

**UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013**

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for a meeting on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 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

Michael Santillo, Chairman
Marvin Meneeley, Treasurer
Carl Pinto, Secretary
Tom Kohler, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer (arrived few minutes late)
Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison
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., Solicitor, Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, P.C
Rita Ann Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Louis Zotti, Vice-Chairman

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Pinto, all voting "aye" to approve the meeting minutes of August 14, 2013 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Contract Time Extension – Old Betzwood Bridge Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Project (MPMS# 16703)

Mr. Smyth stated a time extension for Part II (Final Design) is requested for the Multi-Use Trail project agreement to December 31, 2013. This time extension is required for BSA to complete the Bid Package Preparation for this project. PennDOT required additional reviews of the Structure Plans.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Pinto, all voting "Aye" to grant the extension for the contract to December 31, 2013. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

Request for Contract Time Extension – Church Road Bridge Replacement Project Over SEPTA

Mr. Smyth stated the design changes that were made to the culvert affected the schedule, and BSA is requesting a time extension to March 31, 2014.

Mr. Meneeley asked if there were any economic repercussions. Mr. Smyth responded there are no requested adjustments to the project fee as part of this amendment; however, they do need the extra time.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Pinto to grant the extension of the contract for the Church Road Bridge Replacement Project over SEPTA from October 31, 2013 to March 31, 2014. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Santillo deviated from the business agenda to recognize two residents, Mr. and Mrs. DeRosato, who were in attendance at this meeting with regard to their concern about lights at Swedesburg Park. Once they outlined their concern it was explained to them that the matter is being handled by Public Works staff, not the Transportation Authority. Mr. and Mrs. DeRosato were also provided information about the "Request for Service" feature on the township's website that goes directly to the staff handling the lights with continual updates on progress.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Pennsylvania Turnpike Concept Study

Mr. Kraynik stated Leo Bagley, Assistant Director, Montgomery County Planning Commission is working with Montgomery County communities with PA Turnpike interchanges (Upper Moreland, Upper Dublin and Horsham) on a far-reaching plan to improve access from the interchanges to adjacent business parks. Within Upper Merion, BSA has been authorized to work on the Pennsylvania Turnpike Concept Study on behalf of the Authority.

The County is refining the Pennsylvania Turnpike concepts for presentation to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). There is county money available for DVRPC to do traffic forecasting as the next step for getting this project into an implementation phase program.

Mr. Bagley has met with Upper Moreland, Upper Dublin and Horsham. They have asked if the County can issue a 100% reimbursable contract to BSA instead of the individual townships. The County determined they would not be able to do this. Therefore, the three townships have asked if the Transportation Authority would administer a 100% reimbursable agreement with them. Mr. Smyth stated he has letters from Upper Dublin and Horsham, along with verbal acknowledgement from Upper Moreland indicating their Boards have approved the expenditures. The three communities are asking that the Transportation Authority administer an agreement not to exceed the value of \$30,000. Upper Dublin, Horsham and Upper Moreland would each pay the Authority \$10,000 and it would be a 100% reimbursable contract.

Mr. Kraynik noted none of the three communities have Transportation Authorities and they have requested Upper Merion Township to take the lead.

Mr. Kraynik asked the Solicitor to draft an appropriate agreement for the three communities to sign if the Authority is receptive to this intermunicipal cooperation effort.

Mr. Kohler pointed out in order for the County to be fully invested they would want the whole corridor on board and it would be well to get everyone together to help push our projects along.

Mr. Kraynik commented there is no doubt Leo Bagley is viewing this as a county-wide effort which would provide more leverage with the Turnpike Commission. He asked the Authority members to consider authorizing the Solicitor to prepare the document agreement.

Mr. Philips asked for clarification about contract details. Mr. Smyth responded the \$30,000 contract would be between the Transportation Authority and Boles Smyth and would be a 100% reimbursable agreement.

Mr. Philips asked if there are any bidding requirements that have to be executed because of the dollar amount. Mr. Kraynik responded it would not be necessary for a professional services agreement and deferred to the Solicitor. Mr. Pizonka indicated that was correct.

Mr. Kraynik asked if the Solicitor is comfortable with that and he responded, "absolutely."

Mr. Smyth stated the contract will be between the Authority and Boles Smyth and the reimbursement agreement would be between the Authority and the three township entities.

Mr. Santillo asked if there were any time constraints. Mr. Smyth responded it is a 90-day study after which the concepts will go to DVRPC.

Mr. Kohler made a motion to have the Solicitor prepare an agreement for consideration at the next meeting. Mr. Santillo asked if the agreement could be drafted for signature by the Chairman and Executive Secretary before the next meeting to move it along faster.

Mr. Kohler amended his motion.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to authorize the Chairman and Executive Secretary to sign the agreement as previously stated subject to the review of the Solicitor. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Land Development Projects

Chick-fil-A – grand opening was held on August 22nd

Wawa – opening anticipated mid to late October 2013

Pep Boys – This development will receive consideration again at a Board of Supervisors Workshop meeting on Thursday, September 19.

Arden Court Development Plan – 620 W. Valley Forge Road (behind Manor Care), building addition to accommodate 8 new beds.

Upcoming projects to be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors – Mall Connector project and Flint Hill small office development.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River.

The Multi-Use Trail project is wrapping up. Approval received on the Conceptual Type, Size & Location Plan and Foundation Report for the Design-Build Schuylkill River Bridge. Awaiting final approval of the Norfolk Southern superstructure replacement. Design Plans Review has been completed and approved. The full Construction Plan Set along with the specs and estimate will be submitted to PennDOT on Friday. The estimate is approximately \$9.25 million without construction inspection. PennDOT usually applies 10% for construction inspection. PennDOT's Contract Management Division can start their review to make sure all the other components are in place such as utility and right of way clearances. There are two approvals remaining – one for the Superstructure Replacement Final Plan Set and the other is a Joint Permit for the work in the river which was re-submitted with some responses to minor comments. The project team finalized the Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) package for review and approval in house and then it can get out to the contractors. The last status meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17th. This should be the last status meeting before getting out to advertising.

Relocated North Gulph Road

Activity resuming on this project. Project has been awaiting resolution of the transportation funding bill in Harrisburg due to its dependence on the other US 422 Widening project for the US 422 Eastbound off ramp flyover. There are hybrid options to go independent if that ramp were to stay where it is; if the flyover is there, the original concept will be advanced. Working on utility verification and other preparatory initiatives in anticipation of the next fall session of the Legislature.

Henderson Road Widening

Awaiting final invoice from Glasgow for submission at next meeting. Glasgow is coordinating with all subcontractors to receive sign-off for final payments.

Church Road Bridge

Discussed above.

Upper South Gulph Road Widening

With the completion of the Henderson Road Widening project, the next project gearing up is the Upper South Gulph Road Widening (from Church Road to Long Road). Mr. Smyth will be meeting with Mr. Kraynik tomorrow to review the status of all the projects in more depth. The cemetery right of way has already been purchased. Temporary Construction Easements will be needed from the residents. Sidewalk and driveway aprons will be replaced and driveway adjustments are required.

The Transportation Authority has been meeting with the property owners over the last few years to hear their concerns, one of which was reducing the speed limit and that has been done. The signal went in at Long Road to help with breaking up the traffic flow so residents could get out of their driveways. In addition, the profile was raised on the Long Road side of South Gulph to help with sight distance getting out of the driveways. There is a contract already in place to continue the design and that work will now begin.

PA Turnpike Ramp Feasibility Study

Met with Montgomery County and the King of Prussia Business Improvement District (BID) on June 25th. Subsequent to the June 25th meeting, BSA developed a concept for a full movement interchange at Henderson Road. BSA has also refined the interchange concept at Valley Forge into the Freedom Business Center and Moore Road. The BID has their own concept to come off the

Turnpike from the westbound direction directly into the Freedom Business Center. The County, through the Authority, would like to keep moving forward with the study to get to the next stage. Leo Bagley wants to give the full overall program to DVRPC for the full interchange option at Valley Forge and he has requested the full interchange option at Henderson Road be transmitted to DVRPC so that traffic projections can be done for both options.

I-76 Ramps and Henderson Road Contract

Right sizing is needed for the remainder of the design which will culminate in a final meeting with residents on South Gulph Road.

Upper Merion Community Center

Met with PennDOT Traffic Unit and they are supportive of the preferred option discussed at the May 30 Board of Supervisors meeting. They stressed that a signalized intersection at Valley Forge and Caley/General Knox will require a Warrant Analysis to justify. Using the speed limit of 35 miles an hour would not warrant a light even with the Community Center while a 40 mile an hour reading might warrant a signal. Traffic information is available from the Act 209 Study. Before taking the Warrant Analysis to the next level of warrants and counting a full 8 hours it must be determined if the 85% speed along Valley Forge Road is over 40 mile an hour.

Mr. Kraynik stated the Police Department has the equipment to conduct a speed study and he and Jack Smyth will work with Chief Nolan on that. The speed study will determine the 85% speed of the vehicles.

Mr. Pinto raised the issue of visibility at that intersection. Mr. Smyth commented that warrants are based on either volume or accident history and it did not appear as if there were sufficient recorded crashes to warrant a signal. Jack noted that PennDOT is supportive of a Rapid Flashing Beacon at the intersection if the intersection does not warrant a traffic signal.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Hiriak presented the budget report for the month of August. He noted traffic assessment fees this month totalling approximately \$90,000.

REQUISITIONS – AUGUST 2013

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 3,373.56	Final design of East Church Road Bridge over SEPTA for work performed for the period 11-01-12 thru 07-31-13. INVOICE #7
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 11,059.22	Relocation of N. Gulph Road (SR 3039) for work performed 01-01-13 thru 07-31-13. INVOICE #9
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 8,713.75	Final Design of Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River Project for work performed 07-01-13 thru 07-31-13, INVOICE #16
Times Herald	\$ 353.47	Audit Notice 07-31-13, INVOICE #00225128
Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory	\$ 904.50	Professional Services for the period 08-05-13 to 08-14-13. INVOICE #30735

TOTAL:	\$ 24,404.50	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to approve the September requisitions in the amount of \$24,404.50. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Following up on the Executive Session held at the last meeting Mr. Pizonka stated a vote would be necessary in the public portion of the Transportation Authority meeting to approve the settlement agreement discussed last month.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kohler, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the agreement with Shreiner Tree Service. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

At this point in the proceeding, Mr. Santillo asked for a moment of silence to remember and honor the victims of 9/11.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mr. Philips asked when discussions will be held about reprioritizing transportation projects. Mr. Kraynik responded he would be meeting with BSA tomorrow to discuss this matter and the results will be presented to the Authority.

Mr. Philips noted the anomaly at the intersection at Crossfield and Meadowbrook where there is a three-way stop that is only a two-way stop since the other sign is further down about 500 feet at Pheasant. He asked if the stop sign at Pheasant could be moved so it would, in fact, be a three-way intersection. Mr. Kraynik indicated he would have the Traffic Safety Officer look into this.

Mr. Kohler provided some background on the stop sign at Crossfield and Pheasant. With regard to the three-way sign, he suggested at the minimum placing a small tab underneath letting people know it is not currently a three-way. Mr. Kohler indicated he also noticed previous warning signs coming up across Crossfield are no longer there, possibly because they fell down and were not put back up. Mr. Kraynik indicated he would send an email to Chief Nolan and have Traffic Safety take a look at that situation.

Mr. Meneeley commented about overgrown shrubs obstructing the view of the intersection off of Champlain at Saratoga and Beidler. Mr. Kraynik indicated he would pass that on to the Police Department as well.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MICHAEL SANTILLO
CHAIRPERSON

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: