

Cumberland Township Board of Supervisors
1370 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
Minutes of the August 3, 2017 Workshop

Chair Barbara Underwood called the workshop to order at 8:40 a.m. Present were Supervisors Underwood, Waybright, Toddes, and Shealer; Township Manager Ben Thomas, Jr., Solicitor Sam Wisler, Police Chief Don Boehs and Secretary Carol Merryman. Others present were Nathan Hockley, Ron Hankey, Martin K.P. Hill, Jim Piet, Jackie Dwyer, Speros Marinos, Jean Stone and several employees.

Visitors:

Speros Marinos – Mr. Marinos gave a brief history of the journey taken by his family to arrive in Gettysburg, building the Military Museum that is located on Baltimore Pike in 1962 and then adding on to it several times. Mr. Marinos reported that his father is now in a nursing home and they are in the process of subdividing and selling off parts of the property for his father's benefit. Mr. Marinos asked the Board to re-store commercial zoning to the northern portion of Baltimore Pike at the Township's expense. He added that the Village Mixed Use (VMX) zoning is very restrictive and it is very hard to sell the property with that zoning. Mr. Marinos asked that the zoning change be made now because the Comprehensive Plan seems to be lost somewhere and is not moving forward. Mr. Thomas asked some questions regarding the size of the property (5.2 acres) and if he is requesting just for his property and he indicated that he is, although he feels that it would make sense to include more of the properties located there, particularly those that are connected to the public water and sewer.

Nathan Hockley – Mr. Hockley explained that the Township is having a pretty good year with health insurance claims and the pharmacy component is a large part of the expenditures. Mr. Hockley explained how the reinsurance works with our aggregate deductible and specific deductible. He added that we have several employees that have exceeded their specific deductible and the reinsurance will reimburse the Township for the amount that is over. He added that with the renewal, the reinsurance carrier is raising the specific deductible for these several employees causing an increased cost for the Township. He added that they are waiting on a status report before they give him the final premium costs, but he feels that the increase will be between 12 and 14%. Mr. Hockley suggested that the money (approx. \$70,000.00) received from the reinsurance carrier be kept in reserve rather than using it to offset the increase in premium for next year. Mr. Hockley also mentioned that the Township should check with their auditor regarding holding the money in reserve and that a portion of the reimbursement belongs to Cumberland Township Authority. Mr. Hockley and the Board discussed going from a September 1st to a January 1st effective date for the health insurance for contractual and budgetary reasons. Mr. Hockley stated that the Township could get a shorter or longer contract to achieve this and he will look at a four month and 12 month or 16 month contract. Mr. Hockley will bring the final premium cost to the August 17, 2017 workshop.

Martin K.P. Hill – Mr. Hill was present to discuss his May 2, 2017 letter to the Board offering the Township 30 acres of community green/open space in the future Cumberland Village, Section II, development located on Herr's Ridge Road. Mr. Toddes introduced the Director of the Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority (GARA), Jackie Dwyer, who was present for Mr. Hill's presentation. Mr. Hill explained that if the open space becomes part of the Homeowner's Association then the property would only be accessible to the residents of this property, not the entire community. The property and the possible different types of recreational activities that could take place there were discussed. Mr. Toddes stated that GARA is interested in the property and asked Mr. Hill to attend the next GARA Board meeting to discuss this with them.

Public Comment:

Mr. Speros Marinos, 912 Baltimore Pike, stated that he feels that the Township is on the right path with the health insurance coverage with Mr. Hockley. Mr. Marinos also spoke on behalf of the Cumberland Township Historical Society and reported that they have a proposal with the Gettysburg National Military Park to reestablish a historic bridge over Willoughby Run so that the former golf course and main part of the battlefield could be accessed by foot traffic.

Mr. Thomas affirmed that Mr. Hockley has been able to save the Township quite a bit of money and that the Township's premiums through private insurance about six years ago were at the current level that we are now paying.

The workshop was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. for a brief Executive Session regarding personnel with no action to follow.

Carol A. Merryman, Secretary

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