BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Scott Brown; Ms. Jeannette Quirus; Mr. John Wichner; Ms. Janet Cunningham; Mr. Jeffrey Guzy; Mr. John Kennedy; Ms. Allison Slizofski; Ms. Laura Frein; Mr. Tom Kohler

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS ATTENDING: Star Ernst (Stantec)

STAFF ATTENDING: Mr. Matthew Edmond; Mr. Matt Popek; Ms. Crystal Gilchrist; Mr. Tom Landauer; Mr. Brian Phillips; Ms. Ann Marie Meehan; Shelby Thiebeau (MCPC intern); Max Charney (MCPC intern); Susan Guisinger-Colon (Montgomery County Roads & Bridges engineer); Raymond Heydt (Montgomery County Purchasing)

(Pre-Meeting)
Mr. Matt Edmond thanked the Board for attending and said that this public meeting will be held via Cisco WebEx telecommunication conference call due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the continued closure of county offices. He stated that the meeting agenda was published online on the MCTA website and that Board members who participated via teleconference received board packets electronically as PDFs (including the May 2020 meeting draft minutes).

Mr. Edmond added that the One Montgomery Plaza building is still closed during the “yellow phase” of Pennsylvania’s pandemic response. It is not known how many more months it will be closed to the public and asked the Board and attendees to continue to plan on attending upcoming monthly meetings via teleconference.

Roll was called and attendance was taken; all Board members were present.

I. Call to Order

The Montgomery County Transportation Authority (MCTA) meeting was called to order by Mr. Scott Brown, Chair.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Edmond requested that public comments be limited to two minutes or could be emailed to him. There was no public comment. Mr. Edmond introduced attending guests, Max Charney and Shelby Thiebeau, who will serve as MCPC’s two summer interns.

III. Approval of May 14, 2020 Minutes

The minutes from the May 14, 2020 MCTA Meeting were approved by the Board.
Motion: Ms. Quirus motioned and Mr. Wichner seconded to approve the May 14, 2020 Authority Meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by all present.

IV. Finance Director’s Report

Two handouts were presented to the Authority: MCTA Cash Report as of June 11, 2020, and check register (Transaction Detail) January 1, 2020 – June 11, 2020.

Mr. Tom Landauer provided an update of the MCTA’s finances. He reviewed the check register with the Board, including the May 15, 2020 beginning balance of -$86,005.67; there were 2 deposits totaling $124,648.47, 4 expenditures and interest in the amount of $8.09. Total cash balance as of June 11, 2020 was $21,213.76. Mr. Landauer said that the deposits were from the capital fund and the $5 Roads and Bridges fees, and that PennDOT reimbursements would be forthcoming for the Fetters Mill and Ridge Pike projects.

V. Ridge Pike Improvement Project–Crescent Avenue to Philadelphia (Section D)

A. Authorization for Condemnations

   i. Louis J. Holod aka Louis J. Holod, Jr., individually and LJM Group, LLC (Parcel 30)

Mr. Popek described Parcel 30 and the need to acquire 1,807 square feet of fee simple and 5,669 square feet of temporary construction easement from Mr. Holod on Ridge Pike in Whitemarsh Township. The appraisal value was $124,200.00.

Ms. Star Ernst of Stantec said that she contacted Mr. Holod’s attorney but that he has not heard from Mr. Holod for several months, but Stantec will continue to attempt negotiating a settlement.

Motion: Mr. Kennedy motioned and Mr. Guzy seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.1 to file a Declaration of Taking with the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County for 700 & 706 Ridge Pike in Whitemarsh Township, County of Montgomery, to acquire in fee simple or absolute title or easements in the property to further the Ridge Pike Improvement Project. The motion was approved by all present.

   ii. Louis J. Holod, Jr. (Parcel 33)

Mr. Popek said that the acquisition needed for Parcel 33 had an appraisal value of $40,800.00. There was a need to acquire 794 square feet of fee simple right of way and 3,989 square feet of temporary construction easement from Mr. Holod, located at 716 Ridge Pike in Whitemarsh Township. Mr. Popek said that the owner’s attorney has attempted to contact the client, who has remained unresponsive during the COVID pandemic. Stantec will continue outreach efforts to the owner’s attorney.

Motion: Mr. Kohler motioned and Ms. Quirus seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.2 to file a Declaration of Taking with the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery for 716 Ridge Pike in Whitemarsh Township, County of Montgomery, to acquire in fee simple or absolute title or easements in the property to further the Ridge Pike Improvement Project. The motion was approved by all present.
iii. **SQR Propco, LLC, A Delaware Limited Liability Company (Parcel 39)**

Mr. Popek explained that 1,266 square feet of fee simple and 4,238 square feet of temporary construction easement are required for the project. The appraisal value was $23,900.00. Owners are in the healthcare business and have likely been overwhelmed with their COVID response, but outreach for an amicable settlement will continue.

*Motion: Mr. Wichner motioned and Mr. Kennedy seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.3 to file a Declaration of Taking with the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery for Parcel 39 in Whitemarsh Township, County of Montgomery, to acquire in fee simple or absolute title or easements in the property to further the Ridge Pike Improvement Project. The motion was approved by all present.*

**VI. Ridge Pike Improvement Project–PA Turnpike to Chemical Road (Section B)**

A. **Authorization to Award Contract for Appraisal Services**

   i. **Package 9 (Parcels 29 and 31)**

Mr. Popek said both properties will require temporary construction easements near the soon-to-be-removed “jughandle” along Ridge Pike Three appraisal bids were requested; C.F. Appraisal and Consulting declined to bid; Gontram Appraisal and Consulting was the highest bid at $10,000.00; and Bart F. Brigidi, Inc. submitted a bid of $8,500.00. Staff recommends the Board award the contract to Mr. Brigidi.

*Motion: Ms. Quirus motioned and Mr. Guzy seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.4 to enter into a contract with Bart F. Brigidi, Inc. of Maple Glen, PA to complete appraisals for parcels 29 and 31 (“Package 9”) of the Ridge Pike Improvement Project in Plymouth Township. The motion was approved by all present.*

**VII. Chester Valley Trail Extension Project**

A. **Authorization to Approve Demolition Contract**

   i. **Parcels 60-64**

Mr. Popek said that as the asbestos test results were negative, the buildings at 106, 108 & 110 DeKalb Street are now ready to be demolished. Staff worked with the Purchasing Department to advertise the demolition opportunity over a period of two months but many firms were busy or backlogged. The site of the demolition proves challenging due to its proximity to DeKalb Street, and the job will be labor intensive. Estimated project length is four to six weeks. Geppert Brothers submitted a bid of $198,700.00; this was the lowest bid received meeting the specifications and within budgetary limitations; Staff recommends accepting this bid.

*Motion: Mr. Kohler motioned and Ms. Frein seconded to approve Resolution 20.6.5 to enter into a contract with Geppert Brothers Inc. of Colmar, PA to demolish the buildings at 106, 108 & 110 DeKalb Street, Bridgeport to further the Chester Valley Trail Extension Project in Bridgeport, PA. The motion was approved by all present.*
VIII. County Road and Bridge Projects

A. Authorization to Award Contract for Appraisal Services

i. Butler Pike Sinkhole Repair (Parcels 1, 2 and 3)

Mr. Popek said the repair of the sinkhole on Butler Pike requires the purchase of two fee simple acquisitions and three temporary construction easements. The sinkhole repair is a high priority project for the County and is located on a County-owned road, near the Norfolk Southern overpass in Plymouth and Whitemarsh Township. Three appraisal bids were requested; C.F. Appraisal and Consulting declined to bid; Gontram Appraisal and Consulting was the highest bid at $12,000.00; Bart F. Brigidi submitted the lowest bid of $5,850.00. Staff recommends the Board award the contract to Mr. Brigidi.

Motion: Mr. Brown motioned and Ms. Quirus seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.6 to enter into a contract with Bart F. Brigidi, Inc. of Maple Glen, PA to complete appraisals for parcels 1, 2 and 3 of the Butler Pike Sinkhole Repair Project in Plymouth Township. The motion was approved by all present.

B. Authorization to Execute Right-Of-Way Reimbursement Agreement

i. County Bridge 83A - Butler Pike

Mr. Edmond explained that it was necessary to acquire right-of-way for the rehabilitation of the Butler Pike Bridge (County Bridge #83A) in Upper Dublin Township, and that the County will enter into a reimbursement agreement with PennDOT to allow for future reimbursements of the right-of-way purchases.

Motion: Mr. Kennedy motioned and Ms. Slizofski seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.7 to authorize the Executive Director of the Authority to execute the Butler Pike Bridge PennDOT reimbursement agreement. The motion was approved by all present.

C. Authorization to Execute Land Use License Agreement

i. County Bridge 217 – Hedrick Road

Mr. Popek described the need to receive authorization to execute a Land Use License Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the project to remove County Bridge 217 on Hedrick Road in Evansburg State Park, spanning the Towamencin Creek. This bridge was closed in the late 1980s and is no longer used or safe. While the temporary construction easement cost was valued at $200 for 6,371.5 square feet of TCE, the Commonwealth is waiving their right to compensation for the right-of-way, and requiring only the Land Use License Agreement to be executed, which carries an application fee of $50.00.

Motion: Mr. Kohler motioned and Mr. Wichner seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 20.6.8 to authorize the Executive Director of the Authority to execute the Land Use License Agreement for County Bridge 217 in Towamencin and Skippack Townships. The motion was approved by all present.
IX. Authorization for Payment of Checks and Invoices

Motion: Mr. Guzy motioned and Ms. Frein seconded to approve the authorization of Checks and Invoices. The motion was approved by all present

X. County Road, Bridge, and Trail Projects Update

Mr. Popek said that the Chester Valley Trail Project has now been handed off to Mr. Bill Hartman and his Open Space and Trails team for the day-to-day administration of the construction project.

XI. Lafayette Street Extension Project Update

Mr. Edmond said that there is one to two months to go until completion on the Lafayette Street Extension Project. Strawberry Walkway will be rebuilt in one to two weeks. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be forthcoming.

XII. Ridge Pike Improvement Project Update – Plymouth, Whitemarsh and Springfield Townships

Ms. Gilchrist explained that information brochures for the project have been revised, color-coded and now match the website. Informational emails have been sent out to notify the public and concerned parties about the project moving forward. Due to the current pandemic response guidelines on public gatherings, no property owner meetings have been held. Green Valley County Club representatives met with the County and SEPTA representatives to discuss the establishment of an Ash Lane pedestrian crossing and bus stop. She added that in Section B1, there are railroad bridge/PennDOT-PECO towers clearance issues that need to be worked out. In Section D, right-of-way work is moving forward. Turnpike interchange work has stopped due to current budget conditions, and the planned public meeting has been pushed back, with a new date to be determined.

XIII. Other Business

Mr. Edmond asked the Board whether they would like to transfer from the Cisco Webex teleconference platform to Zoom for future meetings. The Board agreed to move to the Zoom platform.

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Quirus and seconded by Ms. Cunningham to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was approved by all present.

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The next MCTA Board meeting will be held on July 9, 2020 at 1:00 pm.