

Minutes of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors
Work Session
Tuesday, May 13 2008
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman David R. Nyman. Also present was Vice-Chairman John R. Cressman as well as Township Manager Anne W. Klepfer, and Solicitor John B. Rice, Esquire as well as members of the press and public.

Item #1. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, the April 8, 2008 Work Session Minutes were **approved 2-0**.

Item #2. Payment of Bills

On motion by Mr. Cressman **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, to approve the Bills List totaling \$66,252.62 dated May 13, 2008. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor**.

Item #3. Manager's Report:

St Luke's Emergency & Transport Services Presentation: Mrs. Klepfer turned the floor over to Kermit Gore, Executive Director for St. Luke's Emergency & Transport Services. Mr. Gore gave a brief power point presentation about St. Luke's services which covers 10-15% of East Rockhill Township. St. Luke's is based in Quakertown and has 80 paid employees including 24 paramedics and operates 10 ambulances. They cover the portion of East Rockhill Township that is roughly from Route 563 North towards Quakertown.

Mr. Gore wanted the Board to know that ambulance companies are dealing with challenges such as the fact that the cost of preparedness exceeds what they are reimbursed for their services and that the majority of their costs are personnel related. They only have 3 volunteers working for them.

Despite their financial challenges, they are averaging 1.9 minutes from dispatch and 7.9 minutes until they are on location in East Rockhill Township, which is below the County average. Mr. Gore asked the Board for the following assistance:

1. Execute a Municipal Resolution naming St. Luke's & Grandview as a primary EMS service providers to East Rockhill Township.
2. Appoint a municipal representative to St Luke's Advisory Board and attend the annual meeting held by St. Luke's to update municipalities on progress of providing EMS to the community.
3. Discuss/consider service impact with St. Luke's when a new developments is planned.

4. Request that Bucks County re-evaluate and re-divide the service territories to improve response capabilities and reflect current coverage areas.

Resident Anne Fenley asked if St. Luke's transfers to Grandview Hospital. Mr. Gore answered affirmatively.

The Board thanked Mr. Gore for the information and indicated that East Rockhill Township has received a notice from Bucks County Emergency Health Services Director Jeryl L. DeGideo indicating that they will be requesting meetings with each municipality in Bucks County to discuss the system for ambulance response and possible updates. The Board asked Mrs. Klepfer to try to get that meeting scheduled at the earliest date possible.

Quarry Activity: Mrs. Klepfer advised the Board that on Thursday she will be meeting with representatives from Hanson Quarries and R.E. Pierce regarding plans for R.E. Pierce to transport rock that has already been mined from the quarry to a Wildwood, N.J. beach restoration project. R.E. Pierce has indicated that they do not intend to have to blast more rock, however the Township received the formal notification from Hanson Quarries seeking approvals to begin blasting. Mr. Cressman advised that he will attend this meeting with Mrs. Klepfer. Mr. Nyman suggested that if blasting does occur, that Hanson Quarries should voluntarily create a day time phone notification system similar to what the Haines & Kibblehouse quarry utilizes in West Rockhill Township.

Fee Schedule Amendment Resolution No. 2008-10: Mrs. Klepfer asked the Board to consider a Resolution to Amend the 2008 Fee Schedule to add a fee for Registration of a Non-conforming Use or Structure, increasing the permit fee for a non-residential accessory structure zoning permit and increasing the fee for a non-residential addition or alteration zoning permit. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, **Resolution No. 2008-10** amending Resolution No. 2008-02 was **unanimously adopted**.

Solid Waste Ordinance Amendment: Mrs. Klepfer asked the Board to authorize advertisement of an amendment to the Township's Solid Waste Ordinance to address DEP comments. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, the Board **voted 2-0** to authorize advertisement of the proposed ordinance.

TMA Air Quality Partner – Request from TMA Bucks: The Board discussed the details of being an air quality partner. The Board suggested that East Rockhill would be willing to participate if the Township Manager could assign the personnel necessary to issue the air quality notices.

Correspondence from Rick Alexander: The Board of Supervisors reviewed a letter from Mr. Rick Alexander asking them if there is any interest in acquiring the rights to a portion of his property to create off-street parking for The Pines. Mr. Alexander was told that the Township had previously explored the idea but that the previous owner had not been interested. No one present could remember discussing Mr. Alexander's property in the past. The Board advised that they did not think it necessary to pursue this matter further.

DEP Water Line Extension Grant: In order to secure additional funding from DEP for the extension of Public Water to the Cedarview Crossing development, an Agreement between PBA and East Rockhill will be necessary and a Grant Application will need to be filed by East Rockhill Township. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **seconded** by Mr. Nyman, the Board **voted 2-0** to authorize Mrs. Klepfer to begin working on drafting the Agreement and the Grant Application.

Street Light for Schoolhouse & Ridge Road: The Board discussed the possibility of having a street light installed on an existing telephone pole at the intersection of Schoolhouse Road and Ridge Road. Mrs. Klepfer estimated the cost at about \$1,500.00. Mr. Nyman asked Mrs. Klepfer to confirm the cost and the lumens necessary to light the intersection and report back to the Board.

Dog control complaint: Mrs. Klepfer reported that she received a complaint that the Township's Ordinances do not require dogs to be on a leash when in Township parks. The PA Dog Law states that dogs must be on a leash or under reasonable control by the owner. The Township's Park and Recreation Rules state that dogs cannot be "out of control." The Board asked Mrs. Klepfer to research what rules neighboring municipalities have in place.

Perkasie Borough Matters: Mrs. Klepfer advised the Board that Perkasie Borough has requested a warrant for flashing beacons at Callowhill and Main Street and is asking for East Rockhill Township's support. Mr. Nyman and Mr. Cressman indicated that they are more interested in seeing a longer term solution to physically correct that intersection. Mrs. Klepfer also discussed Perkasie Borough's interest in widening Blooming Glen Road to redesign the lane configuration of the intersection with Fifth Street. Additional right-of-way is needed from both Perkasie Borough properties and East Rockhill Township properties and Perkasie Borough wants to know if East Rockhill Township would be willing to condemn the right-of-way if CVS is unable to acquire it. The Board of Supervisors wants to see a detailed plan of the additional right-of-way that is needed and have in writing that Perkasie Borough is willing to condemn the right-of-way in the Borough.

Gate: Time & Signs: Mrs. Klepfer reported that there have been some inconsistencies with the opening and closing of the gates at the Iron Bridge Park. The Township's Ordinance says that parks close at dusk, however, team sports often use athletic fields past dusk. Mrs. Klepfer asked the Police Department to make sure the gates are closed after permitted use has concluded and before dawn. Chief Mettin has directed officers to close the gate at 10:00 PM and open it again at 5:00 AM.

New Road Tractor: Recommendation from Public Works Director, Steve Funk, to finance a new road tractor in 2008 utilizing \$25,000 DCED grant from Paul Clymer. By **motion** of Mr. Nyman and **seconded** by Mr. Cressman, the Board **unanimously** authorized placing the order for the recommended 2008 road tractor. The Township

Solicitor advised that a Resolution or Ordinance may be required for the Unit Debt Act and asked the manager to please consult his office prior to any financing.

Item #4. Public Works Report: Steve Funk reported that they were doing prep work for the oil & chip projects. Based on the progress reported on the water extension project, Mr. Funk is going to hold off oil & chipping the section of Schwenkmill Road from Fifth Street to Branch Road. He said that they are about four days behind in their mowing but plan on getting caught up on that. The first summer employee begins work this week so additional personnel time will be spent catching up. Mr. Funk also reported that the EQ holding tank with pitless adapters that holds pumps on is malfunctioning. The tank will need to be drained and cleaned and fitted with new adapters. This will take 4-5 days to complete work.

Mr. Cressman asked if Deer Crossing signs could be erected on Branch Road. Mr. Funk said they could be installed but he doesn't recommend it.

Item #5. PWTA Report: John R. Cressman – No report

Item #6. Solicitor's Report:

Ordinance Amendments: Solicitor Rice indicated that the Zoning Amendment is scheduled for adoption at the May Regular Meeting and the SALDO Amendment is scheduled for the June Regular Meeting.

Fox Hill E&S Complaints: The Board discussed complaints about E&S violations at Fox Hill. The consensus is that they felt the Bucks County Conservation District should be notified and should be addressing the problem through their means. Mrs. Klepfer will contact the Bucks County Conservation District.

Car Wash Agreement: Solicitor Rice confirmed details of the agreement and told the Board he is working on it. The agreement is with regard to metering water usage and allocating appropriate sewage capacity. The Car Wash is in West Rockhill Township.

Conditional Use Application Received: Solicitor Rice received an application for Conditional Use. He is reviewing the application and if a hearing is necessary it will be scheduled for the Regular Meeting in June at 7:15 PM.

Item #7. Engineer's Report: Engineer Wynn reviewed a Memo from his office dated April 1, 2008 regarding a drainage complaint investigated at the request of the office. The letter recommends several possible solutions to the complaint that drainage is crossing Hill Road and leaving the road side swale. Mr. Wynn's office suggested that additional driveway pipes could be required for driveways across the road from the subject property and at a minimum the centerline crown of the road could be raised approximately 200 lineal feet. Mr. Trauger, the owner of the property at 2843 Hill Road, was present and asked the Board what they are going to do to address the problem. The Board directed the Township Manager to look into ensuring that appropriate measures were taken to keep the stormwater from crossing the road.

DEP Growing Greener Plus Grant: Engineer Wynn completed the grant application and turned the applications over to the Township Manager for execution and submission.

PBA Issues regarding Bucks County Community College Plan: Engineer Wynn reported that this matter has been resolved. Mrs. Klepfer said that she was unaware that the issues raised in the April 21, 2008 letter regarding an easement held by PBA were resolved. Mr. Wynn reported there is another letter subsequent to the April 21, 2008 letter and that the matter is resolved.

Item #8 PACC Report – Mr. Nyman handed the PACC meeting notes.

Item #9. Other Business:

Mr. Cressman asked Township Manager Anne Klepfer to prepare a letter or a Resolution commending A.J. Esposito for completing his Eagle Scout project and attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. Nyman thanked Mr. Cressman for the tremendous amount of time and commitment he gave and commended him for the success of the Bridge Dedication Celebration. It was a truly special day for the East Rockhill Township community.

Public Comment Period #2 – Anne Fenley asked what was going on with the Callowhill and Main Street Intersection? She commented that there have been more near miss accidents since they installed the additional stop signs and made it a four-way intersection. Mrs. Klepfer said that the Borough has received numerous complaints and have requested PennDot evaluate warrants for a blinking beacon light there to warn motorists.

A reporter inquired as to the last time there was blasting at the quarry. The Board said that it last occurred in the early 1980's, prior to Hanson taking ownership.

Item #9. Adjournment:

Mr. Cressman **moved** and Mr. Nyman **seconded** the motion to adjourn the meeting into a Real Estate Executive Session at 9:05 P.M. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne W. Klepfer
Secretary / Manager

Approved: _____