

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
Township Municipal Building, Stokes Assembly Hall, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown
December 7, 2009, 7:30PM

In attendance were Supervisors Chair Carol R. De Wolf, Vice Chair Charles P. Barber; and Police Commissioner Thomas A. Foster; Township Manager Robert Layman; Township Building Inspector John Wilson; Township Roadmaster Mark Gross; Township Planning Commission Member Elaine L. Adler; Township Parks Advisory Group Chairman Leonard Tehrani; and Oakbourne Mansion Commission Chair Eva Foster. There were ten guests in attendance.

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I. Call to Order.

As there was a quorum present Chair De Wolf called the meeting to order at 7:33Pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Minutes (November 16, 2009 Regular Meeting).

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2009 regular meeting. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

III. Summary of Board of Supervisors Workshop 12/7/09.

The following items were discussed at the Board's workshop: Outside storage of a boat on Jacqueline Drive; An abandoned house on Springview Court; Alternatives to the Township Employees Health Care; Alternative uses for Oakbourne Mansion; Applying for a PECO Green Region Grant; Township commission appointments for 2010; use of the lower soccer field at Oakbourne Park which has been added to the agenda; and discussed increasing parking fines to \$35.00,

1V. Departmental Reports.

A. Township Building Inspector – John Wilson.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the November Building Report. He stated that the majority of permits are for additions and renovations to existing homes. Mr. Wilson stated that he has filed the following citations in District Court: Gaudenzia and Acme for non compliance with the Township Grease Ordinance; and Violation of the International Building Code against the property at 910 Springview Court. Mr. Foster asked if the Township has done any work to close up the house on Springview Court. Mr. Wilson stated that the Road Department has commenced boarding up the house.

B. Township Roadmaster- Mark Gross.

Mr. Gross stated that there were no problems with the season's first snow storm. He also stated that Sucher and Sons completed the 2009 road restoration project. The contractor did a good job and the project was close to budget. Other projects were the removal of nine diseased trees in the right of way of various Township Roads which had become hazardous and restoration of the stone walking trails in Oakbourne Park that were washed out during the heavy fall rains. Mr. Gross stated that the engine control panel at the Wild Goose Pump Station malfunctioned and had to be rewired. Mr. Foster asked was there a cost savings for not installing the speed humps on W. Pleasant Grove Road. Mr. Gross responded the savings was with the price of the asphalt and that the project was completed slightly under cost.

C. Township Planning Commission.

Mrs. Alder reviewed the November 18th, 2009 Planning Commission Meeting. She stated that the Commission reviewed the subdivision plans for two small parcels of land that Crebilly is donating to the Quarry Swim Club. A new plan was received today that addresses all the issues in the Township Engineer's review letter. The plan will be reviewed at this week's Commission meeting. Mrs. Adler stated that right-of-ways on S. New Street which were not shown correctly on previous subdivision plans needed to be corrected. Mr. Pingar suggested a 20' by 80' easement located partially on the parent parcel and partially on the new parcel to allow for eventual repair of the S. New Street Bridge. This has been added to the plan. Mr. Foster asked if the parcels to be subdivided were in Act 319. Mrs. Adler responded that the Act allows for the removal of only two acres a year. One of the new parcels 1.5 acres will be conveyed in 2009 and the other in 2010.

D. Parks Advisory Group – Leonard Tehrani:

Mr. Tehrani thanked the Board for their consideration in changing the Parks Advisory Group to the Parks and Recreation Commission. He asked that the Board consider an increase in the Parks budget for next year to cover the events that they have planned. Mr. Tehrani said they are looking for corporate sponsorships to help fund the events. Some of the events for next year are movie nights, the Westtown Dog Show, and a Holiday Tree Lighting at Oakbourne Park. Mr. Tehrani said they would like to do the tree lighting with Friends of Oakbourne and other Township Commissions. Mr. Foster advised Mr. Tehrani that the Township has a restrictive budget for 2010 and the \$3,000 budgeted for Parks will not be able to be changed.

E. Oakbourne Mansion Commission – Eva Foster.

Ms. De Wolf thanked Mrs. Foster for the work of the Commission for the upcoming Holiday Party. Mrs. Foster thanked Mr. Layman for his scheduling of the architects to view the Mansion at the time when it was decorated for the holidays as this gave her an opportunity to showcase the Mansion for possible future events by their firms. The Commission, at their November 23rd meeting discussed, plans for 2010 which included changes in the Oakbourne website and marketing ideas for tented events as there might be limited use of the Mansion next year.

V. Public Comment (Non Agenda Items).

William Difilippis, 908 Springview Court, expressed his concerns with the eyesore that 910 Springview Court has become since the current owner purchased the house two years ago. Mr. Difilippis said the house has been in disrepair starting with the previous owner and no work has been done on the house in weeks. The property is opened to the weather and there is a full dumpster, which is attracting animals, that needs to be removed. It is also an attraction to teenagers looking for a place to party. It has become a health and safety issue in the neighborhood. He asked if the dumpster can be removed and if the Township can properly secure the house. Mr. Difilippis presented the Board with pictures and a CD of the property. Mr. Wilson said this situation has been discussed with the Township Solicitor and the most the Township is allowed to do is board up the house. He stated that as the dumpster is not paid for the company will not pick it up. He also stated that the Township has not been able to locate the Pope's, the owners of the property. Mr. Foster asked to have Mr. Adams do a title search on the property.

Susan Mahle, 923 Thorne Drive, said the house was better before it was sold and was sold for higher than the asking price. She stated there is water on every floor.

Robert Enright, 912 Springview Court, stated he supports what has been said by his neighbors. His main concern is fire as he is worried about teenagers getting into the house.

Mr. Tehrani asked if you needed a permit to have a dumpster and why can't the Township remove the dumpster. He also asked if the property is vacant for a certain amount of time can the Township take possession of the property through a court order. Mr. Wilson said a permit is not needed for a dumpster. He also stated that Township Ordinance does not provide for taking possession of the property. Mrs. Adler also stated that there are no regulations in the Zoning Ordinance concerning this issue. Mr. Foster directed Mr. Layman to discuss the Township's options with Mr. Adams.

VI. Old Business

A. Approve 2009 Field Usage Bid – Soccer Field

Ms. De Wolf stated that West Chester United Soccer Club was the only bid received for field usage. The Board is rejecting the bid.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded, by Mr. Barber, to reject West Chester United Soccer's bid for usage of the lower soccer field at Oakbourne Park. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion.

VII. New Business.

A. Accept Tract 2008-4 Preliminary/Final Rossiter 500 E. Pleasant Grove Road Three Lot Subdivision.

Ms. De Wolf stated that Mrs. Adler has reviewed the plan submission and everything is in order for acceptance this evening.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to accept Tract 2008-4 Preliminary/Final for Rossiter, 500 E. Pleasant Grove Road, and forwarded the plan to the Planning Commission for their review. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion.

B. Adopt Ordinance 2009-6 Amending Ordinance 2009-3 Alarm.

Ms. De Wolf stated that the Alarm Ordinance adopted July 6, 2009 is being revised to include the schedule of fines that will be assessed for false alarms.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to adopt Ordinance 2009-6 Amending Ordinance 2009-3. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Ordinance.

C. Adopt Ordinance 2009-7 Establishing a Parks & Recreation Commission.

Ms. De Wolf stated that as the Parks Advisory Group has not been functioning in just an advisory capacity but has been creating programs and events for the Township residents they asked to be re-named the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Board is agreeable to this request.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to adopt Ordinance 2009-7 establishing a Parks and Recreation Commission. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Ordinance.

D. Approve Appointments to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Ms. De Wolf asked for a motion to re-appointment the current members of Parks Advisory to the new Parks and Recreation Commission. The terms of appointment will stay the same.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to appoint the following as members of the Parks and Recreation Commission: Leonard Tehrani (2011), Kristine Lisi (2009), and Jennifer Shea-Schwacke (2012). Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the appointments.

E. Approve 2010 Activities Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the 2010 activities for the Parks and Recreation Commission with the caveat that the activities are adjusted to the 2010 budget amount of \$3,000. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion.

F. Adopt Ordinance 2009-8 Establishing Third Party Collection of Delinquent Amounts.

Ms. De Wolf stated that the ordinance establishes the fees for third party collection of delinquent utility accounts.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber to adopt Ordinance 2009-8 establishing third party collection of delinquent accounts. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion.

G. Execute Agreement with Toscani & Lindros, Esquire, for Collection of Delinquent Accounts.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve execution of the Agreement with Toscani & Lindros, Esquire for Collection of Delinquent Accounts. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved execution of the Agreement.

H. Approve 2010 Westtown-East Goshen Police Department Budget.

Ms. De Wolf stated that under our Joint Agreement with East Goshen both Townships' must approve the Police Budget for 2010. Mr. Foster stated that the total Budget is \$6,857,706.03. Westtown's share is 44.89% in the amount of \$2,665,881.19.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the 2010 Westtown-East Goshen Police Department Budget for 2010. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion.

VIII. Public Comment (all topics)

There was no public comment.

IX. Payment of Bills.

On the motion of Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Barber, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the bills as presented.

X. Adjournment.

On the motion of Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Barber, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 Pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Layman,
Township Manager