

**MINUTES OF THE
THE EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

November 18, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman David Nyman, who led the Salute to the American Flag. Also present were Vice Chairman John Cressman, Supervisor Gary Volovnik, Solicitor Patrick Armstrong, Esquire, Engineer C. Robert Wynn, P.E., Township Manager Anne Klepfer and members of the press and public.

Item #1: Approval of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Volovnik **seconded** by Mr. Cressman the minutes of October 21, 2008 were approved **unanimously**.

Item #2: Payment of Bills

Mr. Cressman **moved** to approve payment of the bills list dated October 21, 2008 totaling \$110,679.62, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik and **approved 3-0**.

Public Comment I There were no public comments made at this time.

Item #3: Manager's Report: Anne Klepfer

Appalachian Mountain Club Presentation: Ms. Jennifer Heisey made a presentation to the Board about the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Network Project. Her organization as well as others is trying to connect the Highlands Trail Network in New Jersey to the Trail Network in Montgomery County. The connections she is focusing on are in Bucks County. The approximate route of the trail would be from Riegelsville, to Green Lane and would connect various priority areas ("hubs" of undisturbed natural lands) they have identified along the way. A portion of the trail may go through or near East Rockhill Township. She asked the Board of Supervisors to consider adopting a Resolution of support for this project.

The Board of Supervisors advised that they thought the project to be a worthy one and would be a tremendous asset to the citizens of Bucks County. Judy Decker, Assistant to the Manager at West Rockhill Township was in attendance. She stated that West Rockhill Township is working on trail connections and that the West Rockhill Township Officials are also supportive of this project.

The Board thanked Ms. Heisey and said they would consider the Resolution at a future meeting.

Draft Budget: Mrs. Klepfer asked the Board to authorize the advertisement and public comment period on a draft budget of \$4,246,470. Although approximately \$200,000 less than last year's budget, the budget proposal includes a proposed 1.2 mill increase and a \$10.00 per quarter increase to the residential sewer rental rate for 2009. The Board stated that tax increases are never desirable however, given the economic downturn and decline in real estate and building related revenues combined with increases in the cost of providing the same level of service, it is projected to be necessary. The Board directed Mrs. Klepfer to continue to look for savings. By **motion** of John Cressman and **second**

by Gary Volovnik, the Board of Supervisors **unanimously** approved the draft 2009 Budget as presented for publication and public comment.

Seasonal Snow Plow Operator: By **motion** of Gary Volovnik and **second** by John Cressman and by a **vote of 3-0**, the Board voted to hire Craig Herman at a rate of \$13.00 per hour for the position of part-time Snow Plow Operator to work on an on-call basis.

By motion of Mr. Volovnik and **seconded** by Mr. Cressman, the Manager's Report was **unanimously approved**.

Item #4: Planning Commission Report:

Mrs. Fenley reported that the Planning Commission reviewed the Pileggi Shopping Center Land Development and recommended conditional Preliminary Approval. They need to address some minor issues prior to appearing before the Board.

By motion of Mr. Volovnik and **seconded** by Mr. Cressman, the Planning Commission Report was **unanimously approved**.

Item #5: PWTA Report:

Mr. Cressman reported that PWTA had a very short meeting and he didn't have anything to report.

By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, the PWTA Report was **unanimously approved**.

Item #6: Engineer's Report: C. Robert Wynn, P.E.

Courtney Subdivision: This subdivision received conditional preliminary plan approval by the Board of Supervisors in February of 2006 and was recommended for Conditional Final Plan Approval by the Planning Commission in November of 2006 subject to outside agency permit approvals and conditions outlined in the C. Robert Wynn Associates letter dated November 1, 2006. Mr. Wynn stated that those conditions have now been satisfied and he recommends final plan approval. By **motion** of Gary Volovnik and **second** by John Cressman the Board **voted 3-0** to grant final plan approval to the Courtney Subdivision subject the C. Robert Wynn Associates letter of November 1, 2006.

Gretzer Subdivision Project Completion: Mr. Wynn stated that this project has now been satisfactorily completed and the maintenance period has expired. He recommended that subject to payment of final bills, the remainder of the project security be released. By **motion** of John Cressman and **second** by Gary Volovnik, the Board of Supervisors moved to accept the Gretzer Subdivision as completed and release the remaining funds subject to payment of the final invoices from Township Consultants. The motion **carried 3-0**.

Vouchers: By **motion** of Gary Volovnik and **second** by John Cressman the Authorization Vouchers dated November 13, 2008 for Penridge School District and Crestview (2) were **approved 3-0**.

Extensions: Mr. Wynn reported that he is in receipt of an extension from the Holly Brook Farm Subdivision through February 28, 2009.

Mr. Cressman **moved** to approve the Engineer's Report. The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik and was **unanimously approved**.

Item #7: Solicitor's Report: Patrick Armstrong, Esq.

Drought Ordinance: Mr. Armstrong introduced Township **Ordinance No. 243** referred to as the "Drought Works Ordinance" for consideration of adoption by the Board of Supervisors. The Ordinance was properly advertised in the News Herald and a copy was provided to the Bucks County Law Library. The purpose of the Ordinance is to authorize procedures for implementing water use restrictions during a drought emergency. A public hearing was convened at 7:50 PM, however there were no public comments so the hearing was closed. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board of Supervisors **3-0 voted** to adopt Ordinance No. 243.

Wirth Subdivision: Based on the Recommendations of the Township Consultants, by **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board of Supervisors **unanimously** declared the Wirth Subdivision to be in default of their Development Agreements and authorized the Solicitor to proceed with the required notifications and seizure of public securities.

PBA Waterline Agreement: This agreement is still not ready for consideration. Final details of the scope of the project and cost are still being ironed out.

By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **seconded** by Mr. Cressman the Solicitor's Report was accepted **unanimously**.

Item #10: PACC Report –Mr. Nyman summarized the discussions from the October PACC Meeting. Silverdale Borough has indicated its interest in formalizing the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee. They are still trying to talk to the other member municipalities.

By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **second** by Mr. Volovnik the PACC report **was accepted**.

Item #9: Emergency Services Report:

The Board acknowledged reports from Perkasio, Sellersville and Dublin Fire Companies, **by motion** of Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, **voting 3-0**.

Item #10: Other Business:

The Scholl Minor Subdivision Plan was approved for Recording and signed by the Supervisors.

Public Comment II – Nancy Moore of Ridge Road complimented the Public Works Department and thanked the Township for implementing a leaf collection program.

Item #10: Adjournment:

On motion by Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board adjourned into an Executive Session to discuss real estate matters at 8:10 P.M. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor.**

The next Regular Meeting – December 16, 2008, 7:00 PM. .

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne W. Klepfer, Secretary / Township Manager

Date Approved