

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP  
1580 PAOLI PIKE  
May 26, 2009 – 7:00pm  
FINAL APPROVED MINUTES**

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

**WORKSHOP**

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Marty Shane called the meeting to order at 7:03pm and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Moment of Silence**

Carmen called for a moment of silence to honor the men and women serving their country in the armed forces, and their families.

**Boot Road Improvement Project**

Marty gave a brief summary of the meeting about proposed improvements to Boot Road held in West Goshen on May 14 and said that he, Joe McDonough and Thom Clapper had attended. Marty said it was evident from the comments that the residents and the church (Ss. Peter & Paul) do not want the project, as presented, to go forward. Based on that, Marty said he sees no reason to proceed with the lane restriping. In his opinion the solution to the traffic problems on Boot Road is to add an access ramp from the Corporate Park directly to Route 202.

Marty said that other options are under consideration which might give some relief. They are:

- Retiming of the traffic lights.
- Adding a right-turn lane at Greenhill Road heading west
- Adding a right-turn lane from Boot Road going south into the Corporate Park

In regard to safety considerations, Marty noted that PennDOT indicated they will not put up flashing school lights near the church/school because no students walk to school.

Joe said a traffic problem definitely exists but most of the residents who attended the May 14 meeting want nothing changed. He recommends East Goshen do nothing. He noted that if any improvements are made, they will mostly benefit drive-through traffic, and not East Goshen residents.

Thom said doing nothing is not an option, especially since QVC is planning to add 600 new jobs, which means 600 more cars on the road. He suggested painting a traffic box in the intersection which cars are forbidden to block. He also suggested looking into reconfiguring the traffic light

at the church to make things safer. He said he is in favor of doing something, but not necessarily restriping.

Don agreed with Thom that something needs to be done, but said reconfiguring the traffic light at the church will not be safe. He added that the likelihood of PennDOT putting in a slip ramp to 202 in the near future is highly unlikely. He suggested Boot Road be configured to have 2 northbound lanes, 1 southbound lane, and a turn lane.

Carmen said part of the problem is the competing needs of residents versus businesses. If Boot Road is improved, more cars will start to use it, and any improvements will soon become null due to the additional volume attracted to the area. Because of this he cannot support spending money on this project. He suggested that the two Townships approach the businesses in the corporate park and discuss having them implement staggered work schedules for their employees. Otherwise, he prefers to do nothing.

Joe noted that no representatives from QVC, UPS, the airport, or anyone else in the corporate park has approached East Goshen with concerns about traffic, and furthermore, most of the area under discussion is not in East Goshen.

Marty said he agreed with Carmen that any improvements under consideration will not be enough to really cure the problem. Further complicating the matter is the fact that Boot Road is a PennDOT road, and PennDOT does not seem concerned about the situation. Marty noted there are many other projects East Goshen could be spending money on besides this.

Marty polled the Supervisors. Don and Thom are in favor of taking some kind of action. Marty, Carmen and Joe are in favor of doing nothing except for exploring the possibilities of retiming the lights and adding some turn lanes. Joe stated that he is not in favor of East Goshen spending any money on exploring these alternatives, and Carmen said neither is he. Both prefer to start the ball rolling by approaching the businesses to discuss the matter. Marty, Thom, and Don are in favor of studying the light timing issue, at least to get a cost estimate. Everyone except Marty is opposed to moving forward with a right-turn lane from Greenhill Road to Boot Road North.

Don suggested encouraging the businesses to form a group and talk to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

*Public Comment: Thomas Horan* – Commented on the traffic light timing issue. Carmen told him that East Goshen has no influence with PennDOT, and suggested the residents write to their State representatives.

*Public Comment: Larry Kerwin, 1445 Quaker Ridge* – Said the traffic engineers did not consider the safety of including left turn lanes.

*Public Comment: Linda Gordon, Line Road* – Said she predicted this traffic problem, and suggested changing Wilson Drive to one turn lane onto Boot Road.

*Public Comment: Ted Doyle, Ulster Lane* – Asked a question about whether PennDOT was involved in the traffic studies, and also about the location of the easements.

At this point Marty noted that public comments were appreciated but the Board had already decided 3:2 in favor of abandoning the restriping project.

*Public Comment: Thomas Horan* – Made a comment about property taxes.

*Public Comment: Leo Sinclair, 217 N. Lochwood Lane* – Said he was authorized to speak on behalf of Monsignor Foley, who asks that East Goshen leave the road as-is.

*Public Comment: Judy Kosgrove, Windsor Drive (West Goshen)* – Questioned whether there would be 600 additional cars for QVC. She expressed concern about the restriping.

Marty said this matter would be on the Board's agenda for the next meeting (June 2), and thanked the residents for attending.

### **Minutes**

The draft minutes of May 5 were reviewed and corrected. Don moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion, with two abstentions (Marty and Joe, who were not present at that meeting).

The draft minutes of May 12 were reviewed and corrected. Thom moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Carmen seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Bills**

The Treasurer's Report and Expenditure Register Report were reviewed. Carmen wants Mark Miller to provide the Board with an idea of how many road signs get replaced each month. Don said the Township should not have four Fire Marshals. The Board agreed to hold an invoice for Mike Merwin's Fire Marshal dues until this matter is reviewed by staff.

**Treasurer’s Report & Expenditure Register Report**

The Treasurer’s Report for May 21, 2009:

|                          | <b>RECEIPTS</b>      | <b>EXPENDITURES</b>                     |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---|
| <b>GENERAL FUND</b>      |                      |   |
| Real Estate Tax          | \$ 21,966.03         |   |
| Earned Income Tax        | \$ 201,764.56        | Accounts Payable \$ 293,605.56          |
| LST                      | \$ 13,000.00         | Electronic Payments \$ 55,061.21        |
| Transfer Tax             | \$ 15,614.30         | Debt Service \$ 0.00                    |
| Codes, Park & Rec (2009) | \$ 101,857.17        | Payroll \$ 80,000.00                    |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>    | <b>\$ 354,202.06</b> | <b>Total Expenditures \$ 428,666.77</b> |
| State Fund               | \$ 0.00              | \$ 0.00                                 |
| Capital Reserve          | \$ 0.00              | \$ 1,220.66                             |
| Transportation Fund      | \$ 0.00              | \$ 0.00                                 |
| Sewer Operating          | \$ 239,468.43        | \$ 234,433.62                           |
| Refuse                   | \$ 98,910.76         | \$ 80,700.60                            |
| Capital Projects         | \$ 0.00              | \$ 0.00                                 |

Joe moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report and Expenditure Register Report dated May 21 as recommended by the Treasurer in her May 21, 2009 memo to the Board, to accept the receipts and to authorize payment of the invoices just reviewed with the exception of # 22372 which will be held for review. Don seconded the motion.

*Public Comment: Abbas Rahbari, 1613 Manley Road* – Asked if the Board had an answer yet from the solicitor about providing the entire Expenditure Register for public review at each meeting. Marty said the Board passed Resolution 09-39, and the Expenditure Register will be posted on the meeting room door with redactions as necessary. Mr. Rahbari then expressed displeasure at the way the Board handles the Township’s finances.

*Public Comment: John Schorn, Larch Lane* – Had a question about redactions to the Expenditure Register.

There was no further public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**Comcast Generators**

The Supervisors agreed that Comcast should proceed with painting the generators plain bronze since it is not possible to have them painted by the Philadelphia Mural Arts program by the end of the year.

**Deer Management Program**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the redlined copy of the Deer Management Program, as revised by the Deer Management Committee at their May 20 meeting. Joe said he does not want the Township Solicitor spending time on this matter until after June 9.

*Public Comment: John Schorn, Larch Lane* – Made a comment about the deer herd in East Goshen.

### **WCACOG – Creation of Energy Office**

The Board reviewed Rick's May 22 memo on this topic. Carmen expressed concern there will be a financial obligation in the future if East Goshen signs on to this idea. Thom said the Township would not have to pay anything unless savings are realized as a result of an energy audit, and in that case it would only be a percentage of the savings. He noted the Township can always turn down any business plan proposed by the Energy Office. The Supervisors agreed to proceed on this matter, and a vote will be taken at the June 2 meeting.

### **Contents of Minutes**

The Board reviewed Rick's May 18 memo on this topic, and agreed to continue the current way of handling the minutes.

### **June 2 Meeting**

The Board agreed to meet next week at 6:30pm for an Executive Session before the 7:00pm Workshop.

### **Public Comment**

*Public Comment: Abbas Rahbari, 1613 Manley Road* – Made suggestions for conducting energy audits.

*John Schorn, Larch Lane* – Made a comment about energy audits.

*John Buonanno* – Had a question about the availability of the 2008 audited financial records. Mr. Buonanno was told that what was sent to the state is available, but the final report from the auditors, with notes, is not available yet and the date when this report will be ready is unknown. Carmen requested that staff determine when the final report will be available so a date certain can be announced at the June 2 meeting.

*Public Comment: Leo Sinclair, 217 N. Lochwood Lane* – Was also interested in getting a copy of the final audit report and was very interested in knowing the first date it would be available.

### **BOS Pending Actions List**

Marty suggested that Joe McDonough and Don work with Joe Gill to develop a method for updating this list so that everyone can more easily keep track of pending items.

### **Adjournment**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings

Recording Secretary