

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
October 12, 2010 – 7:00pm
Final Approved Minutes**

Present: Chairman Senya D. Isayeff, Vice-Chairman Thom Clapper, and Supervisors Carmen Battavio, Marty Shane and Don McConathy. Also present were Zoning Officer Mark Gordon, Public Works Director Mark Miller, Director of Recreation Frank Vattilano; Noel Hedgecock, Linda Gordon, Art Polishuk, Joe D’Antonio and Dan Callahan (all TAG), Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission), Jack Yahraes (Municipal Authority), Phyllis Marron and Ruth Scadding (Park & Rec), Jim McRee (Deer Committee and Planning Commission), George Martynick and Megann Hedgecock (Planning Commission), and Linda Polishuk (Deer Committee).

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Senya called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. He asked Noel Hedgecock to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Anthony Ruggerio of Hillside Lane in Aston (president of the police bargaining unit) said he would be recording the meeting with an audio device.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Presentation by Township Advisory Group (TAG)

Senya announced that the TAG was formed earlier this year at Carmen Battavio’s suggestion. He said the TAG has acted independently of the Township, and the Board of Supervisors would be seeing their presentation for the first time this evening along with the residents. He noted that the full TAG presentation would be posted to the Township website.

Senya introduced TAG leader Noel Hedgecock, who in turn introduced the rest of the team. The TAG members took turns giving a PowerPoint presentation and sharing 21 of their 41 recommendations. Due to time constraints the group could not share them all.

Linda Gordon said the TAG members were very impressed with the Township employees – their commitment, expertise and dedication. Dan Callahan said the TAG found East Goshen to be a well-run Township, and it was almost difficult to find recommendations for changes to make.

Senya thanked the TAG members for the remarkable amount of time they put into the project, and especially thanked Noel for his leadership to the group.

Marty said that WEGO provides an excellent police force and the Board wants to pay the police fairly in salary and benefits, but on the other hand must also represent the residents whose tax dollars pay for the service. The Township uses either negotiation or binding arbitration when negotiating police contracts. The police service represents 40% of East Goshen's budget, meaning the Board only has 60% left to try and reduce, and 12% of that is for debt service. Marty assured the residents that within those confines, the Board is doing everything they can to be fiscally responsible.

Don noted that East Goshen partners with Westtown for police service, so anything that is done in regard to police must be done in conjunction with Westtown. (Thornbury receives police service from WEGO on a contractual basis.)

Carmen thanked the Board for agreeing to have a TAG group in East Goshen. The Board members then individually thanked the TAG for the contribution to the Township.

Public Comment: Joe Buonnano, Herron Lane – Asked who mandates that the police contract be negotiated under binding arbitration, and Carmen told him that directive comes from Harrisburg.

Public Comment: Linda Polishuk, Grand Oak Lane – Asked if the TAG looked at the breakdown of where the police spend their time to make sure the costs are being apportioned fairly. Art told her the TAG did not get into that level of detail. Noel told her the police keep their own time records in great detail. Mrs. Polishuk also had some questions about police benefits which Carmen answered. Carmen also said he believes the WEGO costs for East Goshen, Westtown and Thornbury are appropriately and fairly apportioned. Mrs. Polishuk then said she is opposed to allowing the YMCA to use East Goshen's parks for their programs.

Public Comment: Neil DeRiemer, Hershey Mill Road – Made some comments about the recommendation for a solar array. Dan Callahan gave him a more detailed explanation of the costs and potential benefits to the Township.

Public Comment: Joe Buonnano, Herron Lane – Asked if the TAG considered giving tax incentives to draw businesses to the Township. Noel said the group did not go that far. Mr. Buonnano then had a question about the capital reserve fund. Marty explained to him the fund's purpose and how it operates. Mr. Buonnano made some comments about the need for cost accounting and a managerial letter from the Township auditors. Marty told him by the end of the first quarter in 2011 the Township aims to have a full cost accounting. Mr. Buonnano asked why the Township cannot accept e-debit payments from residents for tax bills and Township services. Dan Callahan told him the TAG only focused on recommendations that would be cost effective. Mr. Buonnano asked if the TAG considered abolishing the printed newsletter and having an interactive web page or a TV station as a means to communicate with residents. Linda Gordon told him the vast majority of residents read the newsletter and like it. She said East Goshen looked into a TV station years ago but having such a service is not free.

Public Comment: Jim McRee (Oneida Lane) – Asked if the TAG looked at sharing any operations with neighboring municipalities. Art Polishuk told him yes, the group looked at

sharing IT services. Noel said they also recommend East Goshen participate in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Counties Cooperative Purchasing Board (SPCCPB).

Carmen had some questions about the recommendation for a lockbox service, and Dan provided more details and information. Art noted there is a small per-transaction fee.

Public Comment: Ruth Scadding, Nathaniel Drive – Asked how the TAG approached the YMCA and said she hoped they did not undermine the relationship Frank Vattilano has with the YMCA. Noel said the TAG approached the YMCA in a spirit of collaboration, and the YMCA had nothing but good things to say about Frank. Joe D’Antonio said the TAG did speak with Frank before going to the YMCA. Ms. Scadding said she was opposed to allowing outsiders to use the Township parks for YMCA activities.

Public Comment: Kathryn Yahraes, Vista Drive – Commended the TAG and said their PowerPoint was clear and concise. She said she would like to see the Township use the TAG as a springboard for other “mini-TAGs.”

Thom asked if the TAG considered the cost of removing the roof panels when making calculations for the solar array, and Dan said no, the group did not consider the cost of removal or disposal.

Senya said he was disappointed that so few residents were present. He asked everyone to encourage their neighbors to come to more Township meetings.

Senya and Thom presented certificates of appreciation to each TAG member that was present.

Bid Award for Collection of Refuse & Recyclables

Carmen moved to award the bid for the collection of refuse and recyclables to A.J. Blosenski of Honey Brook for Option 1 in the amount of \$1,887,237.72. Marty seconded the motion. Marty noted there will be a decrease in trash costs for residents in 2011.

Public Comment: Art Polishuk, Grand Oak Lane – Asked if the number of days allocated for yard waste pickup are not adequate, does the contract allow for additional pickups at an additional cost. Senya said the contract was not bid on an *a la carte* basis, and the Board arrived at the contract specifications after a great deal of discussion. Mr. Polishuk was satisfied with Senya’s answer.

Public Comment: Joe Buonnano, Herron Lane – Asked if the contract includes pickup for bulk items. Marty said yes, there will be a monthly pickup of bulk items as in the current contract.

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

Applebrook Path

Carmen moved to authorize Mark Miller to complete the work of paving the loop path by the end of 2010 per the October 8, 2010 recommendation of Township Manager Rick Smith. Carmen

noted that the funds are already in the budget. Marty seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Any Other Matter

Save The Dam Committee – Don reported that three suggestions came out of the October 7 meeting:

- Build a stone wall along the edge of Greenhill Road to contain water coming over the dam in the event of a storm.
- Build a sea wall (similar to the dam-behind-the-dam idea). Resident Neil DeRiemer is working with DEP on this.
- Create a dirt slope in front of the dam to widen the width of the dam, making it less vulnerable to breaching. Resident Jim Brandolini is investigating this.

Don reported there is still a possibility of getting DEP to lower the dam classification to C-3. The Save the Dam Committee is planning to form their own 501(c)(3) by November 1 in order to begin to solicit donations.

Senya said that resident Linda Gordon is actively pursuing grants for the dam, and he said that between now and July 1, 2011 the Board will have some difficult decisions to make. He said the dam is aesthetically pleasing and should be saved if at all possible; however, if the Township and the residents cannot raise the necessary funds, the Board may have to accept grant money to have the dam breached.

Public Comment: Neil DeRiemer, Hershey Mill Road – Said DEP told him they are putting no time pressure on the Township to get the dam fixed and they are sensitive to the fact that it is a historic structure. They told him the stone wall idea will lower the dam's classification. He said he would share the emails he received from DEP with the Board.

Don made some comments about budgeting for the dam issue.

Friends of East Goshen 501(c)(3) - Don reported there are three residents who have agreed to serve as officers for the 501(c)(3), and Thom has a fourth person in mind.

Township Website – Don reported that the new website will be ready for review by November 1 with a possible go live date of November 15.

Review of Minutes

The Board reviewed and corrected the draft minutes of October 5. Don 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.

Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Register Report

See attached Treasurer's Report for October 7, 2010.

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the current invoices. Thom moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of October 7 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 and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Action List

Performance Evaluations – The Board discussed the Non-Exempt Employee Self-Evaluation form and the Non-Exempt Employee Performance Appraisal form. Senya said he was happy with the forms. Carmen had a couple of suggestions and expressed concern that the Board was doing too much micromanaging in this area, but recommended the staff go ahead and use the forms this year. Mark Gordon and Mark Miller said they were fine with the forms and they would be able to work with them. Marty asked Senya to direct the Office Manager to check with PSATS and the Township's HR consultant for their suggestions. Senya asked Mark Gordon to relay the request to Diane Degnan. Don said he liked the idea of employees using the self-evaluation form as a way to document accomplishments their supervisor might not be aware of; however, he suggested a change to item #1 on the form. The Board agreed to revisit this issue on October 26.

Hershey Mill Dam – The National Fish & Wildlife Foundation grant pre-proposal was denied.

Parking for Multi-Use Space in the IP/BP District – Mark Gordon reported that Neal Fisher of the Hankin Group gave a presentation on trends in parking design at the last Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission is gathering more information.

CTDI Parking – The Conditional Use Hearing is scheduled for November 9.

Energy Use at Township Building – Tabled until Rick Smith is back from vacation.

Correspondence & Reports of Interest

Senya acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Letter from resident Pauline Johnsen in favor of the proposal for a cell tower at the Township Park.
- Letter from resident Mary Jane Deitch thanking Building Inspector Mike Merwin for overseeing a waterproofing job done at her home.

Senya asked Mark Gordon to prepare a newsletter article reminding residents of the need to make sure any contractor they use has a Township permit and a Pennsylvania Contractor's license. He asked Mark to post the article to the Township website.

Meetings & Dates of Importance

Senya noted the upcoming meetings as listed in the agenda, and reminded everyone that the Pumpkin Festival would take place on October 16. Marty noted that the November 3 Board of Supervisors meeting was not listed in the agenda.

Public Comment Period

Public Comment: Noel Hedgecock, Franklin Court – Made some suggestions to the Board on the use of performance evaluation forms and the Township process for conducting employee reviews.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session until 11:30pm to discuss a legal matter.

Anne Meddings

Recording Secretary

Attachment - Treasurer's Report

October 7, 2010

**TREASURER'S REPORT
2010 RECEIPTS AND BILLS**

GENERAL FUND

Real Estate Tax \$0.00
Earned Income Tax \$28,150.79
Local Service Tax \$1,732.60
Transfer Tax \$0.00
General Fund Interest Earned \$1,915.94
"See Treasurer's memo" Total Other Revenue \$279,907.55
Total Receipts: \$311,708.88

Accounts Payable \$592,276.44
Electronic Pmts:
Health Insurance \$0.00
Credit Card \$0.00
Postage \$0.00
Debt Service \$0.00
Payroll \$44,000.00
Total Expenditures: \$636,276.44

STATE FUND

Interest Earned \$238.24

Expenditures: \$0.00

CAPITAL RESERVE

Interest Earned \$1,141.75

Expenditures: \$0.00

TRANSPORTATION FUND

Interest Earned \$320.52

Expenditures: \$0.00

SEWER OPERATING

Receipts \$4,638.55
Interest Earned \$12.75
Total Sewer: \$4,651.30

Accounts Payable \$104,967.47
Debt Service \$0.00
Total Expenditures: \$104,967.47

REFUSE

Receipts \$1,355.85
Interest Earned \$19.83
Total Refuse: \$1,375.68

Expenditures \$4,876.38