

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES – AUGUST 5, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held remotely on August 5, 2020. Dr. Weiss called the meeting to order and called the Roll. Dr. Weiss stated because of the storm yesterday and the fact that many people are still without power, the Board is going to forego most of the Agenda this evening, and only deal with time-sensitive issues.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors: Frederic K. Weiss, Chair
 Suzanne Blundi, Secretary
 James McCartney, Treasurer
 John B. Lewis, Supervisor

Others: Kurt Ferguson, Township Manager
 David Truelove, Township Solicitor
 Andrew Pockl, Township Engineer
 Kenneth Coluzzi, Chief of Police

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Blundi stated the recycle yard will be open on Monday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and residents can bring in branches and other appropriate waste.

Mr. Lewis asked that everyone keep Mr. Grenier in their thoughts as he has had a difficult pneumonia, and they are hoping for a negative COVID test and his fast recovery.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Approve Escrow Release for Regency at Yardley – South, Carriage Homes Phase 3

Mr. Pockl stated this is for sidewalk improvements that they had made and trees that were planted this year, and he is recommending an Escrow Release in the amount of \$56,970.00.

Ms. Blundi moved, Mr. McCartney seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Escrow Release.

Approve Release for Regency at Yardley – South, Carriage Homes Phases 4 and 5

Mr. Pockl stated this is for sidewalks and trees that were planted, and they are recommending an Escrow Release in the amount of \$147,217.50.

Mr. McCartney moved, Ms. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Escrow Release.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Approve a 5-Year CoStars Golf Cart Lease, Beginning May of 2021 at an Annual Cost of \$76,861.44

Mr. Ferguson stated they approved a Golf Cart Lease shortly after he started as Township Manager in 2018. He stated this is the subsequent Lease for five years through CoStars which is a consortium Bid the Township follows for cars and various pieces of equipment. He stated it is an annual payment that will begin in May, 2021. He stated the payment that is currently outlined is a reduction of several thousand dollars a year with the payments not starting until next May which is a good thing for our year-end numbers.

Mr. Mike Attara stated this will be approximately \$25,000 in savings this year, and the new fleet will be very helpful. He stated today was a perfect example of why the new gas fleet would be advantageous to have because they did not have power at the Course all day; and since they were not being able to charge carts, they ran out of carts around 10:30 a.m. He stated also with the existing carts, the batteries tend to get weak by the fourth year of the Lease.

Mr. Lewis moved, Mr. McCartney seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve a 5-year CoStars Golf Cart Lease, beginning May of 2021 at an annual cost of \$76,861.44.

Authorize Advertising of Bids for 2020-2021 Leaf Collection

Mr. Ferguson stated they hire outside contractors who participate in the leaf program. He stated this past year there were three who participated. He stated they also hire temporary workers and use their own staff. He stated this is the standard Bid that is put out each year.

Mr. Lewis moved, Mr. McCartney seconded and it was unanimously carried to authorize advertising Bids for the 2020-2021 leaf collection.

Authorizing Advertising of Bids for 2020-2021 Snow Removal

Mr. Ferguson stated they do use some outside contractors who are required to provide their own equipment if we need them to fall back on.

Mr. Lewis moved, and Ms. Blundi seconded to authorize advertising of Bids for 2020-2021 snow removal.

Mr. McCartney asked about the piece of equipment which was purchased, and Mr. Ferguson stated hopefully that will be received this fall. He stated the Board purchased a few pieces of equipment that will be assisting with the snow removal including one which was purchased for Park & Recreation which can be used as well. He stated the last few years there have been issues with our equipment, and contractors have had to be called in because our equipment has gotten older and it has been harder to find parts. He stated hopefully as we continue to replace our fleet, the need for contractors will be less and less.

Mr. McCartney stated this is just for back-up; however, Mr. Ferguson stated while that is true for the most part, there are CDL guidelines which require off times for the operators so if they have to operate for many hours with continuous snow, they would use outside operators. He stated last year was a relatively mild winter, and he believes that they had a contractor out for one day and then not again the rest of the year.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Truelove stated the Board met in Executive session beginning at 7 p.m. and items related to litigation and informational items were discussed.

Approve Setting Special Meeting to Consider Sewer Sale

Mr. Truelove stated today was the Injunction Hearing regarding the Sewer sale issue in front of Judge Mello who lifted the Stay that prohibited any further discussion of a Sewer sale, and they are now free to pursue that.

Mr. Truelove stated he has not specifically found any Sunshine Act violations at this point; however, in order to properly deal with the Record, he would recommend, especially since the Sewer Sale Bids are expiring on Friday, August 14, that Wednesday, August 12 be the Special Meeting date dedicated only to the Sewer issues.

Ms. Blundi moved, and Mr. McCartney seconded to set August 12, 2020 as a Special Meeting to consider Sewer system conveyance issues.

Mr. Lewis asked what is the status of our meetings with the Elected Officials that the Board had agreed upon previously as those meetings have not been scheduled. Mr. Ferguson stated he received some notices back which the Board is aware of since he forwarded them to all Board members. Mr. Lewis asked if they provided specific dates or did we follow up with them, and Mr. Ferguson stated he did not follow up with them.

Mr. Lewis stated there will not be a lot of time to meet with them between now and the Special Meeting, and he asked when we want to meet with them. There was no response by the Board, and Dr. Weiss stated he assumes that there is no interest in having a meeting. Mr. Lewis stated the Board voted to establish and have meetings, and he stated there would have to be a Motion to rescind that. Ms. Blundi stated she felt the Board voted to reach out to them, which they did. Mr. Lewis stated the Motion was specifically to meet with them.

Mr. Lewis stated he would like to call back the Minutes. Dr. Weiss asked what date that Motion was made on. Mr. Truelove stated he does not have the Minutes in front of him so he cannot comment. Ms. Blundi and Mr. Ferguson took some time trying to locate the Minutes specific to that Motion. Mr. Ferguson stated the Motion was made on June 10. Ms. Blundi read as follows: "Mr. Lewis moved and Ms. Blundi seconded to send a letter inviting the Congressmen, Senators, etc. to work with us and set up a meeting." Ms. Blundi stated they have sent the letter, but they did not get any meaningful responses.

Mr. Lewis stated he did not receive any of the responses so he would not know if they were meaningful or not. Mr. Ferguson stated he forwarded the Board the response received from Senator Santarsiero's office. Mr. Lewis asked Mr. Ferguson what he had stated, and Mr. Ferguson stated he basically stated that if there was going to be a meeting, his office would participate. Mr. Ferguson stated Representative Warren stated something

similar in that he was willing to meet if there was going to be a meeting. Mr. Ferguson stated Senator Toomey indicated he was not aware of any Federal funding, but that they should keep him in the loop. Mr. Ferguson stated Representative Fitzpatrick stated something similar in tone with Representative Warren in that if there was going to be a meeting, he could send a representative.

Mr. Lewis stated they agreed to a meeting, but we did not set up a meeting; and the Motion was to reach out to them and set up a meeting. Ms. Blundi stated the Motion was to send a letter. Ms. Blundi stated it seems she and Mr. Lewis have a disagreement as to the intent of the Motion. Ms. Blundi stated she feels the intent was that if anyone indicated that they were aware of a program with money available, the Township would meet with them. Mr. Lewis stated three of them indicated they would meet with the Township, and one of them has a defined track record of delivering money for Lower Makefield. Ms. Blundi stated Mr. Lewis is now indicating what the intent was of the letters he did not remember receiving. Ms. Blundi stated if Mr. Lewis wishes to pick a date and arrange a meeting, she would do her best to be there.

Mr. Lewis stated we reached out to our Elected Officials, and three of them indicated they would like to meet with us. Ms. Blundi stated that is not what they stated, and that is not how she interpreted the letters. She again noted that if Mr. Lewis would like to set up a date and get them to attend, she would do her best to be there. Mr. Lewis asked if we should not do what we said we were going to do, and Ms. Blundi stated she feels the Board did that.

Dr. Weiss stated he believes that there are two issues – one is to continue with scheduling the Special Meeting as noted by Mr. Truelove, and the other is to have a meeting with our Federal and State Officials to talk about funding of our Sewer projects. He stated he feels that they are mutually exclusive. Mr. Lewis stated he disagrees with that “profoundly.”

Dr. Weiss stated he would entertain a Motion to make them mutually exclusive. Mr. Truelove asked if there was a Motion made already about the Special Meeting, and it was noted a Motion was made.

Mr. Lewis moved to Table the current Motion. There was no Second.

Mr. McCartney stated he understands that Mr. Lewis wants to have a meeting, and he asked if he has made any attempt to make the meeting happen since the letters were received. Mr. McCartney asked who is supposed to spearhead that meeting. Mr. Lewis stated the Board collectively decided to do that. He stated the Township Manager reached out to them and did not follow up with the Board to get the Board's approval to set up a meeting time. Mr. Lewis stated he does not have to schedule the meeting; and he is just one of five Board members, and the Board collectively agreed to do that. He stated the Board is now saying that they do not want to do that. Mr. McCartney stated he believes that they agreed to send a letter; however, Mr. Lewis stated the Board agreed to send a letter and set up a meeting. Mr. Lewis stated they should read the Motion.

Dr. Weiss stated Mr. Ferguson gave the Board all of the information they needed. He stated if the Board had a desire to actually have a meeting, it would have been the Board's decision to go forward; and there has been no action. He stated there is a difference of opinion as to the letter and what the intent of the meeting was supposed to be. Dr. Weiss stated he recalls that he made a statement that anyone who would give the Township money to help with projects, he would meet with; however, none of the letters indicated that they had money for the Township. Dr. Weiss stated he therefore has no interest with following through, and he is content with the information he has now. He stated he has no problem with the Motion as it stands. Dr. Weiss stated an Amendment to the Motion to also consider a meeting with State and Federal Officials to talk about financing could be entertained.

Mr. McCartney stated he read all of the responses received, and he does not feel any of them expressed an abundance of interest or an abundance of money to put toward these projects. Mr. Ferguson stated he would view them as standard positive letters about meeting with the Township. He stated he recalls that Representative Fitzpatrick's letter came back first, followed by Senator Santarsiero's. He stated he believes Representative Warren's letter came in the end of June, and it was the last one to come in prior to the Board's July 1 meeting.

Mr. McCartney asked Mr. Lewis if he has had any conversations with Steve Santarsiero regarding this topic since the letters came out where he specifically advised Mr. Lewis that this "was a great idea, that they need to move forward, and they have additional funds or there will be an abundance of State funds that could help out." Mr. Lewis stated he has not been allowed to talk about the Sewers for a while, so he has not brought that up with

the Senator. He stated he does recall the e-mail from Fitzpatrick's office which he read as follows: "Hey Kurt, I received the letter you sent to the Congressman asking to develop a funding strategy for wastewater treatment in the region, and the Congressman would like to take the meeting. Are you planning on arranging a meeting with Elected Officials all at once or on an individual basis." Mr. Lewis stated on behalf of the Congressman, he seemed very interested in that.

Ms. Blundi stated the question from Mr. McCartney was about Steve Santarsiero, and she asked Mr. Lewis if between the June 10 meeting and July when the Order came in which indicated they could not talk about the Sewer sale, did he have any conversations with Steve Santarsiero where he indicated there might be some State funding available. Mr. Lewis stated he and the Senator do not talk that often, and they have not had any specific discussions around that specific topic. He stated he feels he should be asked about other Elected Officials as well. He stated he has not spoken to Senator Casey on this issue. He stated he did speak "around the issue" with Representative Warren who expressed interest in the meeting.

Mr. McCartney stated Mr. Lewis knew the time lines around this. Mr. Lewis stated the question is whether it is his responsibility to set up a meeting if the Board collectively directed the Township Manager to set up a meeting. Mr. Lewis stated the Township Manager sent out e-mails and there were follow-up responses, but then there was no follow-up from the Chair or the Township Manager.

Dr. Weiss stated they did not direct the Township Manager to set up a meeting. He stated after hearing from all respondents it is incumbent upon the Board as a group to determine if a meeting will be set up, which was not done. He stated from that lack of follow-up there seems to be no real interest in setting up a meeting at this time to help fund our projects. Dr. Weiss stated he feels they all know that there is no way that the State Legislature is going to fund our Sewer system for the next fifteen to twenty years.

Dr. Weiss stated there is a Motion on the floor which no one has Amended. He stated there has also been no interest from the Board as a body to set up a meeting with the State and Federal Elected Officials. He stated there is a Motion to set a date to discuss sewer conveyancing.

Mr. Lewis moved to Amend the Motion that prior to the meeting occurring, he would like answers to the questions that he provided by e-mail on July 22, 2019 that were agreed to in writing by Scott Shearer of PFM on

August 7, 2019 and verbally on June 17, 2020. Ms. Blundi would not agree to the Amendment. Mr. Lewis asked her basis. Ms. Blundi stated she feels that is the same Motion Mr. Lewis made previously which was discussed. Ms. Blundi stated Mr. Lewis could make a different Motion. Mr. Lewis stated his Amendment is directly related to the issue.

Mr. Lewis stated he would like to know why he cannot get answers to four questions. Dr. Weiss stated he might be able to get the answers when they set the meeting. Mr. Lewis stated it was agreed to in writing on August 7, 2019 and verbally on June 17, 2020 by PFM. Dr. Weiss stated it was not agreed to by the Board. Mr. Lewis stated he has an agreement in writing on August 7, 2019, and Dr. Weiss stated Mr. Lewis can address that to Mr. Sherer when the time comes; and at this point they are just trying to schedule the meeting.

There was no Public Comment at this time.

Motion carried with Mr. Lewis opposed.

Mr. Truelove asked what time they will start the meeting, and it was agreed that it would start at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Lewis asked what the items will be that will be on the Agenda, and Mr. Truelove stated they will be Sewer conveyance issues, a Concession Lease, and the outstanding Bids if they get to that point will be considered as well. Mr. Lewis asked if all Bidders will be present, and Mr. Truelove stated he assumes that those who made the Final round would be there.

ZONING HEARING BOARD MATTERS

With regard to the Jennifer Pan Variance request for the property at 908 Morgan Dive in order to permit construction of in-ground pool resulting in greater than permitted impervious surface, Mr. McCartney moved, Ms. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to defer to the Zoning Hearing Board.

With regard to the Bill Munz, Munz Construction Variance request for property of Mr. & Mrs. Kaney located at 2313 Yardley Road in order to permit construction of addition resulting in greater than permitted impervious surface, Mr. McCartney moved, Ms. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to defer to the Zoning Hearing Board.

PRESENTATION BY BIG OAK WHITE TAIL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (BOWMA)
ON 2020/2021 DEER HUNT AND APPROVE RENEWING THE PROGRAM

Mr. Ferguson stated the herd is getting larger everywhere in Bucks County. He stated last year they added Snipes as a new site on Saturdays recognizing there is a School close by. Mr. Ferguson stated he sent the Board information about property by the Canal, and they had approached the County Department of Park & Recreation about hunting; however, they indicated that do not allow that on those properties. Mr. Ferguson stated they also looked at other areas of Township open space, and there were some that had restrictions on them preventing hunting at the time the Township acquired them. Mr. Ferguson stated they had discussions with Farmland Preservation about some properties as well. Mr. Ferguson stated there are Pennsylvania Game Commission restrictions regarding proximity to property and structures. Mr. Ferguson stated they could Appeal to the County Commissioners regarding the property near the Canal. Mr. Ferguson stated they could consider going beyond Saturdays with regard to the Snipes parcel.

Mr. Ferguson stated the Board is aware that there was a discussion about hunting this season at the Five Mile Woods. He stated the Park & Recreation Director expressed concern that because of COVID this year, the Parks, including the Five Mile Woods, were closed for a period of time; and have since been opened. Mr. Ferguson stated the Five Mile Woods has been hunted for a number of years, and last year they took six deer out of that area. Mr. Ferguson stated the Five Mile Woods is closed while it is being hunted. Mr. Ferguson stated Ms. Tierney was concerned given how long the Five Mile Woods was already closed, would they want to re-close it and let them hunt or would they rather keep it open since there are people who are interested in being in the Five Mile Woods; and the Board should discuss that.

Ms. Blundi stated she would like to try to work with the County to see if they could have the bowhunters go to that portion of that enclosed land. She stated they get a lot of comments from those who live in that area that the deer population is out of control. She stated if there is a way that they can gain access, she would like to try to do that. Mr. McCartney stated he would be in favor of that as well.

Mr. Ferguson asked how they should reach out to the Commissioners, and Ms. Blundi asked that they send a formal letter. Mr. Ferguson stated they need to consider the timeframe for an answer from them

since BOWMA has to get their hunters pre-qualified and scheduled, and he would defer to Mr. Kovalcik regarding the date he would need an answer by so that if they were granted access, they would have the ability to get their hunters in there.

Mr. Jim Kovalcik, representing BOWMA, stated if they can get an answer, he could set the schedule up at any point; but the quicker they get the answer, the better the chances would be for scheduling it. Mr. Kovalcik stated they carry insurance on all of their hunters, and he would have to submit that ground to their insurance company so that they are covered for liability on that piece of ground as well. Mr. Kovalcik stated they are already on property that connects to the County property; and if they could add that and add it to their insurance, that would make sense.

Mr. Kovalcik stated last season in both Townships they harvested 148 deer, 74 of them from Lower Makefield. He stated in the 2019/2020 season, they donated 1,776 pounds of meat which created approximately 7,104 meals; and they could not do that without the Township allowing them to do this program. He stated BOWMA is very proud of this, and the Township should be proud of this as well.

Mr. Kovalcik stated in the eleven years that they have been involved in this program with the Township they have taken 625 deer. He stated their plan is to continue to operate the Program at no cost to the Township. He stated they are self-insured, and they have had no incidents. He stated they are very particular as to how they bring someone into the Program; and there is an Application process where the hunter has to shoot and climb a tree in order to qualify, and there is a point system. He stated they are brought into the program if they are deemed a quality hunter and an ethical hunter. He stated those who are Township residents get extra points. He stated they have not had any negative interactions with any people.

Mr. Kovalcik stated their Application was submitted to the Township on May 7 which was the same proposal they have sent for the last eleven years other than one change. He stated the Pennsylvania Game Commission has added one Sunday to the bow season which would be November 15.

Mr. Kovalcik stated they are looking to hunt all of the same properties they have in the past. He stated he knows that there was discussion about the Five Mile Woods, and he would ask that possibly after the Christmas Holiday

they be permitted to hunt in the Five Mile Woods since there are not a lot of people who use that Park after that time which would be Christmas to January 27. He stated 10% of their harvest is from the Five Mile Woods so it is a good part of their program. Mr. Ferguson asked if they had the full season when would it start and stop, and Mr. Kovalcik stated it starts September 19, 2020 and goes to January 27, 2021. Mr. Ferguson stated they would then be going from four months to two months hunting in the Five Mile Woods. Mr. Kovalcik stated he was trying to be fair to the people who wanted to use Park and also achieve the goal of removing some of the deer in the Five Mile Woods.

Mr. Kovalcik asked that the Board approve their hunting the Township so that they can get their insurances in and paid for as well as do their qualifications. He stated they will also need to meet with the Police Department to get their Registration cards so that everyone knows that they are legitimate in the Township.

Mr. Lewis thanked Mr. Kovalcik for the great work they do adding he has been a long-time supporter of the Program. He stated last week the red tags were available on Farmland Preservation property, and he asked if they are able to start hunting those now. Mr. Kovalcik stated they have started and they have them for all those properties. He stated they have twelve hours in over the last two weeks. He stated the only deer were bucks, which they are not allowed to shoot at the current time. He stated they have seen a few doe, but they have not been in range.

Mr. Lewis moved, Mr. McCartney seconded and it was unanimously carried to renew the Big Oak White Tail Management Association Agreement for the period of 2020 to 2021.

Mr. Lewis asked Mr. Kovalcik how someone could join BOWMA. Mr. Kovalcik stated they can go on their Website – Big Oak White Tail.com where there is an Application to be filled out. He stated they would need to have a hunter/trapper card, have taken bow hunter education, and they do a criminal background check. He stated when they turn in all of that information, they are brought in where there is a process for them to shoot, climb a tree, and then have them go through a two-page document to make sure that they feel they will be an ethical hunter. He stated the reason they have had no incidences is

because they are selective in making sure that they bring in the right people into the Program. Mr. McCartney stated the Application asked for the name of a BOWMA member sponsor, and he asked what someone would put there. Mr. Kovalcik stated people who want to join call them, and they are asked to come to a local Gun Club where many of those in BOWMA are members; and then one of the members of BOWMA would sponsor them.

Mr. Ferguson stated if there are future possibilities for locations such as County property or additional times at Snipes if School is out, he would like to bring those to the Board if they come up. There was no objection to this from the Board.

Mr. Kovalcik stated they appreciate working with the Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Zachary Rubin, 1661 Covington Road, stated during discussion of Agenda Item #11, there was a Motion on the floor to set the Special Meeting to consider the Sewer sale; and Mr. Lewis rose to an Amendment. Mr. Rubin stated the Amendment is a subsidiary Motion which takes precedence over the main Motion. Mr. Rubin stated if he would have had a Second, it would have been discussed. Mr. Rubin stated you do not ask the maker of the Motion to accept the Amendment. He stated Parliamentary Procedure was not followed according to Roberts' Rules of Order.

Dr. Weiss asked Mr. Truelove if the Board needs to re-visit that Motion, and Mr. Truelove stated they do not as substantively the result was the same.

Ms. Lisa Tenney, 156 Pinnacle Circle, stated half of the population in the Township do not have electricity or cable, but they are still conducting a Board of Supervisors meeting. She stated the Zoning Hearing Board canceled their meeting yesterday, but they are conducting this meeting when only a fraction of the "LMT Township can hear it." Ms. Tenney asked about if this is against the Sunshine Law. Mr. Truelove stated it is not, and they did have a discussion about the Sunshine Act earlier today. He stated he does not believe that half the Township is out at this time. He stated at the beginning of the meeting. Dr. Weiss indicated that the Agenda would be truncated because there were certain items that were time-sensitive, and they were matters

that needed to be voted on. He stated the other items have been deferred. He stated there is no Sunshine Act violation. Mr. Truelove stated there have been participants tonight similar to what they have had at other meetings.

Ms. Tenney asked when they will have the Sewer system meeting, and Mr. Truelove stated it will be Wednesday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Tenney stated she “thinks she is good with the bow hunting for deer;” however, a lot of deer are dead on the road, and it is “horrifying for a bus to drive by Bambi.” She stated there are humane ways to control deer population; and while bow hunting is one way, she asked that they entertain other ways as well.

Ms. Tenney stated she wants the Board to think about the fact that the Board represents the residents, and they should make sure that they are hearing all of the residents and representing them and to try to do that in a Democratic way. She thanked the Board for serving.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Consider Written Testimony to the New Jersey Clean Air Council Regarding Water Pollution from the Trenton Mercer Airport After Input From our Airport Review Panel and Motion to Authorize Airport Review Panel to Author Letter

Dr. Weiss stated the Township’s Airport Review Panel meets on August 13, and the deadline for comments to the New Jersey Clean Air Council is August 14. Dr. Weiss asked that the Board consider authorizing the Airport Review Panel to author a letter after August 13 so that they can get it to the Clean Air Council on August 14.

Mr. Richard Preston stated he would be happy to put together a letter, and he could submit it to the Board of Supervisors for a preliminary look, and then review it and vote on it at their meeting on August 13 so that they can submit it on August 14.

Ms. Sue Herman stated large-scale expansion at Trenton-Mercer Airport has occurred by segmentation over the past twenty plus years without regard to the cumulative impact on the environment surrounding New Jersey and Pennsylvania communities and public health. She stated she is alarmed about the large number of projects this year the Airport has

sought approval for. She stated there are at least twenty-five, in-process, individual projects that have either been approved, are in the process of seeking approval, or are planned in the near future as “supposedly unrelated or independent improvements.” Ms. Herman stated all of these segmented individually-considered projects are outlined and proven to be related and inter-dependent in the Master Plan of 2018. Ms. Herman stated the Airport Lay-Out Plan, part of the Master Plan, clearly identifies the proposed terminal expansion, runway protection zone, and development of Parcel A of the Navel Air Warfare Center where there are known contaminants. Ms. Herman stated It is “unconscionable” that New Jersey politicians from the local level up through the Federal level ignored RRTS’ September, 2019 letter which stated that residents are worried that the continued “reckless, unchecked” expansion of the Airport will cause irreparable harm to our health, safety, and welfare. The harm will include but not be limited to potential contamination of our drinking water.

Mr. Herman asked that the Board join them in imploring the New Jersey Clean Air Council to vigorously oppose the expansion plans of the Trenton Mercer Airport including all individually-considered projects. She stated these expansions plans will substantially increase toxic air and water pollution in Bucks County, PA and Mercer County, NJ. She stated they are looking for the New Jersey Clean Air Council and the New Jersey DEP to develop an actionable response to meaningfully address the serious air and water pollution caused by TTN’s past expansions, and looking for them to vigorously oppose any future expansion. She thanked the Board of Supervisors for their help with this.

Mr. Preston stated there is a letter from citizens on both sides of the River being sent to Senator Menendez to advise him as to what is going on with respect to the Airport and runway protection zone issues. He stated there is a movement for another letter that addresses financial and quality of life, air pollution and water pollution issues to go to politicians on both sides of the River again signed by residents from both sides. He stated the enthusiasm and energy going into this concern is growing on both sides of the River particularly in New Jersey, and they feel it is appropriate to try to reinstitute the discussions with our local politicians as to what actions they can take with them, what letters to write, and entreating Federal politicians to join with Representative Fitzpatrick who has been rebuffed by the FAA and in fact the whole Congressional Caucus for a Mandate in the last FAA Authorization Act telling them they need to develop new standards for noise protection of communities

because the twenty-four hour average is not representative of what people are experiencing. He stated the FAA indicated that they were not going to follow the Mandate. Mr. Preston stated they feel that it is appropriate to try to get our other Federal officials to increase the pressure on the FAA to follow the Congressional Mandate that was put into their Funding Act.

Mr. Preston stated they look forward to an opportunity after the letter goes out to give a summary of these issues at a meeting with some slides that could be presented to the public since they feel it is important for the public to be aware of what is going on. He stated they are pushing projects to the amount of \$177 million which they plan to repay based on aviation fees; and at this time that is not a solid plan as the aviation industry is going through a terrible time with the Corona Virus. He stated he does not know how they are going to pay back \$177 million in loans if air traffic continues to stay at the level that it is now. He stated he questions who will “be left with that bill.” He stated they are trying to raise these issues to our politicians and ask why this funding is going forward and why these projects are being supported. Mr. Preston stated they would like the opportunity to present more information at a future meeting.

Mr. McCartney moved, Ms. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to authorize the Airport Review Panel to author a letter to the Clean Air Council regarding water and air pollution from the Mercer Airport.

Mr. Preston asked if they could issue a draft of it to the Board, particularly for Mr. Grenier’s review, before August 13. Dr. Weiss stated the Airport Review Panel is not meeting until August 13. Mr. Truelove stated if it is done prior to August 13, it should be circulated to the Airport Review Committee, and they could ratify it at their meeting after it is vetted by the Board. He stated they could then let the Board know that they are sending it to the officials in New Jersey. Mr. Preston stated they would like the benefit of the Board’s opinion, particularly Mr. Grenier.

PUBLIC COMMENT

It was noted that there was one other individual who wished to speak at Public Comment but had an issue getting on previously due to technical difficulties.

Ms. Patty Piech, 2 Sandy Run Road, stated she has been watching the meeting; and she is missing at least one quarter of what is being said. She stated the screen has also gone black about four times. She stated she understands the point of a virtual meeting; however, when they have the meeting next week to discuss the Sewer sale, she feels it is important for people to be able to hear what is going on. She stated she feels we would be better served if they could meet socially-distancing in person, and the residents could watch them in person. She stated she is missing a quarter of what is being said in this format. Dr. Weiss stated barring a storm, he does not feel they will have the same kind of technical issues.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James McCartney, Secretary