

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING

Westtown Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown

Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:30 PM

In attendance were: Chair Carol De Wolf, Vice Chair Tom Haws, Police Commissioner Mike Di Domenico, Township Manager Rob Pingar, Chief Brenda Bernot, Planning Commission Chair Dick Pomerantz, and Parks & Recreation Chair Deb Litman-Goch. There were 26 guests present.

I. Pledge of Allegiance & Call to Order

Ms. De Wolf led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

II. Citizen Commendations

Chief Bernot presented Citizen Commendations to two Public Works Department employees, Mike King and Dean Stafford, for their extraordinary work during Storm Jonas on January 23. These men assisted the police in saving the life of a 77-year old man who collapsed in his driveway while shoveling snow during this record breaking storm. The Chief then honored two Westtown East Goshen Police officers, Officer Andrew Lang and Officer Ted Lewis, for their work during the storm.

III. Approval of Minutes (May 2, 2016)

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve the May 2, 2016 meeting minutes. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion was approved.

IV. Workshop Meeting Summary (May 16, 2016)

Ms. De Wolf stated that the Board discussed soliciting in the township and plans to investigate other townships' policies. The Board also discussed a complaint from a resident about pedestrian safety at the intersection of Oakbourne Road and S. Concord Road. This issue is complicated by the fact that that portion of Oakbourne and S. Concord Roads are state roads. The township will further discuss the matter with PennDOT. On street parking on Dunning Drive was also discussed, resulting in the decision to remove the No Parking signs and allow on street parking.

Mr. Haws stated that the Board also discussed ongoing traffic concerns on Jacqueline Drive. He also elaborated on the parking situation on Dunning Drive, stating that the township took Deed of Dedication of Dunning Drive from the school district two weeks ago. When the school was built, there was concern over on street parking during football games. The school district put up No Parking signs. Because the township has no ordinance in place to enforce the signs, they have been removed. The situation will be re-evaluated as necessary. The Board also held an Executive session on personnel.

There were no questions from the public regarding the workshop.

V. Departmental Reports

A. WEGO Police- Chief Brenda Bernot

Chief Bernot reported that the department has seen an uptick in scams, particularly in Westtown. Details can be found on the police blotter on the WEGO website www.westtownpolice.org, but include Granny scams and internet purchase scams. The Chief also reported a "Friendship Scam" in which a resident was extorted by someone with whom he made an online friendship. The Chief cautioned people to be careful what they post online via Facebook and other social media. Chief Bernot stated that theft from unlocked vehicles also continues to increase. The

Chief provided the following information regarding traffic control on Jacqueline drive since January: 155 traffic citations on 75 different dates and 31 warnings. There was one distraction-related crash (not speed related) when a newspaper delivery man was checking his route sheet and ran off the road into a telephone pole. The Chief stated the department will continue to give Jacqueline Drive as much attention as possible. Mr. Pingar stated the township received a traffic complaint yesterday from someone on Jacqueline about speed and volume. Mr. Pingar requested a summary of the data from the speed radar sign, as well as information on how many of the citations and warnings were issued to local residents. The Chief stated that 50-60% of the citations are to residents living within a mile radius of Jacqueline Drive.

The department is currently monitoring six other locations in the township for traffic violations. Residents can call the township or the WEGO non-emergency line to report traffic concerns.

There were no other comments or questions.

B. Parks and Recreation Commission (P&R) – Deb Litman-Goch

Mrs. Litman-Goch reported on the annual Community Yard Sale on April 16. There were 74 sellers and the weather was beautiful. The summer movie night schedule is:

Friday, June 17: Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Friday, July 15: Inside Out

Friday, August 19: The Princess Bride

P&R is also working with the Historical Commission on Westtown Community Day on Saturday, September 17 from 10am to 2pm. The event is still in the planning stages, but it will showcase the history of the Township and give residents an opportunity to connect with their neighbors.

Mrs. Litman-Goch also stated that she and Mr. Di Domenico are exploring bringing another car club to Oakbourne Park. She, Mr. Di Domenico, Mr. Pingar, and Mr. Gross are meeting on June 11 with the car club president to discuss the event.

Mr. Haws thanked P&R for allowing Pack 151 to sell pretzels at the yard sale.

There were no comments from the public.

C. Planning Commission (PC) – Dick Pomerantz 29:11

Mr. Pomerantz reported that the PC was considering the appointment of an alternate member to the commission. Commissioner Yaws was tasked with investigating the rationale for recent legislation allowing for an alternate. He found there was none reported. Therefore, consensus of the PC is not to pursue changing their membership.

Mr. Pomerantz said the PC voted 5-2 recommending approval of the Dunkin Donuts. He was very proud of the way the PC handled the application. The major concern was traffic safety, but Dunkin Donuts satisfied these concerns. The Board will decide on this Conditional Use Zoning Amendment at their June 6 meeting.

At the next PC meeting, the commission will be hearing from Brandolini regarding the land development project for the new Giant 51,500 square foot facility at Westtown Marketplace.

Mr. Haws asked about the dissenting votes on the Dunkin Donuts. Mr. Pomerantz reported that both commissioners stated it was a visceral decision.

Mr. Pomerantz then reported as Vice Chair of the Comprehensive Plan Update Task Force. The initial meeting of the Task Force was on April 28, and the next meeting will be June 7 at the

Township Building. A Visioning Workshop will be held on June 23 at Rustin High School. He stated the importance of getting the word out to the public. He stated that it will be featured on the front page of the Spring Gazette, currently being mailed, but also recommended other options. He also suggested that a member of the Board should be present at every meeting. Ms. De Wolf apologized for not being at the initial meeting on April 28, but stated that the Board was not informed of the meeting.

There were no other comments or questions.

VI. Public Comment Non Agenda Items

There was none.

VII. Old Business

A. Ordinance 2016-4 – Bond Ordinance Adoption

At the March 7, 2016 BOS meeting, the Board authorized the advertisement of a Parameters Ordinance in order to expedite the sale of bonds for refunding the 2011 Bond to the Township's advantage considering bond rates are now at or near historical lows.

The Township is considering the advance refunding option allowed on the General Obligation Bond, Series of 2011 which has a call date of 6/15/17. Advance refunding allows the Township to refinance the issue (with an escrow to the 6/15/17 call date). The original issue was for \$8,945,000 with an outstanding balance of \$7,805,000. The net savings could be in the range of \$260,000 or \$18,000 per year after all expenses are paid.

The Board is also considering financing of new capital projects with the refunding. These may include the replacement of the Oakbourne Road Bridge as well as an expansion of the Public Works Garage to accommodate large plow trucks and other equipment.

The Bond Parameters Ordinance would provide sale parameters to the Managing Underwriter, Boenning & Scattergood, Inc. It would authorize the sale (and lock-in) of interest rates at any future date.

Mr. Haws made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-4. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion.

Representatives from Boenning & Scattergood, Inc. were present to answer any questions. Mr. Haws asked if reissuing this bond would affect the township's recent upgrade in rating from Moody's. Ms. Grube replied that it would likely not have an impact. She stated that Moody's would focus on the township's latest audit, which is nearing completion.

Bond Counsel explained the ordinance. The ordinance provides authorization to incur debt up to \$12,000,000 for the purpose of refinancing all or a portion of the 2011 bonds outstanding in order to save interest rates and also to finance a public works garage and the repair of Oakbourne Bridge. The purpose of the refinancing can be changed at any time by ordinance.

There was no public comment and the motion to adopt the Bond Parameters Ordinance 2016-4 was approved.

VIII. New Business

None.

IX. Announcements

1. Parks & Recreation Summer Movie Night – June 17

The Parks & Recreation Commission will be hosting its first 2016 Summer Movie Night on Friday, June 17, featuring “Star Wars – The Force Awakens.” Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy a family movie night under the stars.

2. Comprehensive Plan Update Community Visioning Workshop – June 23 at 7pm at Rustin High School Cafeteria

Please attend to voice your opinion on how you would like to see the township grow and evolve over the next 20 years. If you have any questions on the Community Visioning Workshop please contact the Township Planning Director Chris Patriarca at cpatriarca@westtown.org or at 610-692-1930 ex. 205.

X. Public Comment on All Topics

There was none.

XI. Payment of Bills

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve the General Fund bills in the amount of \$136,295.75, Wastewater Fund bills in the amount of \$100,610.94, for a grand total of \$236,906.69. The motion was seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. There was no public comment and the check registers were approved.

XII. Adjournment

Mr. Haws made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Pingar
Township Manager