

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
1580 PAOLI PIKE
October 13, 2009 – 7:00pm
Final Approved Minutes**

Present: Chairman Marty Shane, Joe McDonough, Don McConathy and Thom Clapper. Vice-Chairman Carmen Battavio was absent. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Assistant Township Manager Joe Gill, Mark Miller (Director of Public Works), Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission), Ginnie Newlin, Jane Fava and Bryan Del Monte from the Conservancy Board, and Senya Isayeff (Planning Commission).

WORKSHOP

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Marty Shane called the meeting to order at 7:06pm and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

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

Bills

The Treasurer's Report and Expenditure Register Report were reviewed.

Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Register Report

The Treasurer's Report for October 8, 2009:

	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES
GENERAL FUND		
Real Estate Tax	\$ 0.00	
Earned Income Tax	\$ 96,750.89	Accounts Payable \$ 45,853.33
LST	\$ 1,995.17	Electronic Payments \$ 131.87
Transfer Tax	\$ 0.00	Debt Service \$ 0.00
Codes, Park & Rec	\$ 41,828.59	Payroll \$ 43,000.00
Total Receipts	\$ 140,574.65	Total Expenditures \$ 88,985.20
State Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 2,782.16	\$ 0.00
Transportation Fund	\$ 176.96	\$ 0.00
Sewer Operating	\$ 2,670.64	\$ 9,998.54
Refuse	\$ 1,641.36	\$ 12,156.16
Capital Projects	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Joe moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of October 8 and the Expenditure Register Report as recommended by the Treasurer, to accept the receipts and to authorize payment of the invoices

just reviewed. Don seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Replacement Loader for Public Works Department

Thom said that after seeing the condition of the old loader he has changed his mind and believes that a new one should be purchased.

Thom moved to authorize Mark Miller to purchase a new loader in the amount of \$80,754 (cost of \$120,927 minus \$40,173 trade-in value for old loader). Don seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Announcements

Marty announced that the Board met in Executive Session on October 6 to discuss the police labor contract.

Review of Minutes

The minutes of October 6 were reviewed and corrected. Don moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Joe seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Donated Trees from YMCA

Mark Miller said he knows of 5 trees that need to be replaced. He has let the YMCA know and the trees will be replanted in the spring. Jane Fava said she has noticed 3 or 4 trees that will also need to be replaced. Jane said that the YMCA contractor McKenna, tried switching trees on her and wouldn't return her phone calls. McKenna did not water any of the young trees during the period of time they were being planted; they only watered them after they were all in the ground. As a result, many of the trees were very stressed. In addition, McKenna refused to take off the burlap, and Jane is concerned about the nylon straps which are holding the burlap in place. She has been cutting the nylon off herself although it has been difficult to find a good tool to do it properly.

Conservancy Board Issues Regarding YMCA Pavilions

Jane Fava said the YMCA overmulched the area near the pavilions, and the mulch will eventually end up in the creek. The YMCA also took out the understory plants. Don said the mulch must be pulled 50 feet away from the creek to be out of the buffer. Joe asked the Conservancy Board members present what corrective action they would recommend. Ginnie said the YMCA must remove the excess mulch. They should also plant native understory bushes and allow the understory they removed to restore itself.

Jane said she is concerned about the erosion that will be caused by the placement of the pavilions, as well as the soil compaction that will occur from the foot traffic of many children.

Ginnie said the YMCA has compromised the woodland trees they chose to keep on the property by removing the understory. Woodland trees do not do well when standing alone; understory is

important for their health and development. She said the YMCA has breached the trust of the Township by their actions.

The Board asked the Conservancy Board to provide their recommendations in writing. Rick will then forward the recommendations to the YMCA along with a request from the Board to take the two amphitheatres down since they were not on the approved plan.

Conservancy Board Request for 100-ft Buffer Along Streams

The Board told the Conservancy Board that after looking into the 100-ft buffer issue, they determined that on undeveloped properties within East Goshen, the 100-ft buffer is already protected because it falls within the flood plain, which cannot be developed. However, the Planning Commission is reviewing this issue and will be providing a recommendation to the Board.

Public Comment: Linda Gordon, Line Road – Said the Township cannot keep developers out of a 50-ft buffer zone, so maybe by implementing the 100-ft buffer rule the developers would at least stay out of the 50-ft buffer.

E. Boot Road Plantings

Jane Fava said the Conservancy Board received a recommendation from the Morris Arboretum recommending hedgerows be planted at this location. Jane said that grass alone won't protect the area. The Township has put a lot of effort into that location and needs to do the right thing to protect that investment. Ginnie Newlin said that planting hedgerows would lessen the amount of maintenance and upkeep needed to keep invasive plants from taking over the area. Don suggested the Conservancy Board consider planting a hedgerow along the south side of the path, which might alleviate Carmen's safety concerns. Bryan Del Monte said it would cost approximately \$10K to install a hedgerow. Marty and Joe explained the budget situation to the Conservancy Board members, and how funds originally budgeted for this project most likely will not be available. Mark Miller said his crew could dig up the plants there currently and create a meadow. Bryan Del Monte said that spending \$300 on a landscaping plan from W.D. Wells would answer the cost question definitively.

Thom said he spoke with COG about taking on invasive plants as a COG project. He was informed that the Natural Lands Trust has secured a DEP grant for the assessment of invasive plants. A meeting will be scheduled with the Natural Lands Trust to see if East Goshen can be one of the ten townships to benefit from the grant funds.

Don moved to accept the September 9, 2009 proposal from W.D. Wells & Associates, Inc. for a planting plan for the area on E. Boot Road bounded by the parking lot, Old Boot Road, and the asphalt walking path; and a planting plan for the front of the Township building, at a cost of \$300. Joe seconded the motion.

Marty told the Conservancy Board that he and Carmen have also asked Justin Harding to provide some planting recommendations for the front of the Township building.

Thom reminded the Board that going with the \$300 agreement means the Township must mention W.D. Wells in the newsletter and must allow W.D. Wells to put up signs at the two locations for 30 days.

Public Comment: John Schorn, Larch Lane – Asked if the Township must still put up the W.D. Wells signs and mention them in the newsletter if the Township does not use their planting plans. Don and Joe said item #4 in the proposal covers that issue.

There was no further discussion or public comment. The Board voted 3:1 to approve the motion. Thom was opposed.

Township Web Page Mockup

The Board reviewed a new mockup of the webpage. Everyone was fine with the layout. Marty requested that the color scheme be changed to green to match the Township logo, instead of everything being blue.

Fee Schedule Resolution

The Board reviewed the latest draft of this resolution, and had no changes or comments.

Resolutions Waiving Penalties for Utility Fees and Real Estate Taxes

The Board reviewed the latest drafts of these two resolutions. Don had a few changes which Rick will incorporate into new drafts. Don asked that related resolutions be combined next year.

U.S. Mayor Climate Protection Agreement

The Board briefly reviewed the literature on the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and all were opposed to signing this document.

Resolution Establishing the Policy for Eagle Scout Projects

The Board made several changes to this document. Marty indicated he would like the Supervisors to have final authority on Scout projects, not Park & Rec.

Public Comment: Senya Isayeff – Said it would be good experience for the Scouts to make a presentation in front of the Supervisors to ask for approval for their projects.

Rick will revise the resolution, incorporating the changes.

Comprehensive Plan Action List

The Board reviewed and edited this action list.

Federal Appropriations Requests for Joe Sestak

The Board discussed projects for which they would like to request funding. The Board agreed to ask for funding for the Route 202 slip ramp, and also for breaching or fixing the Hershey's Mill Dam. Rick will relay these requests to Congressman Sestak's office.

Public Comment Period

Jack Neiss, Applebrook Carriage Homes – Mr. Neiss was present to express his concerns about an application from the Greater Chester Valley Soccer Association (GCVSA) to make improvements to the soccer fields in Willistown along Line Road. Mr. Neiss said he did not receive a copy of East Goshen's 1,000-ft letter himself, but got a copy from a neighbor, and he then discussed the issue with Mark Gordon. Mr. Neiss is concerned that the planned improvements -- which include 70-ft light poles, an astroturf surface, a new building, and an additional playing field – will not fit in with the character of the area, and certainly don't belong next to a nature preserve.

Marty told him that East Goshen will have representation at the October 28 meeting in Willistown and will put the Township's concerns on the record. Marty recommend that Mr. Neiss organize his neighbors to attend the meeting and put their concerns on the record as well. In the meantime, Marty said East Goshen will get a copy of the plans and will review them.

Public Comment: Senya Isayeff – Told Mr. Neiss that most likely it will not be children from the GCVSA who will benefit from the improvements; it will be children from the West Chester United Soccer Club, who most likely do not live in Willistown.

Marty told Mr. Neiss the Township will get more information on this application and will then decide how best to proceed. He assured Mr. Neiss that the East Goshen Board of Supervisors would take a position on behalf of the residents.

Don said that Willistown should be asked to do a traffic study for the application.

Public Comment: John Schorn, Larch Lane – Mr. Schorn confirmed with the Board that Sunoco is going to test 8 residential wells within ¼ mile of the Sunoco station. Rick said that is correct. Mr. Schorn said he would like more wells to be tested. He also wants the Township to ask Sunoco to check their site for isopropyl alcohol to see if there could be a link between the isopropyl alcohol found in his well and the Sunoco site. Don suggested a possible link between the faucet cleaning and the alcohol indicated in the report.

Public Comment: Senya Isayeff – Said if something is found in the 8 wells the DEP will force Sunoco to do additional testing further out. He also said that Sunoco is not adding to the risk of contamination of residential wells by putting in monitoring wells.

Public Comment: John Schorn, Larch Lane – Said the YMCA should replace the trees that are dead, and if they were planted improperly the Township should ask them to extend the warranty. Going back to the Sunoco issue he said the Health Department said it's a DEP problem, but he (Mr. Schorn) thinks it's everyone's problem. He said he plans to contact EPA next. Mr. Isayeff told him EPA will most likely refer him back to DEP.

Solid Waste Ordinance

Don had a number of changes, so Marty suggested he give them to Rick for incorporation into a new draft. Rick will make the changes and redistribute the document.

T-Mobile

The Supervisors all agreed to have T-Mobile come in and make a presentation about the tower they wish to install near the Public Works building. Rick will schedule this.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session until 10:30pm to discuss the police labor contract.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary