

Minutes of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors
Work Session
Tuesday, November 11, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman David R. Nyman. Also present were Vice-Chairman John Cressman, Supervisor Gary W. Volovnik as well as Solicitor Patrick Armstrong, Esquire, and Engineer Robert Wynn, P.E., and Township Manager Anne Klepfer, as well as members of the press and public.

Item #1. Approval of Minutes:

On motion by Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the October 14, 2008 Work Session Minutes. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor.**

Item #2. Payment of Bills:

On motion by Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Bills List of November 11, 2008 totaling \$22,907.87. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor.**

Public Comment Period #1: Anne Fenley thanked Steve Funk for the help the Public Works Department gave during Election Day.

Item #3. Manager's Report:

Pennridge Community Senior Center Presentation: Mr. John Much and Dr. Patricia Guth were present to tell update the Board about the Senior Center. Mr. Much walked the Board through a brief but informative power point presentation and explained who the Senior Center is and what services they provide. Fifty-seven residents from East Rockhill Township are members of the Pennridge Community Senior Center. When the Center was fundraising for the new building they asked the municipalities in their service area to consider contributing \$1.00 per resident. They informed the Board that they are projecting a short fall of funding for their operations budget in 2009 and that they have been asking municipalities to consider any contribution. Mr. Much said that there are other ways that East Rockhill Township can contribute. He would appreciate it if East Rockhill Township included articles they provide in the Township's newsletter. Mr. Nyman suggested that the articles could be posted on the Township's website as well.

Draft 2009 Budget: Mrs. Klepfer presented the Board with the final draft 2009 Budget for all funds. The balancing figure is \$4,246,470. The budget includes a tax increase the equivalent of approximately \$45.00 for the average property owner and a \$10.00 increase to the residential sewer rental rate. Mrs. Klepfer stated that she has cut everything she can cut and projected revenues as realistically as possible but still came up short. The alternative in part or in whole to the proposed tax increase is the use of cash on hand to balance the budget. She anticipates a cash balance of at least \$250,000 in General Fund at the end of the year. She noted that the Pennsylvania Association of Finance Officers

recommends a minimum cash balance equivalent to two months worth of expenditures or about \$285,000 for East Rockhill Township. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board authorized the advertisement of and commencement of the public review period for the draft budget. The motion **carried 3-0**. Mrs. Klepfer noted that the Final Budget adoption will be scheduled for the December 16, 2008 Regular Meeting.

Iron Bridge – Closure and Detour Route: Mrs. Klepfer announced that the County bridge on Branch Road near White's Road is scheduled for repairs in early February and will be closed in late January. The Board asked Mrs. Klepfer to make sure the appropriate fire and ambulance agencies, as well as the School District, are aware of the closure.

Planning Commission Vacancy: The Board directed Mrs. Klepfer to use December 1st as a deadline for applications. Applicants having applied by December 1st should be asked to attend the December Planning Commission.

Request for a Memorial at Markey Park: The Board asked Mrs. Klepfer to get more information such as what the sculpture would look like, how big it would be and where it is proposed for installation, maintenance requirements etc.

Ordinances and Resolutions: Mrs. Klepfer advised the Board that a DVHIT Ordinance and Agreement will be necessary for the Township to switch health care plans and that a Resolution implementing the new Right-to-Know law is also necessary. She will prepare them for December.

Blooming Glen Road: Engineer Wynn suggested the Board consider the permanency of the one way traffic configuration at their December Work Session. Their decision will affect road improvements that the Community College has been asked to make as part of their land development.

Item #4. Public Works Report: Steve Funk requested that the Board hire a seasonal, part-time employee to assist with snow and ice maintenance duties. This temporary employee would essentially replace the full time position that was not filled after one of the Public Works crew relocated to Colorado. The Board directed Mrs. Klepfer to get the application and salary requirements to them to consider for the Regular Meeting agenda.

Mr. Funk also reported that Leaf Collection has begun but that they will be sweeping through the Township on an ongoing basis because all of the leaves have not yet fallen from the trees.

Item #5. PWTA Report: Tabled until November 18th meeting.

Item #6. Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Armstrong, Esq.

Metro PCS Conditional Use Decision: Solicitor Armstrong reviewed the draft decision with the Board. Mr. Nyman asked for some minor wording modifications. By **motion** of

Mr. Volovnik and **seconded** by Mr. Cressman, the Decision was **approved 3-0** as modified.

Cedar View Water Extension Project: Early in the meeting this subject was reviewed with Gary Winton, Perkasio Borough Authority Manager. Mr. Winton reviewed the revised route of the water line and the discussions with DEP about the loss of funding sources. DEP told PBA to scale back the project as necessary to still move forward with the Project. Mr. Nyman asked that Mr. Winton set up meetings with Senator Wonderling's office and Congressman Murphy's office to discuss the possibility of additional emergency funding. Mr. Volovnik asked Mr. Winton to exhaust all efforts to keep this project moving forward without expense to the residents. Solicitor Armstrong said that the Agreement with PBA is not ready for approval yet as some of the details are still being worked out now that the scope excludes the Pettit tract. The grant application for DEP however, is prepared and ready to submit to DEP. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board moved to authorize the execution and submission of the grant paperwork to DEP for funding for the water line extension. The motion **carried 3-0**.

Mr. Armstrong reported that the Conservation Easement documentation and water district Ordinance are still being reviewed and revised.

Mr. Armstrong reminded the Board that the Drought Ordinance is advertised for consideration at the November 18, 2008 meeting.

Item #7. Engineer's Report: Mr. Wynn, P.E. reported that the developer for Crestview has completed the tree planting and pavement leveling course for which he was previously found in default. No further action is needed on this matter at this time.

Item #8. PACC Report: Tabled until November 18, 2008.

Item #9. Other Business: Execution of Scholl Subdivision Plan was tabled until the Regular Meeting.

Public Comment Period #2 – None

Item #9. Adjournment:

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, **seconded** by Mr. Cressman, the Board adjourned at 8:20 PM into Executive Session to discuss real estate. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne W. Klepfer
Secretary / Manager

Approved: _____