

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
December 10, 2014

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 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

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

ABSENT

Michael Santillo, Chairman

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of November 12, 2014 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization to Order Signal Equipment for Valley Forge and Caley/General Knox Roads

Mr. Smyth stated because of the long lead times for delivery of mast arms and controller boxes which normally would be in the contract work order, obtaining the equipment directly through a Transportation Authority purchase order would save time. This effort would be coordinated with Chaz DeVitis, the township's Traffic Signal Supervisor.

Mr. Meneeley asked if it is in the same pricing PennDOT would pay. Mr. Smyth responded in the affirmative. Mr. Kraynik noted the equipment is being purchased off the state's bid list.

Mr. Zotti asked if the design is completed. Mr. Smyth responded he will go into that as part of his report, but an HOP was submitted to PennDOT and it had one round of signal comments and none of them related to the equipment or anything that would be prohibitive.

Mr. Kohler asked if the bid going out to the contractor would exclude the cost of the signal equipment or would the Authority be reimbursed afterwards. Mr. Smyth responded the Authority would pay for it as part of the budget and when the contract is bid it will include a Specification for installation of the equipment.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to authorize the purchase of the signal equipment for Valley Forge and Caley/General Knox Roads. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Resolution 2014-08, PennDOT Business Partner Signatory Authority

Mr. Kraynik stated PennDOT has a requirement whereby they are requiring the Authority to become a business partner regarding the execution of agreements and documents. The Authority would be asked to designate the Chair of the Authority, the Executive Secretary, and the accountant of the Authority as officials authorized to sign all documents and agreements between the Department and the Authority. This standard applies state-wide.

Referring to Resolution 2014-08, Mr. Zotti pointed out that the use of the word "and" in front of Mr. Hiriak's name gives the impression that three signatures are needed.

After consultation with the Authority's Solicitor and a brief discussion it was agreed to substitute the word "and" with the word "or."

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler to approve Resolution 2014-08 with the amended language using "or" instead of "and" so that any of the three duly noted signatories could execute PennDOT agreements and/or documents. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Authority Comment:

Mr. Meneeley asked that the record reflect the word "or" is to be inserted between "Authority" and "Nicholas F. Hiriak" as a substitute for the word "and."

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Adoption of Ordinance for the Act 209 Study and Report

Mr. Kraynik stated on December 4th the Board of Supervisors had a public hearing which resulted in the adoption of an ordinance for the Act 209 study and report and other necessary resolutions adopting the Capital Improvement Plan. The new Act 209 assessment fee became effective as of December 9th, 2014.

Right of Way Need for Community Center

Right of way is needed from one of the property owners at the intersection of Caley and Valley Forge Roads (east side). Property owner does not agree with the appraised value and has indicated they obtained their own appraisal. Dave has requested a copy.

A meeting will be held on December 16th at the Township Building with Mr. Phillip Villari, owner of the property on the northeast corner of the intersections. A Temporary Construction Easement agreement will be presented at the meeting.

Development Plan Update

724 Bush Street – three lot subdivision with two new attached dwellings will be discussed at the January workshop meeting.

FedEx Ground Distribution Facility – 600 River Road 65-acre land development (between Flint Hill and River Road) will be discussed at the January workshop meeting.

705 to 715 West DeKalb Pike – 6,000 square feet of retail from (Crockett to Shaffer). Sidewalks will be installed and that portion of US 202 will be made more uniform. Neighbors are part of the process.

Mr. Kohler mentioned it appears the applicant is going to turn part of Crockett Road into a two-way road with an extra egress out of the property and questioned having a two-way driveway right next to it. Mr. Kraynik responded that issue has been raised and it will be “cleaned up.”

Piazza Mancill Mill Road Development – Applicant has a “by right” plan for a warehouse, office facility and two hotels. There are continued discussions with the neighbors and staff to discuss a number of options.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River (SR 3051 Section C22) – Construction Phase

Construction moving ahead steadily with one focus being on the West Norriton side of the Bridge over the Schuylkill River Trail. A second focus for the contractor has been excavating the old Schuylkill River structure piers within the cofferdams and getting ready to pour new foundations for Piers 1 and 2 on the Upper Merion side of the Schuylkill River.

A Peco power outage that the contractor needs to complete the pile driving work for the Schuylkill River Trail structure keeps getting pushed back. This is something the contractor is noting in case there is a delay in the schedule.

Relocated North Gulph Road, SR 0023

BSA met with National Park Service (NPS) staff to discuss issues related to County Line Road and other Valley Forge Park coordination items (i.e., Kennedy Supplee Mansion access & Ranger Station access). NPS is also interested in finding a way from the new Kennedy Supplee Mansion driveway to Station Lane which is where the multi-use trail is coming in.

The US 422 Widening project will be going out to bid later this year. PennDOT will be replacing the existing drainage pipes within US 422 that outlet to this area and provide aprons for erosion control.

This work would stop at the limited access right-of-way line. The NPS expressed concern regarding the condition of the existing system that receives this drainage and would like it addressed. They are asking the Relocated North Gulph Road project to take up the repair of that roadway element since BSA will already be in that area. Drainage calculations need to be done to figure out drainage needs. BSA is working with PennDOT and their consultants to make sure that responsibility gets formally placed into this project.

Church Road Bridge Over SEPTA Route 100 Line

Progress meeting held with SEPTA dealing with the complex right-of-way issues for the SEPTA right-of-way and the underlying ownership of the land. SEPTA does not own the land upon which the rail line is set; it is owned by Penn Central Railroad's successor. BSA is working to get a legal opinion regarding a PUC Order several years ago indicating the township has the right to maintain that structure regardless of the ownership of the land. This means right-of-way would not be required and BSA would work with SEPTA on the agreements for their track operations, but not as it relates to right-of-way. There is a small piece of land where a temporary construction easement is needed.

Prepared draft Memorandum of Right-of-Way determinations for SEPTA and PennDOT right-of-way specialist to review.

Mr. Zotti asked who is checking out the legal status with regard to right-of-way land issues. Mr. Smyth responded considerable documentation has been gathered which has been sent to the PennDOT consultant's right-of-way specialist for review. As feedback is received from PennDOT and SEPTA's legal team, the Authority's Solicitor will review as well.

Prince Frederick Extension

BSA working with Montgomery County to inform them of potential Prince Frederick Extension project as it relates to the Chester Valley Trail crossing of US 202 at Saulin Boulevard. Also, a meeting has been scheduled with Lafayette Ambulance attorney, Alan Boroff, to discuss the Henderson Road aspect of the Prince Frederick Extension.

Community Center

BSA submitted Highway Occupancy Permit to PennDOT through their E-permit system and received comments back in a timely manner within three weeks. BSA revised special details to ADA ramp comments, traffic control, and the traffic signal. The required right-of-way and temporary construction easements must be in hand before PennDOT issues the permit. The business partner element will also come into play during this process.

Transmitted Temporary Construction Easement agreements for the Reinhardt and Draayer property. Meeting set up with Mr. and Mrs. Villari next week. Two final temporary construction easements are needed directly across the street from the Community Center for sidewalk installation. The Authority Solicitor will review and prepare agreements early next week.

Prompted by Mr. Kohler's question, there was a discussion about the exact location of the missing sidewalk. During the discussion Mr. Smyth pointed out the missing sidewalk is located more toward the middle of the hill, utility pole relocation is not required for sidewalk installation, there will be a continuous sidewalk from the bridge up the hill.

BSA coordinated with Peco for the agreement to relocate the utility pole at the Irvin property. The Peco agreement was recently executed for the utility pole relocation at the Sioux Irvin property. The agreement also requires minor revision to include guy wire modification at a second pole for a total relocation cost of \$7,965 which was within the range estimated at the last meeting. The relocation is scheduled for December 30th. Once that pole is moved the other utilities will be scheduled.

Additional Authority Discussion:

South Gulph Road Widening

Mr. Kohler asked about the status of the South Gulph Road widening project and reiterated his continued concerns about the 1-2-1 lane proposal. Mr. Smyth responded there have been no changes and the project is awaiting advancement based on the Authority's priorities. He noted the right-of-way from the cemetery has already been purchased based on the current design. Mr. Smyth stated now that the Act 209 is in place, the priorities need to be determined and Mr. Kohler raised a good point for further thought and discussion.

Act 209

Mr. Zotti requested clarification with regard to Act 209 for the Caley and Valley Forge Roads intersection and its implications for the sidewalk installation going past that intersection.

Mr. Smyth responded that Mr. Zotti raised a good question and he thought everything associated with the project would be included. Mr. Smyth pointed out projects on a state route require a 50% match. This means only 50% is coming from Act 209 and the other 50% is coming from another pool of money. In this case [Community Center improvements] it is the Authority's money being used for the match for any of the developer dollars that are coming in.

Mr. Kohler noted the only money going forward for any new development coming in since the last five days after the December 4th business meeting would be eligible for Act 209 money.

Mr. Kohler clarified projects in the works prior to approval of the Act 209 ordinance would be under the old assessment and this money could be spent on whatever was needed in the township.

Mr. Smyth indicated a separate account will be established for the Act 209 monies. Mr. Hiriak confirmed the statement.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Hiriak noted only one change to the budget since the last meeting was the addition of \$250,000 for the Trout Creek Bridge preliminary engineering.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the 2015 budget for the Transportation Authority. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

REQUISITIONS – December 10, 2014

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 1,725.12	Multi-Use Trail Connection on Port Kennedy Road for work performed for the period October 1, 2014 thru October 31, 2014. INVOICE #5
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 6,521.47	Construction Phase Svcs. For Multi-Use Trail Bridge Over Schuylkill River for Work performed for the Period October 1, 2014 thru October 31, 2014.

		INVOICE #8
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 3,083.41	Final Design of East Church Road Bridge Over SEPTA for work performed August 1, 2014 thru October 31, 2014. INVOICE #17
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 7,262.25	Relocation of N. Gulph Road (SR 3039) for work performed October 1, 2014 thru October 31, 2014 INVOICE #20
Upper Merion Twp.	\$108,009.67	Reimburse for principle & interest for share of 2010 GOB.
Pizonka, Reilley, Bello, & McGrory	\$ 837.00	Professional services from 11-2-14 to 11-21-14. INVOICE #31617
Peco Energy Co.	\$ 7,964.00	Relocate Pole 64675 for Road reconstruction at Valley Forge and Caley Roads W008137965 Task 3
TOTAL:	\$135,403.92	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the December 10, 2014 requisitions in the amount of \$135,403.92. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mr. Kraynik reminded Authority members the next meeting on January 14, 2015 will be for reorganization.

Mr. Zotti wished all the members of the Transportation Authority a very happy holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MICHAEL SANTILLO
CHAIRPERSON

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: