BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

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BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP Board of Supervisors Work Session Agenda July 27, 2022 6:00 p.m.

Executive Session

7:00 p.m.

Manager's Items:

- DAA Baseball Field Improvement Requests, George M. Bush Park

7:15 p.m. 3426 Lower Mountain Road, Proposed Building Lot Location TMP 06-017-090

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors Work Session Minutes

The work session of the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors was held on July 27, 2022 in the Township Building, 4613 Hughesian Drive, Buckingham, Pennsylvania.

Present:

Paul Calderaio

Chairman

Jon Forest

Vice-Chairman

Maggie Rash

Member

Dana S. Cozza Daniel Gray Township Manager Township Engineer

Craig A. Smith, Esquire

Township Solicitor

Not Present:

Luke Rosanova

Bucks County Planning Commission

Gary Weaver

Township Water/Wastewater Consultant

The Work Session commenced at 6:00 p.m. with Executive Session to discuss police personnel matters and to obtain legal advice on agricultural easements.

DAA Baseball Field Improvement Requests, George M. Bush Park

Mr. Keith Holmes was present to request certain items for the baseball fields at George M. Bush Park, used by Doylestown Athletic Association. He had quotes and said the most expensive item was the home run fence for the smaller field #3, adding that it's fun for the kids to have a 200' marker. Mr. Forest asked if there were other townships with home run fences like this that they could look at, and Mr. Holmes said "no", but he could get pictures of other fields if that would be helpful. Mr. Holmes said the quote received six months ago was around \$11,000 and may have risen.

Mr. Holmes said they would also like to request the installation of 10-15' high foul poles at the fence corners, and adding a small border 1 foot each side of the fence so that mowers and weed whackers do not damage it.

Mr. Holmes said that Doylestown Athletic Association has some money they could contribute, and could also request contributions at the beginning of the season. He explained DAA is a non-profit organization, and last year baseball was provided with \$45,000 from them to maintain 7 fields, and \$20,000 for general maintenance.

Mr. Holmes said they also use fields in Doylestown Township and Doylestown Borough, and Doylestown Township just approved the fencing for the field used by 10-12 year olds, however the Borough will not approve the fencing.

Mr. Gray wanted to confirm that any fencing would not reduce the playability of the outfield.

Mr. Calderaio had the following questions:

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- With concern regarding the appearance from the street, what color would the fencing be? Mr. Holmes said it wouldn't be seen much from the street as it is only 4' high and set in from the bike path; he said the yellow tubing is standard for safety, however it could be other colors.
- When you said baseball was provided with money to maintain fields, what does "maintain" mean? Mr. Holmes said that Doylestown Borough helps with labor, Doylestown Township helps with almost nothing, Buckingham Township helps with the dirt, and DAA takes care of the rest.
- What maintenance would be required for the fence? Mr. Holmes said maintenance should be almost nothing for the fence itself, however they would probably want stone at the base going out 1' to reduce weeds, and that would need sprayed for weeds.
- What is the lifecycle of the fence? Mr. Holmes said it is a standard galvanized material, and Mr. Forest estimated probably 15-20 years.

Mr. Holmes said that other townships have the fence, and Mr. Forest mentioned that other townships also have higher taxes, adding that Buckingham Township maintains the lowest taxes in the county. Mr. Forest said the Board would discuss the fence; however it may need to come from DAA's money, not the township's.

Mr. Holmes also requested for the water lines to be extended to the smaller fields, as the dirt gets hard and is tough to play on. Mr. Gray reminded Mr. Homes that originally the fields had grass infields, and DAA asked for the sod to be removed, so we did. Mr. Holmes said the people change at DAA, along with their opinions.

Lastly, Mr. Holmes requested that the field used by the seniors needs some maintenance.

Mrs. Cozza recommended that Mr. Holmes stay in contact with Eric Hinz, Public Works Director, who can put together some numbers when he prepares the budget this fall, and suggested that perhaps DAA can absorb some of the expenses.

7:30 p.m. The Work Session adjourned. 8:08 p.m. The Work Session resumed.

Day in the Park

Mrs. Cozza confirmed the following items for the upcoming "Day in the Park" event to be held at George M. Bush Park: Hot dogs will be served, as usual; Mr. Gray will run the cotton candy stand; Reusable grocery/tote bags with the township seal will be provided (one per family). The Board agreed whatever Mary Jane Atkinson, Park and Recreation Coordinator, plans will be great, as usual.

Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority / Aqua Pennsylvania

The Board discussed the proposed sale of the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority's Sewer System Assets to Aqua Pennsylvania, and support the Bucks County

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Association of Township Officials in their opposition to it, and will state the reasons in a resolution to be prepared for the August business meeting.

Staffing of Township Office

Mr. Forest said certain office staff had been requesting to work from home one day a week. Mrs. Cozza said during the Covid closure, the staff was provided with laptops that could be used remotely (at home) and were set up to access all of the same township records as if they were in the office, and that even the telephone system is designed to work remotely. The Board agreed to take this matter under consideration.

8:45 p.m. The Work Session adjourned.

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on the 24th day of August, 2022.

Paul Calderaio, Chairman

Jon Forest, Vice-Chairman

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Attest:

Dana S. Cozza, Secretary

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Wicen.