

BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING – COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING – CAPITAL PROJECTS AND GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

JANUARY 20, 2020 – 2:15 P.M.

Wyomissing Borough Council held a Special Meeting at the Borough Hall on the above date for the purpose of discussing capital projects and grant opportunities. Council President Thomas M. Moll called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. with the following persons present: Council members Thomas M. Bausher, John C. Woodward, Stephen D. Brunner, William S. Jenckes, and Keith L. Derr, Mayor Frederick C. Levering, Treasurer Paul W. Brass, Borough Solicitor Christopher J. Hartman, Consulting Engineer James C. McCarthy, Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg, Economic Development Coordinator and Zoning & Codes Enforcement Officer Michele Bare, Public Works and Property Manager James V. Babb, Parks and Recreation Director Rob Lewis, Business Office Manager Phyllis Smith, and Assistant Borough Secretary Melissa Miller. The following person was absent: Council member Jody W. Menon.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

VISITORS:

Adrian Jadic – 48 Cardinal Road
Gregory Krutoyarsky – 41 Cardinal Road
Coleen Terry – ECON Partners (Via Conference Call)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Adrian Jadic, 48 Cardinal Road, addressed Council with various concerns. He indicated he will announce his recording devices if he has to at the beginning of the meeting, and asked if he's allowed to ask questions of Council. He also encouraged Council that the present day was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Borough hall should be closed in observation of the day.

CAPITAL PROJECTS AND GRANT FUNDING:

Parks and Recreation:

Parks and Recreation Director Rob Lewis began the discussion with his priority list which included updates to aging playground equipment at the Berkshire Heights playground, including ADA compliance items, and the desire to have a master plan study completed on the Stone House. Coleen indicated the available grant options for the playground equipment would be Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) through DCED. The program funds up to \$250,000 and requires a 15% match from the Borough. The other option for the equipment update is the Community Conservation and Partnerships Program (C2P2) which includes various grant options for funding, including Park Rehabilitation and Development Funding for playground improvements. Unfortunately, the Borough would have to match this grant by 50%.

Available grant funding for the master plan study could be funded by GTRP, however another available C2P2 grant option is the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund, which is again a 50% Borough match. There is also the option of the Marcellus Legacy Fund which has two grant options; Watershed Restoration Protection Program and the Flood Mitigation Program both with a 15% Borough match.

With the available Park and Recreation grants, the priority list of the Park and Rec department will not compete with other Borough capital projects.

Public Works:

Public Works Director Jim Babb indicated his priority list items are the Public Works maintenance garage and MS4. A study was completed to evaluate the needs of Public Works; thus they first examined renovations and constructing other buildings on the lot to fulfill the capacity needs, and also include storage space for police department evidence and evidence examination. This option comes in four phases for an approximate total of \$3,379,394. Moving to a different location could cost upwards of \$8 to \$10 million dollars. Coleen indicated the renovations and new buildings would be a RAC-P grant option.

MS4:

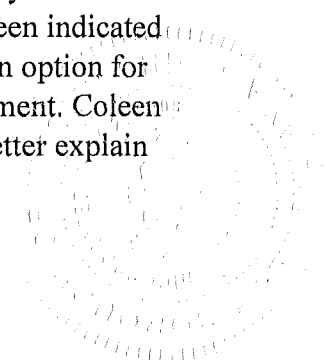
Jim stated MS4 will come into effect in 2022-2023. The Borough and seven other municipalities have formed the Wyomissing Creek Watershed Coalition, and are under agreement for each municipality to be responsible for a percentage of the total cost for permitting requirements for the Wyomissing Creek Watershed. The Borough of Wyomissing would be responsible for 20% or \$400,000. Jim also mentioned the Borough would need to take into account monies needed for the Tulpehocken Creek Watershed, of which is not part of a coalition. Coleen indicated MS4 would be a RAC-P grant option and also an H2O grant option. Jim questioned how long the Borough would have to use RAC-P awarded grant monies, and Coleen indicated 5-6 years including allowable extensions.

Library:

Council also discussed the necessary updates for the Library building. Kautter & Kelley Architects provided a two-option priority list with both covering some aspects of the exterior, general construction, mechanical and electrical, and site work. Priority 1 provided more in-depth work and the estimated cost is \$713,000.00. Coleen indicated this would be a RAC-P grant option.

Fire Station:

Council also discussed the necessary updates for the Fire Station. Kautter & Kelley Architects provided an estimate of \$5,452,000.00 for extensive building improvements. Coleen indicated this would be a RAC-P grant option, but also USDA Federal Funding would be an option for station renovations, and FEMA funding would be an option for fire station equipment. Coleen indicated she will provide a comparison sheet for Federal and State Funding to better explain which funding has what matching percentage.



Michele Bare shared with Council a streetscape concept for the Penn Avenue corridor to replace and add streetlights, banner poles, trees, curbing and sidewalk, as well as signage. The estimate for this project was \$4.5 million, and to add various other components such as trash cans, the estimate increases to \$5-\$5.5 million. The discussion was had that specs would be equivalent to those of West Reading Borough to provide continuity along Penn Avenue. Coleen indicated it would be a good idea to consider phasing the project and apply as a multi-municipal project between Wyomissing and West Reading. Michele indicated she will meet with West Reading to discuss the project and potential multi-municipal grant application. She will also work to formalize the priority list to be discussed at the January Economic Development meeting, and formally approve the priority list at the February Council meeting.

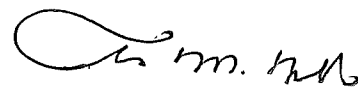
The Wyomissing Borough Council meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Miller
Assistant Borough Secretary

Approved by:



Thomas M. Moll, President
Wyomissing Borough Council

