

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
November 22, 2011 – 7:00pm
Final Approved Minutes**

Present: Chairman Senya D. Isayeff and Supervisors Marty Shane and Thom Clapper. Vice-Chairman Don McConathy and Supervisor Carmen Battavio were absent. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Erich Meyer (Park & Rec), Bryan DelMonte & Ginnie Newlin (Conservancy Board); Al Zuccarello, Susan Carty and Meghann Hedgecock (Planning Commission) and Brian McCool (Finance Department).

Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session from 7:00pm to 7:30pm to conduct ABC interviews.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Senya called the public meeting to order at 7:34pm. He asked Police Chief John Dumond to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Rick Smith called for a moment of silence to honor the troops.

Recording of Meeting

No one indicated they would be recording the meeting.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Chairman's Report

Senya announced that the Board met in Executive Session on November 15 to discuss a personnel matter, and they met earlier this evening in Executive Session to conduct ABC interviews.

Statement of Valuations

Per the Chester County Assessment Office, the Township's Statement of Valuations for the year ending October 31, 2011 is as follows:

Real Estate Valuation	\$1,628,940,936
Public Utilities Valuation	\$495,160

Senya noted that the real estate valuation has dropped \$13M since last year resulting in a \$16,250 reduction in revenue for 2012.

Police Report

Chief John Dumond reported there were 667 calls for service from East Goshen in October. The traffic fatality that occurred at Route 202 and Skiles Boulevard in Westtown on November 7 is

still under investigation. Chief Dumond praised the work of Sgt. Cahill, whose good police work led to the November 3 arrest of two individuals from Honey Brook who were involved in several burglaries in the area.

Financial Report

Brian McCool reported that as of October 31 the Township budget has a favorable variance of \$728,120. Total revenue showed a \$267,466 favorable variance and total expense variances (favorable) were \$460,655. Based on the October results, the year-end projected surplus has been lowered to \$76,566.

Goshen Fire Company Report

Jerry Fokas gave a verbal report of recent Fire Company activities.

Park & Rec Recommendations on TAG Report

Senya announced that the Supervisors had not received a recommendation from the Park & Rec Board on the TAG recommendations, but only received a memo dated November 16 stating that on November 15 they had voted against a partnership with the YMCA. He read the memo aloud for the benefit of the audience. Senya stated that this was not what the Supervisors had asked for from the Park & Rec Board. He then went through the points on a statement he had prepared (copy attached) providing background information for this issue.

In addition, Senya noted that:

- The 2012 Township budget is available online for review.
- The Township is losing tax revenue due to real estate tax reassessments.
- It costs approximately \$500K/year to maintain the parks and open space.
- The police account for over 45% of the Township budget.
- Emergency Services as a whole accounts for nearly 50% of the budget.
- The Supervisors are all required to file a Statement of Financial Interest so that anyone can check to make sure no one sitting on the Board of Supervisors is making decisions that are compromised by their personal financial interests.

Senya said the information sent by the Park & Rec Board is incomplete and non-responsive.

Public Comment: Ann Cummings, Mill Race Lane – Asked what were the misrepresentations given to the public about the YMCA. Thom said for one, the “proposal” from the YMCA that was distributed was only a list of talking points. Senya said the misrepresentations were that the Township was selling the park and doing away with the Farmers’ Market.

Public Comment: Julieta Calmon, Tanglewood Drive – Said she was appalled to read everything the Township was going to give the YMCA in exchange for a mere \$18K. She said “selling” was meant figuratively, as in “selling out.” Ms. Calmon said she read all the relevant information on the Township website about this matter before making an opinion and she does not feel she has been duped or misinformed. She said that even if the YMCA paid the Township \$50K or \$100K it would still not solve the Township’s financial concerns.

Public Comment: Deborah Woodworth, Colonial Lane – Said the YMCA has plenty of money and the Township’s park is worth a lot. She is upset the YMCA will bring busloads of kids to the park. She said it would be inappropriate for the Township to have a partnership with the YMCA, which is a Christian organization, giving the YMCA priority scheduling over all other organizations. Senya noted that there is no partnership with the YMCA at this point. Ms. Woodworth said the residents would be happy to pay an extra \$1 in taxes to come up with the \$18K the Township would get from the YMCA, in order to keep the park for the residents. Ms. Woodworth said she feels the Township is pushing this partnership on the residents and she would like to “nix it now.”

Public Comment: Paul Pelletier – Asked where he could get the background information on this matter, and Senya told him it’s on the Township website. Mr. Pelletier noted that besides wanting to attract new residents to the Township he thinks the Township would want to prevent current residents from leaving because they are unhappy. Senya stated that the YMCA is a neighbor within East Goshen and they are a Township asset with 24,000 members. Mr. Pelletier identified himself as a coach and said he’d like to know how the sports organizations who currently rent fields from the Township feel about this proposal.

Public Comment: Annette McIntosh, Cornwallis Drive - Asked if this issue was ever in the Township newsletter. Senya said no, but information has been available via Constant Contact. Also, this matter has been on the TAG Report that the Board reviews at every meeting. Also, the agenda which comes out via Constant Contact always lists matters of current interest. Ms. McIntosh asked what specifically have the residents been misinformed about. Senya quoted several items from some of the emails that have been going around.

Public Comment: Beth Brennan, King George Court – Stated that the residents here this evening do not want a formal agreement with the YMCA. The residents want the YMCA to have to get permits like every other group and organization. She said what she is hearing from Senya is that he wants an agreement with the YMCA. She said the residents do not want the park overrun with busloads of children, nor do they want YMCA storage trailers installed in the park. She said the Farmers’ Market is a wonderful, non-intrusive use of the park and she would not like to see it adversely impacted. Ms. Brennan told the Board there are other ways to earn \$18K in revenue besides having this agreement with the YMCA. She asked the Board to please listen to the residents and to do what’s best for the residents. Senya noted that every other group, such as Little League, that uses the park has what would be considered a formal agreement with the Township.

Public Comment: Jamie Floyd-Jones – Asked if Senya would be recusing himself from discussions on this matter. Since Senya has been a major financial donor to the YMCA and served as a past member of its Board of Directors she does not believe he is able to make an unbiased decision on this matter. She then cited Senya’s financial contribution toward Community Day as another conflict of interest involving the YMCA. Senya said he did not understand or accept the request to recuse himself, and he does not understand how volunteering at the YMCA or making a donation to them in memory of his business partner’s father should disqualify him from participating in discussions on this issue. In that case he should also have

recused himself from voting in favor of the Farmers' Market, because he made a donation to the 501(c)(3) that provided it with start-up money.

Senya stated that no decisions have been made and no votes have been taken on this YMCA matter because the Supervisors do not have the information they requested from the Park & Rec Board.

Public Comment: Jim Faunce – Asked what cost-cutting measures the Township has taken thus far. Senya cited cuts involving insurance, the newsletter, purchasing habits, and a staff reorganization. Mr. Faunce stated that if the Township were to do away with the “recreation” part of Park & Rec the Township could realize significant savings. Marty explained that the Board’s goal is to get the recreation programs to be entirely self-funding. He noted that the Township has cut \$500K over the past couple of years from an \$8M budget which is no small feat. If the Township cuts any more it would impact the level of service the residents have come to expect. Marty told the residents that anyone wanting to discuss financial matters in more detail was welcome to call him at home.

Public Comment: Megann Hedgecock, Franklin Court – Said she has young children who use both the YMCA and the Township Park, and both are fantastic. She would like the Township to at least look into the possibility of doing something with the YMCA.

Public Comment: Rob Gionfriddo, King George Court – Asked how many acres of open space the Township has and Rick said approximately 500 acres, of which 55 are “active” use park. Mr. Gionfriddo asked how many acres the YMCA would use and Rick estimated 4-5. Mr. Gionfriddo said he does not understand what it would benefit the Township to have the YMCA use the park. He thinks the Supervisors are trying to push this on the residents.

Public Comment: Jamie Floyd-Jones – Said she wanted to hear what the YMCA representative in the audience had to say.

Chris Wiseman identified himself as the Associate Executive Director at the YMCA, and said he was present to gather information and was not in a position to speak on behalf of the Executive Director, who could not be in attendance. Mr. Wiseman said the YMCA is not looking to do anything to upset the residents of East Goshen. He clarified that the 24,000 members that Senya mentioned earlier is a number that includes the members of youth programs from the branch in West Chester.

Public Comment: Albert Zuccarello, Hershey's Mill – Said that the whole point of the meeting is that the Township is in an information-gathering phase with the YMCA that has been disrupted by the spread of misinformation. Senya thanked him.

Public Comment: Annette McIntosh, Cornwallis Drive - Stated that she was at the Park & Rec meeting on November 15. The Park & Rec Board said they were not going to take a vote at the meeting but ended up doing so. Also, the Park & Rec Board said the YMCA was the party that pulled out of discussions. She said she didn't think the Supervisors had all the information about the situation. She requested the Township let the residents vote on this matter.

Marty said that besides charging Park & Rec with coming back to the Supervisors with recommendations based on the TAG report, the Board of Supervisors has had no discussions about this. Furthermore, the Supervisors are not even at the point of discussion yet because the Park & Rec has not provided any recommendation or proposal to discuss. Whoever spread all the misinformation did not have the courtesy to copy the Supervisors, so they have not been kept in the loop. The only one who keeps up with Park & Rec matters is Thom, who serves as the liaison to that group. Marty assured the residents that if the list of talking points from the YMCA was indeed a proposal, there is "no way in the universe" he would vote for it. He then made the following statements:

- No decision has been made.
- No pressure has been put on anyone.
- No discussions have taken place.
- The Board of Supervisors would never approve something that would not be an enhancement and benefit to the Township.
- East Goshen is probably the most transparent community in Chester County.
- The Supervisors are not trying to do anything behind the residents' backs.

Public Comment: Julieta Calmon, Tanglewood Drive – Said she read in the Park & Rec meeting minutes that the YMCA is putting pressure on the Township for this agreement so they can wrap up their 2012 budget. Thom said he made a comment at one of the Park & Rec meetings relating to budget deadlines of October 15 for the YMCA and November 1 for the Township, and if both were to include anything in their respective budgets, then discussions should be taking place. Thom stated that at no time did the YMCA exert any pressure on the Township, nor did he use the expression, "The YMCA is putting pressure on the Township for this agreement."

Senya then explained how the Board of Supervisors takes votes. Meeting agendas are published in advance and they always list what items will be voted on at a meeting. At the meetings someone will make a motion, someone will second it, and then the Board will take any public comments before voting. Senya encouraged the residents to subscribe to Constant Contact as a way to stay informed of issues that matter to t

Public Comment: Rob Gionfriddo, King George Court – Asked for details about the Township's financial situation. Marty shared that revenues are basically flat but expenses continue to go up. 45% of tax revenue goes to fund the police, and 90% of the police budget is for labor costs which are based on binding arbitration and therefore out of the Township's control. Police costs are going up about 8-10% per year.

Public Comment: Noel Hedgecock, Franklin Court – Thanked the Board for taking time to discuss this matter and for their desire to act in the best interests of the Township. He said the Board needs to get more information in order to have a meaningful conversation about the YMCA issue. He said it's not fair to say that the people who turned out for this meeting represent the entire Township.

Public Comment: Elizabeth Faunce, King George Court – Stated that the residents present did not represent the entire Township. She stated that she did not like one single item in the YMCA's talking points. She would like the Supervisors to put this issue on the ballot next year for a vote by Township residents. Marty explained that this type of matter would not qualify to go on a referendum, so it's up to the Supervisors, who are elected, to make the decision on behalf of the residents. Marty then stated that with all the outcry over the matter it was remarkable to him that so few residents turned out.

Senya stated that there would be no vote tonight as there is nothing to vote on. He asked any resident that had a good idea for the Park & Rec Board to please pass it along to them. He stated that the Board of Supervisors knows what an asset the Township Park is to East Goshen.

Public Comment: Deborah Woodworth, Colonial Lane – Sought confirmation that the Board would not implement an agreement with the YMCA for 2012, since the 2012 budget is almost finalized. Senya said there could be activity on this issue if a windfall opportunity came about as a result of a collaborative effort with the YMCA. Senya encouraged the residents to ask the Park & Rec Board to produce the information the Board of Supervisors has been waiting for.

Public Comment: Annette McIntosh, Cornwallis Drive - Asked what the YMCA has been doing up until now when they need fields. Senya said they have agreements with the WCASD and West Goshen, and they have met with Westtown Township recently.

Thom noted that the Township's total revenue from all park rentals during the summer of 2011 was only \$500.

Email Accounts for ABC Chairmen

Thom moved to authorize Rick to prepare a resolution on the ABC email policy. Marty seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Police Budget v.2.4

The Board tabled this matter pending receipt of additional information from the Police Commission.

Date for Annual Planning Session

The Board agreed to use January 14 as the tentative date for the Annual Planning Session.

DocStar System Replacement

The Board reviewed Rick's memo of November 14 on this topic. Marty moved to authorize the expenditure of \$20,966 to replace the DocStar server, \$2,115 to have ImageNet scan, index and upload all large-format plans into DocStar, and \$8,930 to have ImageNet scan, index and upload all Tax Parcel files into Docstar. Thom seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

QVC Tax Appeal

Thom moved to send a letter to the County Assessment Office stating that the Township would not appeal the assessments agreed to by QVC and the school district. Marty seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously.

HVAC System Assessment

The Board agreed to investigate changing the Township building HVAC system over to a geothermal system. Rick will make a recommendation about the plenum.

Scope of Work Proposal for Compensation & Benefits Analysis

The Board reviewed the Scope of Work Proposal from West Chester University for Compensation and Benefits Analysis and job descriptions. Marty will ask the University for a ballpark price quote. He will also ask them for permission to use a modified version of their proposal in the event this is put out to bid.

Any Other Matter

PEMA/FEMA Money

Marty moved to adopt a resolution designating Barbara Phillips as the Township agent authorized to apply for PEMA and FEMA money on behalf of the Township. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Community Development Commission

After some discussion, the Board agreed to add \$7,500 to the 2012 budget for the Community Development Commission as follows - \$1,000 for wages, \$3,250 for materials & supplies and \$3,250 for general expenses.

Township Veterans

Marty moved to authorize Mark Gordon to serve as the Township Liaison for Veterans' Affairs. Thom seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Grant for Hershey Mill Dam

Thom moved to authorize staff to submit an application to American Rivers for a grant to breach the Hershey Mill Dam. Marty seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Senya noted for the record that Neil DeRiemer has not been able to reach Mr. Reisinger at DEP, but plans to keep trying.

Review of Minutes

The Board reviewed and corrected the draft minutes of November 15. There was no public comment. Senya said the minutes would stand approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Register Report

See attached Treasurer's Report for November 17, 2011. The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the current invoices. Rick will check on the Verizon calling plan for the Ridley Creek Sewer Plant and make sure it meets the needs of staff there. Thom moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of November 17 and the Expenditure Register Report as recommended by the Treasurer, to accept the receipts and to authorize payment of the invoices just reviewed, with the exception of #110811 for Settlement Express of PA which will not be paid if it turns out the inspection was not performed (Rick will check). Marty seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Action List

No update.

Correspondence & Reports of Interest

Senya acknowledged receipt of a quarterly remediation report from Sunoco.

Meetings & Dates of Importance

Senya noted the upcoming meetings as listed in the agenda.

Public Comment Period

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 10:38pm.

Executive Session

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



Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary

Attachments:

*Statement from Senya Isayeff
Treasurer's Report*

November 22, 2011 – EGT Board of Supervisors Meeting

Legal:

- Second Class Township Code Book
- Ethics Statement
- Oath of Office
- MPC – Municipalities Planning Code
- Statement of Financial Interest
- Budget

Local:

- Obligation and commitment to serve the needs of fellow residents and maintain property values
- Honor the trust and confidence of fellow residents
- Comprehensive Plan
- TAG Report

Background:

- The Board of Supervisors has been involved with ongoing efforts to maintain and maximize the level of public services while looking for ways to save costs;
- Created the Township Advisory Group (TAG) and appointed resident volunteers to review Township functions;
- TAG members reviewed all Township functions and made a public presentation of their comprehensive Final Report and List of Recommendations for cost efficiencies and potential revenue sources in October 2010;
- A public meeting was held to prioritize the List of Recommendations for cost savings and revenue generation;
- The BoS met with the P&R Board and tasked them with the responsibility to review and assess the 8 items pertaining to the Park & Rec and make recommendations for program enhancement, cost efficiencies and potential revenue sources to the BoS;
- The effort took much longer than expected and resulted in the talking points that were developed between the P&R Board and the Y and subsequently listed on the Y document presented to the P&R Board on November 2, 2011 with a counter-proposal prepared by the P&R Board Chair on November 10, 2011;
- In the interim, certain individual(s) involved in the process misrepresented and provided false information to the public, an act that resulted in this disappointing outcome;
- Everyone who has been misled and/or duped by the individual(s) who, for personal reasons or motivations, wished to derail the ongoing discussions and deliberations by subterfuge, is owed an apology along with the P&R Board members who respected the process, honored the proper procedures of Board deliberations, participated in good faith and put a lot of personal time and effort into the review and consideration of the TAG recommendations. The long list of aggrieved parties who are owed an apology also includes Dr. Clapper, the BoS Liaison to the P&R Board, the Township Staff, the rest of the Township residents who have effectively been denied the benefit of the work product that the Board of Supervisors has been waiting to receive from the P&R Board, an advisory Board, so that it can properly evaluate all possible options that would serve the best interest of the Township in the immediate and long term, and, last but not least, our neighbors, the Y;
- There is no work product or basis to support the P&R Board recommendation as it is incomplete and remains non-responsive to the repeated requests of the BoS for information.

November 17, 2011

TREASURER'S REPORT
2011 RECEIPTS AND BILLS

GENERAL FUND

Real Estate Tax	\$7,332.91	Accounts Payable	\$31,272.81
Earned Income Tax	\$161,622.76	<u>Electronic Pmts:</u>	
Local Service Tax	\$0.00	Health Insurance	\$52,365.47
Transfer Tax	\$0.00	Credit Card	\$3,481.88
General Fund Interest Earned	\$0.00	Postage	\$0.00
Total Other Revenue	\$10,559.39	Debt Service	\$265,263.49
Total Receipts:	<u>\$179,515.06</u>	Payroll	\$42,000.00
		Total Expenditures:	<u>\$394,383.65</u>

STATE FUND

Interest Earned	<u>\$0.00</u>	Expenditures:	<u>\$0.00</u>
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CAPITAL RESERVE

Interest Earned	<u>\$0.00</u>	Expenditures:	<u>\$0.00</u>
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TRANSPORTATION FUND

Interest Earned	<u>\$0.00</u>	Expenditures:	<u>\$0.00</u>
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SEWER OPERATING

Receipts	\$84,387.00	Accounts Payable	\$1,234.01
Interest Earned	\$0.00	Debt Service	\$30,922.90
Total Sewer:	<u>\$84,387.00</u>	Transfer To M.A.	\$12,000.00
		Total Expenditures:	<u>\$44,156.91</u>

REFUSE

Receipts	\$22,383.90	Expenditures	<u>\$5,570.43</u>
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total Refuse:	<u>\$22,383.90</u>		

SEWER CAPITAL RESERVE

Interest Earned	<u>\$0.00</u>	Expenditures	<u>\$0.00</u>
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