

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
1580 PAOLI PIKE
April 29, 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), Kathryn Yahraes and Linda Gordon (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.

Bills

Current invoices were reviewed.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for April 29, 2008:

	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	
GENERAL FUND			
Real Estate Tax	\$ 26,361.72		
Earned Income Tax	\$ 97,471.39		
EMS TAX	\$ 5,000.00	Accounts Payable	\$ 267,395.85
Transfer Tax	\$ 23,924.64	Debt Service	\$ 199,470.00
Codes, Park & Rec, Etc.	\$ 207,852.16	Payroll	\$ 80,000.00
Total Receipts	\$ 360,609.91	Total Expenditures	\$ 546,865.85
Zoning Hearing Fund	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
State Fund	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 1,773.88		\$ 80,718.41
Transportation Fund	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 178,817.27		\$ 26,254.44
Refuse	\$ 92,886.38		\$ 7,319.77
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. There was no public comment. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

Possible Zoning Amendment to Accommodate the Timothy School at 1585 Paoli Pike

Judith D'Angelo and Tom Gervasi were present from the Timothy School, along with their attorney Mark Thompson.

The Timothy School is a special education day school currently located in Tredyffrin. The school is looking for a larger facility and is interested in moving to 1585 Paoli Pike in East Goshen. In order to do so, East Goshen would have to add a new definition for a Private Non-Profit Special Education Day School and amend Article III, Section 240-17.B. of the zoning ordinance to permit a school in a C-5 district by conditional use.

Marty recapped the contents of his April 28 email, sharing what was discussed at a meeting held with four school representatives on April 2. Don and Rick attended that meeting with Marty.

Joe asked if the building at 1585 Paoli Pike will be sufficient for the school's anticipated future growth. Ms. D'Angelo said it would. Marty noted that the building has more than enough parking to accommodate the employees. Ms. D'Angelo and Mr. Gervasi said that no major renovations would be needed. The building is basically a large open space which they can easily break up into classrooms as needed. In regard to financing for the school, 60% of their financing comes from the state and 40% comes from the students' home school districts via the state. Marty asked if there would be any financial burden to the WCASD as a result of the Timothy School moving to East Goshen. Ms. D'Angelo said there would be no burden. Don asked if there would be any administrative burden to the WCASD. Ms. D'Angelo said no, as the WCASD administrators would only have to sign off on various items – all the actual work would be done by the Timothy School.

Thom asked if the school would be willing to pay a 100% fee in lieu of the real estate taxes the Township would lose by having the school move in. Mart Thompson said the school would be willing to make up for the lost taxes assuming they are successful in getting a tax exemption. Marty noted that since the school would employ fewer people than a regular business, less Earned Income Tax money will be generated. He said that the tax implications are the only negative aspect – everything else seems to be in the school's favor for the Board to approve the zoning amendment. Joe asked what the school's payroll burden is. Mr. Gervasi said their payroll is \$2.4 to \$2.5M per year.

There was some discussion about transportation for the students. The school uses 28-29 vans in addition to three large school buses.

Ms. D'Angelo then explained the lock-down procedure in case of a "bolting" incident. She noted that the staff is extensively trained in emergency procedures, and the school will have an intercom system for use during emergencies. Carmen noted that if a student were to get out of the building it would be a short distance to Paoli Pike, a very busy road. He asked if they plan to do anything to modify the emergency exits to help prevent this from happening. Ms. D'Angelo said the school will assess the situation and develop a procedure for that eventuality, possibly adding an alarm to the emergency exits. Rick said there is current technology that puts a 15-second delay on emergency doors opening, and it's currently in use at the district court where prisoners are held. The system has a built-in override in case a fire alarm goes off.

Public Comment: Linda Gordon, Line Road – Said the traffic in the area already gets very backed up when East Goshen Elementary lets out, with all the parents coming to pick up their children, so it will only get worse with another school so close by. Ms. D'Angelo said it is

extremely rare for parents of Timothy School students to come pick up their children. Linda noted that if both schools dismiss at the same time, there would still be an issue due to the addition of the 28-29 Timothy School vans. Marty advised Mr. Thompson to be prepared to address the traffic issue at the Conditional Use hearing.

Joe asked for the Board's feeling about having the Timothy School move to East Goshen. No Board member indicated they had a strong objection.

Rick will put this issue on the Planning Commission agenda for May 7.

Joe requested that Marty's April 28 email to the Board be made part of the public record.

Applebrook Path

The Board discussed having Rick modify the grant application now that the decision has been made to pave the entire trail with macadam. The Board decided to leave the grant application as-is, since it has already been submitted.

Advertisements in the Township Newsletter

Joe said he is not comfortable with the idea of accepting advertisements as it might open a can of worms. Don agreed and said it might not be a prudent thing to do. Carmen is willing to allow advertisements but would like there to be a policy giving priority to East Goshen businesses, with any leftover space being sold to others. Thom would like to explore the topic in more detail.

Public Comment: Linda Gordon, Line Road – Said if advertisements are accepted the Township would have to add pages to the newsletter, so she is not sure it would ultimately result in any cost savings.

Marty said he is opposed to the idea. Since 3 out of the 5 Supervisors are opposed to it, no advertisements will be accepted for the newsletter.

Agenda for Meeting in Hershey, PA

The Board discussed the agenda for Hershey. Joe thinks the discussion should be limited to long-range planning. Rick will look into scheduling a dinner with Thornbury for Tuesday.

Public Comment: John Schorn, 1401 Larch Lane – Asked what day the meeting will be held. Marty said it will be Monday, May 12, and that most of the Supervisors will come back Tuesday night. Mr. Schorn then asked if the zoning change for the Timothy School could be considered spot zoning. Marty said no, as the change would only involve adding a use within the existing C-5 definition.

Adjournment

The public meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session until 10:00pm to discuss a personnel matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary