

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING  
STOKES ASSEMBLY HALL, 1039 WILMINGTON PIKE  
Monday, December 19, 2011 7:30Pm

In attendance were Supervisors Chair Thomas A. Foster, Vice Chair Charles P. Barber and Carol R. De Wolf, Police Commissioner; Township Manager Robert Layman; Westtown-East Goshen Police Chief John M. Dumond; and Planning Commission Member Jim Lees. There were four guests in attendance.

**I. Call to Order.**

As there was a quorum present, Chair Foster called the meeting to order at 7:35 Pm. and led those present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**II. Approval of Minutes (December 5, 2011 Regular Meeting).**

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2011 regular meeting. Mr. Foster 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 12/19/2011.**

Mr. Foster stated the following items were discussed at the workshop: Police Budget 2.4 version which Westtown has approved but East Goshen has not; Notification to residents in Coventry Village that if they do not remove any vehicles parked on the street during a major snow storm they will be towed. Wild Goose Farms problem with the Liberty Square detention pond which the Township has determined is Liberty Square's responsibility to correct; Discussed how the Township can help with drainage issues in Green Lane Village which were not resolved when the development was built; and discussed the Township Health Insurance which is a joint plan with East Goshen and the Goshen Fire Company.

**IV. Departmental Reports.**

**A. Westtown-East Goshen Police Department – Chief John M. Dumond.**

Chief Dumond stated that the Department responded to 1,139 calls in November with 433 of the calls in Westtown. Chief Dumond stated that a 19 year old man has been arrested and charged with involuntary manslaughter in the fatal traffic accident November 7<sup>th</sup> at Route 202 and Skiles Boulevard.

**V. Township Solicitor - Robert F. Adams.**

There were no items for Mr. Adams at this time.

**B. Planning Commission.**

Jim Lees stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the suggested changes to the Fence and Accessory Dwelling Ordinance and are recommending that the Board adopt the ordinance in its revised form. Mr. Lees asked that the Board consider adopting an addendum to the PA Uniform Construction Code to require a permit for accessory and temporary structures such as a tent or a fiber glass lean-to which are used as a car port or temporary storage. Mr. Lees stated that there are safety issues with this type of structure and there have been complaints from residents about this issue. Mr. Lees said that Mr. Sill was in attendance at the meeting and presented a proposal to the Commission recommending that the Township reconsider selling the Westtown-Chester Creek Treatment Plant to Aqua, Pa., as Mr. Still felt that this would be a financial benefit to the Township. He stated that the Commission will discuss this at their next meeting. Mr. Foster said that the Board has had numerous discussions with Aqua concerning the sale of the plant but their offer was not acceptable to the Township. He also stated that this is not the time to be considering a sale

as the Township is moving forward with installation of public sewer in the eastern end of the Township. Ms. De Wolf stated that this is complex and a long term planning issue which she feels should be considered at the Board level and is not a Planning Commission issue. She asked for a copy of Mr. Sill's proposal.

Mr. Lees, personally, and as Chairman of the Planning Commission thanked Mr. Foster for his years of service to the Township and stated that he would be missed. Mr. Foster thanked Mr. Lees for his comments.

**V. Public Comment-Non Agenda Items.**

Eva Foster, Chair Oakbourne Mansion Commission, stated that she was stepping down from the Commission and thanked the Board for working with her for the past six years but said it now the time for someone else to take over her position. She suggested Jon Pennington, Park Caretaker, and family who know the Mansion intimately and are available to show the Mansion to potential event renters. Mrs. Foster also recommended that New Street Caterers continue to be a preferred caterer for events at the Mansion as their rates are reasonable and they do an excellent job. She again thanked the Board for their support and patience. Mr. Barber thanked Mrs. Foster for her service to the Township and Mr. Foster thanked her for a job well done.

**VI. Old Business:**

There was no old business.

**VII. New Business.**

**A. Approve 2012 Township Budget.**

Mr. Foster stated that the Township Budget for the Fiscal Year 2012 has been advertised and there are no changes to the budget. He stated that the issues with Keystone and the collection of the Earned Income Tax have been resolved. The mold remediation issue concerning the Stokes Assembly Hall has also been settled. Mr. Foster stated that there will not be an increase in the Township Real Estate Tax in 2012 or an increase in refuse collection or sewer service. Mr. Foster stated it is a balanced budget in the amount of \$8,528,395. He reviewed the following funds: General Fund \$5,000,422; Refuse Fund \$1,070,350; Liquid Fuels \$264,123; and Sewer Fund \$2,193,500. Copies of the budget are available at the Township Office or can be reviewed on the website [www.westtownpa.org](http://www.westtownpa.org)

Ms. De Wolf, made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the Township Budget for the Fiscal Year 2012. Mr. Foster asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mr. Foster stated that this is his last meeting and advised the Board that it has been a pleasure working with them and working for the residents of Westtown but is looking forward to retirement. Mr. Layman thanked Mr. Foster for his service and stated that Mr. Foster had made his position of manager much easier and appreciated all that Mr. Foster had done and that he will be missed. Mr. Barber thanked Mr. Foster for his service and for all the hours he put in for the Township of which the residents really are not aware. Ms. De Wolf, with heartfelt thanks, thanked Mr. Foster for serving the Board so well especially with his research of many situations and his legal expertise. She stated that he will be missed. Chief Dumond advised Mr. Foster that he had enjoyed working with him on the Police Commission and thanked Mr. Foster for his service to both the Police and Township.

**VIII. Public Comment.**

Mr. Sill, 1004 Goodwin Lane, stated that it was advertised that adoption of the amended ordinance for fences and accessory dwellings was to be on this evening's agenda. Mr. Foster stated that the Chester County Planning Commission had recommended some revisions which our Planning Commission reviewed and felt should be included. The ordinance is in its final form and will be re-advertised for adoption at a later date. Mr. Sill stated that accessory dwellings will now be allowed in R2, which his property is zoned, and because of setback issues does not feel that this should be allowed. Mr. Sill asked as accessory dwellings are only for family members

how is this enforced when the family member is deceased. Ms. De Wolf said that this situation has been addressed recently and was enforceable. Mr. Sill also expressed concerns about how these accessory dwellings would affect the density of the Township. Ms. De Wolf said she does not feel this will affect the density of the Township. Mr. Sill said the ordinance does not mention mobile homes being allowed. Ms. De Wolf stated that our zoning only allows for mobile homes in one area of the Township. Mr. Sill said he still does not understand why this is needed. Ms. De Wolf stated that older family members might want a different housing unit where they can be still be near the family but independent. She stated we are trying to do what is best for our resident and their families. Mr. Sill said he feels the Township is opening itself up to problems.

**IX. Payment of Bills.**

On the motion of Ms. De Wolf, seconded by Mr. Barber, the bills were approved for payment as presented.

**X. Adjournment.**

On the motion of Ms. De Wolf, seconded by Mr. Barber, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15Pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Layman,  
Township Manager