

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
1580 PAOLI PIKE
September 23, 2008 – 7:00pm**

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

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.

Hershey's Mill Dam

Marty told the audience that the Township has been informed by the PADEP that the Hershey's Mill dam cannot pass the 100-year storm requirements. Therefore, the Township must either upgrade the dam to make it able to withstand a 100-year storm, or must breach it.

Mark Metzler of Rettew Associates showed a PowerPoint presentation on the options available for upgrading or removing (breaching) the Hershey's Mill dam.

Joe said he was not aware the Township was supposed to perform regular dam inspections. Rick said he was not aware that Hershey's Mill is considered a "regulated dam" until the PADEP informed the Township. Fran Beck, a Hershey's Mill resident, said the dam was completely overhauled in the 1970s and asked if a permit was required for the work back then. Rick said East Goshen didn't acquire the dam until the 1980s so he wasn't sure what was required.

Mr. Metzler said the two options Yerkes developed to upgrade the dam are valid, and their cost estimates seem to be right on target. However, their estimate to breach the dam (Option #3) is significantly lower than the Rettew estimate.

Per a question from Don, Mr. Metzler said the \$170K demolition cost in Option 3 does include sediment removal.

Noting the \$100K in grant money available for a breach, Kathryn Yahraes of the Historical Commission asked what kind of grant money is available for upgrading the dam. Marty told her no money is available. Marty said the PADEP is encouraging dam owners to breach their dams, and the only grant money available is for this purpose.

Don asked if the \$170K demolition estimate includes prevailing wages, and Mr. Metzler said it does not. Jane Fava of the Conservancy Board suggested the Township look into working with a non-profit such as the CRC as a way to help reduce labor costs. Mr. Metzler concurred. Marty said the Township would look into that.

Marty announced that the Board would not be making a decision this evening. A meeting will first have to be set up with the residents so they could see the available options.

Kathryn Yahraes reminded the Supervisors that back in the spring the Historical Commission unanimously recommended the Township maintain the existing dam to the extent possible; they are not in favor of a breach.

Joe asked if a Historic Resource Impact Study would be required for this project, and Rick said no.

Mr. Metzler said that although the Historical Commission is opposed to Option 3, breaching the dam, actually it would leave more of the original dam than the other two options. Marty said he thinks the Historical Commission looks at the historic stone spillway – the part they don’t want to lose -- as being the whole dam.

The Board decided to hold a public meeting on this issue during the October 28 meeting. In the meantime, Rick will draft a letter to go out to residents living within 1,000 ft of the dam. He will also have the Rettew presentation posted to the website for interested residents to review.

Bills

Current invoices were reviewed.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for September 23, 2008:

	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES
GENERAL FUND		
Real Estate Tax	\$ 0.00	
Earned Income Tax	\$ 59,100.46	
LST	\$ 1,000.00	Accounts Payable \$ 201,899.60
Transfer Tax	\$ 45,067.10	Debt Service \$ 0.00
Codes, Park & Rec, Etc.	\$ 156,634.04	Payroll \$ 45,000.00
Total Receipts	\$ 261,801.60	Total Expenditures \$ 246,899.60
Zoning Hearing Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Transportation Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 5,053.48	\$ 3,140.99
Refuse	\$ 5201.70	\$ 22,855.39
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 unanimously to pass the motion.

Traffic Light at Boot Road & Enterprise Drive

CTDI has requested a traffic light for Boot Road & Enterprise Drive. Don would like to get an updated Orth-Rogers study for the intersection before making a decision. Thom is opposed to the light. Joe suggested a “No Left Turn” sign be posted instead of adding another traffic light. Rick said the Township would be required to do a traffic study for the sign, and Joe said he was not in favor of doing a traffic study. There being no consensus, Marty announced the matter would be tabled until a future meeting when Carmen is present.

Outreach Program

Marty advised the other Supervisors he would like to start making the Supervisors available to speak to homeowners’ associations, etc. as a way of increasing communication to the residents. Everyone agreed this was a good idea. Rick will put something in the next newsletter and on the website.

Informal Meeting with Township Employees

Rick will schedule a date for the employee meeting.

Assistant Township Manager

Marty, Joe and Rick will pre-interview the top candidates.

Communication Tools

Joe would like East Goshen to develop its own email distribution list rather than rely solely on the Ready Notify PA service. Marty wants to see a spreadsheet on the various communications options available, showing their features, cost, equipment required, etc. He also wants to know how often the Township would use such a service and for what purposes. Rick will work with Carmen on this.

YMCA Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Marty announced that the ribbon-cutting for the YMCA will be held next Thursday at 11:30am. He will be attending and has been asked to say a few words at the ceremony.

YMCA Pavilions

Rick said the YMCA needs the Township’s approval to pour the concrete pad for the pavilion next to the outdoor swimming pool. They would like this approval ASAP so the pavilion pad can be poured at the same time as work is done on the swimming pool (next week) while the concrete mixer is there. Marty advised Rick to have the Conservancy Board make a recommendation to the Planning Commission at their meeting tomorrow evening. The Planning Commission can then make a recommendation to the Supervisors during their meeting next Tuesday evening. In the meantime, Rick can tell the YMCA the Board approves the pavilion pad nearest the swimming pools.

Alarm Ordinance

The Board briefly discussed the revised alarm ordinance. Joe would like a copy to be sent to Police Chief John Dumond.

Subdivision/Land Development/Conditional Use/Variance Applications

Rick advised that CTDI has applied for a Conditional Use application. Also, the Township received another application to install an antenna on the water tower. Don requested that Rick contact NextG about the antenna boxes they have been installing lately, so the Township knows who they belong to in case of a problem.

Recognition for Chas Linder

Marty suggested that the Board do something to recognize Public Works employee Chas Linder, who has been working very hard and doing an outstanding job for the Township. Chas was a significant contributor to the Reservoir Road bridge restoration, maintains and fills all the deer bait stations, and has worked on marking the property lines in preparation for the deer hunt. Marty suggested getting Chas a gift certificate for a nice restaurant and sending him a letter from the Board. Rick will get the gift certificate and will draft the letter.

Financing for the RCSTP Upgrade

The Board briefly discussed financing options for the sewer plant upgrade, but Joe asked to table the matter since it was not on the agenda and he did not have his materials with him.

Public Comment

Linda Gordon encouraged the Board to consider other communication options besides reverse 9-1-1, which is inefficient.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:19pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session until 9:30pm to discuss a Police Commission matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary