



**COLLEGE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 20, 2022**

7:00 PM

**1481 E. College Avenue, State College PA 16801
Hybrid Meeting (In-Person or via Zoom)**

**ATTENDED BY –
COUNCIL:**

D. Richard Francke, Chair
Paul Takac
L. Eric Bernier
Dustin Best

STAFF:

Adam T. Brumbaugh, Township Manager/Secretary
Mike Bloom, Assistant Township Manager
Don Franson, P.E., P.L.S, Township Engineer
Amy Kerner, P.E., Public Works Director
Lindsay Schoch, AICP, Principal Planner
Mark Gabrovsek, Zoning Officer
Jennifer Snyder, CGA, Assistant Township Secretary

ABSENT:

Carla Stilson, Vice Chair

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. D. Richard Francke, Chair, called to order the October 20, 2022, Regular Meeting of the College Township (CT) Council at 7:00 PM and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

No Open Discussion Items were brought forward for discussion.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS:

No New Agenda Items were brought forward.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

SP-1 Action Sports Park – Gordon L. Kauffman III

Mr. Gordon L. Kauffman III, State College Borough/volunteer, offered a presentation to Council about the proposed skateboard park at High Point Park in the State College Borough. Their mission is to build a skatepark that is publicly accessible, open to all wheels and a positive amenity for the community, as well as, design and build a park that blends unique and artistic elements while offering youth recreational opportunities and encourages individual growth.



Major stakeholders of the project are:

- State College Borough
- Centre Region Parks and Recreation
- Surrounding Municipalities
- PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- PA Department of Economic & Community Development
- Kids in the community; and
- Community as a whole.

Local Professional Jake Johnson developed the conceptual design for the park. Mr. Johnson collaborated with other local talent including expert park builder Mark Podgurski and John Saxton. They further collaborated with New Line Skateparks, a national construction firm. Kanten Russell, professional skateboarder, will be the design project manager for New Line Skateparks.

The total project budget is \$1,600,000. With support from community members, project volunteers, local government officials, local businesses and state government support, they have raised \$1,050,000 to date. Construction on the project is set to begin in the summer of 2023. To meet their fundraising goal, Mr. Kauffman is asking CT for a donation for the park of \$30,000.

Council is in support of the project. Staff can include a line item in the proposed budget for Council to consider. Council suggested Mr. Kauffman make this same presentation to other townships in the Centre Region and Centre County.

SP-2 State College Police Department; Chief Gardner

Assistant Chief Captain Matt Wilson, State College Police Department (SCPD), reviewed with Council the State College Police Department *2023 Proposed Budget Report*, which offers an overview of the SCPD's Mission, Vision, Core Values and Goals. He provided a summary of police program plans for 2023, which include Crime Prevention/Professionalism, Crime Control, Traffic Safety, Intergovernmental Public Safety Services, and Training.

Captain Wilson offered the department anticipates grant funding for various programs in 2023 that include Victim Centered Intensive Case Manager Unit, Sexual Assault Officer, Aggressive Driving Enforcement, Source Investigation Project, bulletproof vests, Police Social Worker, and Civilian Community Relations Specialist. The Department is currently pursuing grant funding for a new Records Management System, in-car cameras, MCTs, and other recruitment and retention initiatives through the PCCD Local Law Enforcement Grant Program.

As part of the 2023 program plan, the Department continues ongoing and increased participation and cooperation with community organizations focused on promoting diversity, equity, and inclusivity, as well as continued training on community specific issues. The SCPD participates in the following initiatives: Neighborhood Coalition, Community & Campus in Unity, Community Oversight Board and Centre for Policing Equity.

Captain Wilson offered the SCPD saw a 0.3% increase in Calls for Service to College Township during the period from September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022.



- Calls for Service 4,637 (4,622 in 2021)

Captain Wilson reported the following Crash Data for College Township:

- Total Crashes – 297 (193 in 2020);
- Reportable Crashes – 110 (57 in 2020);
- Injury Crashes – 76 (24 total injuries);
- DUI related Crashes – 8;
- Fatalities – 0 (0 in 2021); and
- Fatal Pedestrian Crashes – 0.

b. Police Service Hours

In a letter to Mr. Adam Brumbaugh, Township Manager, Chief John Gardner outlined the recommended Police Services to College Township. He recommends 265 hours per week, an increase of 10 hours more than the level of police services provided in 2022. The level of service recommended is as follows:

- Scheduled Patrol – 156 hours;
- Traffic Enforcement – 15 hours;
- Complaint Response and Specific Assignments – 60 hours; and
- Det. & Community Relations/Crime Prevention (CR/CP) services – 34 hours.

The hourly cost to College Township for police services in 2023 will be \$120.79 per hour for regular contracted hours of service and \$144.95 for all hours in excess of the regularly contracted hours. The premium hour rate reflects the department overhead and indirect costs of providing police services.

Captain Wilson offered examples of fraud. Senior Citizens and businesses are likely targets for email, credit card and gift card frauds. He encouraged the public to become educated on the dangers of these types of fraud.

Council thanked Captain Wilson for the presentation and suggested that greater effort be taken to announce to the public the training courses that members of the SCPD participates in on an annual basis. Council will meet to discuss their budget and respond to Chief Gardner by the November 4, 2022, deadline.

REPORTS:

a. Manager's Update

Mr. Adam Brumbaugh, Township Manager, offered the construction activity on Pike Street switched to the opposite side for paving. The project is expected to be completed by November 15, 2022. The Centre Hills Village neighborhood committee recommendation is to be presented at LTAC meeting on October 26, 2022. The Spring Creek Park Master Plan Final Draft to be presented to Council in November. CT Staff making preparations to meet on-site with existing Category 4 License communities. Council will participate in these on-site visits, if available.



Ms. Sue Smith, Lemont, asked when tree planting would take place on Pike Street.

b. COG Regional, County, Liaisons Reports

COG Land Use and Community Infrastructure Committee (LUCI): The LUCI Committee had a joint meeting with the Centre Regional Planning Commission on October 13, 2022, and reviewed the five-year review of the Regional Growth Boundary and Sewer Service Area Implementation Agreement. They also reviewed the State College Connector Project and the CCMPO strategic plan.

COG Public Safety Committee: Mr. Takac reported the Public Safety Committee met on October 11, 2022, and heard a presentation about the Centre Region/Penn State Emergency Management Agreement, recommended COG commits to the engine replacement scheduled for 2025 delivery, and received information about scanning files in new software.

College Township Industrial Development Authority (CTIDA): Mr. Takac reported the CTIDA met on October 19, 2022, and discussed governance and process improvements and moving forward with job description for a search for an Executive Director. He offered that the CTIDA would like Council to be expedient in filling the vacant seats on the Board

COG Climate Action and Sustainability Committee (CAS): In a written report, Ms. Stilson reported the CAS met on October 10, 2022, and reviewed the draft refuse and recycling survey scheduled to be distributed in February of 2023 and discussed support for bi-partisan legislative action to increase renewable energy options in Pennsylvania.

COG Finance Committee: Chair Francke reported the Finance Committee met on October 17, 2022, to wrap up the COG draft budget. COG Staff brought back a draft budget with an overall 6.71% increase. CT is looking at a 12.22% or \$159,000 increase. Comments are due back to COG by November 17.

COG Executive Committee: Chair Francke reported the Executive Committee met on October 18, 2022, and discussed the 2021 Audits and discussed the solicitor RFP/RFQ.

COG Human Resources Committee (HR): Mr. Dustin Best reported the HR committee met on October 12, 2022, and discussed the Juneteenth Holiday, additional staffing for the fire program, and the intern and recruitment strategy in the Centre Regional Planning Agency.

c. Staff/Planning Commission/Other Committee Reports

Planning Commission (PC): Ms. Schoch reported the PC had a brief meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, and discussed the final Land Development Plan for Canterbury Crossing Phases IV & V lots 32 and 33 Phase 3 & 4. This LDP will finish the connection of Brandywine and Sussex Drive.

d. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Reports (Public Invited to Report)



Chair Francke offered that attended the State College Borough and Penn State University's Global Dignity Day. He shared with Council the "Dignity Pledge". He would like CT to participate in this event next year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

CA-1 Minutes, Approval of

- a. October 6, 2022, Regular Council Meeting

CA-2 Correspondence related to the Nittany Mall Casino

- a. Email from Lorie Litziner, dated October 4, 2022, regarding Casino
- b. Email from Mindy Bonnell, dated October 4, 2022, regarding Casino
- c. Email from Ventos Family, dated October 5, 2022, regarding Casino
- d. Email from Heather Smiles, dated October 5, 2022, regarding Casino
- e. Email from Kelly Williams, dated October 5, 2022, regarding Casino
- f. Email from Colleen Brown, dated October 5, 2022, regarding Casino
- g. Email from Lorraine Ritter, dated October 6, 2022, regarding Casino
- h. Email from Kelly Dimond, dated October 9, 2022, regarding Casino
- i. Email from Susan Strauss, dated October 11, 2022, regarding Casino

CA-3 Correspondence, Receipt/Approval of

- a. Email from Allayn Beck, Executive Director State College Food Bank, dated October 4, 2022, regarding meeting with College Township
- b. Letter from First Night State College, dated September 6, 2022, regarding sponsorship of ice sculptures
- c. Letter From ClearWater Conservancy, dated September 27, 2022, regarding annual easement monitoring for Thompson Woods Preserve

CA-4 Action Item, Approval of

- a. 2023 CT Council Meeting Dates
- b. Resolution R-22-20 Property Tax Penalty Waiver

Council pulled CA-3.a., CA-3.c., and CA-4.a. for discussion.

CA-3.a.: Mr. Brumbaugh offered that the Food Bank folks would like to meet with one or two Council Members and Staff. He reported that their projected moving date to CT is late 2023. Mr. Takac would be interested in attending the meeting.

CA-3.c.: Mr. Bernier asked for clarification on "construction of structures within the Preserve". Mr. Gabrovsek, Zoning Officer, reported that is most likely forts built from sticks.

CA-4.a.: Council asked Staff to leave the July 6, 2023, CT Council meeting on the advertised meeting schedule and cancel the meeting if it is not held.

Mr. Best made a motion to approve the October 20, 2022, Consent Agenda.

Mr. Takac seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

OB-1 Review of Proposed Landscaping Plan for CT Building Parking Area



In a memorandum to Council, Ms. Amy Kerner, P.E., Public Works Director, offered a revision to the parking lot replanting plan that was originally introduced to Council in September. Staff conferred with the company who submitted the lowest quote and requested a list of native trees that are available this fall.

Ms. Kerner is requesting that Council review the list and provide direction for the selection of species for the 17 proposed trees. The original plan provided 3 different species to promote diversity.

Once trees are selected, Staff will request new quotes from those who previously provided quotes. If the received quotes are over the bidding threshold of \$21,900.00, the project will need to be formally bid which will occur in the early 2023 for a spring planting.

Council asked for a list of native shrubs. Only a list of native trees were requested from the company. Ms. Kerner will look at a native shrubbery list and incorporate that into the requote. A consensus of Council agreed to move forward with the requote.

OB-2 Wildlife Corridors Protection; PennEnvironment Letter

In a memorandum to Council, Mr. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, offered at the October 6, 2022, CT Council meeting, Council discussed a letter received from PennEnvironment specific to support for Wildlife Corridors. Council offered general support of the concept but requested additional information prior to making a determination to formally support PennEnvironment's initiative.

Mr. Brumbaugh presented Council with various initiatives identified on the PennEnvironment website and offered that the organization is looking for Pennsylvania municipality support for legislation that has been introduced pertaining to wildlife corridors. Specifically, resolution HR74 (previously HR670) was introduced on March 10, 2022, in the General Assembly and would direct the legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of wildlife corridors in Pennsylvania. Thus, PennEnvironment is requesting municipal support of passage of resolution HR74 in the General Assembly.

Council asked Staff to write a letter to PennEnvironment in support of resolution HR74.

OB-3 Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Path Extension Width

In a memorandum to Council, Mr. Franson, P.E., P.L.S., Township Engineer, offered that Council, at the January 20, 2022, CT Council meeting, approved the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Land Development Plan along with a waiver of the sidewalk requirements for a sidewalk along Puddintown Road. In lieu of a sidewalk along the road, the plan proposed a 5' wide paved path through the grounds of the Nature Center. Council requested that when the project was bid out that an alternate bid for an additional 3' width be included. The resulting 8' width would be a shared-use path rather than a sidewalk.

The sidewalk/path is approximately 970' in length with a 4" depth paved surface and 4" stone base course.



Pam Salokangas, Centre Region Parks and Recreation, contacted Staff and noted that the bids for the project were received. The base bid, with several other items figured in, came in at \$1,640,537. The bid alternate for the additional 3' width was \$110/Linear Foot (LF) for a total bid alternate price of \$105,710 for 961 LF.

Staff reviewed the bid price and noted that \$100/LF is equivalent to \$330/Square Yard (SQ). The bid alternate is double what Staff would anticipate. A breakdown of the base bid to determine the unit price of the 5' wide sidewalk was not required as part of the bid, therefore, Staff was unable to compare the two unit prices. A review of the limits of disturbance for the 5' and 8' work indicates that there are no major changes as a result of constructing the 8' wide path. No other conditions are evident that would result in a significant increase in work.

Staff recommends that Council decline participation in the alternate bid.

Council was not comfortable with the alternate bid. They asked Staff to speak to the CRPR to see if they could reevaluate the bid in the spring. Council is still in favor of a shared-use path over a sidewalk if the bid were at a reasonable cost.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB-1 Spin E-Bikes Program

In a memorandum to Council, Mr. Bloom, Assistant Township Manager, reported that in 2021, Penn State Transportation Services collaborated with the Borough of State College and Spin, a San Francisco based micro-mobility unit of Tier Mobility, to offer a new bike-share program serving the University Park campus and State College Borough. Earlier this year, the program service area was expanded into both Patton and Ferguson Townships.

In late September 2022, Penn State Sustainable Transportation Program Manager, Cecily Zhu, and the Patton Township Planning and Zoning Project Manager contacted Staff to discuss the possibility of expanding the Spin service area into College Township. Mr. Bloom offered that Ms. Zhu is in attendance to answer any questions from Council.

Mr. Bloom offered an explanation of Spin's electric-assist (e-bike) bike-share program which as a fleet of approximately 300 bikes within the defined service area. He added that Penn State University subsidizes the current program, so there is no initial cost to CT to accommodate a service area expansion. There may be a need to acquire bike racks for any identified parking locations that do not presently have racks available.

If CT is interested in expanding the Spin Service area into CT, Council would enter into an agreement with Spin and identify service areas. Staff asks that Council discuss their level in interest to expand Spin E-bike Share Program service area into CT. If there is interest, remand the development of the service area boundary, no ride & speed limit zones and parking locations to the CT Parks and Recreation Committee for consideration of Council at an upcoming meeting.



Sue Smith, Lemont, offered that the Lemont Village Association has a bike racks they would donate and as a member of the CT Parks and Recreation Committee, she opined the committee would be interested in discussing the Spin program.

Council discussed the overall contract between PSU and Spin and what is actually subsidized. They discussed the program rates, reduced speed zones, bikes in parks, drop off locations, service areas and the contract with PSU and Spin. Council is in favor of moving forward and remanding this to the Parks and Recreation Committee for evaluation.

Mr. Takac made a motion to remand the Spin E-Bike shared program to the Parks and Recreation Committee and Staff for further evaluation.

Mr. Best seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF INFORMATIVES:

Mr. Brumbaugh offered that interviews for RFQ for Form Based Zoning will take place on Tuesday, October 25, 2022. Council discussed the rental violations in the Ordinance Enforcement Report for September. Mr. Gabrovsek offered that Staff is working with Granicus to identify non-compliant rentals.

OTHER MATTERS:

Staff reminded Council about the Centre County Association of Township Official's annual fall convention, which will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at the Wyndham Garden State College in the Mountain View Ballroom. Mr. Brumbaugh will be recognized for 25 years of service.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Best moved to adjourn the October 20, 2022, Regular College Township Council Meeting.

Chair seconded the motion.

Chair Francke adjourned the October 20, 2022, Regular College Township Council Meeting at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Adam T. Brumbaugh

Adam T. Brumbaugh
Township Secretary