

Minutes of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors
Work Session
Monday, April 14, 2009
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman David R. Nyman. Also present were Vice-Chairman John R. Cressman, as well as Solicitor John B. Rice, Esquire, Engineer C. Robert Wynn, P.E., Public Works Director Steve Funk and Township Manager Anne W. Klepfer as well as members of the press and public.

Item #1. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, the Work Session Minutes of March 10, 2009 were approved 2-0.

Item #2. Payment of Bills

On motion by Mr. Cressman **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, to approve the Bills List dated March 10, 2009 totaling \$68,359.90. Mrs. Klepfer noted that there might be adjustments once the bills are formally processed by the Assistant Treasurer. With no additional comment, **the motion carried 2-0.**

Public Comment Period #1 – Mr. Person's stopped in to get a copy of the agenda and draft ATV Ordinance. He shared some of his thoughts on the Ordinance and thanked the Board for continuing its consideration.

Item #3. Manager's Report:

Draft Open Space Plan Update: Noted: that everyone present this evening was present for the formal presentation of the draft Open Space Plan at this month's Planning Commission Meeting. It was noted that a public hearing would be held at the April 21, 2009 Regular Meeting following a power point presentation of the Draft Plan presented by David Sebastian of the Bucks County Planning Commission. Mrs. Klepfer will prepare the Resolution for adoption of the Plan.

DCNR Refund- Mrs. Klepfer recommended the Board authorize a refund of \$53,773.96 of grant funding and interest to DCNR for an open space preservation project that cannot be completed in the required time frame. Mr. Nyman noted that the Township will continue to monitor and pursue the preservation of this property but that the Township could not reach an agreement with the property owner. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **second** by Mr. Nyman, the Board **voted 2-0** to refund the money to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Notice of Retirement – Mr. Cressman **moved** to accept the notice of retirement tendered by Assistant Treasurer-Secretary Ellen Roesener with regret and best wishes. The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Nyman and **approved 2-0.**

Fee Schedule Revisions: Mrs. Klepfer noted that on the Regular Meeting Agenda she is going to have a proposed amendment to the 2009 Fee Schedule to incorporate third party inspection services. It directly affects electric permits and non-residential accessibility reviews. The Board Directed Mrs. Klepfer to reduce the draft Third Party Administration fee from \$50.00 to \$30.00.

1920 Tenants – Update: The tenants from 1920 Ridge Road were present and asked the Board to reconsider the eviction notice that they were issued. They have become current on their rent and completely cleaned up the property inside and out and even made some improvements. Public Works Director Steve Funk confirmed that he did an inspection and that the property is in good shape now and he recommended that the tenants be given a second chance to pay their rent on time and maintain their home properly. The Board agreed to give them a second chance, subject to periodic inspections and staying current with their rent. The Board directed Mrs. Klepfer to place this matter on the Regular Meeting Agenda for action to halt the eviction proceedings.

Software Upgrades & Grants: Mrs. Klepfer discussed various software upgrades the Township needs and possible grant funding. One upgrade will need to be completed in March and will be an unbudgeted expense. Mrs. Klepfer told the board she would make a recommendation for where to account for the expense and ask their approval at the Regular Meeting.

Act 32 Delegate Appointment: The Board discussed the need to appoint someone to represent East Rockhill when the County forms the ad hoc committee for implementation of Act 32 regarding County-wide tax collection. Mr. Nyman will discuss the possibility of a regional representative with PACC members.

Fuel Bids: The Board of Supervisors directed Mrs. Klepfer to prepare a contract to award the bid for fuel that was administered through the Bucks County Consortium and to place it on the Regular Meeting Agenda for consideration of award.

Pennvest Grant Opportunity: Mrs. Klepfer stated that there might be an opportunity to qualify for American Recovery Act funding for the Stormwater Basin Retrofit project. By **motion** of Mr. Nyman and **second** by Mr. Cressman the Board **voted 2-0** to authorize C. Robert Wynn Associates to meet with Pennvest to discuss the project.

Item #4. Public Works Report: Mr. Funk reported that the mortar for the stone façade of the Rockhill Road Bridge has given out and that a large section of the stonework fell into the creek. The Township Engineer inspected the bridge and determined that the bridge structure itself is structurally sound and does not think that repairing the bridge is cost effective. The Township needs to decide a long term solution. In the meantime, road barriers and additional signage have been installed to keep traffic away from the damage on the south west side.

Item #5. PWTA Report: John R. Cressman – Mr. Cressman said he might have a legal matter to discuss with the Board, but other than that he did not have a lot to discuss.

Item #6. Solicitor's Report: - John B. Rice, Esquire
Zoning Hearing Board Application – By **motion** of Mr. Cressman, **second** by Mr. Nyman and a **2-0 vote**, the Board authorized John B. Rice, Esquire to intervene on the Township's behalf at a Zoning Hearing being conducted to hear an appeal/ask for a variance for a Auto Repair Business in an Airport Hangar.

B&D Subdivision: Mr. Rice discussed with the Board their thoughts on whether or not the proposed open space for the B&D subdivision could be conveyed to the existing property, maintained by a homeowners association or dedicated to the Township. Mr. Rice will have further discussions with the representative for B&D.

ATV Ordinance: Mr. Rice disseminated a draft of the ATV Ordinance. The Board discussed their ideas and some of the public comments received. Mr. Nyman asked that the draft Ordinance be made available to the public and agreed to review the draft and comments received again at the May 12, 2009 Work Session.

Municipal Utilities Alliance – Mr. Rice advised the Board that an Ordinance authorizing an inter-municipal agreement for participation in joint procurement of electricity and other goods is advertised for consideration at the April 21, 2009 Regular Meeting.

Item #7. Engineer's Report: C. Robert Wynn, P.E.
Rockhill Road Bridge: Mr. Wynn did not have a formal report however he discussed the Rockhill Road Bridge with the Township and possible funding opportunities. He said he would check with Hilltown to get more information about the funding they received to repair a similar stone arch bridge.

Item #8. Other Business:
Mr. Nyman announced that the Pennridge Police Department is forming a traffic safety committee and citizens of East Rockhill Township who are interested in participating on the committee should contact Chief David A. Mettin. More information is posted on the Township Website.

Public Comment Period #2 – There was none.

Item #9. Adjournment: By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **second** by Mr. Nyman the meeting unanimously adjourned to a real estate meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne W. Klepfer
Secretary / Manager

Approved: _____