

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
1580 PAOLI PIKE
January 26, 2010 – 7:00pm
Final Approved Minutes**

Present: Chairman Don McConathy, Vice-Chairman Thom Clapper, and Supervisors Marty Shane and Carmen Battavio. Senya Isayeff, who was appointed as a Supervisor on January 25, was present as an observer. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Assistant Township Manager Joe Gill, Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission), Phyllis Marron (Park & Rec), Jim McRee (Deer Committee), and Bryan Delmonte (Conservancy Board).

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Don McConathy called the meeting to order at 7:01pm 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.

Recording of Meeting

No resident indicated they planned to record the meeting.

Appointment of Senya Isayeff

Don announced that Senya Isayeff was appointed as a Supervisor last evening during a public meeting. He will complete Joe McDonough's unexpired term. Senya will be sworn in by Magistrate Justice Chet Darlington at the February 2 meeting. He is joining the meeting this evening as an observer and will not participate in any votes at this meeting.

Carmen suggested the Board send thank-you letters to the other residents that applied for the Supervisor position, and follow up with them to see if there are other areas where they could serve the Township.

Bills

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

Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Register Report

See attached Treasurer's Report for January 21, 2010.

Thom moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of January 21 and the Expenditure Register Report as recommended by the Treasurer, to accept the receipts and to authorize payment of the invoices just reviewed. Carmen seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The Board asked Joe Gill about the Matlack Florist invoice that was held at the last meeting. Joe said the invoice was not a duplicate. Carmen moved to approve payment of Matlack Florist

invoice #793641 (Part II) for \$151.31. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Review of Minutes

The draft minutes of January 19 were reviewed and corrected. Rick said he found out the current refuse removal contract cannot be extended for another year. Carmen moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Public Comment: Jim McRee, Oneida Lane – Asked the outcome of the investigation into the bills for tree removal services that were held from the last meeting. Rick said the pin oak trees were removed due to blight. Jim then asked about the bill for the digital camera that was questioned at the last meeting. Joe Gill said he was waiting to hear back from the Code Department. Jim requested that a comment made by Police Chief John Dumond during the January 19 meeting be added to the minutes. The Supervisors were fine with the addition; the secretary will add the comment.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Employee Pension Plan

The Board discussed creating a defined contribution plan for Township employees. Existing employees could be given the option of switching to the new plan or remaining in the current defined benefit plan. The Board would like to have more data before discussing this issue further. Marty wants to see an evaluation of the benefit costs and available options for reducing costs. He would like to have this information in time for the meeting in Hershey. Joe Gill will contact Tom Anderson and find out what he would charge to run the numbers on different scenarios, and how the scenarios would impact the Township financially. The Board agreed that going forward, all new employees will be put into a defined contribution plan.

Update on Traditions Project in West Goshen

Rick reported that he, Mark Gordon, Al Giannantonio of Yerkes and attorney Ross Unruh met on January 25 to edit the Traditions developer's list of self-imposed conditions. Rick said they hope to meet with the developer one day next week. Rick noted that the Fire Company also had a meeting to edit their list of conditions.

I & I Report

The Board reviewed Mark Miller's I&I report for the 4th Quarter of 2009. Rick said he is meeting with Evan Andrews of Pennoni later this week to see if there are other areas near the stream that need to be looked at for I&I. Marty wants to know how far the Township has progressed on this project (what percentage of the work is complete), and how much has been spent thus far. He also wants to know if the project is on schedule. Thom said he would like to know how much I&I is being treated at the sewage treatment plant.

Landscaping at Township Building

Carmen said he spoke to Mark Miller. Mark estimates that if the work is done in house, it would cost \$1,200 in labor and \$300-\$400 for materials. Marty noted that if it is done in house there will be no warranty. Thom asked Bryan Delmonte if the Conservancy Board might be able to

get a volunteer group to do the work, and Bryan said it's possible. Thom said he would like the work done in house using volunteer labor. Marty said the work should be done in house as long as it won't lead to overtime for Public Works employees on another project. Otherwise, he wants the work to be done by Mainline Gardens.

Public Comment: Jim McRee, Oneida Lane - Said the Deer Management groups might be willing to install the plantings. They have asked him in the past about volunteer projects they could do for the Township, and this might be perfect. In his experience, Mainline Gardens is expensive. He said it may be cheaper to buy the plants somewhere else and hire labor separately to do the installation. Marty said the Township was given a discounted quote on the plants by Mainline.

Public Comment: Kathryn Yahraes, Vista Drive – Asked who will be responsible for plant maintenance, watering, deadheading, weeding, etc. Marty said that was a good point, and asked Rick to make a recommendation to the Board about maintenance – what will it cost? Can it be done in house or should it be done by an outside vendor?

Parking Fines

East Goshen's current parking fine is \$35, reduced to \$15 if paid within 72 hours. The Township agreed to keep the standard parking fine at \$35 and do away with the discounted rate of \$15. In addition, the fine for parking in a Handicapped Zone will be \$70. Each Township in WEGO will adopt an ordinance to this effect. Marty asked Rick to send a letter to GCVSA letting them know of the changes. Don suggested that Rick include a copy of the new ordinance as well. Don asked Rick the status of the berm. Rick said the Public Works Department will put in the berm when the walking path is installed.

Discretionary Budget Items

The Board reviewed and edited a list of discretionary budget items prepared by Joe Gill. This list will be maintained and reviewed periodically.

Public Works Costs for Parks Programs

The Board discussed Deb Beury's January 21 memo on this topic with Joe Gill. The Board would like Joe to create DPW line items for the three major Park & Rec events that occur each year: the Easter Egg Hunt, the Fireworks, and the Pumpkin Fest.

Utility Delinquent Account Payment Application

The Board reviewed Deb Beury's January 21 memo on this topic with Joe Gill. The Board agreed to continue the current practice of applying utility payments to a resident's account in the manner that is most favorable to the resident.

Pending Actions List

The Pending Actions list was reviewed and edited.

ABC Vacancies

Don said he would like to have a short Executive Session on February 9 to discuss the ABC vacancies.

Visit to Comcast

Marty reported that he, Don and Frank Vattilano visited Rich Werner of Comcast to see if Comcast might be willing to sponsor some Park & Rec activities for the Township. Marty said they got very positive feedback from Rich, although Rich is not sure if the funding would come out of his departmental budget or directly from Comcast corporate. Marty said Frank expressed concern that if Comcast advertises the events they sponsor, the Township might be overwhelmed with additional visitors. Rich will get back to the Township.

Any Other Matter

Carmen proposed that East Goshen form a Citizens' Budget Advisory Group similar to one created in Tredyffrin which reportedly saved them \$1.5M. Carmen said Tredyffryn's group is composed of five residents who have each signed a confidentiality agreement. The benefit of having such a group is that it brings in folks with diverse experience and "fresh eyes" to look at the budget. Carmen said the group could be created as an ad hoc committee serving at the pleasure of the Board. The other Supervisors were amenable to this. Rick will contact Tredyffrin Township Manager Mimi Gleason for more information.

Public Comment: Dan Truitt, Grand Oak Lane – Suggested that if the Board decides to proceed with this, they let Anne Pickering of *The Daily Local* know, and she can publicize that East Goshen is seeking qualified citizens to serve on this committee. Rick said he would email Anne if the Board decides to go ahead with this proposal.

Sunoco Update

Don reported that resident John Schorn received a letter from the DEP dated January 20, with a copy to the Township. In the letter, DEP states that residential properties to the south of the Sunoco station are not in the path of the unleaded gasoline plume. They also say that residential supply wells to the south of the station are not affected by the dissolved-phase MTBE plume and that reported levels of isopropyl alcohol in residential wells are at least one hundred times lower than the proposed groundwater standard. DEP suggests that Mr. Schorn consult with the Chester County Health Department and possibly the Pennsylvania Health Department concerning any health effects and risks associated with exposure to isopropyl alcohol. Don noted that East Goshen has already written a letter to the County Health Department and is awaiting a reply.

Don also reported that per Kristin Camp, the Township is not responsible for providing public water to its residents.

Public Comment: John Schorn, Larch Lane – Asked if the County Health Department can wash their hands of this matter. Don said they may refer the matter up to the State level, and Rick said it's expected that they will do so.

Grants

Rick said he attended an informational meeting on grants hosted by Joe Sestak's office. At the meeting the attendees were encouraged to apply for grants and earmarks for projects in their communities. Rick said he will apply for an "earmark" for the Hershey's Mill Dam project if

someone can help him come up with wording that describes why the federal government should pay for the Hershey's Mill dam restoration.

Police Budget

Thom shared the final 2010, Version 5 of the WEGO police budget which shows that payroll, vehicle, and other expenses decreased while benefit expenses (which the Commission has no control over) increased. There is a surplus of \$144,000. Grant money in the amount of \$121,656 was received for the past year.

Liaison Reports

Don said that Thom had shared his COG report via email and Carmen had sent a Police Commission report, also via email.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Subdivision, Land Development, CU and ZHB Applications

Rick reported that T-Mobile filed a Conditional Use application for an antenna. He also reported that Mark Gordon sent a letter to CTDI requesting that they amend the current conditional use approval for their facility.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary

Attachments: Treasurer's Report