

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
1580 PAOLI PIKE
July 10, 2007 – 6:30pm**

Present: Chairman Don McConathy, Vice-Chairman Thom Clapper, Joe McDonough, Carmen Battavio and Marty Shane. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Phyllis Marron and Ruth Scadding (Park & Rec), Linda Gordon (Historical Commission), Jim McRee and Al Zuccarello (Planning Commission) and Jane Fava (Conservancy Board). Township Solicitor Jeff Sommer was present for the Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session from 6:30pm until 8:15pm to discuss a pending legal matter.

WORKSHOP

YMCA Pavilion

Ruth Scadding stated that the Park & Rec Board is happy with the proposed location of the pavilion, and is fine with the gazebo being relocated. Rick Smith said a meeting has been scheduled with the YMCA for Thursday July 12.

Ford Explorer

Don announced that the Explorer has already arrived, so it's too late to do anything.

Transportation Funding Letter

While the Supervisors thought it probably too late to send the letter, Rick suggested it be sent because the budget details are still being hammered out, and it can't hurt to send it.

Municipal Authority

Don and Carmen would like the Board to give a vote of confidence to the MA regarding the SBR technology. Joe prefers to take no action, but Marty and Thom support the idea. Rick will draft a letter to the MA saying the Board concurs with their decision to pursue SBR.

Zoning Hearing Board Applications

Rick stated there are 2 pending applications before the Zoning Hearing Board. The Supervisors agreed to wait for the Planning Commission's recommendations on these applications before discussing them.

Deer Management Committee Report

Joe would like to know what the Township can accomplish in the 20% of the land mass the Township controls. He also wants to know the potential for success of each deer control method mentioned in the report.

Marty complimented the Deer Management Committee on the great job they did on the report. He would like to know, through a survey, what the residents at large want done about the deer

situation before he makes a decision about a deer program -- such as do the residents even want the Township to address the problem. Carmen pointed out that he suggested a similar survey be done some months ago and the other Supervisors objected, saying it would be too expensive. Carmen said that in addition to a survey of residents, he would like to get the input of the surrounding townships and the county. Al Zuccarello agreed with Carmen that it is a good idea to try and involve the other municipalities in the region with whatever East Goshen decides to do.

Don said the focus of the Board at this point should be to give the DMC some guidance on what they should be focusing on for the next 3-6 months. Don said the survey is probably a good idea, and he suggested the DMC put together some draft questions.

Thom stated that the DMC report says the Township has a deer problem, as does the aerial deer survey. He questioned the need for a survey when it's clear we have a deer problem that must be addressed. No matter what the residents perceive, we still have a deer problem. Thom said the Township needs to take responsible action and do what is best for all residents. Marty said the Township is not *obligated* to do something. Thom disagreed and said the Board is responsible for the health and welfare of the residents. Since the majority of the Board (Don, Marty and Carmen) feel a need to conduct a survey, the Township will proceed with one. Thom said there is no need to spend additional money to find out what is already known.

Jim McRee of the DMC asked if there is anything in the report the Board would like more detail on. Marty suggested the DMC recommend specific programs for East Goshen, such as a tick management education program, and let the Supervisors know an estimated cost. Carmen agreed that tick management would be a good place to start, since there are things residents can easily do to help prevent Lyme disease. Rick suggested to Jim that the DMC find out what other local municipalities have done about deer, and report that information back to the Board. Carmen suggested the DMC report be shared with the COG. Rick said he can distribute it via email.

Don suggested the DMC find out if East Goshen's private landowners want to have a deer hunting program this year, and if so the Township could provide them some guidance. Rick said he could mail interested parties a copy of the DMC report.

Marty said the Township will have to have an outside, professional firm conduct the survey to avoid any possible bias in the questions. Don agreed.

Public Comment: Elizabeth Anderson, Margo Lane – Asked if the immunocontraceptive vaccine called PZP could be used within East Goshen. Carmen said he was planning to attend the DMC meeting on July 16 to view a DVD on this topic.

Jane Fava said the Township is responsible for the environmental health of the Township, and for the environmental impact of what is done on land throughout the Township, not just the designated Township-owned land as Joe indicated at the beginning of the discussion. She encouraged the Board to address the deer problem.

Linda Gordon said the Willistown Conservation Trust will be conducting a deer program this year.

Public Comment: Marcia Gordon, Valley Drive – Said the DMC is not composed of a broad and representative cross-section of the Township. It is too pro-hunter, and “the deck was stacked” from the beginning based on who was asked to serve on the committee. Al Zuccarello disagreed. He said the committee started out with 2 pro-hunting members, 2 anti-hunting members, and 4 people who stated they were open-minded. The fact that those 4 people voted for a deer control program due to the preponderance of the evidence they were presented with does not mean the Board “stacked the deck” in any way. Carmen agreed with Al and said the Board cannot be accused of stacking the deck if the DMC members independently made up their own minds after hearing both sides of the issue.

Don stated that Rick will send copies of the DMC report to the county commissioners and to East Whiteland.

Refuse Bids

Rick said the new bids are due in by July 26, all for one zone.

Bills

The Board reviewed current invoices.

Treasurer’s Report

Rick reported expenditures of \$52,472.48 from the General Fund, \$745.47 from the Capital Reserve, and \$6,000.87 from the Sewer Operating Fund for the week ending July 6 (???)

Marty moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and to approve the expenditures pending the Board's review. Joe seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Pending Action Items Log

The Supervisors agreed this is a useful reference document. Thom would like it arranged chronologically by due date.

Training & Education Reimbursement Policy

Don announced this item will be discussed on July 24.

Ordinance Changes from Planning Commission

Don announced this item will be discussed on July 24.

Subdivisions and Land Development Applications

Rick said there were no new applications.

Public Hour – Hearing of Residents – Receipt of Petitions

Public Comment: Bernadette DiLorenzo, Clocktower Woods – Asked what is happening with the former Genuardi’s building. Don said it is used by the Township’s Public Works department, and space is also being leased to the District Court.

Public Comment: Abbas Rahbari, 1613 Manley Road – Asked the status of the Perakis property. Rick said it has been approved for development. Mr. Rahbari asked if the plans have been signed. Rick said they have not. Mr. Rahbari then asked the status of the indoor air quality report for the Township building. Rick said he has requested additional information, and a crew has started work on cleaning the ducts. Mr. Rahbari asked if the Township will do additional testing after the ducts are cleaned. Rick said he plans to discuss that with his consultant.

Public Comment: John Schorn, 1401 Larch Lane – Asked the status of the drainage pipe issue on Route 352. Rick said he is still waiting for Yerkes to provide the cost estimate of doing a study. Mr. Schorn also had some questions about the refuse bids, and Rick explained how they were originally bid by zone. Mr. Schorn asked if the bid request was advertised; Rick said yes, in the newspaper, plus Township staff personally phoned refuse providers listed in the yellow pages to solicit bids.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 9:50pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session until _____ to discuss a personnel matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary