

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020
FINAL MINUTES**

Present: Chairman Marty Shane; Vice-Chairman David Shuey; Members Michele Truitt, John Hertzog and Mike Lynch; Township Manager Rick Smith; Assistant Township Manager and Finance Director Jon Altshul; Leo Sinclair and Erich Meyer (Conservancy Board); Police Chief Brenda Bernot

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Marty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked David to lead the pledge of allegiance. David also called for a moment of silence in honor of our troops and first responders.

Recording

Marty reported that the meeting was being livestreamed on the Township's YouTube channel.

Chairman's Report

Marty reported that the Board met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting for a police labor matter; that the Zoning Hearing Board will conduct a public hearing concerning the Malvern Institute on April 23, 2020, at 7pm; and that the Milltown Dam Hazard Reduction and Reservoir Enhancement application was submitted to PA DEP on February 18, 2020.

Westtown East Goshen Police Report

Chief Bernot reported that today's standoff at the Quality Inn in West Goshen Township had ended minutes earlier with the arrest of a murder suspect and that WEGO provided back-up support to West Goshen Police. She noted that the return of warm weather typically causes an increase in vehicle thefts and noted that a vehicle had recently been stolen in East Goshen. She also reported that WEGO's charity drive for children impacted by domestic violence and addiction was very successful and thanked residents for their generosity.

Chief Bernot made a statement about the professionalism and responsiveness of the WEGO officers.

Public Comment

Abbas Rahbari, 1613 Manley Road, accused the Westtown East Goshen Police Department of corruption. He described his recent experience at the police station when he complained about speeding on his street and his interaction with police personnel. He continued his allegations that the police department is corrupt and only interested in protecting its officers.

Marty asked Mr. Rahbari to clarify if he was accusing the police department of corruption or the Township as a whole, to which Mr. Rahbari noted potential building code violations in the Township Building and at the Township Manager's personal property.

Marty asked Mr. Rahbari what he was asking the Board to do. Mr. Rahbari noted that he has filed many right-to-know requests with the police department. Chief Bernot stated that that Mr. Rahbari has filed approximately 15 right-to-know requests. Of these, WEGO has responded to about half, while the remaining requests are under review by WEGO's attorney.

Mr. Rahbari noted that the glass window on the second floor of the Township building is not shatter proof, that the protective railing in front of the window is not sufficient, and that the treads in the stairwell need to be replaced. He also recommended investigating the Township Manager's personal residence for code violations.

Mike Ivey, 36 Hill St, stated that rumors that a police detective had called Mr. Rahbari a "terrorist" were false and that he wanted to set the record straight.

Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report

David made a motion to approve the minutes of February 18, 2020 as corrected. John seconded.

Mr. Rahbari asked whether minutes could be amended after they were adopted.

The motion passed 5-0.

David made a motion to accept the receipts and approve the expenditures as presented in the Expenditure Register and as summarized in the February 27, 2020, Treasurer's Report. John seconded.

Mr. Rahbari asked about the Township's internal controls and segregation of duties in its financial operations, to which Jon provided a brief overview.

The motion passed 5-0.

Consider Applying for a Grant for a Gas Leak Detector

In response to concerns raised at the last meeting, Jon clarified that attachable drag tubes are included as part of the regular equipment. Mike made a motion to authorize staff to apply for funding through the Energy Transfer First Responder Fund for two gas leak detectors and calibration equipment. Michele seconded.

Mr. Rahbari asked about whether Township officials would be trained on how to use the detectors. Jon responded that training was included.

The motion passed 5-0.

Consider Parking Restrictions on Larch Lane

Jon explained that the Fire Marshall, the Westtown-East Goshen Police Department and Township staff are of the opinion that the parking conditions on Larch Lane do not pose a public safety issue and recommended that the Township not restrict parking on that street at this time. David stated that residents should contact the police department if they are ever concerned about parking on Larch Lane.

John Pizzo, 1402 Larch Lane indicated that he thinks 600 Reservoir Road is being operated as a bed and breakfast.

Mr. Rahbari asked whether Mr. Pizzo has a permit to operate his home-based business.

Leo Sinclair suggested that the Township follow up on whether parking restrictions on Larch Lane are warranted again at a later time.

Consider 2020 ABC Goals

Marty acknowledged Rick's memo on 2020 ABC Goals and thanked him for his efforts. Michele made a motion to adopt the 2020 ABC Goals. John seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Rahbari asked if the memo was available on the website, to which Rick responded that it was included in the agenda for tonight's meeting, which is on the website.

Consider Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement for 1210 Burning Bush Lane

Mike made a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute the Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement for 1210 Burning Bush Lane. Michele seconded.

Mr. Rahbari asked for clarification on what this agreement does, which Rick provided.

Consider Resolution 2020-191 on Disposal of Township Records

John made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-191 on Disposal of Township Records. Michele seconded.

Mr. Rahbari suggested that the Township retain its records longer. Jon explained that electronic copies of all invoices are kept in perpetuity.

The motion passed 5-0.

Consider Replacing Stair Treads

Jon summarized his memo recommending that the front and side stairwells be retread for \$8,437. Mike raised concerns about the cost. Michele suggested asking Bob Wagner's to lower its price. David made a motion to authorize Bob Wagner's Flooring America to retread the front and side stairwells of the Township Building for \$8,437. Marty seconded.

Mr. Rahbari stated that this price is too high and that Public Works could repair the top stair in the front stairwell for \$10.

Leo asked if the Township had a copy of the itemized price quote. Jon said that Mark Miller had a copy.

The motion did not pass by a vote of 2-3, with Michele, Mike and John opposed.

David made a motion to ask staff to report back to the Board with a new recommendation about the stairwells. Mike seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Consider Implementation of Renewable Energy Strategies

Jon summarized his memo about implementing the various strategies outlined in Cadmus's Energy Transition Report for the Council of Governments. David made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the report and forward it in its final version to the Sustainability Advisory Committee for its recommendations so that the Board could act on the matter at its first meeting in April. Michele seconded.

Mike stated that Cadmus's report was well done and that the initiative is a noble one. John raised concerns about the cost of implementing many of the clean energy strategies, and indicated that as a society we will get to clean energy through scientific breakthroughs, not legislative mandates. Marty also expressed concern about the cost of implementing these strategies. David noted that all positive change at the federal and state level begins at the local level. He noted that the Sustainability Advisory Committee would be hosting a panel discussion on residential clean energy improvements on March 24. Michele stated that change begins with individuals, not necessarily the Township. Jon noted that based on the recent experience of other Pennsylvania municipalities, the Township could realize substantial energy savings costs by being part of a regional Power Purchase Agreement.

Joe Buonanno, 1606 Herron Lane, stated that future technological breakthroughs, such as nanotechnology, could have major impacts on how energy is generated, and that the Township should do present value analysis when evaluating the strategies.

Mr. Rahbari stated that the West Chester Area School District is having difficulty maintaining some of its clean energy investments and reiterated that future technologies could have a major impact on clean energy.

David stated that the Township would do its homework on clean energy investments, but that we cannot sit around and wait for technology to improve.

The motion passed 5-0.

Any Other Matter

Jon provided an update on what the Township is doing with respect to preparing for the Coronavirus. He noted that the Chester County Department of Health will be taking the lead locally on the matter.

Jon also reported that due to aging infrastructure, stormwater pipes along both Enterprise Drive and Taylor Avenue would need to be replaced soon.

Public Comment

Mr. Rahbari refuted Mr. Ivey's earlier statement that a police detective had not made disparaging remarks about Mr. Rahbari.

He also encouraged the Township to invest in charcoal impregnated filters for its HVAC system to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

Adjournment

There being no further business, David made a motion to adjourn at 8:48. John seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Altshul

Recording Secretary

Attached: February 27, 2020 Treasurer's Report

TREASURER'S REPORT		February 14, 2020 - February 27, 2020	
RECEIPTS AND BILLS			
GENERAL FUND			
Real Estate Tax	\$197,894.30	Accounts Payable	\$110,718.25
Earned Income Tax	\$60,000.00	<u>Electronic Pmts:</u>	
Local Service Tax	\$3,500.00	Credit Card	\$7,088.56
Transfer Tax	\$0.00	Postage	\$0.00
<i>General Fund Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00	Debt Service	\$5,413.95
Total Other Revenue	\$86,002.15	Payroll	\$123,633.95
Total General Fund Receipts:	\$347,396.45	Total Expenditures:	\$246,854.71
STATE LIQUID FUELS FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total State Liquid Fuels Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$5,353.84
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total Capital Reserve Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$5,353.84
TRANSPORTATION FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total Transportation Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
SEWER OPERATING FUND			
Receipts	\$248,189.10	Accounts Payable	\$22,719.54
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00	<u>Electronic Pmts:</u>	
		Credit Card	\$299.95
		Debt Service	\$25,377.21
Total Sewer Operating Fund Receipts:	\$248,189.10	Total Expenditures:	\$48,396.70
REFUSE FUND			
Receipts	\$79,980.33	Accounts Payable	\$13,919.42
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total Refuse Fund Receipts:	\$79,980.33	Total Expenditures:	\$13,919.42
BOND FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
<i>Interest Earned</i>	-\$3.00		
Total Bond Fund Receipts:	-\$3.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
SEWER CAPITAL RESERVE FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total Sewer Capital Reserve Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
OPERATING RESERVE FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
<i>Interest Earned</i>	\$0.00		
Total Operating Reserve Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00