

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
TUESDAY, September 21, 2021
FINAL MINUTES**

Note: This meeting was held in person at the East Goshen Township Board Room.

Present: Chairman David Shuey; Members: John Hertzog, Michele Truitt; Township Manager Derek Davis; Senior Staff Accountant Chris Boylan, Chief Brenda Bernot, Fire Marshal Carmen Battavio, Tom Kilburn (Sustainability), Erich Meyer (Conservancy), Christina Morley (Pipeline Task Force).

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

David Shuey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. David led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Michele Truitt asked for a moment of silence for the WEGO Police, Goshen Fire Company and all those who serve our community.

David announced that the meeting is being recorded and livestreamed on YouTube

Chairman's Report

- a. East Goshen Township was a National Recreation & Park Association Gold Medal Finalist for 3rd year in a row.
- b. Budget Workshop #2 will take place next Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00 PM and will focus on all other funds besides the General Fund, which was discussed at our September 14th Workshop.
- c. Township Yard Sale is Saturday October 2. Residents in condos/apartments/gated communities should call to reserve a spot at Township Building. All other Residents call to get their house on the map that will be published.
- d. Our Food Truck and Music Festival will take place at East Goshen Park on Saturday, October 16 at 2:30-6:30 PM.
- e. Received \$2,500 grant for beekeeping. The grant will be used to purchase basic bee protection clothing.

Public Hearing - None

Emergency Services Reports

Chief Brenda Bernot reported that WEGO will be participating in Faith & Blue National initiative which encourages police departments to create events and outreach through local congregations in an effort to engage with community. WEGO will also participate in Cones with a Cop, which fosters positive interaction with the community. Chief Bernot shared East Goshen statistics. Chief encouraged residents to be active with police and encouraged residents to attend the Police Commission meeting, which is held every 4th Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is at 4PM on 9/22, held in the Training Room of Police Department. Beginning in October, police meetings will be videotaped and broadcast the next day.

Fire Marshal Carmen Battavio thanked the Township, Board and everyone involved in the Bellingham bee hives initiative and the award bestowed upon him. Carmen reported August 2021 information for Goshen Fire Co., Malvern Fire Co., and Good Fellowship. Carmen reported the turnout at the Goshen Fair was phenomenal.

Financial Report

Chris Boylan presented the August 2021 Financial Report.

Approval of Minutes

Michele made a motion to approve the minutes of September 7, 2021.

John seconded.

Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Michele made a motion to accept the receipts and approve the expenditures as presented in the Expenditure Register and as summarized in the September 16, 2021 Treasurer's Report.

John seconded.

Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business

Legislative/Congressional update from Scott Nelson, Senior Constituent Advocate for U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan.

Derek introduced Scott Nelson to give a legislative update. The purpose for his visit was to educate constituents on how representatives in Washington can help them. Mr. Nelson explained that this district has 92 municipalities. Mr. Nelson mentioned that, following Hurricane Ida, residents can access the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center, which opened in Downingtown Ashbridge Square Shop Center. This office is open Monday through Saturday and residents can call 1-800-621-3362 or access the app named FEMA. Disaster Relief is available for small businesses and the numbers to call are 800-462-7585 or 800-659-2955. Rep. Houlahan's office has special designated liaisons for matters that residents face. The Representative's office also helps Townships with grant applications. They offer educational opportunities including Congressional internships for college students or recent college graduates. Their office also nominates students to service academies. Mr. Nelson shared the American Rescue Plan highlights.

Michele asked when Capitol tours will resume. Mr. Nelson did not have that information.

Michele asked if National Monument is open. Mr. Nelson responded to check the web for what is open in Washington. Most exhibits offer timed entrance. Michele encouraged residents who are veterans, who may not have been realizing various benefits, to reach out to Rep. Houlahan's office so they can assist in getting what our veterans deserve.

Mr. Nelson mentioned that if residents would like a flag flown over Capitol, their office can arrange and get the flag to you afterwards. Rep. Houlahan's office is open in DC for residents to visit.

David asked when public assistance will be available for Tropical Storm Ida damage. Mr. Nelson stated the FEMA office in Downingtown would be best able to assist.

Mr. Frank, 451 Gateswood, explained a situation regarding someone's tax refund that was filed electronically last year and took five months to receive. They contacted Representative Houlahan's office with no response. Mr. Frank questioned how tax returns be handled for 2021. Mr. Nelson explained the work at home situation is not ideal and there have been an enormous amount of retirements. Training new staff takes time, however Congress has attributed funds to this cause and they are seeing returns expedited.

Consideration of Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) for township energy consumption in conjunction with the West Chester Area Council of Governments (WCACoG).

Derek explained this was discussed at previous Board of Supervisors meetings and WCACoG meetings and the concept was to come up with a group effort to contract for purchasing clean energy at a good price. Derek stated that he received guidance from legal regarding this item.

Michele commented that she is not willing to enter this contract for 15 years for anything and considering the price is locked for only 3 years. Michele would want to change the motion. David asked if rate could change after 3 years. Derek confirmed. David explained the historical rates were at \$81/megawatt in 2011, currently at \$47/megawatt, this contract is at \$51/megawatt. David indicated this agreement is to fund green infrastructure.

David stated the draft motion is to authorize East Goshen Township Manager Derek Davis to execute a 15-year Clean Energy Purchase Power Agreement and initial 3-year energy supply contract commencing in 2024 in conjunction with WCACOG municipalities at a rate not to exceed \$51/megawatt.

Bill Guyer, 1561 Tanglewood, described how he would look at this. Mr. Guyer mentioned to consider labor savings along with increase cost. Possibly look at risk mitigation for years 3-15.

David explained that this consideration is betting that carbon-based energy is going to be more that clean energy and hope the rate stays low.

John explained if the rates ended up being lower, they (PPA) could still charge more.

Russ Frank, 451 Gateswood, asked if there is a take or pay in this contract. Derek explained it is based on usage.

Joe Buonanno, 1606 Herron, commented that nanocrystal electricity is here and will be on an individual unit basis and the only thing to do is pay for the capital costs. Mr. Buonanno stated instead of investing in something that will be obsolete, ensure that expenditures will be correct.

John seconded.

John cannot support a 15-year commitment with open-ended costs.

Motion failed 1-2, with Michele and John opposed.

Consider submitting application, due September 24, for PA DCED's 902 grant program, specifically for the purchase of new recycling toters.

David explained the lidded toter pilot program included 100 lidded toters. This program would provide lidded toters and would assist in increased recycling. Derek explained the grant would pay 90% of costs. The 65 gallon toter would be standard with a 40 gallon toter also available. Application deadline is this Friday.

John inquired as to the size of the container and stated he would not use it. John asked how much this would cost the Township. Derek responded \$19K and it could be used for distribution purposes.

Michele mentioned the SAC was responsible for maintaining the plastic bag recycling program and it was difficult for them to get volunteers. They were also treated poorly by residents. Michele commented that Blosenski may institute automated lift service in the future, which is not fair to residents. Some of our residents are unable to place large toters at the curb. This program is an additional cost to the refuse and recycling program that would get passed on to residents. Michele stated that it is great to have a recycling effort, but there are ways to recycle individually.

David commented that it was his understanding this would be voluntary. He commented that this would not be included in refuse but passed indirectly through taxes.

Michele made a motion to authorize no more than \$19,000 in matching funds towards a DCED 902 grant to fund the Township's Wheeled Toter Recycling program and authorize application.

John seconded.

Tom Kilburn, 312 Jefferson, stated this is an opportunity to provide something of value to residents. Mr. Kilburn commented that if the Board decides not to go ahead with this program, they are leaving money on the table that could be passed along to our residents. He feels it is short-sighted not to take advantage of this grant.

Russ Frank, 451 Gateswood, inquired if he chooses to have the toter and it stays with the house, how will toter be tracked. Michele is unsure if there is a chip in the toter. Derek stated he does not believe that is part of the proposal. Mr. Frank commented that he sees a small benefit to this initiative.

Motion failed 1-2, with Michele and John opposed.

New Business

Consider approval of proposal from New Era Technology for AV upgrades to the main meeting room.

Derek explained that \$35K is allotted from the ARPA Funds to enhance the Board Room AV equipment upgrades with a hybrid setup to allow virtual interaction. Three proposals were received for this project.

Michele made a motion to accept the New Era Technology proposal of \$34,571.20 for Main Meeting Room AV upgrades and authorize the Township Manager to sign said proposal and start the implementation process.

John seconded.

David clarified that this will be covered by the COVID relief funds. The additional TV would enhance residents viewing in the Board Room, but not the hybrid view. Derek stated the current TV display can be tied in to the system.

John supports this motion because all boards and committees can benefit from this. Michele added that it would also benefit the Parks & Rec activities.

Russ Frank asked if this will improve the current YouTube delay. Derek responded the delay is due to YouTube, but Zoom will allow interactivity. Derek explained that we would need to give residents access to Zoom, while protecting from hackers. Mr. Frank asked what the retention policy of recordings would be. Derek explained Zoom will be uploaded to YouTube and the library would be stored in YouTube. Derek is not familiar with YouTube retention policy and would need to look into it. Michele clarified the Township Code specifies the township minutes must be kept in a three-ring binder. Michele suggested to ask PSATS for feedback. Derek confirmed there are no state laws but possibly best practices that can be followed.

Motion carried 3-0.

Consider request from the Pipeline Task Force (PTF) to send comments to the Chester County Emergency Management Coordinator.

Michele made a motion to allow the East Goshen Pipeline Task Force to submit their requested comments to Chester County's Emergency Management Coordinator and/or any other individual deemed appropriate at the county's Department of Emergency Services.

John seconded.

David explained the PTF comments are regarding how certain pipelines are classified with regard to the impact level. The PTF felt the levels are too low and they are encouraging the County to increase the levels.

Motion carried 3-0.

John thanked Christina for the comments.

Consider Resolution 2021-208, a Declaration of Disaster due to Tropical Storm Ida.

Michele made a motion to execute Resolution 2021-208, a Declaration of Disaster due to Tropical Storm Ida.

John seconded.

David inquired if we have made an effort to quantify our damages. Derek explained we have a solid understanding of Township damages. David asked if we submitted to insurance. Derek explained the biggest hit we took was at Hershey's Mill Dam, however, the contractor is still working on it and hasn't turned it over to the Township yet. The smaller issues were not submitted to insurance yet.

John asked if there was any chance that Disaster Relief could include hours worked. Derek explained that FEMA does include hours worked. Michele asked if there is a monetary amount identified for damage. Derek estimated approximately \$30K for damage at Hershey's Mill Dam and other damages around \$5-6K.

Joe Buonanno, 1606 Herron, stated that we should look at builders risk and property exclusions.

Motion carried 3-0.

Any Other Matter

John recognized the Parks & Rec Commission and Jason Lang for their work on the Art Walk. It was very well attended. John mentioned they also presented a plaque and bench to Janet Emmanuel, who served the Township for 40 years. Michele echoed John's comments.

Michele stated that the fire Carmen mentioned in his report earlier was located at Metropolitan Apartments, not Windermere.

Public Comment -None

Liaison Reports - None

Correspondence

David acknowledged an email received from resident, Bill Guyer, regarding his recommendations of general township processes.

David said great compliments on Community Day and Art Walk and we appreciate it.

Adjournment

With an executive session being conducted after this meeting, and there being no further business, John made a motion to adjourn at 8:18 pm. Michele seconded.

Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Boylan
Recording Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT		September 2, 2021 - September 16, 2021	
RECEIPTS AND BILLS			
GENERAL FUND			
Real Estate Tax	\$1,257.14	Accounts Payable	\$206,389.48
Earned Income Tax	\$190,640.16	Electronic Pmts:	
Local Service Tax	\$12,193.30	Credit Card	\$9,955.35
Transfer Tax	\$104,126.47	Postage	\$0.00
General Fund Interest Earned	\$0.00	Debt Service	\$0.00
Total Other Revenue	\$37,110.69	Payroll	\$218,806.57
Total General Fund Receipts:	\$345,327.76	Total Expenditures:	\$435,151.40
STATE LIQUID FUELS FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total State Liquid Fuels Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND			
Receipts	\$53,301.82	Accounts Payable	\$53,460.77
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total Capital Reserve Fund Receipts:	\$53,301.82	Total Expenditures:	\$53,460.77
TRANSPORTATION FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$26.93		
Total Transportation Fund Receipts:	\$26.93	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
SEWER OPERATING FUND			
Receipts	\$37,705.04	Accounts Payable	\$32,253.51
Interest Earned	\$0.00	Electronic Pmts:	
		Credit Card	\$813.66
		Debt Service	\$0.00
Total Sewer Operating Fund Receipts:	\$37,705.04	Total Expenditures:	\$33,067.17
REFUSE FUND			
Receipts	\$12,465.34	Accounts Payable	\$723.92
Interest Earned	\$0.00	Credit Card	\$70,495.16
Total Refuse Fund Receipts:	\$12,465.34	Total Expenditures:	\$71,219.08
BOND FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$30,732.29
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total Bond Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$30,732.29
SEWER CAPITAL RESERVE FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total Sewer Capital Reserve Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
OPERATING RESERVE FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total Operating Reserve Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00
ARPA - COVID RELIEF FUND			
Receipts	\$0.00	Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00		
Total ARPA - COVID Relief Fund Receipts:	\$0.00	Total Expenditures:	\$0.00