

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
January 13, 2016

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their reorganization meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 in the Township Building, 175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Lou Zotti, Vice-Chairman
Marvin Meneeley, Treasurer
Tom Kohler, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Carlton Stuart, Secretary
Ian Kingsley, Member
David G. Kraynik, Executive Secretary
Edward J. O'Brien, Director of Public Works
Jack Smyth, Jr., P.E., Consulting Engineers, Boles Smyth Associates, Inc., (BSA)
Joseph Pizonka, Esq., Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, P.C
Nicholas Hiriak, Director of Finance
Rita Ann Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison

NEW BUSINESS

Transportation Authority Reorganization for 2016

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye", to appoint Mr. Kraynik as Temporary Chairman. Motion approved 5-0.

On a motion by Mr. Stuart, Mr. Kohler's name was placed in nomination for Chairman of the Authority.

On a motion by Mr. Meneeley, Mr. Zotti's name was placed in nomination for Chairman of the Authority.

Mr. Kraynik asked for a show of hands for those in favor of Mr. Kohler. Mr. Kohler, Mr. Stuart and Mr. Kingsley voted in support of Mr. Kohler for Chairman of the Authority. Mr. Meneeley and Mr. Zotti voted in favor of Mr. Zotti for Chairman of the Authority. Mr. Kohler was appointed Chairman by a vote of 3-2.

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Zotti, to approve the following appointments en bloc. Mr. Meneeley opposed. The motion was approved 4-1.

Mr. Zotti was appointed Vice-Chairman
Mr. Stuart was appointed Secretary of the Authority
Mr. Meneeley was appointed Treasurer
Mr. Kingsley was appointed Assistant Treasurer/ Assistant Secretary of the Authority

APPOINTMENTS:

It was moved by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Kraynik as Executive Secretary. Motion approved 5-0.

It was moved by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Hiriak as Finance Director. Motion approved 5-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to appoint the firm of Boles Smyth Associates as Consulting Engineer, at the rate listed in their letter of intent dated December 15, 2015. Motion approved 5-0.

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Zotti, all voting "Aye" to appoint the firm of Pizonka, Reilley, Bello, & McGrory, P.C. as Solicitor at will, at the rate listed in their letter of intent dated December 21, 2015. Motion approved 5-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to appoint the firm of Maillie LLP, CPA as Auditors. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATE:

It was moved by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye", to set the second Wednesday of each month, at **7:00 p.m.** as the Authority's regular meeting date and time. Meetings will be held in the Board Room of the Township Building, unless otherwise advertised. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of December 9, 2015 as amended. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization to Prepare SR 0023, Trout Creek Bridge Preliminary Engineering Proposal with Not to Exceed \$225,000 2016 Limit

Mr. Smyth provided an update on where the project stands as of the 2008 Pro Team Session, a general overview of what remains to be done in Preliminary Engineering for the Trout Creek Bridge, and a breakdown of the associated 2016 \$225,000 anticipated expenditure.

The overall intent of the project is to replace the SR0023 Trout Creek Bridge. It was noted in 2008 the Authority expended \$240,000 of a \$650,000 overall Preliminary Engineering agreement with the objective to get through the Pro Team session with a preferred alternative and determine if PennDOT would commit to final design funding. If so, the Authority would continue with funding of the original Preliminary Engineering contract; however PennDOT did not commit at that time. Subsequently, PennDOT has committed to funding final design based on the Authority's completion of Preliminary Engineering.

In 2008 a lot of work was done to get these concepts developed and reviewed by PennDOT at the Pro Team Session. This included Conceptual Type, Size and Location (TS&L) plans for different bridge alternatives. This also included, an approved Scoping Field View to determine the required level of environmental clearance, utility verifications, right-of-way and property determinations and hydraulic analysis of the bridge concepts.

The updated schedule for preliminary engineering would span between 2016 and 2017. At that point PennDOT is committed through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to pay for it from final design through construction. The Fiscal Years for construction are being determined; however, Montgomery County is programming final design to begin after the 2017 time frame. The overall estimate for Preliminary Engineering is \$550,000. In coordination with the Finance Director and Township Manager, \$225,000 was budgeted for 2016.

Mr. Smyth indicated this is a total PennDOT project through their ECMS system. He noted the Scoping Field View which was approved in 2008 would have to be reanalyzed to make sure it is still consistent. The TS&L in the bridge design would be revisited with respect to issues associated with Beidler Road. Mr. Smyth noted there are planned developments that may impact the role Beidler Road plays for this project. He explained how these projects may impact planning, traffic operations and construction activities for this project. In particular, the Vandenburg redevelopment will require reanalysis of the previously proposed "one-way" Beidler Road proposal as part of this project. To accommodate future two-way traffic volumes, the PA 23/Beidler Road intersection will require a redesign which will impact the TS&L for the SR 0023 bridge over Trout Creek.

Mr. Smyth noted stakeholder coordination would include engaging Norfolk Southern in the process.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart all voting "Aye" to approve the authorization to prepare a preliminary engineering proposal not to exceed \$225,000. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Development Plan Updates

Village at Valley Forge, Bozzuto 232 age restricted apartments on 3.7 acres– approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 3, 2015.

Development plan at Vandenburg and Beidler, 19 acres – approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 3, 2015. The redevelopment of this property houses four buildings and will result in 311 apartments and 1,500 square feet of non- residential use for retail. This is the first development project that has been approved under the Mixed Use zoning.

Development plan at 611 DeKalb Pike (old Gino's property) 2-story 18,000 square foot retail building on 1.07 acres – will be considered by Board of Supervisors on January 14, 2016.

Realen Valley Forge Greenes Association Development Plan – 276 multi-family units on 4.75 acres. Board of Supervisors will consider on January 14, 2016.

Public Hearing for a Liquor License transfer for Davio's Steakhouse at Village at Valley Forge – will be considered by Board of Supervisors on January 14, 2016.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River (SR 3051 Section C22) – Construction Phase
Project going well. Contractor placed beams on the final section of the Schuylkill River bridge on the West Norriton side this past month. Abutments, piers and beams are now installed and contractor is in the process of forming the deck for the bridge. The bridge over the Schuylkill River Trail is progressing in its second stage. The paperwork for the abandonment process of SR 3051 is moving forward. Upper Merion has already signed and once West Norriton's signature is obtained the process of abandonment will proceed. A final item being considered in the abandonment process is the plant establishment period guarantee which is one year after installation. PennDOT is determining whether a final modification to the abandonment paperwork is required to encompass the one year extension.

Relocated North Gulph Road, SR 0023 Section RNG

With completion of Sullivan's Bridge anticipated in May/June and construction awarded to J. D. Eckman for the US 422 bridge project, the timing is appropriate to advance the Relocated North Gulph Road design phase. The concept takes into account the new trail from Sullivan's Bridge that will cross at the rapid flashing beacon that is being installed. It also takes into account the National Park Service interest in access to the Old Port Kennedy train station and Kennedy Supplee Mansion area. Once the US 422 eastbound off ramp is completed, the intent is to relocate North Gulph Road away from the park's main entrance, increase the capacity along North Gulph Road and obtain a gateway buffer for the National Park Service entrance area.

Mr. Kohler asked for additional background on the project. Mr. Smyth responded this originated from what is referred to as the US 422 River Crossing Complex which not only looked at the Vehicular Betzwood Bridge, but also the US 422 mainline and its interchanges with PA 23 and PA 363 as well. In previous years the Betzwood Bridge Replacement Project was progressing as a vehicular bridge. Through the US 422 River Crossing Complex study it transitioned to the trail bridge. As part of the PA 23 interchange design, the ramps were included in the US 422 mainline widening project which will begin construction shortly. This final phase is the Relocation of North Gulph Road.

Referring to the map that was handed out to the group, Mr. Kohler called attention to the area restoring direct access to the Visitors Center (the park originally channeled traffic around a circle.) Mr. Smyth responded what is shown on the park circulation network is from the National Park Service and that would be done independent of, and before the relocation of North Gulph Road. BSA is providing the National Park Service with some guidance to maximize their objectives.

Mr. Kohler noted traffic coming eastbound through the park to the intersection with North Gulph Road would make a left to stay on PA 23. He asked if traffic counts are high enough for a dual left and if that is a necessity. Mr. Zotti noted the single left is important for the separation between PA 23 traffic and US 422 Westbound traffic. Mr. Smyth responded they have the traffic counts and it currently calls for a single left.

Mr. Smyth reiterated this is a total PennDOT ECMS project and the PennDOT Traffic Unit is going to be heavily involved in the final signal design on all of this.

Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line

The lab testing for borings has been completed for the culvert. The foundation report will be completed by the end of the month and is highly critical to allow for other parallel submissions to go forward such as the NPDES Permit for Erosion and Sediment Control and the PA Department of Environmental Protection General Permit.

Arden Road Bridge Damage & Repairs

BSA coordinated with PennDOT to schedule bridge inspectors that completed the Special Inspection for the Arden Road bridge on behalf of the Township. No defects of the repaired areas were found. The Special Inspection of the Problem Area will be included in the overall Local Bridge Program Inspection record for the bridge. BSA will prepare an invoice on behalf of the Authority for reimbursement by the contractor, Utility Line Services.

Mr. Kohler asked if that invoice would be for the total cost. Mr. Smyth responded he does not have PennDOT's Special Inspection invoice, and it will be noted in the invoice letter that it does not include PennDOT's inspection services.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Nick Hiriak, Finance Director, reviewed the financial report for the previous 12 months. He said there will be some changes once adjustments are made to remaining final expenses. It was noted actual 2015 traffic assessment revenue was 25% of what was budgeted and that these are timing factors. Mr. Hiriak indicated he has re-budgeted some of that income, the largest of which is the King of Prussia Mall Connector with payment anticipated in 2016.

Mr. Hiriak stated he will keep the format for two cash accounts – the operating account and anything that is new in traffic assessments for Act 209. He mentioned Maillie will come in for the Township and Transportation Authority audit in May.

REQUISITIONS – JANUARY 2016

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 1,487.12	Multi-Use Trail Connection on Port Kennedy Road for work performed 11-1-15 thru 11-30-15 INVOICE #18
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 2,439.63	Construction Phase Svcs. For Multi-Use Trail Bridge over Schuylkill River Project for work performed 11-1-15 thru 11-30-15 INVOICE #21
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 8,005.13	Final Design of East Church Road Bridge Over SEPTA for work performed 11-1-15 thru 11-30-15 INVOICE #29
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 18,647.50	Transportation Engineering Consultant Services Performed 8-12-

		15 thru 11-30-15 INVOICE #87
Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, P.C.	\$ 270.00	Professional Services for 12/9/15 INVOICE #32460
TOTAL:	\$30,849.38	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Zotti, all voting "Aye" to approve the January 2016 requisitions in the amount of \$30,849.38. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Request for Proposal for the position of Solicitor for the Transportation Authority

Mr. Stuart stated he would like to make a motion for a Request for Proposal for the position of Solicitor for the Transportation Authority.

Mr. Zotti questioned the motion in view of the previous vote for this position during the reorganization. Mr. Kohler responded the motion for the position of Solicitor is done "at will." He indicated Mr. Pizonka is free to apply again. Mr. Zotti said he did not hear ["at will."]

Mr. Kohler asked if there was any further discussion on the motion. Mr. Zotti commented the Authority was going to bring up the Solicitor issue last September and no one made the motion. Mr. Kohler stated when he made the motion early last year it did not pass on a 2-2-1 vote.

Mr. Meneeley commented unfortunately the search process that was agreed upon to look at the RFP in a timely manner was dropped. He recalled the discussion was about doing something in the fall so as to have a Solicitor in place for a full year.

Mr. Kohler stated there was no formal motion to formalize that process. He said it did not happen and he would like to see that happen now.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart to initiate the process for a Request for Proposal for the position of Solicitor for the Transportation Authority. Motion approved 3-1-1. Mr. Kohler, Mr. Stuart and Mr. Kingsley voted in support of the motion. Mr. Zotti voted no and Mr. Meneeley abstained.

Mr. Kraynik stated he would proceed with advertising a Request for Proposal.

Additional Authority Comments:

Mr. Meneeley expressed his disappointment in what he views as the politicization of the Authority. He also took exception to the process of introducing new members without prior notice to Authority members.

A discussion followed during which Mr. Stuart expressed his views as to why he did not feel the same way about the politicization of the Authority. With regard to prior notification to the Authority before the introduction of new members, Mr. Stuart said that would be something to consider in moving forward.

Mr. Kohler commented on a previous Authority discussion about the possibility of expanding the Authority to seven members to allow more flexibility if an open seat were to occur or for quorum issues that might occur.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, it was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart all voting "Aye" to adjourn the meeting. None opposed. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THOMAS KOHLER
CHAIRMAN

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: