

**MIDDLESEX TOWNSHIP
WORKSHOP MEETING
December 30, 2016**

OFFICIALS PRESENT: SUPERVISORS: Chairman Donald S. Geistwhite, Jr.
Vice-Chairman Steve Larson
William H. Goodhart
SOLICITOR: Keith O. Brenneman
PUBLIC SAFETY
DIRECTOR: Chief Barry L. Sherman
ZONING OFFICER: Mark D. Carpenter
MANAGER: Eileen M. Gault
OFFICIALS ABSENT: ENGINEER: Bud Grove

Chairman Geistwhite called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. at the Middlesex Township Building.

PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE IN THE (RF) RESIDENTIAL FARM DISTRICT: Chairman Geistwhite announced that the first order of business is a Public Hearing in which Chairman Geistwhite then turned the meeting over to the Township Solicitor Mr. Brenneman. Mr. Brenneman reported that this public hearing is a request from Toigo Organic Farms, LLC to amend the Middlesex Township Zoning Ordinance to provide for medical marijuana production and processing in the RF (Residential Farm) Zoning District. Mr. Brenneman gave a summary of the procedures followed prior to the hearing. Reviews and comments were provided by the Middlesex Township Planning Commission and the Cumberland County Planning Department. A representative of the applicant Mr. Thomas Nehilla addressed the Board and requested that they move forward and approve the proposed amendment to the ordinance. Mr. Brenneman then asked if there was any public comment. Mr. Mike Buchanan, representative for the Planning Commission reported that they gave recommendation that the amendment not be enacted. The reason being there main concern is that it should be permitted in LI (Light Industrial) and not RF (Residential Farm) which is made up of 60% of the township. It was suggested that special exception or conditional approval was more appropriate since it would allow the township to have more control over where the product was grown and make it more restrictive to future applicants. Mr. Nehilla responded that they have drafted this ordinance such that only medical marijuana, not recreational could be grown. The limited growing and processing would comply with the Medical Marijuana Act which is highly regulated and the applicant would have to comply with all township Subdivision and Land Development plans as well as any other regulations. Mr. Stanley Tarka, resident, is in agreement with the Planning Commission suggestion of special exception rather than an ordinance amendment. Mr. Brenneman asked if there was any other public comment. There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Geistwhite declared the hearing closed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 5 – 2016 AMENDING THE MIDDLESEX TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN THE RF (RESIDENTIAL FARM) ZONING DISTRICT: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Supervisor Goodhart, it was unanimously agreed to

adopt Ordinance No. 5 – 2016 amending the township zoning ordinance to provide for production and processing of medical marijuana in the RF (Residential Farm) Zoning District.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NOVEMBER 2, 2016 - NOVEMBER 18, 2016 - DECEMBER 7, 2016: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of November 2, 2016.

On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of November 18, 2016.

On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of December 7, 2016.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF 2017 BUDGET: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the 2017 budget for Middlesex Township in the amounts of \$3,259,647.00 in revenues and \$3,259,647.00 in expenses.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 6 - 2016 ESTABLISHING THE 2017 MILL RATE OF TAXATION AND THE FOOT FRONTAGE ASSESSMENT FOR STREET LIGHT DISTRICT 1 & STREET LIGHT DISTRICT 2: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Supervisor Goodhart, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 6 – 2016 establishing the millage for taxation at 1.53 mills and the foot frontage assessment for Street Light District 1 at \$1.22 per foot and Street Light District 2 at \$0.95 per foot for the year 2017.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 9 ESTABLISHING THE 2017 FOOT FRONT ASSESSMENT FOR LIGHTING IN STREET LIGHT DISTRICT 1 & STREET LIGHT DISTRICT 2: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Resolution No. 2016 – 9 establishing the Foot Front Assessment for parcels in Street Light District 1 and 2 for the year 2017.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016 – 10 ACCEPTING DEDICATION OF BELLWOOD COURT, CHERRY BLOSSOM COURT AND A PORTION OF COUNTRY SIDE DRIVE: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Supervisor Goodhart, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Resolution 2016-10 accepting dedication of Bellwood Court, Cherry Blossom Court and a portion of Country Side Drive associated with Meadowbrook Farms, Phase VII, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the developer post maintenance security in the amount of \$60,894.31 in a form acceptable to the Township Solicitor;
2. That the developer deposit the sum of \$1,000 with Middlesex Township for the cost of winter maintenance of those streets; and
3. Upon conditions 1 and 2 being met, that all improvement security being held regarding Phase VII be released.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 7 – 2016 ESTABLISHING A STOP INTERSECTION AT MICHELE DRIVE AND NORTH MIDDLESEX ROAD AND

PROHIBITING PARKING FROM NOVEMBER 1 THROUGH APRIL 1: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Supervisor Goodhart, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 7 – 2016 establishing a stop intersection at Michele Drive and N. Middlesex Road and prohibiting the parking of vehicles on Michele Drive from November 1 through April 1; providing for the erection of signs and establishing penalties for the violation thereof.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 8 – 2016 PROHIBITING THE PARKING OF VEHICLES ON A PORTION OF NORTH OLD STONEHOUSE ROAD SOUTH OF APPALACHIAN DRIVE: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 8 – 2016 prohibiting the parking of vehicles on a portion of North Old Stonehouse Road south of Appalachian Drive.

COMCAST BUSINESS SERVICE ORDER AGREEMENT: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Supervisor Goodhart, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the Township Manager to execute the four (4) Comcast Business Service Order Agreements for the Township, Police, Highway and Recreation Departments for a 3 year term.

VEHICLE REPLACEMENT: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the Director of Public Safety to replace the 2015 Ford Explorer police vehicle that was recently damaged in an accident.

MIDDLESEX TOWNSHIP POLICE BARGAINING AGREEMENT: Mr. Sherman reported that beginning January 1, 2017 the Bargaining Unit would like to go to 12 hr. shifts. The contract states that anything over 8 hrs. a day is overtime. The drafted agreement states that there are two shifts, one is 12 hrs. the other is 8 hrs. When an officer is on the 12 hr. shift there is no overtime, however, there is on the 8 hr. shift. This puts 2 officers on each shift most of the time. On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Supervisor Goodhart, it was unanimously agreed to approve and execute the amendment to the Bargaining Unit effective 01/01/2017.

Mr. Sherman reported that beginning January 1, 2017, Sergeant Kingsborough will be promoted to Lieutenant and Corporal Seibert will be promoted to Sergeant each with a one year probation.

MUNICIPAL AWARD: On the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to award the Municipal Award for the John Deere Tractor with a snow blower to Mr. Gerald Rogers of Pottstown PA in the amount of \$5,300.00.

There being no further business, on the motion of Chairman Geistwhite, seconded by Vice-Chairman Larson, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 a.m.