

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
November 13, 2007 – 6:30pm**

Present: Chairman Don McConathy, Vice-Chairman Thom Clapper, Marty Shane and Joe McDonough. Supervisor Carmen Battavio was absent. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Phyllis Marron (Park & Rec), Jim McRee (Planning Commission & DMC), Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission), Jane Fava (Conservancy Board), and Elaine Blair (Hershey's Mill Rep).

WORKSHOP

Review of Minutes

The minutes of October 23 and 30 were reviewed and corrected.

Bills

Current invoices were reviewed.

2008 Budget

The draft budget was discussed.

Engineering Study for N. Chester Road & Anne Drive

Rick said the best-case scenario will involve a cost of \$210-235K, and that's if no problems are encountered. Marty wants to know how we got to this point, and if the Township could be culpable for overlooking a potential problem when development was approved for this area. Rick noted that the pipe involved belongs to PennDOT, which was a surprise to some of the Supervisors. Don is concerned that PennDOT may impose onerous restrictions on the project.

Annual Planning Meeting

The Supervisors scheduled the annual planning meeting for Saturday, January 12. Marty wants to receive reports from ABCs by December 31 listing their accomplishments for the year, for the Board's review prior to January 12.

YMCA Request to Clean Property

In response to a YMCA request to clean underbrush and old fencing from their property, Rick sent them a letter and asked them to do the work by hand. Don would prefer the Conservancy Board get involved. Jane Fava (who was present) reviewed the written request from the YMCA and said she had issues with their request. Rick will contact the YMCA.

Applebrook Golf Days

Don and Joe will meet with Hank Belber on November 14 to discuss this topic again. They will also discuss the Applebrook path, which Mr. Belber is opposed to.

Waste Carts

The Board discussed McCusker & Ogborne's offer to provide 96-gallon waste cart totes to each household. Marty, Thom, and Joe are opposed to using the totes.

FORMAL MEETING

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:06pm and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Recording of Meeting

Don asked if any resident plans to record the meeting. There was no response.

Approval of Minutes

Thom moved to approve the minutes of October 9, 16, 23, and 30 as corrected in Workshop. (The October 9 and 16 minutes were reviewed on October 30.) Marty seconded the motion. There was no public comment and no discussion. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously. Joe was absent from the room and missed the vote.

Chairman's Report

Don announced the following:

- Bryan Del Monte has been appointed to the Conservancy Board.
- The 2008 budget will be available for review at the Township Building starting November 14. It will be posted to the website by the end of the day November 14. The Board will consider adopting the budget on December 18, 2007.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for November 13, 2007:

	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES
GENERAL FUND		
Real Estate Tax	\$ 4,447.59	
Earned Income Tax	\$ 119,340.65	
EMS TAX	\$ 5,969.92	Accounts Payable \$ 72,581.56
Transfer Tax	\$ 0.00	Debt Service \$ 0.00
Codes, Park & Rec, Etc.	\$ 158,819.95	Payroll \$ 80,000.00
Total Receipts	\$ 288,578.11	Total Expenditures \$ 152,581.56
Zoning Hearing Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,381.19
Transportation Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 109,607.77	\$ 129,401.04
Refuse	\$ 75,756.49	\$ 68,538.97
Capital Projects	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Marty moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and to approve the expenditures as reviewed in Workshop, with the exception of Req #16404 for the Character Counts Coalition. Joe seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

G&D Developers – Request for Additional Extension of Conditional Use Approval for Paoli Pike & Route 352

Marty moved to approve the October 29, 2007 extension request from G&D Developers, and to grant them an extension until January 31, 2008. Thom seconded the motion. Jim McRee of the Planning Commission asked why extensions have expiration dates. Rick said it's based on the MPC. There was no discussion and no further comment. The motion passed unanimously.

YMCA, Airport Road - Escrow Release #1

Thom moved to approve Escrow Release #1 for the YMCA in the amount of \$721,624.28, based on the November 5, 2007 recommendation of Public Works Director Mark Miller and the Township Engineer. Joe seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Escrow Close Out for East High School Project

Don announced that the escrow close out for the East High School project will be withheld per the recommendation of Public Works Director Mark Miller and the Township Engineer, as there are six outstanding items.

Jane Fava of the Conservancy Board expressed concern about a pile of debris recently put on the edge of the school property. Rick will have Mark Miller take a look at it.

Wiggins, 1301 West Chester Pike, Sale of Christmas Trees

Marty moved to grant Conditional Use approval to Wiggins to sell Christmas trees at 1301 West Chester Pike, with the same conditions as in the past. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Sorrell Hill Subdivision (Harlan), 56 Line Road

Joe moved for the Board to sign and execute the final plans and escrow documents for the Sorrell Hill subdivision at 56 Line Road. Marty seconded the motion.

Kathryn Yahraes of the Historical Commission asked if the approval excludes the swimming pools. Don said swimming pools will be covered if the ordinance is changed. Jim McRee of the Planning Commission noted that the plan Harlan submitted shows a swimming pool. He asked if the Township should require them to submit a new plan without the pool. Rick said the plan showing the pool has already been approved. He suggested that in the cover letter to Mr. Harlan, the Township can note that the plan depicts a swimming pool which is not permitted. The Board was in agreement with this suggestion.

There was no further discussion or public comment. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

Updated List of Capital Reserve Requirements

Joe moved to accept the offer of David Busch from Keystone Alliance to provide the Township with an updated list of capital reserve requirements for the cost of \$2,500. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Mower Repair Lift

Thom moved to approve the budgeted expenditure of \$8,149 to purchase a mower repair lift for the Public Works Department. Marty seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence & Reports of Interest

None.

Meetings & Dates of Importance

Don noted the upcoming meetings as listed in the agenda.

Public Hour – Hearing of Residents – Receipt of Petitions

Kathryn Yahraes of the Historical Commission asked if the Board could provide the Historical Commission with the names and contact information for individuals who apply for vacancies on the Commission. Don was agreeable to that.

Jane Fava of the Conservancy Board asked if their Board could have more members. Don suggested she have the Chairman submit a memo to the Board with the rationale for adding members.

Adjournment

There being no further business or public comment, the formal meeting adjourned at 8:29pm.

WORKSHOP (Resumed)

Traffic Signal at Paoli Pike & Ellis Lane

Rick is still waiting to hear back from PennDOT about the signal timing change.

Sewer Operating Capital Reserve Report

Marty said there is an inadequate reserve at present. He recommended the Township start building up the reserve now, before borrowing the \$10M for the sewer plant expansion, rather than hitting residents mid-year with a large rate increase.

Joe would like the Board to commit to not sell the plant before he considers increasing rates. He is opposed to raising rates if the Township plans to sell the sewer system.

Marty suggested a \$10 increase in sewer rates than can be countered with a \$10 decrease in refuse rates. Don and Thom were in agreement with this, but Joe wanted to see the impact on the various types of rate payers. .

Emergency Communications to Residents

Rick noted that funds have been budgeted for a communication system in 2008 if the Board wishes to proceed. Mark Miller found out the County can do a reverse-911 “blast out” to residents to alert them of emergency information. The County uses Homeland Security funds for this purpose. The downside is that they only have 24 outgoing lines. Marty asked Rick to provide a list of pros and cons of each of the communication systems the Township is considering.

Emergency Generator

The Board agreed to vote on this issue at the December 4 meeting. Marty believes it’s more important to keep the Public Works building open and running in the event of an emergency than the Township building. He wants to know if phone service can be transferred to the Public Works building, and if so how much it would cost.

Kathryn Yahraes of the Historical Commission asked if the Board has considered what would happen if, for example, the Township building blows up – what is the plan to continue providing services to residents? Marty said that was a good question and said the Township needs to develop a long-term plan for providing services in the event the building is unusable. Don agreed.

Goshen Fire Company

The Board met with the Fire Company on October 25. The Fire Company is going to start contributing articles for the Township newsletter. Marty said the Township needs Bellingham and Wellington to provide more funding for the Fire Company, as these two facilities generate a lot of Fire Company activity. Rick will discuss this with Jeff Sommer.

Deer Bait Stations

Jim McRee said the DMC is waiting for Jeff Sommer’s comments about putting bait stations on private property. Rick said Jeff has advised that bait stations can be placed on private property if the property owner signs a release and indemnification agreement, which Jeff will draft.

Jim said the DMC is working on completing their recommendations for a deer management program.

Marty said he’s of the opinion that a hunting program won’t do any good without a high level of participation from private landowners, because any deer that are killed will quickly be replaced with others.

Comcast Facility on Greenhill Road

Rick advised that Comcast is planning to abandon their facility on Greenhill Road as it’s too small for their needs. This means that Ed McFalls will be able to proceed with his plan for the Sullivan’s Grove development.

Liaison Reports

Municipal Authority – Rick reported that work for the sewer plant expansion project is on time and on budget.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 10:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary

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