

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP  
1580 PAOLI PIKE  
February 26, 2008 – 7:00pm**

**Present:** Chairman Marty Shane, Vice-Chairman Carmen Battavio, Don McConathy, Joe McDonough and Thom Clapper. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Jim McRee (Planning Commission & DMC) and Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission).

**WORKSHOP**

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Marty called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Recording of Meeting**

Marty asked if any resident planned to record the meeting. Abbas Rahbari of 1613 Manley Road said he would be making an audio & video recording.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

*John Schorn, 1401 Larch Lane* – Asked for an update on the swimming pool ordinance change for the Harlan development. Marty said the Board did not change the ordinance; instead, Mr. Harlan changed his plan to comply with the existing ordinance. Marty noted that the Planning Commission may revisit the ordinance in the future. Joe said the Supervisors do not plan to take any action on the issue unless the Planning Commission makes a recommendation.

*Abbas Rahbari, 1613 Manley Road* – Asked the status of the development on the Perakis property. Rick said the project approvals expired at the end of January. Marty said the Board approved the developer's plans but since the developer did not post escrow, the project is dead.

Mr. Rahbari asked who is serving as the acting Treasurer for the Township. Rick said Kathy Glass is the Treasurer. Mr. Rahbari asked if Ms. Glass comes in every day. Rick said Ms. Glass is on disability leave, but if the Township needs her signature on something it is taken to her.

Mr. Rahbari then had questions about attending the upcoming meeting in Hershey. Marty said the meeting is open to the public. Joe noted that there will be a limited agenda, however, and no action will be taken. Therefore, there will probably not be a public comment period because of no action taken. Marty added that all public meetings must have a time slot for public comment. Joe said the public comment period could be rescheduled for our next township meeting.

Mr. Rahbari asked if the Township has taken steps to comply with the Right-To-Know Act (RTK). Don said he planned to bring up that topic this evening.

Finally, Mr. Rahbari said he noticed that the Board has been limiting public comment lately, and he doesn't think that's a good idea.

## **Bills**

Current invoices were reviewed.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for February 26, 2008:

	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
Real Estate Tax	\$ 62,270.66	
Earned Income Tax	\$ 200,607.57	
EMS TAX	\$ 0.00	Accounts Payable \$ 318,029.88
Transfer Tax	\$ 0.00	Debt Service \$ 0.00
Codes, Park & Rec, Etc.	\$ 23,894.00	Payroll \$ 40,000.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 286,772.23</b>	<b>Total Expenditures \$ 358,029.88</b>
Zoning Hearing Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 0.00	\$ 100,852.86
Transportation Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 6,538.38	\$ 11,056.52
Refuse	\$ 10,635.14	\$ 0.00
Capital Projects	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Joe moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and the receipts, and to approve the expenditures just reviewed. Don seconded the motion.

*Public Comment: Bill Egan, 1422 Mill Creek Drive* – Asked if the invoices the Board just reviewed are the ones that just came in, or are they the ones due for payment now. Don said they are the invoices that came in since the last meeting, and they will be paid very shortly.

*Public Comment: Abbas Rahbari, 1613 Manley Road* – Asked who is doing the Treasurer's work while she is on disability. Marty said the work is being done by Deb Beury, the Acting Director of Finance.

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

## **Summary of Costs for District Court Construction Project**

The Board reviewed a summary prepared by Rick.

## **Email Policy**

Carmen suggested that the policy be reviewed by Jeff Sommer.

Don reminded everyone that email should only be used among the Board for the purpose of sharing information. Opinions should not be expressed. Joe agreed. Marty said it's appropriate to email a list or summary of issues that should be considered before Board members arrive at a decision about a particular matter.

Marty said he preferred to leave the existing policy alone until the new RTK law comes into effect. The other board members agreed that would be fine.

Don will send his revisions of the current policy to Rick, who will forward it to Jeff Sommer. The Board would like Jeff to have a new policy drafted by September, and to review the Township's ordinance in regard to RTK issues.

*Public Comment: John Schorn, 1401 Larch Lane* – Said part of the new RTK law takes effect now, and part in July.

### **Wireless Communications Towers**

Don has emailed Steven Cohn of CCSD but has not heard back yet.

### **Cingular/AT&T**

Don said that Cingular is not meeting the Township's annual report requirement. Marty asked if it's really necessary for them to submit an annual report each year. Don said the Township needs to know who owns the equipment in case of a legal issue. Marty said the Zoning Officer could take enforcement action if they don't submit an annual report each year by January 31 – or, if it's not really necessary to get an annual report, the requirement could be taken out of the zoning ordinance. Rick will get Jeff Sommer's opinion on this matter.

### **WCRPC Affordable Housing Study**

The consensus was to support the WCRPC in this endeavor. Rick will draft a resolution for the Board to vote on at the next formal meeting.

### **PLIGIT**

The Board reviewed the PLIGIT Procedures Manual.

After some discussion, the Board agreed that the number of cards in the Township should be reduced to 4, and they should all share the same account #. Furthermore, the total credit limit should be reduced to \$10K/month.

Marty said the Office Manager should manage the account and code each transaction for the Accounting Department.

Carmen pointed out that staff should not need to use a credit card at any of the businesses we routinely deal with. Marty agreed and asked that a statement to that effect be put into the manual. Carmen also said he doesn't want the convenience of having a credit card to cause anyone to circumvent the bidding process.

Rick will look into getting a Tax Exempt ID # for the Township.

Don suggested a number of editorial changes to the Manual, which he gave to Rick.

### **Applebrook Golf Days**

The Board briefly discussed a change to the agreement made with Hank Belber about the use of golf carts.

### **Reverse 9-1-1**

Carmen attended a 7-hour course put on by the County on Reverse 9-1-1. The County has a voluntary sign-up capability for individuals, but it's not at the municipality level yet. Carmen is still researching this issue.

### **Revised Letter to Mars re: Noise Ordinance**

The Board received the revised letter in their packets, and everyone was fine with it.

### **Financing Options for Township Projects**

The Board briefly discussed financing options for future Township projects, based on documents received from the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority. This matter will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

### **False Fire Alarms from Bellingham & Wellington**

The Board briefly discussed the problem of excessive false alarms originating from Bellingham and Wellington. No action was taken.

### **Liaison Reports**

*COG* – Thom submitted a written report of the 2/25 COG meeting.

*DMC* – Jim McRee gave a report of the 2/24 DMC meeting. Five deer hunting groups were invited to attend, and four were able to make it. The DMC and the hunters plan to walk the open spaces on Saturday March 1, beginning at 8:00am in Grand Oak.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the formal meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board met in Executive Session until 10:30pm to discuss a real estate matter and a personnel matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings  
Recording Secretary