

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP  
1580 PAOLI PIKE  
June 10, 2008 – 7:00pm**

**Present:** Chairman Marty Shane, Vice-Chairman Carmen Battavio, Joe McDonough, Don McConathy and Thom Clapper. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Linda Gordon and Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission), and Jane Fava (Conservancy Board).

**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 June 10, 2008:

	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
Real Estate Tax	\$ 0.00	
Earned Income Tax	\$ 181,037.98	
LST	\$ 8,379.23	Accounts Payable \$ 28,524.40
Transfer Tax	\$ 0.00	Debt Service \$ 0.00
Codes, Park & Rec, Etc.	\$ 18,967.30	Payroll \$ 40,000.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 208,384.51</b>	<b>Total Expenditures \$ 68,524.40</b>
Zoning Hearing Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 0.00	\$ 17,974.66
Transportation Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 6,453.95	\$ 4,671.37
Refuse	\$ 3,917.10	\$ 8,044.32
Capital Projects	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Joe moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted, and the receipts, and to approve the expenditures just reviewed. Don seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

**Boot Road Work – Greenhill Road to Wilson Drive**

Rick reported that PennDOT has plans to repave this section in the near future. Rick and Casey LaLonde of West Goshen will meet with PennDOT to discuss the work the two Townships want completed on this stretch of road, and how the parties can work together on the project. Costs not covered by PennDOT will be split 50/50 by East Goshen and West Goshen.

## **YMCA**

The Board reviewed the YMCA's plans for a revised freestanding sign as presented to the Planning Commission last week. None of the Supervisors objected to the new sign.

## **Request from East Brunswick Township (Schuylkill County) – Sewage Sludge Ordinance**

The Board reviewed the May 30, 2008 request from the Supervisors of East Brunswick Township for support in their efforts to defend their sewage sludge ordinance against a suit filed by the Office of the Attorney General. Joe suggested the matter be referred to CCATO. Don said it should also be sent to PSATS. Marty will plan to bring up the topic at the next CCATO meeting on June 18.

## **Paoli Pike & Airport Road**

The Board discussed converting the southbound lane on Airport Road (now a combination thru lane/right-turn lane) into a combination left/thru/right-turn lane and adding an additional right-turn lane. Per Rick, Mark Miller estimates the work will cost less than \$50K. The cost could be split with West Goshen. None of the Supervisors objected to this plan.

## **District Court Construction Update**

Rick gave the Supervisors a report on the cost overages for this project. The Board agreed to meet at 6:30pm on June 24 (before the public meeting) to do a walk-through.

## **Comcast Satellite Dishes**

Marty reported that reps from Comcast attended the June 4 Planning Commission meeting to discuss issues related to their nine satellite dishes. Only three paragraphs of the Township ordinance apply to dishes located on the ground. Apparently Comcast and their attorney (either Lou Colagreco or Alyson Mamourian) met with Bill Egan and some other Mill Creek residents to discuss their concerns.

Rick said that Comcast plans to surround their four generators with a 20-ft soundproof wall located inside the berm. The wall will have a double access gate for use in removing the generators for maintenance. Rick noted that the 6-ft berm would be topped with 8-ft pine trees. Joe would like to see a rendering of the wall before it is installed. Carmen and Marty want to request Comcast to put some landscaping around the wall, even though the ordinance does not require them to do so.

Don asked if the satellite dishes would be enclosed, and Marty said Comcast plans to surround them with a 6-ft wall.

Don said he would prefer the generators be surrounded by a 14-ft wall (with the "smokestack" visible) rather than a 20-ft wall intended to hide the stack.

Marty noted that although the Supervisors have concerns with Comcast's plans for the generator wall, there is nothing in the way to stop East Goshen from issuing them a building permit.

Joe said he would like Comcast to answer the following questions:

- Why must the wall around the generators be 20 ft. high – can it be lower?
- What color will the wall be?
- What will the front entrance look like?
- What landscaping, if any, does Comcast plan to use?
- Would they be willing to provide the Supervisors with a rendering?

Marty said he would call Lou Colagreco to pass along the Board's concerns.

Carmen and Joe said it would be a good idea if Comcast came in person to discuss these issues during a workshop.

### **Thorncroft**

Marty and Carmen met with Peter Hausmann and George Rubin on June 4. Thorncroft would like to put a conservation easement on their land, and use the proceeds to buy 30 acres of Dixon property along Line Road. They would then put a conservation easement on the purchased Dixon property (consisting of Saunders Dixon's property and that of his son) for a total of 75 acres of protected property. Thorncroft would like East Goshen to contribute \$1M toward the easement. In return, they would allow East Goshen to put a recreational trail on the protected properties connecting to the Township's open space. Thorncroft is considering putting a referendum on the East Goshen ballot this fall if they can get enough signatures on a petition in support of their plan.

Joe asked why the Township would want to pursue this. Carmen said doing it would ensure that Thorncroft could remain where it is. If the nearby meadow were to be sold off and developed, their horses would not have a place to graze.

Marty said he told the Thorncroft representatives that East Goshen is not necessarily opposed to development along Line Road. He said Rick told them that if the land was developed, the Township would require the developer to put in a trail anyway.

The Supervisors agreed that there is no economic reason for the Township to consider contributing \$1M to this cause. Marty will tell Thorncroft that the Board discussed the matter but cannot support it, as there would be no benefit to the residents at large.

### **Ashbridge**

Don gave a brief update on the trails and easement issues he's working on for Ashbridge.

### **Municipal Authority Financial Audit**

The Supervisors discussed the March 14 letter from Maillie, Falconiero & Co. regarding their audit of the Municipal Authority's financial statements. To address the concerns of the auditors, Rick will work on getting letters of collateralization for the Municipal Authority.

### **Changes in Right-To-Know Law**

The Supervisors discussed Jeff Sommer's letter of May 30 on this topic. Rick will forward the letter on to PSATS for feedback. The Supervisors agreed that in the meantime, no changes will be made to current procedures regarding preparation of the ABC packets.

### **Suggestions for Changes to Township Newsletter**

Marty would like all future suggestions regarding changes to the newsletter to be brought before the Board, not given directly by individuals to Diane Degnan.

Thom reported that Al Zuccarello has volunteered to write a "Senior" column for each newsletter, for Diane to fit in where there is space.

### **Report on Residents' Meeting with Comcast**

Resident Bill Egan came in at this time. He said that he and his neighbors met with Comcast representatives Rich Warner and Bret McKay after the last Planning Commission meeting. Comcast agreed to consider planting 27 additional trees. Mr. Egan said Comcast seemed willing to work with the residents to address their concerns. Mr. Egan said he also gave Comcast some suggestions for the generator wall. He noted that Comcast will be present at the June 11 Conservancy Board meeting.

### **Action List**

The Supervisors spent the rest of the meeting updating the Action List maintained by Don.

### **Liaison Reports**

Thom distributed a written report of the June Park & Rec meeting.

### **Public Comment**

Kathryn Yahraes reported on the Living History Day held Saturday, June 7. The event was staffed by 35 to 40 volunteers, and there were 150 to 175 visitors. Attendance was down slightly from last year due to the extreme heat.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings  
Recording Secretary