

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
Township Municipal Building, Stokes Assembly Hall, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown
January 7, 2008 7:30PM

In attendance were Supervisors Chair Thomas A. Foster, Vice Chair Carol R. De Wolf, and Police Commissioner Charles P. Barber; Township Manager Robert Layman; Township Solicitor Patrick McKenna; Township Building Inspector John Wilson; Township Roadmaster Mark Gross; and Township Planning Commission member Jim Lees. There were sixteen guests in attendance.

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I. Call to Order.

As there was a quorum present Chairman Mr. Foster called the meeting to order at 7:42PM.

II. Approval of Minutes (December 17, 2007 Regular Meeting).

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2007 regular meeting. Mr. Foster asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

III. Departmental Reports.

A. Township Building Inspector – John Wilson.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the December Building Report. He stated that he has sent approximately 300 letters to residents who have trees or shrubs in the right-of-way that need to be trimmed as the trees are causing problems during snow removal. Mr. Wilson stated that the residents have been very cooperative about trimming the trees. Ms. De Wolf advised Mr. Wilson that she has received calls from residents who indicated that their letters were dated after the date that the work was to be done and also calls from residents who feel the Township should be responsible for the trees. She asked Mr. Wilson for a list of the residents who were sent letters. Ms. De Wolf stated that the Board had discussed Mr. Wilson's memo concerning the licensing of contractors at the workshop and asked if this would include sub-contractors. Mr. Wilson responded that the license would only be for the general contractor.

B. Township Roadmaster- Mark Gross.

Mr. Gross reviewed the December Road Report. He reported that the snow/ice contractors were only needed for one ice storm last month. He also stated that the Department has been doing fall cleanup in Oakbourne Park. Mr. Gross said that thermal imaging inspections have been done on the electrical panels in the pump stations and the Westtown- Chester Creek plant. This process needs to be done once a year in order to determine any possible failures. He stated that a breaker in the Pleasant Grove Pump Station will need to be replaced. Mr. Gross stated that the Township has a proposal from URS for manhole repairs but the Department will be able to do this work in house. Mr. Foster stated that the Board discussed the I & I work at the workshop and Mr. Layman will be reviewing this with Mr. Gross as to what work can be done by the Department..

C. Township Planning Commission – Jim Lees.

Mr. Lees stated that the December 19th Planning Commission had been canceled. He stated at this week's meeting the Commission will be drafting their recommendations on both the Presby Homes and Crebilly Farms Conditional Use Hearings. Mr. Foster asked if anyone from the Commission will be available to present testimony at the Presby Homes Hearing on January 21st. Mr. Lees responded that a member would be in attendance.

D. Parks Advisory Group.

Mr. Layman stated that the December 12, 2007 Parks Advisory Group meeting had been canceled. The Parks Advisory Group will be meeting this Thursday at 8:30Am at the Township Office.

IV. Public Comment Non-Agenda Items.

Eric and Lois Rohrbach, 314 Oakbourne Road, expressed their surprise and displeasure concerning the letter from the Supervisors pertaining to the increase in taxes. Mr. Rohrbach said looking at the empty seats in the audience he realizes that he should have been in attendance before the Township reached this position. He stated that he had asked for Township financial data and has received most of what he asked for. He asked who he could speak with concerning the Township's debt, Mr. Foster advised Mr. Rohrbach to discuss this with the Township Manager. Ms. De Wolf stated that Mr. Layman understands the debt as this was one of his concerns when he took the position. She also stated that the debt was incurred prior to this Board. Mr. Rohrbach will contact Mr. Layman.

V. Old Business.

Mr. Foster reviewed the Board's workshop. He stated that the Board discussed the possibility of a renter's ordinance. This has been recommended by Berkheimer, who collects our earned income tax, as we have two large apartment complexes in Westtown. The ordinance would require the landlord to report to the Township and Berkheimer the names of the occupants of the apartments so they are included on the tax rolls. The Board, as previously discussed, is considering a contractor's license. This would insure that the contractors are qualified and also generate revenue for the Township. Mr. Foster stated that controlling the cost generated by URS and McCormick Taylor, the Township Engineers was discussed. The last item discussed was replacement of the Oakbourne Road Bridge at the SEPTA underpass. The Township would be eligible for matching funds for the project. It is estimated that there would be over \$250,000 in engineering fees and that the cost of construction would be approximately 1.2 million, 80% of which would be paid by the State. Mr. Foster said the Board is reviewing the feasibility of doing the project.

VI. New Business.

A. Adopt Resolution 2008-1 Liquid Fuels Allocation 2008.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to adopt Resolution 2008-1 Liquid Fuels allocation for 2008 in the amount of \$240,000. Mr. Foster asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Resolution.

B. Adopt Resolution 2008-2 Emergency Services Designation.

Ms. De Wolf stated that the Township is required each year to designate the emergency services for the Township. They are as follows: Goshen Fire Company, West Chester Fame Fire Company, Goodwill Ambulance and the Westtown-East Goshen Police Department.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to adopt Resolution 2008-2 Emergency Services Designation. Mr. Foster asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Resolution.

Approve Tract 2007-5 Bentley Lot Line Revision.

Mr. Foster stated that this is a simple lot line change for the Bentley and Papenfuss property on Robins Nest Lane. The Planning Commission is recommending approval of the change.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve Tract 2007-5 Bentley Lot Line Revision. Mr. Foster asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Bentley lot line revision.

D. Approve URS 2008 Wastewater Engineering Services Agreement.

This item was tabled for further review.

E. Appoint Police Commissioner Thornbury Township Chester Co.

Mr. Foster stated that under the police agreement with Thornbury Township they are entitled to have a member on the Police Commission. The member could be a Thornbury Supervisor and the appointment needs to be approved by both East Goshen and Westtown. Mr. Foster stated that as Thornbury is also meeting this evening we do not know who will be appointed from their Board. He also stated that as the Police Commission will be meeting before our next Board meeting the appointment should be made this evening.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the appointment of any Thornbury Township Supervisor as a member of the Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission. Mr. Foster asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the appointment.

VII. Public Comment (all topics)

William Yocum, 127 E. Hilltop, stated that he received a letter concerning trimming his tree. The tree was trimmed today and he would like someone to come out and make sure that it was done to the Township's satisfaction. Mr. Wilson said he would make a site visit to check the tree. Mr. Yocum said the tree or trees that needed to be trimmed should have been designated in the letter as residents are cutting the wrong trees. Mr. Yocum also asked that the snow plow push the snow to the end of the dead end street and not put the snow in his front yard as his lawn is being destroyed. Mr. Gross will address this issue.

VIII. Payment of Bills.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve payment of the bills. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved payment of the bills as presented.

IX Adjournment.

On the motion of Mr. Barber, seconded by Ms. De Wolf, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:13Pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Layman,
Township Manager

At this time Mr. McKenna convened the Conditional Use Hearing for Crebilly Farms. (Transcripts will be available at the Township Office when completed).