

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
1580 PAOLI PIKE  
July 16, 2013  
Final Approved Minutes**

**Present:** Chairman Senya D. Isayeff, Vice-Chairman Carmen Battavio, Supervisors Marty Shane, Chuck Proctor and Janet Emanuel. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, CFO Jon Altshul, and Township Solicitor Kristin Camp. ABC member Erich Meyer (Park & Rec) was also in attendance.

**Executive Session**

The Board met in Executive Session from 6:45pm to 7:00pm to interview a candidate for the Vacancy Board.

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Senya called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm and asked resident Ron Keplinger to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Moment of Silence**

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

**Recording of Meeting**

No one recorded the meeting.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

None.

**Chairman's Report**

Senya announced that the Board received a letter from Janet Emanuel tendering her resignation from the Zoning Hearing Board effective June 25 due to her appointment as Township Supervisor. Rick stated that the vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board has been advertised, and applications are due by the end of the week.

**Scheduling of Special Meeting**

Chuck moved to schedule a meeting on July 23 for the Board to discuss issues related to the Comprehensive Plan. Marty seconded the motion. Carmen advised that he would be unable to attend the meeting. There was no further discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**Public Hearing – Proposed Amendment to Township Code - “Peddling and Soliciting”**

The Board held a public hearing to discuss a proposed amendment to the “Peddling and Soliciting” portion of the Township Code.

Public comments were made by resident Ron Keplinger of Bow Tree and by Joanne Morgan (Township Receptionist/Secretary).

Marty moved to adopt the Ordinance amending Chapter 169 of the Township Code, titled "Peddling and Soliciting," as described by Township Solicitor Kristen Camp. Carmen seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

A court reporter was present and will provide a complete transcript of the proceedings.

#### **Public Hearing – Proposed Amendment to Township Code - "Zoning"**

The Board held a public hearing to discuss a proposed amendment to the "Zoning" Section of the Township Code to revise the standards for the collocation and modification of commercial communications antenna on existing structures to comply with the Pennsylvania Wireless Broadband Collocation Act.

There were no public comments.

Marty moved to accept the Planning Commission's June 6, 2013 recommendation to approve the Zoning ordinance incorporating the new requirements outlined in the Pennsylvania Wireless Broadband Communications Act, P.S. 53, and some minor changes to the annual reporting requirements. Carmen seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

A court reporter was present and will provide a complete transcript of the proceedings.

#### **Police Report**

Chief Brenda Bernot announced that a new session of the Citizens' Policy Academy will start on September 4. Applications are available online, and she also had hard copies available with her.

The police have concluded an 18-month investigation into a resident who was hosting illegal casino activities and drug sales at his home. He was charged with multiple felonies and released on bail.

The police responded to a domestic violence situation during which one of the parties was charged with assaulting an officer.

Thefts from unlocked cars continue to be a problem.

The police arrested 5 local residents between the ages of 19 and 65 during a June 21 DUI checkpoint.

Another elderly resident has fallen victim to a "granny scam" over the telephone. Chief Bernot asked everyone to please warn the senior citizens in their life. If there is any question as to whether a call is legitimate, please contact the police for assistance.

Marty thanked Chief Bernot for making an outdoor presentation to East Goshen day campers during an especially hot day as he knows the children enjoyed it. Chief Bernot said she was glad to do it.

Marty stated there seems to be more criminal activity in Westtown and Thornbury than in East Goshen, perhaps due to their proximity to Route 202. Chief Bernot stated that people mistakenly think there is more crime at the Giant store in Dilworthtown than there actually is. The store has a very good loss prevention team and surveillance system. She also noted that the recent large-scale investigations into the illegal casino activity, as well as the drug bust on Valley Drive prove that not all the big crimes are happening outside of East Goshen. She believes the criminal activity among the three townships balances out, and the PPU's will bear that out.

Chief Bernot briefly discussed the current PPU's and noted the June numbers were thrown off a bit due to some officers taking summer vacations.

Senya thanked Chief Bernot for her update.

#### **Malvern Fire Company Update**

Rick reported that Malvern responded to no calls in East Goshen during June.

#### **Goshen Fire Company Update**

Goshen Fire Company President Jerry Fokas was not present, and no report was submitted to the Township.

#### **Financial Report**

Jon Altshul reported that as of June 30 the General Fund had a year-to-date positive variance of \$1,406,796 excluding pass-through accounts. The General Fund balance was \$7,615,931. Based on the first half of 2013, Jon projects the General Fund will finish the year with a small positive variance of \$92,631. The other funds appear to be on track to finish the year in healthy positions.

Jon reported that Tia Piccolo recommends the Township file District Justice complaints against two utility account holders who are more than \$3,000 in arrears, not current on payment plans, and/or are in the process of foreclosure. Marty moved for the staff to file the two complaints. Carmen seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **Township Newsletter**

Jon Altshul shared his findings that if the Township wishes to publish a printed newsletter with advertisements, two companies would be available to provide that service: Hometown Press and Franklin Maps. Samples of their work was provided to the Supervisors.

Marty thanked Jon for putting the data together and said he personally prefers the layout of the Hometown Press publication and the fact that it would allow more space for Township articles. However since it would allow less space than the current Township newsletter, the various ABC's might have to rotate articles (i.e. not every ABC would have a an article in each issue). Marty

stated he is favor of returning to a hard-copy newsletter that gets mailed to residents, and he is in favor of using the Hometown Press service.

Carmen asked Jon how long the Township would be locked in to using one of the services should they go that route. Jon said he believes there is no long-term obligation but the service can be used on issue-to-issue basis.

Janet asked if the Township would discontinue creating and posting the e-newsletter. Rick said the hard-copy newsletter could be scanned and posted to the website. Jon confirmed this and said the e-newsletter would not continue to be created as a separate document to offer expanded articles, etc.

*Public Comment: Ron Keplinger, Bow Tree* – Asked if the Township is not getting the desired response from the e-newsletter.

Senya stated there is no hard evidence to back up the claim that the e-newsletter is not reaching its audience and is not effective. These decisions should not be based on “feelings” but on facts. He asked Receptionist/Secretary Joanne Morgan (in the audience) how many residents have signed up to receive printed copies of the newsletter. Joanne stated that in her conversations with residents a lot of the older, long-term residents have told her they miss the hard copies being mailed to their homes. Some of them try to find the e-newsletter online but have difficulty locating it on the website, and Joanne often has to walk them through the website over the phone to help them find it.

*Public Comment: Ron Keplinger, Bow Tree* – Stated that change is hard but he got used to the e-newsletter and now he loves it. Plus it’s less costly for the Township. The world is going electronic, and the older generation can be resistant to change.

Senya said the Township took a full year to slowly transition over to the e-newsletter and provided plenty of advance notification to the residents about the change. When the Board voted to discontinue the printed newsletter it was a decision that was sound in judgment, well thought-out and well planned. It’s not environmentally responsible to return to a printed newsletter.

Marty said he is not in favor of needlessly spending money but the facts are that 30% of the residents are over 65, there has been a noticeable drop-off in Park & Rec program participation rates, and not many residents have signed up for Constant Contact. Marty said a return to a printed newsletter is realistic under the circumstances. Items put into a printed newsletter reach the residents. The change back to a printed newsletter will not be forever, but can serve as a bridge to a future time when more people are signed up for Constant Contact.

Marty moved to return to issuing a printed newsletter using Hometown Press as the service for the near future. Chuck seconded the motion.

Senya said this will not serve as a bridge but a crutch. There is no supporting data that the residents want a printed newsletter back. Senya said he has yet to hear even one resident say

they wish the Township would mail out newsletters out again. He also said he is opposed to the advertising in the Hometown Press publications. However, if the majority of the Board wants to return to a printed and mailed newsletter it's his opinion that a service with ads should not be utilized but the Township should be do the work itself, as in the past. Senya said having a printed newsletter mailed to residents is an old-fashioned, out-of-date idea which is inconsistent with the example East Goshen strives to set for the county, state, and nation.

Marty said he respectfully disagreed with Senya's eloquent arguments against publishing a newsletter. Marty would like the staff to find out how many municipalities in the local area still publish newsletters.

Janet said she wished to speak in defense of older residents – not all of them want a printed newsletter. At one of her campaign events in Hershey's Mill, Carmen asked the attendees how many were in favor of a printed newsletter coming back and the consensus was that they are content with the electronic version. (It was noted however, that this was a sampling of approximately 40 individuals and not representative of all seniors in the Township.)

Carmen said he has spoken to quite a few individuals who have stated they prefer the printed newsletters. One reason is they like to have a list of trash days they can cut out and post on their refrigerator. At least if the Township gives the Hometown Press a try, the staff and Board can get a feel for how it is received, and a postcard survey form can be put into the newsletter to get feedback from residents. It won't cost much money to try this out for one issue.

Chuck said on a personal level he is in favor of return to hard copy newsletters because they are nice to have around as a reference. With so few residents signed up for Constant Contact, he is in favor of trying out the Hometown Press service. This may bridge the gap as Marty stated earlier.

Senya asked Rick how many residents are on Constant Contact and Rick said approximately 2,200. Senya noted that number has grown from only 300 members two years ago.

Senya stated again that he is opposed to returning to a printed newsletter, especially one that will have ads. The Township has done as much as possible to crack down on unwanted solicitors so, in a similar vein, it seems to him the Township would not want to subject residents to intrusive ads in their newsletters.

Marty said he is in agreement with Carmen's suggestion to put a postcard survey form into the first issue of the new newsletter to get residential feedback.

*Public Comment: Joanne Morgan* – Noted that the Township map sent out in the Welcome Packet to all new residents has advertisements for local businesses, and no one has ever complained about that. Senya said that's different because the map is free, while the Township newsletter will be paid for with tax dollars. Marty said the cost to the taxpayers will be for the postage only, and will be quite minimal. Jon said it will cost only 24¢ or 25¢ to mail each newsletter at the bulk rate.

Rick noted that per the census, 30% of households do not have access to the internet.

There was no further discussion or public comment. The Board voted 4:1 in favor of the motion. Senya was opposed.

### **Gator Replacement**

The Board reviewed a July 1 request from Public Works Director Mark Miller to replace the Township's Gator vehicle. Marty reminded Rick that he would prefer these types of requests to come through Jon Altshul in future so that Jon can provide the Board with additional information not usually included in Mark's memos.

Marty moved to accept Mark Miller's recommendation to order a replacement Gator from Conway Power Equipment in the amount of \$8,422.23. The money will come from the Capital Reserve. Carmen seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

### **2013-2014 Archery Hunting Program**

Rick summarized the changes to the program recommended by the Deer Committee, the main change being the elimination of the Blackout Period. Carmen said he is opposed to eliminating the Blackout Period as it was added for a reason. There is no use in opening a can of worms and potentially upsetting the residents with such a change at this time. Marty agreed with Carmen and said if something isn't broken there is no need to fix it. This is a very emotionally charged issue that caused a great deal of angst in the Township, and there is no reason to go there again. Besides, allowing hunting during the Blackout Period will not significantly add to the cull, in his opinion. Chuck stated that the reports indicate the harvest has dropped off during the past two years. Carmen noted that hunting takes place at some of the larger private properties, and those results are not added to the official harvest. Senya asked if it's the Board's desire to disregard the recommendation of the Deer Committee. Marty said there is no reason to make the requested change in the program. The Township has made a commitment to the residents and there's no need to go back on that.

Marty moved to approve Resolution 2013-24 outlining the Deer Management Archery Hunting Program for the 2013-2014 hunting season with the exception of the requested changes to the Blackout Period. The Blackout Period will not be eliminated. The Township Manager will check with the local schools to confirm which dates will fall within the Blackout Period. There was no further discussion and no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Plan Scanning**

The Board reviewed a July 8 request from Mark Gordon to hire an intern to work on a project to digitize all large-format plans in the archives. Carmen moved to authorize the staff to hire an intern to develop a project plan and RFP for digitizing all large-format plans in the archives for future reference on the Township's document management system. Chuck seconded the motion.

*Public Comment: Bill Egan, Mill Creek* – Asked if finalized plans are already available in digital format from the county. Rick said only the cover sheets are available at this time, not the plans themselves.

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

### **Any Other Matter**

Open Space Plan – Marty asked Rick the status of this plan. Rick said the RFPs are due at the end of next week. One has been received already.

Friends of East Goshen – Chuck reported that the Friends still do not have official 501(c)3 status yet, and they are continuing to work through IRS red tape. On the positive side, donations for Community Day exceeded the cost of the event. Volunteers are needed to serve on the Friends board due to the resignation of Dr. Clapper and the fact that Chuck and Jon should not remain board members in the long term. Any residents interested in serving should let the Township know.

### **Review of Minutes**

The Board reviewed and corrected the draft minutes of June 4, June 25, and July 2. Senya stated that the minutes would stand approved as corrected.

### **Treasurer's Report**

*See attached Treasurer's Report for July 11, 2013.*

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the current invoices. Marty moved to accept the Treasurer's Report 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.

### **Action List**

Quarterly Comp Plan Goals Report from ABCs – Reports have been received from the Municipal Authority, Commerce Commission, and Planning Commission.

Quarterly Report on Municipal Authority Projects – Lockwood has been graded and seeded. The pipe work has been completed at the Marydell Pump Station and Hershey's Mill Pump Stations and both are in service. A contract has been awarded for work at The Reserve Pump Station.

Quarterly Financial Reports – Marty stated that the Finance Committee would have a report for the Board by their next meeting.

Quarterly Report on I&I – April: a large leak was repaired on the Chester Creek Interceptor. One lateral repair was made in Pin Oaks. Hunt Country was TV'd and cleaned. May: 12,550 ft. of Chester Creek Interceptor was TV'd and 6 repairs were made. June: 2 repairs were made and 25 manhole lids were replaced in Pin Oaks.

Quarterly Review of Right-To-Know Requests – The Board reviewed a report from Nancy Scheiderman. Chuck noted that Signature Information Solutions of Trenton, NJ would no doubt plan to resell the information received from the Township.

Comcast Franchise – Kristin Camp is marking up a draft agreement.

**Public Comments**

Bill Egan of Mill Creek suggested the Township consider orienting one of the new LED billboards so it's visible to drivers along Boot Road, instead of having both signs oriented toward Paoli Pike.

**Correspondence & Reports of Interest**

Senya acknowledged receipt of a letter from the County regarding Housing and Community Department programs. He also acknowledged receipt of letter from the PA DEP approving the Township's Act 101 Recycling Program Performance Grant in the amount of \$29,782.00.

**Meetings & Dates of Importance**

Senya noted the upcoming meetings as listed in the agenda.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Anne Meddings

Recording Secretary

*Attachments: Treasurer's Report*

July 11, 2013

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**2013 RECEIPTS AND BILLS**

**GENERAL FUND**

Real Estate Tax	\$10,543.36
Earned Income Tax	\$11,300.00
Local Service Tax	\$0.00
Transfer Tax	\$68,450.06
General Fund Interest Earned	\$2,471.25
Total Other Revenue	\$399,573.51
Total Receipts:	<u>\$492,338.18</u>

Accounts Payable	\$531,724.89
<u>Electronic Pmts:</u>	
Health Insurance	\$0.00
Credit Card	\$0.00
Postage	\$1,000.00
Debt Service	\$18,082.89
Payroll	\$94,000.00
Total Expenditures:	<u>\$644,807.78</u>

**STATE LIQUID FUELS FUND**

Receipts	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$162.10
Total State Liquid Fuels:	<u>\$162.10</u>

Expenditures:	<u>\$0.00</u>
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**CAPITAL RESERVE**

Interest Earned	<u>\$715.40</u>
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Expenditures:	<u>\$370.37</u>
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**TRANSPORTATION FUND**

Interest Earned	<u>\$290.71</u>
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Expenditures:	<u>\$0.00</u>
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**SEWER OPERATING**

Receipts	\$18,433.82
Interest Earned	\$125.13
Total Sewer:	<u>\$18,558.95</u>

Accounts Payable	\$87,164.84
Debt Service	\$28,837.47
Total Expenditures:	<u>\$116,002.31</u>

**REFUSE**

Receipts	\$5,153.40
Interest Earned	\$54.54
Total Refuse:	<u>\$5,207.94</u>

Expenditures	<u>\$88,075.93</u>
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**SEWER CAPITAL RESERVE**

Interest Earned	<u>\$168.82</u>
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Expenditures	<u>\$0.00</u>
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