVOICE #63
TOTAL:	\$20,438.61	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Zotti, all voting "Aye" to approve the April 10, 2019 requisitions in the amount of \$20,438.61. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS – None.

Mr. Kohler stated that he was watching the last BOS meeting and there was an approval for the Wright Partners and heard a comment regarding road improvements to be made and asked what those improvements were. Mr. Philips answered that improvements include pushing lanes back, signaling, and stripping to operate those signals. It was further discussed that there should be communication between the two entities regarding relevant information. Mr. Kohler also stated that it would be best for Mr. Marlier along with Mr. Smyth to start the budgeting for 2019 so that nothing is forgotten.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



THOMAS KOHLER
CHAIRMAN

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Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: