

**Ridley Township Board of Commissioners
December 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Willert at 6:00pm on December 20, 2023 at the Township Building.

The following Commissioners were present: Mr. Saraceni, Mrs. Morrisette, Mrs. Cummins, Mr. McMenamain, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Warwick, Mr. Willert, and Mrs. Melasecca.

Also present were Mr. Ryan (Township Manager), Mr. Archdeacon (Township Engineer's Office), Mr. Neill (Township Solicitor) and Mr. Betzler (Controller).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Willert expressed condolences to the family and friends of Cindy Caponi, Carlo DiFabio and Maryann Farrell.

Public Forum

Linda Harris, 1323 Morton Avenue, appeared before the Board concerning speeding along Morton Avenue.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Saraceni, seconded by Mr. McMenamain to approve the meeting minutes of May 24, 2023, June 28, 2023, July 26, 2023, August 17, 2023 and August 23, 2023. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Manager's Report

At the recommendation of the Telecommunications Committee, Mr. Ryan requested approval of two leases for the telecommunications tower at 4th & Sutton Avenues. The first lease is with Crown Castle/T-Mobile and the second with DISH Wireless. Mr. Ryan also requested authorization to execute the leases.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. McMenamain to approve the telecommunications leases as presented and assign signature authority to Mr. Ryan. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Ryan announced the 2024 Final Budget Adoption will be held December 28th at 6pm and the 2024 Reorganization meeting will be held on January 8, 2024 at 6pm, both in Garling Hall.

Recycling Report

Mrs. Melasecca reported trash collected in November was 1200.23 tons and recycling collected in November was 179.62 tons. 11 televisions were collected in November.

Controller's Report - No Report

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Neill reviewed the public hearing held on December 14, 2023 concerning Wawa, Inc.'s request for an intermunicipal liquor license transfer to their store at 1920 W. MacDade Blvd., Woodlyn and recommended the Board render a decision on the request. After discussion, it was the Board's desire to deny Wawa's request and authorized the Solicitor to prepare the denial resolution listing the reasons as required.

Motion made by Mr. Willert, seconded by Mr. Saunders to deny the intermunicipal liquor license transfer request of Wawa, Inc. as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Engineer's Report

Mr. Archdeacon recommended approval of the following certificates: N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – 9th Ave Drainage Improvements - \$8,636.00; Mobile Dredging & Video Pipe – Braxton Rd / Clymer Lane Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Change Order No. 3; Traffic Planning & Design – Kedron & Franklin Avenues - \$750.36; Premier Concrete, Inc. – Balignac Ave Playground Accessibility Improvements - \$93,860.00; A. Gargiule & Sons, Inc. – Eisenhower Ave Drainage Extension - \$35,558.00; N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – 6th Ave Drainage Improvements & Change Order No. 1 - \$153,201.75.

Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mrs. Melasecca to approve the certificates as read. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Archdeacon stated Dave Damon, Alternate Township Engineer, recommended an escrow approval for JMT Builders for Morris Avenue in the amount of \$36,911.05

Motion made by Mr. McMnamin, seconded by Mr. Cummins to approve the escrow as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Damon also recommended release of escrow for the Wawa at Chester Pike & Acres Drive - \$80,608.00 to 390 East Chester Pike Investors, LLC and \$71,721.00 to Wawa, Inc.

Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the escrow release as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Archdeacon recommended award of the Nall Field Development Phase 3 to Battlefield Enterprises for their low bid amount of \$129,969.50 subject to the Solicitor's review.
Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mrs. Melasecca to approve the bid award as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Archdeacon requested approval of the CDBG PY2024 Resolution.
Motion made by Mr. Warwick, seconded by Mrs. Morrisette to adopt the CDBG PY 2024 Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Archdeacon gave the Board an update on PennDOT's work at MacDade Blvd. & I-476.

Highway/Sanitation Committee Report

Mr. Warwick reported there is no trash collection on December 25th, December 26th, January 1st, January 2nd and January 15th. He also announced the curbside leaf collection program has ended.

Law & Ordinance Committee Report - No Report

Recreation Committee Report

Mr. McMenamin reported on the current and upcoming recreation programs.

Public Safety Committee Report

Mr. Willert read the Public Safety Committee Report noting the calls for service in November as follows:

- Crum Lynne – 97
- Folsom – 262
- Holmes – 112
- Milmont Park – 47
- Morton – 43
- Ridley Park – 120
- Secane – 57
- Swarthmore - 37
- Woodlyn – 227

Mr. Willert highlighted calls for service that the police made during the month.

Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report

Mr. Saraceni read the Health & Code Enforcement Committee report for November as follows:

- Permits Issued – 190
- Contractors Registered – 16
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 34
- Rental Inspections – 75
- Health Inspections – 16

Building Committee Report

Mr. Saunders requested approval of Wave Car Wash's request for an extension until the end of January, 2024 on their car wash application at 1537 Chester Pike.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mrs. Morrisette to approve the request as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Saunders presented a request from Alibert Properties, Inc., 1919 MacDade Blvd., Woodlyn, asking for a waiver from our curb and sidewalk requirements for this subdivision.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to deny the request for curb installation waiver and approve the request for a sidewalk waiver. Curbs are to be installed on the frontage of Bullens Lane and Irvington Road. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Library & Resource Center Committee Report

Mrs. Cummins reported that 6,652 patrons visited the library and checked out or downloaded 13,613 books and other items in November. Program attendance at 62 programs was 2,508. She also reported on upcoming library programs.

Finance Committee Report

Mrs. Morrisette reported all Commissioners received a list of this month's bills.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrisette, seconded by Mr. Warwick that the bills be approved subject to the Controller's review and approval. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Old and New Business

The Board wished everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy, Healthy New Year.

Mr. Warwick thanked all first responders who work the holiday.

Mr. Willert thanked all township departments for their work.

Adjournment

**Motion made by Mr. Willert, seconded by Mr. Saunders to adjourn the meeting,
Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

Meeting concluded at 6:24pm.