

APPROVED: May 26, 2015

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
March 30, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: President Maher called the meeting to order at 8:17 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

This is to advise that the notice requirement provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given and transmitted to The Times and Princeton Packet; filed with the Clerk of the Municipality; and posted in the West Windsor Township Municipal Building at North Post and Clarksville Roads on March 24, 2015.

ATTENDEES: President: Maher; Vice President: GeEVERS; Council: Borek (left at 8:45 p.m.), Mendonez, Samonte; Mayor: Hsueh; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Attorney: Herbert; Township Clerk: Young; Township Engineer: Guzik, Manager of Community Development: Ward

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Donald Watrous, 131 Cranbury Road addressed questions about the Cranbury Road study. He asked what the residents can do to assist with the project.

Ms. Sarah Thomson, 113 Cranbury Road, inquired about the legal ramification if a resident objects to the right-of-way for the sidewalks.

President Maher advised of the concerns with residents objecting to the right-of-ways required for the project. He noted that the Township will not let these homeowners impede public safety.

Ms. GeEVERS reminded residents that the homeowners on Cranbury Road will be reimbursed for the right-of-way acquired.

Ms. Samirah Akhlaq, 109 Cranbury Road, spoke about the need for sidewalks and the safety of the children on Cranbury Road.

Ms. Silvia Ascarelli, 27 Melville Drive, thanked Council for moving the Cranbury Road Project forward. She expressed several opinions about other sidewalk projects needed in town.

FOR DISCUSSION:

COUNCIL MEMBER/CLERK

Cranbury Road Study

Mr. Guzik outlined the details of the project and explained how the "Hybrid Version" was derived.

President Maher inquired about the timeline for the project.

Ms. Ward explained that before the project can move forward a resolution must be adopted by Council and sent to the Mercer County Freeholders to get the endorsement of the plan by the Freeholders.

President Maher asked if the resolution can be ready by the next Council Business Session.

Mr. Herbert explained the endorsement process that is needed with the Mercer County Freeholders.

Mr. Guzik advised that several resolutions will need to be processed between the Township and the Freeholders to reach a final agreement. He suggested that the Township continue to solicit a consultant for the design and noted that the contract will need to go the Freeholders for approval prior to the Township authorizing their resolution to proceed with the work.

Mr. Guzik spoke about several issues that will affect the timeline of the project. He noted that the construction will also be done in phases pending the necessary DEP approvals, so there will be separate bid packages for each phase.

President Maher asked if he could put some numbers or dates to the timeline.

Mr. Guzik advised that it would be sixty to ninety days for the engineering contract to be awarded and DEP has ninety day to do their review of the project. He explained that ground breaking can be done on a portion of the sidewalk in October, but the project may have to stop depending on the weather.

Mr. Mendonez addressed questions regarding the proposed start time and how the project would be left if the weather became a problem.

Mr. Guzik noted that there are a lot of variables.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Silvia Ascarelli, 27 Melville Drive, suggested that the residents be informed when the matter of Cranbury Road is before the Mercer County Freeholders so they can attend and show their support for the project.

Mr. Jerry Foster, 15 Suffolk Lane, offered several suggestions for the project. He inquired about the replacement of the bridge on Cranbury Road, and how that will effect the phasing of the project.

Mr. Guzik advised that the County's design consultant is aware of the issues and is working with the Township.

Mr. Donald Watrous, 131 Cranbury Road, inquired about the timeframe for rebuilding the bridge and asked about the County Master Road Plan.

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, noted that she is glad to see the project moving forward.

Ms. Virginia Manzari, 28 Berkshire Drive, thanked the Council for their persistence in moving the project forward.

Mr. Lewis Mok, 175 Cranbury Road, noted that he is in the minority of wanting this project to be completed. He addressed questions regarding the hybrid version and how it would affect his property.

President Maher noted that there are many challenges to this project.

Ms. Sarah Thomson, 113 Cranbury Road, advised that she spoke to most of the neighbors along Cranbury Road and she didn't realize that Mr. Mok was against having sidewalks along the road.

Ms. Samirah Akhlaq, 109 Cranbury Road, inquired about the safety of the residents that walk along Cranbury Road if the sidewalk is not done. She noted that just because all the residents of Cranbury Road are not present, does not mean they aren't in favor of the project.

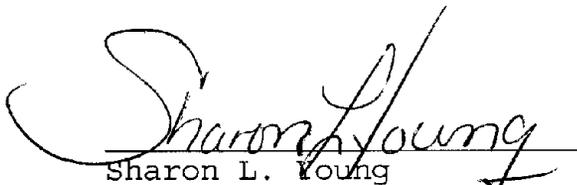
Ms. Kathleen Mok, 175 Cranbury Road, advised that her house has been hit by vehicles on several occasions. She noted that the buffer zone will disappear000 if the right-of-way is taken from their property for the sidewalks

Ms. Kathleen Watrous, 131 Cranbury Road, urged the Township to figure out a way to make the roadway safe.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Mendonez
Second: Samonte
VV: All approved, Borek absent

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.


Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township