

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
1580 PAOLI PIKE
June 24, 2008 – 6:30pm**

Present: Chairman Marty Shane, Vice-Chairman Carmen Battavio, Joe McDonough, Don McConathy and Thom Clapper. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Linda Gordon (Historical Commission), Jane Fava (Conservancy Board), Phyllis Marron (Park & Rec), and Jim McRee (Planning Commission & DMC).

Tour of New District Court Facility, 1572 Paoli Pike

The Supervisors toured the new District Court facility with architect Craig Hough and Township Building Inspector Gary Althouse.

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 24, 2008:

	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	
GENERAL FUND			
Real Estate Tax	\$ 0.00		
Earned Income Tax	\$ 281,977.04		
LST	\$ 39,000.00	Accounts Payable	\$ 242,491.29
Transfer Tax	\$ 0.00	Debt Service	\$ 0.00
Codes, Park & Rec, Etc.	\$ 1,896.96	Payroll	\$ 40,000.00
Total Receipts	\$ 322,874.00	Total Expenditures	\$ 282,491.29
Zoning Hearing Fund	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
State Fund	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 0.00		\$ 11,183.63
Transportation Fund	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 2,878.31		\$ 17,105.46
Refuse	\$ 2,057.83		\$ 6,068.16
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.

Comcast Generators – Screening

Representatives from Comcast, their attorney Alyson Zarro, Esq., and landscape architect Brett MacKay of Chester Valley Engineers were present to discuss the generators at the Comcast facility on Boot Road.

Mr. MacKay showed renderings of suggested landscaping to screen the view of the generators from Wilson Drive.

Rich Werner of Comcast explained that the Cummins generators only come in a teal color, so Comcast did not have the option of selecting something more unobtrusive. He showed a sample panel of the sound-absorbing material Comcast is considering for building a wall around the generators, at a cost of \$641,000. He said the Township would be able to select the color of the wall. Comcast is still pricing a concrete sound-reflecting wall.

Mr. Werner said he has learned that a sound-attenuation enclosure is available for the small generator, which would reduce the noise level to 70 db at the property line, which meets the Township noise ordinance. He said Comcast has retained Meyer Consulting Engineers to evaluate the three options for dealing with the noise issue – a sound-absorbing wall, a sound-reflecting wall, or enclosure for the small generator.

The Board asked if Comcast would be willing to consider another option -- painting the generators a less obvious color, installing the enclosure over the small generator, and increasing the landscaping for screening. Mr. Werner said they would be willing to consider that, but he advised that Comcast will not put an enclosure over the small generator if it turns out they will have to install a wall around the generators.

Marty wondered if replacing the small generator with a less noisy model might be yet another option, and more cost-effective than all the other noise-control measures on the table. Gary Aron of Comcast said that would be worth considering.

Rick suggested Comcast consider additional berming along Wilson Drive to screen the generators from the view of motorists. Don said putting berming closer to the actual units would be more effective, and Carmen agreed.

Carmen advised the Comcast reps that any landscaping they install will need to be maintained to be effective. Jane Fava of the Conservancy Board suggested it would be best to use native species for the landscaping.

Mr. Werner said that Meyer Consulting Engineers will be preparing a proposal, which Comcast will share with East Goshen once it's received.

Rick suggested Comcast take photos of the generators that can be manipulated on a computer to show the various color options, and the Board agreed this would be helpful. Comcast said they could do that.

Reservoir Road “Fields”

The Board discussed the overgrown vegetation along Reservoir Road in response to another complaint from a resident. Rick suggested polling the 6-8 neighbors nearest the area of concern to see if they all want the vegetation cut. The Board agreed this would be a good idea and directed Rick to send a letter out. Carmen suggested putting up black mesh screening, around 18” in height, to keep the Canadian geese from walking out onto the road.

Reservoir Road Bridge

Rick reported that the structural engineer has determined that the brick arch has deteriorated and should be repaired. He explained the engineer’s recommendation to repair the bridge, at an estimated cost of \$100K. The repair will involve putting in new supports and a deck so that the old brick arch can be maintained but will no longer have to bear weight. The project will take approximately 4-6 weeks, but will need time to cure after completion. Rick estimated the bridge could be reopened around September 1. The repaired bridge will not require any weight limits.

Joe asked where the money would come from, and Rick said it would be taken from the capital reserve. Rick will send another letter to nearby residents letting them know about the repairs and the timeline for the project.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Marty said the policy for the ABCs should be the same as the policy for employees. Rick will have Jeff Sommer make the necessary revisions to the draft.

Improvements at Line Road & Paoli Pike (Left-Turn Lane and Traffic Light)

Marty said that after learning of the 450-home residential development planned for Line Road in Willistown, he has come to the conclusion that East Goshen need not contribute anything to the road improvements at this intersection – the cost should be the developer’s expense. And if Willistown is not going to contribute anything, neither should East Goshen. Carmen said he agreed, especially due to the fact that East Goshen has other large expenses pending, such as the Hershey’s Mill dam and the Reservoir Road bridge. Marty said East Goshen can return Pulte’s money if need be. Thom agreed East Goshen should not contribute to the improvements at Line Road & Paoli Pike and suggested Pulte’s money could be used toward another road improvement project.

The consensus of the Board was to let the developer of the new Willistown project pay for the improvements at Line Road & Paoli Pike. If the development should fall through for some reason, East Goshen can revisit the issue.

Public Comment: Linda Gordon, Line Road – Expressed concern that putting in a traffic light will lead more motorists to use Line Road and therefore make traffic worse. She agreed East Goshen should not contribute toward the improvements.

Public Comment: Jim McRee, Oneida Lane – Said the intersection is dangerous – he had a traffic accident there himself – and a traffic light is needed.

Don said East Goshen should find out where the new development is in the Willistown review/approval cycle, and what conditions will be or have been imposed on the developer. Rick will try to get this information.

Boot Road Widening

Rick has learned that PennDOT will not be resurfacing this road. West Goshen has a developer who will be building near the Goshen Fire Company, but they will only be required to put in a right-turn lane onto Greenhill Road. Rick is currently waiting for a revised cost estimate for the roadwork without this right-turn lane.

Carmen said he is becoming more cautious about spending money on roads, and he is not in favor of spending East Goshen money to accommodate pass-through traffic generated by QVC and UPS. He suggested those companies stagger the hours of their workers to help allay traffic issues.

Marty said he is not particularly in favor of restriping Boot Road, but he would like the traffic light timing issue to be addressed.

Rick reminded the Board that East Goshen has already made a commitment to the corporate park tenants to do something about Boot Road. The consensus of the Board was to revisit the issue once the revised cost estimate is received.

Trash Cans

The Board discussed Rick's June 19 memo on the issue of residents who leave their trashcans at the curb for too long. The consensus of the Board was that residents should put their trash out no earlier than 12:00 noon the day before pickup, and the empty cans must be put away by 8:00am the day following pickup.

DMC Presentation at June 23 COG Meeting

Rick told the Board that Jim McRee did a great job making a presentation to the COG about East Goshen's deer management program.

Township Newsletter

The Board discussed Diane Degnan's June 18 memo on the extra cost involved in printing a "totally green" newsletter. The extra cost would be \$474 per issue. Carmen suggested accepting 1 page of advertisements from local businesses as a way of paying the extra expense. However, none of the other Supervisors wanted to revisit this issue. The consensus of the Board was to pay the extra expense. Only Thom was opposed.

Resident Opinion on the Deer Management Program

The Board reviewed a table prepared by staff showing feedback received by residents about the deer management program. For those residents expressing opposition, Jim McRee requested the table be revised to show exactly what aspect(s) of the program residents they oppose.

July 4 Festivities at Township Park

Rick will contact Frank Vattalino to find out what groups and organizations plan to have a presence at the July 4 festivities.

Subdivisions/Land Development/Conditional Use/Variance Applications

Rick advised that T-Mobile has filed a conditional use application, and Joe Willis has officially withdrawn his subdivision application.

Trash Collection

The Board briefly discussed revisiting the issue of having the Township be responsible for trash collection instead of an outside contractor, but the consensus was not to revisit the issue.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary