

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
October 21 – 7:00pm
Final Approved Minutes**

Present: Chairman Marty Shane, Vice-Chairman Senya D. Isayeff, and Supervisors Carmen Battavio, Chuck Proctor and Janet Emanuel. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, CFO Jon Altshul, Township Solicitor Joseph Brion, and ABC member Erich Meyer (Conservancy Board).

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Marty called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and asked Mr. Brion to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Carmen called for a moment of silence to honor the troops, all those in uniform, their families, and especially those who gave their lives for our country.

Recording of Meeting

West Goshen Resident Irene Benjamin, 1137 Paoli Pike, indicated she would be recording the meeting.

Chairman's Report

Marty announced that Senator Pileggi's office recently informed us that East Goshen had been awarded \$52,500 in grant money to conduct a feasibility study for a pedestrian and bike trail along Paoli Pike. East Goshen's trail would be one of many connecting trails from Philadelphia to Montgomery County.

Janet noted that the Comprehensive Plan Task Force is forging new ground. Tom Comitta has been hired as the new consultant for the plan, which will be completed by the end of 2015.

Public Hearing

The Board conducted a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 225 of the East Goshen Township code, titled, "Vehicles and Traffic," specifically section 225-44, Schedule I to revise the speed limit for the entire length of Paoli Pike within East Goshen Township to be 35 MPH.

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the Ordinance. A court reporter was present and will provide a complete transcript of the proceeding.

WEGO Police Department Financial Committee Findings

Marty asked Janet and Carmen to present the findings from the WEGO Police Department Finance Committee meetings.

Carmen outlined three recommendations:

1. Changing from an 8-hour shift to a 12-hour shift
2. Acquiring Live Scan fingerprinting and CPIN facial recognition systems
3. The use of truck scales on Rt. 202

12-Hour Shifts

Carmen noted that from an operations standpoint, a 12-hour shift schedule makes more sense for the Police Department due to scheduling difficulties with an 8-hr shift. A 12-hour shift would result in less overtime and also not result in weekend shifts being predominantly staffed by part-time officers, which is the case now. He explained that in the long-term, it would be somewhat more expensive to have 12-hour shifts, as we would need to hire two new full-time officers, who become more expensive than part-time officers as they get “step” pay increases, particularly after 5 years.

Janet noted that one problem with having so many part-time officers is that WEGO pays to train them and then they frequently leave for full-time jobs with other departments. She reiterated that there will be better service for the citizens of the Township under the new 12-hour shift plan.

Chief Brenda Bernot said she would see several operational benefits with the new 12-hour shift schedule. She highlighted improved continuity of service, more experienced personnel assigned to every shift, and more managerial flexibility in being able to adjust staffing levels based on the anticipated volume of calls during a shift. In addition, she noted that the officers are supportive of 12 hour shifts. She also added that any change would begin as a pilot program and could be changed if it didn't work. She indicated that she has done ample research on the matter and that, while no police scheduling system is perfect, many municipal police departments have moved towards 12-hour shifts over the past several years with minimal problems.

Senya expressed concern about officer safety and, by extension, community safety if we switched to 12-hour shifts. He wondered whether officers would have the same vigilance and attention to detail over the additional four hours. Rick noted that currently many officers work 16-hour “double” shifts and that this would not occur with 12-hour shifts. Senya also noted that the cost increase is approximately \$350,000 over seven years, or \$50,000 per year.

Marty reminded the Board that we need a Memorandum of Understanding between the Charter Municipalities and the Police Association. Senya stated that it was inappropriate to pass a motion on this issue tonight because this item had not been on the agenda, and also because Carmen had to leave the meeting early and was not available to vote.

Resident Neil DeRiemer, 1034 Hershey Mill Road, asked if the shifts would start and end at the same time. Chief Bernot answered that no, the shifts would be staggered so that all the officers didn't end a shift at exactly the same time.

Resident Tom Rath, 1250 Eastwick Circle, asked how many double shifts our officers work and Chief Bernot answered that there can be up to twenty double shifts in a month. Mr. Rath said if there is more than one officer per shift on a double, then going to the 12-hour shift might improve officers' focus and attention. He asked if this was being done for safety or the convenience of officers. Marty answered that the overriding issue is whether the 12-hour schedule benefits the entire community.

Resident Michelle Truitt, 1430 Grand Oak Lane, had several questions for the Board. She asked how many shifts in a row the Officers could take. Chief Bernot answered 5 shifts on and one off, or sometimes 10 shifts on and one off. Mrs. Truitt asked if the Officers were willing to go to a 12 hour shift schedule and the Chief answered yes. Mrs. Truitt asked about the cost of insurance benefits and increases and Janet answered that health insurance is included in the \$50,000 per year cost increase mentioned earlier.

Scales

Janet explained that WEGO rents truck scales to weigh trucks passing through the Route 202 and 3 corridors. WEGO finds that 40% of the trucks stopped are overweight or do not meet federal standards and are taken out of service. The WEGO Finance Committee is recommending that rather than WEGO handle this issue alone, which affects a much larger geographical area than the WEGO service area, that all police departments in the area play a role in this initiative, facilitated by the West Chester Council of Governments (COG). Rick replied that COG has asked the COG chiefs of police to see if it is possible to do this on a regional basis. \$6,000 is included in the budget for scale rental, but the Committee thinks this should be COG-wide program.

Senya noted that this affects not only Westtown and East Goshen, but also the entire region, because the trucks might re-route around the scales on Route 202 and run through neighboring communities. He sees it not only as a cost issue, but as doing the right thing for all our neighboring communities.

Chuck said that he has noticed an increase in truck traffic very early or late at night because the truck drivers know that our police are monitoring Route 202 during the day. He added that we do collect a fine for trucks that do not meet standards, which produces some revenue. Marty also noted our traffic unit is small, and if they are the only unit enforcing truck standards on Route 202, they are not available to do regular policing in the Township. He related a tragic story about a friend who was hit and killed by a truck that should have been taken out of service.

Marty reiterated that we should not have to fund and patrol the trucks on Route 202 with no support from other Townships. He likes the idea of working together regionally, but has many questions about how it would be managed so that every community participates equally.

West Goshen Resident Irene Benjamin, Paoli Pike, stated that she was afraid of the trucks on Paoli Pike. She risks her life going out on the street because the trucks are skirting around Route 202 and speeding by her house. She thanked the Board for addressing this

issue. Senya suggested she attend either a West Goshen Township meeting or a COG meeting and tell her story. Rick added that she could send a letter about her concerns to Casey LaLonde, West Goshen's Township Manager.

Livescan/CPIN

Janet explained that it was the Finance Committee's recommendation for WEGO to explore grant opportunities for Livescan (for fingerprinting) and CPIN (photo imaging network) systems and at the same time budget \$25,000 in the sinking fund as "matching funds" should a grant become available in 2015, as an alternative to budgeting the full \$50,000 expense for the systems. She indicated that often grants become available very quickly and it might not be practical for the Boards of the two Townships to quickly reach an agreement about matching funds in the future.

Janet explained that it was the Chief's recommendation to purchase Livescan and CPIN systems, rather than continuing to contract with West Goshen for these services. She noted that the Chief has concerns about the risk to officers' safety of transporting suspects from our station to West Goshen.

Senya said that we did not need to budget funds for this purpose if we are going to pursue grant funding and that the Board would be able to match grant funds in plenty of time. Marty agreed that even if the money is not in the budget, the two Boards can agree to allocate funds. Janet reiterated that the money did not need to be spent; it was there just in case a quick turnover of funds was needed.

Senya reiterated that the Board should not make a decision on either matter tonight, both because Carmen was no longer present and because the matter was not on the agenda.

Janet added that if both Boards agree with the recommendations, the Finance Committee can complete its work; if not, then both Boards should get together to discuss these issues.

Police/EMS Report

Chief Brenda Bernot announced that the Police Department is half-way through its Citizen's Police Academy. She noted that the Police Department news can always be found on its website at www.westtownpolice.org.

There were several trends in police activity. There are still phone scams going on, for example the IRS, Craigslist, and Granny scams, mostly targeting Senior Citizens. Due to the efforts of the Police in informing those citizens of the scams, no one has been successfully scammed in two to three months. Another trend involves criminal mischief involving mailboxes and vehicles. Also, she noted that there are still thefts from vehicles occurring regularly and encouraged residents to lock car doors and remove valuables. There have also been traffic complaints in areas along N. Chester Road, E. Boot Road, and E. Strasburg Road.

Mr. Rath informed Chief Bernot that he recently observed a car driving through the sewer easement at the cul-de-sac on Eastwick Circle and asked whether anything could be done to prevent that in the future. Chief Bernot answered that she would look into the matter.

Rick reported that the Malvern Fire Company had responded to a small fire.

Consider PECO Substation

Rick reported that he had recently met with *resident Ed Davidson, Malvern*, who owns a rental property across from the PECO Substation at Rt. 352 and Strasburg Roads, and Greg Cary from PECO. Greg will have a plan for new trees and shrubs at the 11/18 Board meeting. Marty added some history about the PECO Substation issue for the benefit of the residents in the audience.

Consider Hershey's Mill Dam

Neil DeRiemer, representing the Friends of the Hershey Mill Dam, informed the Board that he had contacted our local State Senators' offices to ask for guidance in finding grants for the Hershey's Mill Dam project. Marty said the Board would send out a letter explaining the Hershey's Mill Dam issue and inviting public input. Mr. DeRiemer asked how many households we have on Constant Contact and Marty replied that out of 8,500 households we have about 2,000 on Constant Contact. Marty also asked Mr. DeRiemer to write a letter for the Township newsletter by October 30. Marty added that we need to have money by the end of next year in order to go out for bid at the beginning of 2016. Mr. DeRiemer will attend the November 18th Board of Supervisors meeting with more information.

Resident Fran Beck, 1225 Foxglove Lane, asked about the letters the Township would send about the Hershey's Mill Dam issue. Marty replied that they could send a letter to all households within 1,000 ft. from the dam. Mr. Beck said that was a limited area. Marty replied that the message would also go out via Constant Contact and be posted on the website.

Consider Amendments to Defined Contribution Pension Plan

Jon Altshul reported that Jim Kennedy from Anderson & Associates (our pension consultant) recommended that we change several provisions in our DC plan document that were either ambiguous or not in compliance with recent case law. The Township's labor attorney drafted amendments to the plan, which Jon outlined.

Marty moved to accept the resolution to approve the amendments to the Defined Contribution Pension Plan. Senya seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Consider Fee Schedule

Rick explained that the Township incurs a cost in recording stormwater agreements with the County. Accordingly, he recommended that the Township impose a fee to recover the Township's expenses from homeowners or developers subject to the stormwater ordinance.

Marty made a motion to adopt the amended fee resolution. Chuck seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to accept the resolution.

Any Other Matter

Mr. Rath informed the Board that when Morstein Rd. was recently re-paved, Public Works left a bump where Eastwick Circle and Morstein Road meet. Rick said he would ask Mark Miller to look at it.

Pennsylvania State Representative Dan Truitt, discussed House Bill 1565 with the Board. HB 1565 would substantially reduce the amount of riparian buffer for construction near non-impaired streams. Rep Truitt explained to the Board why he voted for the bill, despite the letter he recently received from the East Goshen Board of Supervisors urging him to vote against it. Rep Truitt stated that his colleague Chris Ross, who represents an adjacent district in Chester County, added an amendment to the bill that would require developers to replace any removed riparian buffer with another buffer at another point along the stream, so that the net effect of the impact of the construction was mitigated. Rep Truitt explained to the Board that he only voted for the bill because of this amendment which, in his view, which would not cause environmental degradation in Pennsylvania watersheds.

Approval of Minutes

The Board agreed to defer approval of the minutes for the 9/30 and the 10/7 BOS meetings to the October 28th meeting.

Treasurer's Report

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. Senya seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Action List

Rick discussed the Action List for the Board. Of note, he will send the ABCs the quarterly Comp Plan report; the Act 537 plan was sent to DEP on August 25th; and Public Works televised and cleaned 14,000 feet of pipe in the 3rd quarter and identified and replaced or repaired various sections of pipe, manhole covers and sewer caps.

The Action List will no longer be listed on the Agenda. Instead, Rick will provide the Board with a Pending Issues list, but it will not be acknowledged at the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Pam Pastorino

Recording Secretary

Attachments: Treasurer's Report

October 17, 2014

**TREASURER'S REPORT
2014 RECEIPTS AND BILLS**

GENERAL FUND

Real Estate Tax	\$871.85	Accounts Payable	\$613,667.00
Earned Income Tax	\$96,388.51	<u>Electronic Pmts:</u>	
Local Service Tax	\$908.55	Health Insurance	\$42,748.08
Transfer Tax	\$43,998.57	Credit Card	\$0.00
<i>General Fund Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00	Postage	\$0.00
Total Other Revenue	\$569,378.22	Debt Service	\$198,494.05
Total Receipts:	\$711,545.70	Payroll	\$105,468.78
		Total Expenditures:	\$960,377.91

STATE LIQUID FUELS FUND

Receipts	\$0.00		
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total State Liquid Fuels:	\$0.00	Expenditures:	\$0.00

SINKING FUND

<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00	Expenditures:	\$72,652.38
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TRANSPORTATION FUND

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

Receipts	\$99,273.93	Accounts Payable	\$46,266.30
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00	Debt Service	\$112,720.07
Total Sewer:	\$99,273.93	Credit Card	\$0.00
		Total Expenditures:	\$158,986.37

REFUSE FUND

Receipts	\$30,671.97		
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total Refuse:	\$30,671.97	Expenditures	\$56,589.28

SEWER SINKING FUND

<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00	Expenditures	\$0.00
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OPERATING RESERVE FUND

Receipts	\$0.00	Expenditures	\$0.00
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Events Fund

Receipts	\$0.00	Expenditures	\$0.00
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