

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
January 14, 2015

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for a reorganization meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 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
Carlton Stuart, Secretary
Tom Kohler, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
David G. Kraynik, Township Manager
Edward J. O'Brien, Director of Public Works
Nicholas Hiriak, Director of Finance
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
Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison

NEW BUSINESS

Transportation Authority Reorganization for 2015

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye", to appoint Mr. Kraynik as Temporary Chairman. Motion approved 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Santillo as Chairman of the Authority. Motion approved 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to appoint the following en bloc, and the motion was approved 4-0:

Lou Zotti was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Authority
Marvin Meneeley was appointed Treasurer of the Authority
Tom Kohler was appointed Assistant Treasurer/ Assistant Secretary of the Authority
Carlton Stuart was appointed Secretary of the Authority

APPOINTMENTS:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Kraynik as Executive Secretary. Motion approved 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to appoint Mr. Hiriak as Finance Director. Motion approved 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, 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, 2014. Motion approved 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to appoint the firm of Pizonka, Reilley, Bello, & McGrory, P.C. as Solicitor, at the rate listed in their letter of intent dated December 11, 2014. Motion approved 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to appoint the firm of Maillie LLP, CPA as Auditors. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATE:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, 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 4-0.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of December 10, 2014 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization to Advertise Valley Forge Roadway Improvements Construction

Mr. Smyth reported the bid package is nearing completion for the Valley Forge Roadway Improvements construction which includes installation of the signal at Caley and General Knox Roads, minor widening, right turn lane and driveway adjustments for the Community Center. He indicated he would provide more thorough details on the status of the Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) and the property owner negotiations.

Mr. Smyth discussed the proposed timing for the bid advertisement, a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting, authorization to provide a Notice of Intent to Award to the responsive low bidder, so that with performance and payment bonds in hand the Transportation Authority can consider the Notice to Proceed Authorization at the March 11, 2015 meeting.

A discussion followed with regard to various advertising resources in addition to the mandatory *Times Herald* which included social media, township website, and PENNBID, a municipal bidding service. Mr. O'Brien noted that PENNBID is a free service for engineers and municipalities and reduces the cost for advertising for bidding documents.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to authorize advertising for Valley Forge Roadway Improvements Construction. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Request for Proposal for Transportation Authority Solicitor

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to table this agenda item until all the members of the Authority are present. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Church Road Bridge Project – Agreement Line Change Request

Mr. Smyth stated BSA's subconsultant, Ang Associates, Inc. (Ang) is no longer a PennDOT Business Partner. Ang was the structural engineer on the project. The employee from Ang that designed the bridge has been brought onto the BSA roster in order to make sure the structural component of this project moves forward. The transfer of these funds to BSA is requested to offset the additional administrative and design costs for this project resulting from Ang's termination as a PennDOT Business Partner. BSA is willing to work with Ang Associates to address Gannett Fleming's comments and make sure final items are completed so that the plans can be signed by PennDOT's bridge engineer. Ang's seal will be on those plans since they did the design.

Mr. Zotti asked if this is acceptable to PennDOT since Ang is no longer a business partner and they are the engineer of record. Mr. Smyth responded in the affirmative. He said BSA would follow through on this and have let Gannett Fleming know that Ang has not renewed their status as a PennDOT Business Partner.

Mr. Kohler asked if any time is being lost as a result. Mr. Smyth responded in the negative and noted the benefit of now having it under BSA's control.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the Agreement Line Change Request. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Development Plan Updates

Federal Express Ground Distribution Facility on River Road – This is a 66-acre, 315,000 square foot property and will be a 24/7 operation. Applicant came before the Board of Supervisors at a workshop meeting and will return for another workshop meeting the first week of February for another review to discuss such items as location of access not only to PA 23, but also the other roads, and possibly a connector road.

Mr. Kohler mentioned at one point there was talk of a connector road from Flint Hill Road to River Road as part of the Comprehensive Plan several years ago. Mr. Kraynik responded this is being discussed with the applicant and the applicant has offered four or five different scenarios as to how the connection could be made.

Mr. Kohler asked if there is anything the Authority can do to help advance the connector road idea. Mr. Kraynik said it would help for the Authority to make a motion endorsing the idea of the connector road that he would report back to the supervisors at the next workshop meeting.

Mr. Kohler stated he is a strong supporter of the connector road since it is part of the Comprehensive Plan from when this Authority was formed and because of the traffic and safety issues at the Village of Swedeland which they deal with on a daily basis. Of particular concern is the area where Flint Hill goes from a two-lane industrial service road to a one and a half lane residential street and the blind intersection at Swedeland Road. Mr. Kraynik stated the Board of Supervisors is well aware of this problem and is working with the developer to address this issue.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to support the idea of a connector road from Flint Hill to River Road and encourage the Board of Supervisors to continue to work with the developer to make it a reality. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Kraynik stated he would inform the supervisors and the developer of the Authority's motion of support for the connector road.

Mr. Meneeley asked if the Fed Ex facility on Allendale Road will be consolidated with the proposed Fed Ex Ground operation on River Road. Mr. Kraynik explained they are two different operations, and it is his understanding the Federal Express on Allendale Road will remain open. He noted Fed Ex Ground is so successful and busy that they need their own operation. Most of the vehicles that will come into the proposed River Road site will be small vans and not too many tractor trailers. Their van fleet will be housed at the River Road site.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

Construction going well. The contractor is scheduled to erect the first of three BEBO arch segments on the other side of the river from West Norriton over the Schuylkill River Trail. Contractor has been excavating the old Schuylkill River structure piers and have the pier foundations nearly ready to install.

Community Center – Valley Forge Roadway Improvements

With regard to Valley Forge and Caley Roads, PennDOT's first round HOP comments were received and EHOP was resubmitted on December 24, 2014. PennDOT's comments were mostly related to signal and some traffic control comments. Mr. Smyth indicated some additional signal comments were received today, and he has been coordinating with the Upper Merion Signal Supervisor to order the mast arms and the controller box. One of the final questions is whether or not to powder coat the mast arms and the controller box a "National Park Service" brown which would be a nice mitigating feature since it is in a residential neighborhood. An additional quote of approximately \$3,400 - \$3,500 was obtained to get everything powder coated. Mr. Smyth asked if he should proceed with the powder coating.

Mr. Zotti asked for clarification about the base material. Mr. Smyth responded it would be powder coated with the same material.

Mr. Zotti asked from the initial estimates how the cost came in for the base. Mr. Smyth responded overall good prices are coming in on the mast arms and controller box.

Mr. Zotti asked if it was less than the original estimate. Mr. Smyth responded in the affirmative. He noted the contractor is still going to have to install, but the actual mast arms themselves came in at a good price.

Mr. Zotti asked if there is more risk in damaging the powder coat during installation. Mr. Smyth responded there is a scratching aspect and for this reason the specification needs to indicate that they are being delivered with powder coating and any damage would be the contractor's responsibility.

Mr. Zotti asked if the mast arms are galvanized steel and said his concern with powder coating would be scratching the powder coat. He noted if it is scratched with only seal underneath it is prone to rusting; with a galvanized surface underneath the powder coat it would not rust. Mr. Smyth responded that the mast arm for the Valley Forge roadway will be a standard mast arm that repels rusting and can withstand the weather.

Mr. Kohler commented that powder coating is something to be considered going forward when installing traffic signals in residential areas.

Mr. Smyth stated the cost estimate for everything is still at the original estimate which was \$950,000 for everything (design, right of way, utilities, construction, inspection) and includes the \$3,500 for powder coating.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to add powder coating for the signal in "National Park Service brown." None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Smyth discussed the specifics of the coordination with the Irvin property owner for the right-of-way agreement. A discussion ensued during which various Authority members offered their comments regarding the negotiations and the substantive difference between the Authority's and property owner's appraisals as well as additional requests made by the property owner. If the requests were granted the property owner offered to have the controller box moved back to her corner. Various options were considered and discussed with the Solicitor. During the discussion Mr. Smyth noted the property owner has two agreements pending one is for acquired right of way and the other is for a temporary construction easement.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to authorize a \$25,000 initial offer with the authority to go up to \$27,500 and in either instance the conditions include no relocation of the light, the controller box to be placed on the Irvin property, mast arms to be powder coated, no funds contributing toward a fence and the property owner needs to sign the temporary construction easement. If all the foregoing is declined it will trigger an immediate condemnation by the Solicitor. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Kraynik stated both he and Mr. Smyth would have a meeting with the property owner to discuss what the Authority has authorized them to do.

Mr. Smyth indicated proof must be provided PennDOT before they will issue a permit for construction and it is hoped this will be in hand by mid-March. Mr. Zotti pointed out the need for a

temporary construction easement in order to move the project forward. Mr. Smyth noted the temporary easement is needed because the sidewalk is outside of the right of way that is needed for installation.

Mr. Kraynik suggested a modification to the previous aforementioned motion.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler to amend the previous motion with regard to the condemnation authorization and to consider it at the February meeting, if necessary, if all elements of the previous motion are not met. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line

Progressing on the design for culvert, the main bridge, and the right-of-way legal opinion needed from SEPTA to obtain resolution on the right-of-way issues for the SEPTA track.

PA Turnpike Corridor Reinvestment Study

Coordinated with Leo Bagley, Montgomery County Planning Commission, today and received word that the Lafayette Street & Ridge Pike ramps are moving forward with the Turnpike Commission. The County will administer and advance the project along with the Lafayette Street widening.

Mr. Kraynik noted this is a very positive sign for future slip ramps and projects that the Turnpike Commission will look favorably upon.

Mr. Kohler commented the original design was for an E-Z Pass Interchange and this is for electronic tolling so that it will not go to construction until that gets passed by the Legislature. Leo Bagley mentioned at the Montgomery County Transportation Authority last Thursday there is a possibility electronic tolling system will be in place by 2018, at least in the eastern part of the state. Mr. Kohler said if this time frame is met it would still be the end of the decade before Lafayette Street is done.

Mr. Smyth stated Leo Bagley indicated they are initiating talks with the Turnpike Commission to get into a reimbursement type of agreement for design and right of way for this ramp project which the County would administer. DVRPC will be completing traffic projections for potential Henderson Road ramps by the end of this month. Leo Bagley feels Henderson Road is positioned well to be among the next ones to go since original traffic projections are comparable to Lafayette Street.

Mr. Kohler asked if there is a pecking order at the County regarding the ramp projects. Mr. Smyth responded the turnpike section west of the Blue Route is not programmed for any future widening. East of the Blue Route there is the project to look at an 8-lane section of the Turnpike. At this time, the thought process is to determine what affect the widening will have on new or modernized interchanges east of the Blue Route and analyze the results of DVRPC's projections before moving on any of the additional proposed Turnpike interchanges.

Mr. Kohler asked about the Valley Forge ramps. Mr. Smyth responded it is part of the program, but Leo Bagley has not indicated where that falls on the prioritization.

Mr. Kohler commented there has been talk that the Business Improvement District (BID) is putting in the off ramp in a way that would not prohibit future ramps and they are looking to move on that sooner rather than later.

Mr. Smyth noted the announcement of Montgomery County Commissioner, Leslie Richards as the Secretary of Transportation for PennDOT. She is a strong proponent of the Turnpike Corridor Reinvestment Study.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Pizonka stated his office rendered an opinion on the Church Road Bridge project right-of-way and that is proceeding. Two temporary construction agreements were issued for the Davis and Madonna properties which are still outstanding on the Valley Forge Improvements Project.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Hiriak presented the year-end report. He indicated all reimbursement requests have been filed with the Commonwealth and are in process. Federal grant for the Sullivan's Trail is on line and working. PennDOT processed all the Business Partner paperwork for management of agreements and projects as required by the Department. Mr. Hiriak answered questions with regard to payments on various projects.

REQUISITIONS – JANUARY 2015

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 624.92	Multi-Use Trail Connection on Port Kennedy Road for work performed 11-1-14 thru 11-30-14. INVOICE #6
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 9,024.50	Upper Merion Community Center Roadway Improvements for billing period 10-1-14 to 11-20-14. INVOICE #8
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 8,535.96	Construction Phase Svcs. For Multi-Use Trail Bridge Over Schuylkill River for 11-1-14 thru 11-30-14. INVOICE #9
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 8,142.74	Final Design of East Church Road Bridge Over SEPTA for 11-1-14 to 11-30-14 INVOICE #18
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 9,758.04	Relocation of N. Gulph Road (SR 3039) for 11-1-14 to 11-30-14 INVOICE #21
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 22,617.75	Transportation Eng. Svcs. Consulting Activity from 9-1-14 to 11-30-14 INVOICE #83
Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, PC	\$ 870.75	Professional Services 11-15-14 to 12-29-14 INVOICE #31690
TOTAL:	\$59,574.66	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the January requisitions in the amount of \$59,574.66. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MICHAEL SANTILLO
CHAIRPERSON

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: