

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
June 25, 2013
Final Approved Minutes**

Present: Chairman Senya D. Isayeff, Vice-Chairman Carmen Battavio, and Supervisors Marty Shane and Chuck Proctor. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith and Township Solicitor Kristin Camp. ABC members in attendance were Erich Meyer (Park & Rec), Kathryn Yahraes (Historical Commission), Susan Carty (Planning Commission), and Al Zuccarello (Commerce Commission and Planning Commission). Former Supervisor Thom Clapper was also present, as was Jeremy Gerrard of the *Daily Local*.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Senya called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and asked Jeremy Gerrard to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Carmen called for a moment of silence to remember those in uniform who help keep us safe.

Recording of Meeting

Jeremy Gerrard recorded the meeting.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Review of Minutes from June 11

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the June 11 meeting and had no changes. Senya stated that the minutes would stand approved as submitted.

Interviews for Township Supervisor Position

Senya noted that at their June 11 meeting, the Board regretfully acknowledged receipt of Thom Clapper's resignation, effective June 10. He said the Board is very grateful and appreciative of the time Thom spent serving on the Board, and he will be greatly missed.

Senya thanked Ms. Janet Emanuel and Ms. Montajeau Gay for their willingness to participate in the process of being interviewed to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Clapper. He explained that each candidate would be asked a series of predetermined questions by the Board, after which the Board members could ask additional questions. Following that the public would have an opportunity for input before the Board's vote on a replacement candidate. He asked that residents not ask direct questions of the candidates, however. Each candidate would be allotted a maximum of 30 minutes.

The two candidates drew numbers to determine the interview order. It was determined that Ms. Emanuel would go first.

Ms. Emanuel thanked the Board for the opportunity to interview for the position.

Interview of Janet Emanuel

1. Have you been an East Goshen resident for the past 12 months?
Yes; I have lived here for 39 years.
2. What is your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Township Supervisor?
To serve the community and the residents, to develop and manage the budget and financial aspects of the Township, to set policy and to enforce ordinances.
3. Why do you wish to be a Supervisor?
I have served the Township for 27 years on the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board, and I feel it's time to expand my commitment.
4. Why should the Board select you as the 5th Supervisor?
I have chaired the Planning Commission and currently chair the Zoning Hearing Board. I have the understanding and experience to start working as a Supervisor from day one.
5. Can you make a time commitment of at least 20-25 hours a month for meetings and preparation?
Yes; I am retired and have the time.
6. What do you find the strengths and weaknesses of the current Board of Supervisors to be?
An obvious weakness is the lack of any women on the Board. A strength of the Board is their determination to be proactive and to address issues up front.
7. What do you view as positive qualities about East Goshen and what areas do you believe need additional attention?
East Goshen is one of the leading Townships in Chester County, but I see redevelopment as an issue that will have to be addressed in the future.
8. If you are appointed as a Supervisor what attributes and strengths would you bring to the Board to fulfill your role and responsibilities as a Supervisor?
My educational background is in mathematics and accounting. I am an analytical and detail-oriented person. I have 20 years of experience as an office manager for a legal firm.
9. Have you served in any capacity in local government, either in East Goshen or some other community? Explain your duties and any leadership roles you may have had or obtained.
I served on the Planning Commission for 10 years, being chairperson for 7 years. I have served on the Zoning Hearing Board for 17 years and am the current chairperson. I also served on the Bi-Township Traffic Task Force.
10. What leadership roles have you had and served in business, non-profits, and any other activities or organizations?
I am the former office manager for the law firm Gawthrop Greenwood, PC. I am very active in my synagogue and in organizations at Hershey's Mill such as the Inverness Village Council, the Hershey's Mill Players (on the Steering Committee), and in the Havurah group.
11. What experience do you have in making and managing a business budget process?
In my job at Gawthrop Greenwood I prepared budgets and financial reports for management.
12. What experience do you have in working with Land Use, Subdivisions or Zoning matters, either in East Goshen or elsewhere?

I have experience in all of these matters from my work for the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Boards. I have also worked on the Comprehensive Plan.

Marty asked Ms. Emanuel what areas she would like to focus on if she were a member of the Board. Ms. Emanuel said she would gravitate toward zoning and land development issues as these fall within her experience; however she is willing to learn whatever is needed to work in any area the Board needs her.

Marty asked her for more details about her background. Ms. Emanuel said she worked as an actuarial associate for Towers Perrin. From her time at Gawthrop Greenwood she gained experience with pension plans, health insurance, life insurance, facility insurance, payroll and payroll taxes, management reports, and cash flow.

Marty asked her if she's met with any Township employees to learn more about the day-to-day running of the Township. Ms. Emanuel said she has discussed some of the financial matters with CFO Jon Altshul, and if selected for the position she would contact him for more detailed information. She said she regularly speaks with Mark Gordon as part of her work for the Zoning Hearing Board, and regularly speaks to members of the Board.

Marty asked her what a woman would bring to the Board. Ms. Emanuel said she wouldn't suggest that the outcomes would be any different, but she believes a woman would enhance the Board with a different perspective.

Chuck asked her how long she's lived in Hershey's Mill. Ms Emanuel said she's lived in Hershey's Mill for 10 years and prior to that she lived 29 years in Marydell. Her daughter currently rents an apartment in the Township, which has given her additional perspective.

Chuck asked for more details about her education. Ms. Emanuel said she has a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and took graduate courses at SUNY Buffalo. She also took four semesters of accounting at West Chester University.

Interview of Montajejan Gay

1. Have you been an East Goshen resident for the past 12 months?
Yes; I've lived here for 27 years.
2. What is your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Township Supervisor?
Assisting in formulating and enacting policy. Developing and approving the budget. Hiring Township employees. Voting on community issues. Responding to the concerns of Township residents. Moderating meetings.
3. Why do you wish to be a Supervisor?
Mainly because I believe more young people should get involved in the community, as we are the future. I would like to help set an example for other young people to get involved.
4. Why should the Board select you as the 5th Supervisor?
It would be good to have a woman on the Board to bring a different perspective. I would also hope that because of my age I could bring a fresher perspective and fresh pair of

eyes to the Board. I grew up in East Goshen and have seen all the changes over the years.

5. Can you make a time commitment of at least 20-25 hours a month for meetings and preparation?

Yes. I work from home and set my own schedule.

6. What do you find the strengths and weaknesses of the current Board of Supervisors to be?

A strength is that the Board strives to improve communities within East Goshen such as Hershey's Mill. A weakness is that it's hard to do what's best for everyone. There is not as much outreach as there should be, and the Board meeting are poorly attended.

Perhaps this stems from a lack of communication to the residents. The Township should embrace technology more. For example, the Township's Facebook page is not updated very often. Also, it would be good to broadcast via a public access channel so that residents unable to attend the meetings in person could still know what is going on.

7. What do you view as positive qualities about East Goshen and what areas do you believe need additional attention?

I like the sense of community I saw on Community Day. However the Township is lacking because there aren't similar events throughout the year, and there aren't enough events for adults. There are events for younger children but not enough for adults.

8. If you are appointed as a Supervisor what attributes and strengths would you bring to the Board to fulfill your role and responsibilities as a Supervisor?

I would bring a different, fresher perspective. My background in history has made me very good at doing research. I have a strong attention to detail. I work as a freelance writer and frequently have to research topics I'm not necessarily familiar with to get up to speed.

9. Have you served in any capacity in local government, either in East Goshen or some other community? Explain your duties and any leadership roles you may have had or obtained.

I have not served in local government before.

10. What leadership roles have you had and served in business, non-profits, and any other activities or organizations?

I am very active in my church, serving as a Eucharistic Minister and in the Sacristy. I also teach CCD classes, do data entry for the collections, and volunteer in the St. Vincent de Paul clothing drive.

11. What experience do you have in making and managing a business budget process?

I have no experience with business budgets. The only budget I have experience with is my own. However, I would be happy to work with the Board and Jon Altshul to learn about the Township budget.

12. What experience do you have in working with Land Use, Subdivisions or Zoning matters, either in East Goshen or elsewhere?

I don't have experience in these matters but would welcome the opportunity to work with the Board and Mark Gordon to learn more about these issues.

Chuck asked for more details about her education. Ms. Gay said she has a bachelor's degree in History, Politics, and International Relations from Immaculata University. He then asked about her employment. Ms. Gay said she is a freelance writer for the local religion and politics section

of the examiner.com, and was just recently moved into the general religion section so she may now cover national and international stories. Chuck asked where she lives in the Township and she said Pine Rock Road.

Marty asked if she is on Constant Contact. Ms. Gay said she recently learned about Constant Contact but has not signed up yet. Until now she has learned about Township matters directly from the Township web page. Marty told her the Township is in the process of building an amphitheatre at the park which will help address the lack of programs for adults. Marty asked if she has been in touch with any staff members in preparation for the interview. Ms. Gay indicated she only spoke with Senya Isayeff, and the rest of her research was done from the Township website.

Marty noted there are numerous ABCs in the Township that are frequently in need of volunteers and asked if she has ever considered serving the Township in that way. Ms. Gay says she has been trying to get involved with the Historical Commission but unfortunately she teaches CCD classes on Wednesday evenings, precluding her from participation in their meetings. However, now that it's summer and CCD classes are not being held, she's planning to attend the Historical Commission meeting tomorrow evening.

Marty thanked both candidates for their participation in this process and their willingness to serve the community.

Public Comment

Al Zuccarello – Said he found Ms. Gay to be delightful. He said if Ms. Gay is not selected for the Supervisor position he would love to have her on the Commerce Commission when there is an opening if the Historical Commission doesn't grab her first. He would love to see Ms. Gay get some experience serving the Township at the ABC level. He also noted that he has worked with Ms. Emanuel on the Planning Commission and she is "tough."

Kathryn Yahraes – Said the Supervisors and ABCs should have a plan to involve the younger generation, as it's important to groom qualified and interested residents to fill Township openings.

Charles Lydanne (Willistown resident) – Said the loss of Thom Clapper is a tremendous blow to East Goshen. Mr. Ledine said he has been a client of Gawthrop Greenwood for 20 years and it runs like a clock. It will not be often the Township gets a candidate for Supervisor with so much relevant experience as Janet Emanuel. Furthermore, she did not apply for the position just because she wants to be a Supervisor. She has shown her interest and dedication to the Township by serving in other capacities for so many years.

Selection of a Candidate

Chuck moved to nominate Janet Emanuel for the position of interim Supervisor to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Thom Clapper, which runs through the end of 2013. Chuck said Ms. Emanuel's many years as an East Goshen resident, her longstanding commitment to serving the Township on the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board, her involvement in community activities, and her work experience – particularly in regard to budgets, payroll and

pension issues – recommend her for the job, and she is the better qualified candidate at this time. Ms. Emanuel experience will be especially valuable to the Board as the Township continues to seek to control costs. Marty seconded the motion.

Marty told Ms. Gay that while it's not impossible, the learning curve to serve as a Supervisor is long and arduous if the individual has little to no experience working for the Township. He said he believes Ms. Emanuel has the experience and background that make her the most appropriate selection at this time. Ms. Emanuel's work experience is also valuable to the Township because in her role at Gawthrop Greenwood she dealt with many of the key players in Chester County, and her contacts will be an additional asset to the Board. Marty encouraged Ms. Gay to get involved with the Township, perhaps at the ABC level if that would be of interest to her.

Marty told Kathryn Yahraes that the Supervisors are well aware of the need to get younger people at the Township to serve on the ABCs, etc. However, the problem is that the younger people are usually the busiest with budding careers and small children, making it difficult to add a volunteer position to their busy lives.

Chuck noted that Ms. Emanuel has been attending the Comprehensive Plan Task Force meetings regularly as an observer to familiarize herself with the Comp Plan process, and this is one more example of her dedication to the Township.

Senya quoted Ernest Hemingway: "It is good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters, in the end."

There was no further discussion or public comment. Senya asked for a roll call vote in alphabetical order. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Janet Emanuel to the unexpired term of Dr. Clapper.

Senya congratulated Ms. Emanuel on her appointment, and informed her that she would be sworn in at the next meeting.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary