

MINUTES OF THE
THE EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 20, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman John Cressman, who led the Salute to the American Flag. Also present were Vice-Chairman Gary Volovnik, Supervisor Jim Nietupski, Solicitor Patrick Armstrong, Engineer Steve Baluh, Township Manager Anne Klepfer and members of the press and public.

Item #1: Approval of Minutes

By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **second** by Mr. Nietupski, the minutes of March 16, 2010 were unanimously **approved 3-0**.

Item #2: Payment of Bills

On **motion** by Mr. Nietupski, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, the Bills List of April 20, 2010 totaling \$121,119.74 was **approved 3-0**.

Public Comment I- Non Agenda Items: Mr. Hans Schnitzler of Stone Edge Road addressed the Board about several concerns. He asked the Board to consider an ordinance that would regulate the use of backyard wood burning devices. He also asked the Board to have the bushes along the walking path in Markey Park professionally pruned and reported that the drainage pipes installed in 2008 have popped out of place and aren't functioning properly. The Board asked Solicitor Armstrong to provide them with a model Ordinance for Wood Burning Devices and asked the Township Manager to inform the Public Works Director about the drainage problems and have him get proposals from a landscaper to prune the bushes.

Special Business – Police Headquarters Update

Mr. Ben Botti, the Project Manager for the Pennridge Regional Police Commission's Headquarter project made a presentation to the Board of Supervisors and public in attendance. He reviewed the site plan and architectural floor plans for the proposed building which consists of a first floor and a basement level to be located in West Rockhill Township on Ridge Road near Old Bethlehem Pike. The proposed construction is modular in design and has an estimated cost of \$2,000,000.00 to be shared equally by West and East Rockhill Townships. The Board discussed their desire to look into thermal wells and solar panels. Sewer and water agreements also need to be ironed out. Mr. Botti estimated that the project will take 15 months to complete from the notice to proceed.

West and East Rockhill Township Engineer Steve Baluh asked the Board to authorize Mrs. Klepfer to sign the planning module for the Police Headquarters' project so that he can get the other approvals necessary before submitting it to DEP. By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **second** by Mr. Nietupski the Board authorized Mrs. Klepfer to sign the planning module on the condition that Mr. Baluh refrain from submitting the planning module to DEP until an inter-municipal sewer agreement is executed by both West and East Rockhill Township. The motion **carried 3-0**.

Item #3: Manager's Report:

Resolution No. 2010-07: A Resolution Authorizing and Supporting the Act 32 Tax Committee to apply for a \$5,000 state grant to offset their operating costs. Mr. Volovnik **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 2010-07. The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Nietupski and was **approved 3-0**.

Resolution No. 2010-08: A Resolution Authorizing the Township Manager to make application to the Bucks County Natural Areas program. The motion was **made** by Mr. Nietupski, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik and **approved 3-0**.

By **motion** of Mr. Nietupski and **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board **voted 3-0** to approve the Manager's Report.

Item #4: Planning Commission Report:

Mrs. Fenley reported that the Planning Commission reviewed the Village Commercial Zoning Amendment with specific consideration to signage requirements.

Item #5: PWTA Report: John Cressman

Mr. Cressman reported that the PWTA meeting was usual business and that they reviewed the draft Audit Report. There will be no refund of operating funds and more EDU's will be allocated to East Rockhill Township.

Item #6: PACC Report: Mr. Nietupski reported that the meeting attendance was only 3 municipalities and the Chamber of Commerce. There are some developing areas of possible cooperation that Mr. Nietupski wants to discuss at the May Work Session.

Item #7 Police Commission Report – Mr. Nietupski reviewed the Pennridge Regional Police Department's March Monthly Activity Report for East Rockhill Township. He noted that the Police Commission's Financial Statements have been prepared and the Audit completed. He also noted that the Commission authorized \$6,000 in expenditures to finalize the plans for the new Headquarters. The Police Department recently purchased a new car and received a grant.

Item #8 Engineer's Report: Steve Baluh P.E.

Voucher's Dated April 7, 2010: Engineer Baluh noted one voucher listed on his Voucher Report. It is for \$ 795.09 in Construction Observation/Escrow Administration for the Bucks County Community College. By **motion** of Mr. Nietupski, **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Voucher Reported dated April 7, 2010 was **approved 3-0**.

Stockpile/dump site: Mr. Baluh reported that he and Jeff Scholl identified a stockpile site on the Hildebrandt tract and he will file an application for with Bucks County Conservation District for approval.

Township Yard: Mr. Baluh reported that the area adjacent to Mrs. Hendricks property border with the Township is extremely wet and will not support a vegetation buffer. Existing trees there are dying. However, there is an area outside of the wetlands where a berm could be planted to improve the buffer.

Item #9 Solicitor's Report: Patrick Armstrong, Esquire

Furmanski Letter: By **motion** of Mr. Nietupski and **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board voted **3-0** to authorize the Solicitor to prepare an agreement that would require financial security for public improvements to be posted at the time of building permit application for the Furmanski Subdivision building lot.

Ordinance No. 252: An amendment to the Subdivision and Land Development Chapter of the Codified Code of East Rockhill Township regarding Traffic Studies. Solicitor Armstrong announced that the proposed Ordinance Amendment was properly advertised in the News Herald, and posted at the Bucks County Law Library, at the Municipal Office and on the Township's Website. He summarized the ordinance. A Public Hearing was convened at 8:20pm and there were no public comments. The hearing was closed at 8:23 PM. By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **second** by Mr. Nietupski the Board voted **3-0** to adopt Ordinance No. 252.

Ordinance No. 253: An amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Suburban District. Solicitor Armstrong announced that the proposed Ordinance Amendment was properly advertised in the News Herald, and posted at the Bucks County Law Library, at the Municipal Office and on the Township's website. He summarized the Ordinance. A Public Hearing was convened at 8:25pm and there were no public comments. There was a brief discussion regarding the restriction of 1500sf for accessory uses permitted with age restricted communities. The Board commented that when it comes to high density development, no waivers will be considered. The hearing was closed at 8:35 PM. By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **second** by Mr. Nietupski the Board voted **3-0** to adopt Ordinance No. 253.

Pennridge Police Commission Business: The Board of Supervisors had questions and desired further explanation of the changes that West Rockhill requested for this land agreement for the location of the new Police Headquarters. They agreed to discuss it further and seek clarification from West Rockhill Township.

By **motion** of Mr. Nietupski and **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board **voted 3-0** to approve Departmental Reports #4-#9 on the Agenda.

Item #10: Emergency Services Report: Reports were received from Dublin, Sellersville and Perkasio Fire Departments. Mr. Nietupski **moved** to accept the reports. The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik and **approved 3-0**.

Perkasie Borough Fire Department Chief Dave Worthington noted that they have some new members that need to be outfitted plus they need to purchase new radios because of the changes being made at the County Level. He asked the Township to pass along any grants or potential funding resources

Item #10: Other Business:

Public Comment II – Hans Schnitzler asked for clarification on Village of East Rockhill and asked what the Township does with all the leaves.

Adjournment:

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On motion by Mr. Nietupski, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM With no additional comment, **all voted in favor.**

The next Regular meeting will be May 18 2010.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne W. Klepfer, Secretary / Township Manager

Date Approved