

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING

Westtown Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown

Monday, June 20, 2016 at 7:30 PM

In attendance were: Chair Carol De Wolf, Vice Chair Tom Haws, Police Commissioner Mike Di Domenico, Chief Brenda Bernot, Parks & Recreation Commissioner Deb Litman-Goch, and Planning Commissioner Dick Pomerantz. There were 5 guests present.

I. Pledge of Allegiance & Call to Order

Ms. De Wolf led the Pledge of Allegiance, and called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes (June 6, 2016)

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve the June 6, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes. Ms. De Wolf seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the minutes were approved, with Mr. Di Domenico abstaining because he was not present at the June 6 meeting.

III. Workshop Meeting Summary (June 20, 2016)

At the workshop session, the Board met with two candidates for vacancies on the Parks & Recreation Commission. John Snook and Jennifer Leister Reitz of Brandywine Conservancy updated the Board on the Comprehensive Plan Update and the June 23 Community Visioning Workshop. The Board met again with Dave and Michelle Gifford about a zoning ordinance text amendment to permit "Professional Office" as a major home occupation at their property at 1131 S. Chester Road, and for two other qualifying properties in the township.

The Board heard from Stacey Fuller, of Gawthrop Greenwood, regarding options for considering a text amendment proposed by Dunkin Donuts:

1. Text Amendment concurrent with Conditional Use Hearing.
2. Adopt the Text Amendment, and then have a Conditional Use Hearing.
3. Amend ordinance to allow the coffee shop use By-Right.

The consensus of the Board was option one. The Board also held an executive session on personnel. Ms. De Wolf said their Executive Session would resume after the regular meeting.

There were no questions regarding the workshop.

IV. Departmental Reports

A. Westtown East Goshen Police (WEGO) – Chief Brenda Bernot

Chief Bernot reported an increase in theft from vehicles and criminal mischief. She attributed this to school being out for the summer. She advised residents to lock their cars, and to report unusual or suspicious activity. Scams continue to be a problem. Please visit the WEGO website (www.westtownpolice.org) for more information.

The Chief stated there are nine traffic complaints (mostly speed related) being investigated in Westtown Township. She mentioned that legislation is currently being considered that would allow local police to use radar for speed enforcement. At present, only state troopers can use

radar in Pennsylvania. She suggested contacting State Representative Truitt or Senator Killion in support of this legislation (House Bill 71 and Senate Bill 535).

Mr. Haws apologized for not being able to attend Lt. Leahy's promotion ceremony, but passed on congratulations from the Board. He then asked about the new holsters recently purchased by WEGO. Chief Bernot explained that an officer experienced an accidental discharge, which was attributed to a manufacturing glitch on the holster. As a result, the department has transitioned to new holsters that prevent this type of accidental discharge. Unfortunately, tactical lights had to be removed from the guns in order to fit in the new holsters.

Dick Pomerantz, 1005 Robin Drive, asked if there was a panic button in the meeting room for use if a meeting got contentious. Mr. Pingar said he would meet with the Chief to evaluate the township's security measures.

There was no other public comment.

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

Mrs. Litman-Goch reported that the first summer movie night was a big success. Over 100 people enjoyed a beautiful night watching "Star Wars, The Force Awakens." P&R gave out glow wands and swords and provided free popcorn. On July 15 they will be showing "Inside Out," and on August 19 "The Princess Bride."

Planning continues for Westtown Day on September 17 at Oakbourne Park. The event is being organized by P&R and the Historical Commission. Residents can enjoy tours of Oakbourne Mansion and grounds, carnival games for the kids, Civil War re-enactors, food, and more. It will be a fun day for the whole family. If you would like to volunteer to assist with the event, please contact Pam Coleman (pcoleman@westtown.org).

There was no public comment.

C. Planning Commission (PC) – Dick Pomerantz

Mr. Pomerantz reported that at their June 8 meeting the PC prepared for the Comprehensive Plan Update Visioning Workshop at Rustin High School cafeteria this Thursday, June 23. Residents are encouraged to attend and provide their input for the future direction of the township. It will be a fun, interactive session facilitated by the township's planning consultants, Brandywine Conservancy and Tom Comitta Associates.

The Commission also worked on the ordinance governing Bed & Breakfast establishments (B&Bs) in the township. One of the major issues to be addressed is the "Air B&B" type industry.

Mr. Di Domenico asked about the status of the Chicken Keeping Ordinance. Mr. Pomerantz stated that he thought it had been forwarded to the Board. He then asked about the status of the sign ordinance. Mr. Pingar said he would check on the status of both ordinances.

There were no other questions or comments.

V. Public Comment Non Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

VI. Old Business

There was none.

VII. New Business

A. Parks & Recreation Commission Resignation

On Friday June 17, Mark Schatzel resigned from the commission for personal reasons. Mr. Haws made a motion to accept Mr. Schatzel's resignation. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion was approved. Ms. De Wolf thanked Mr. Schatzel for his service to the township.

B. Parks & Recreation Commission Appointments

In the workshop session, the Board met with two candidates for the P & R vacancies: Donel Menke and Phillip Garabedian. Mr. Haws made a motion to appoint these candidates to the Parks & Recreation Commission vacancies expiring December 31, 2017. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the appointments were approved.

VIII. Announcements

Ms. De Wolf made the following announcements:

1. The Comprehensive Plan Update Community Visioning Workshop will be held this Thursday, June 23 at 7pm in the Rustin High School cafeteria. Mr. Haws thanked everyone for their efforts in getting residents to come out for this important event.
2. Summer Movie Night Friday, July 15 at Oakbourne Park featuring "Inside Out."

IX. Public Comment on All Topics

There was none.

X. Payment of Bills

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve General Fund bills in the amount of \$75,671.55 and Wastewater Fund bills in the amount of \$9,508.06, for a grand total of \$85,179.61. The motion was seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. There was no public comment and the check registers were approved.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Haws made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM, with the Board re-convening in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Pingar
Township Manager