

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

February 17, 2009

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. Chairman Nyman announced that an Executive session for Real Estate was held and that another would be conducted at the end of the meeting.

Item #1: Approval of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Cressman **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik the minutes of January 20, 2009 were approved **unanimously**.

Item #2: Payment of Bills

Mr. Volovnik **moved** to approve payment of the bills list as of February 17, 2009 totaling \$117,619.03. The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Cressman and **approved 3-0**.

Public Comment I: There were none.

Item #3: Manager's Report: Anne Klepfer

Report from Chief Mettin: Chief David A. Mettin, Police Commission member Don Duvall and members of the Pennridge Regional Police Department were in attendance for the presentation of an award to Gary W. Volovnik for continuous service and dedication to the Police Commission from 1992 through 2008.

Planning Commission Annual Report: Pursuant to the Second Class Township Code, Mrs. Klepfer submitted the Annual Planning Commission Report to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Street Light at Sternermill Road and Route 313: Mrs. Klepfer updated the Board that she and Mr. Funk are still working with PP&L on determining the feasibility and cost of installing a street light.

Mowing Service Proposals: Mrs. Klepfer and Mr. Funk are completing background checks on the apparent low bidder and will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in March.

Building Inspection Third Party Services: Mrs. Klepfer informed the Board that the Township will need to contract with a third party inspection service to back up Mr. Gardner for periods of time when he is on vacation and for the inspection and plan review services that he does not yet have certifications for. Mrs. Klepfer will have a proposal for the Board's consideration in March. In the mean time, the Board **voted 3-0** by **motion** of Gary Volovnik and **second** by John Cressman to appoint Scott Leatherman, employed full-time by Plumstead Township, to serve as a substitute Building Inspector when Mr. Gardner is not available and until a third party service is retained.

Mr. Cressman **moved** to approve the Manager's Report. The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik and **approved 3-0**.

Item #4: Planning Commission Report: The Planning Commission did not meet in February so there is no report.

Item #5: PWTA Report: Mr. Cressman reported PWTA reorganized and that he is still Treasurer.

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

Item #6 PACC Report: Mr. Nyman summarized the January PACC Meeting and said that PACC continues to work towards formalizing a new Intermunicipal Agreement for the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee.

Item #7: Engineer's Report: C. Robert Wynn, P.E.

Vouchers – No Vouchers this month

Extensions: Township Engineer C. Robert Wynn reported that the Hollybrook Farms Subdivision has failed to submit a revised plan that complies with the Township's Zoning, Stormwater Management and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances and that it is his recommendation that the Township Deny the plan based on his review and recommendation. By **motion** of John Cressman and **second** by Gary Volovnik and by **3-0 vote**, the Board acted to deny the Hollybrook Farms Subdivision Plan pursuant to the recommendations of the Township Engineer.

John Cressman **moved** to accept the Township Engineer's Report. Gary Volovnik **seconded** the motion which **carried 3-0**.

Item #8: Township Solicitor's Report- Patrick Armstrong

Water District Ordinance: Patrick Armstrong summarized Ordinance No. 245 known as the Public Water District Ordinance. He stated for the record that the Ordinance has been properly advertised in the News Herald and that copies of the Ordinance were provided to the Bucks County Law Library, and to the Township for posting on the website and availability at the Township building for review. Mr. Nyman opened the hearing. With no public comment, the hearing was closed. By **motion** of Mr. Cressman and **second** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board of Supervisors **by 3-0 vote** adopted **Ordinance No. 245** providing definition to a public water district for East Rockhill Township.

PBA Conservation Easement: Mr. Armstrong noted that members of the Perkasio Borough Authority were present this evening should there be any questions about the proposed Conservation Easement that the Township and Perkasio Borough have agreed to place on approximately 168 acres of mostly wooded land along Three Mile Run Road. The easement will prohibit certain uses and will protect environmental resources while at the same time allows for the continued use for public water wells owned and operated by Perkasio Borough Authority. By **motion** of Mr. Volovnik and **second** by Mr.

Cressman the Board **by 3-0 vote** approved the execution of a Conservation Easement on property owned by Perkasio Borough Authority.

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

Item #9: Emergency Services Report:

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

Item #10: Other Business:

Mr. Nyman made three public information announcements. He announced that Bucks County has changed over its Emergency Notification Program and that residents can read about it and register for it through the Bucks County website www.buckscounty.org. He also announced the formation of a Special Needs Registry and encouraged Mrs. Klepfer and the Emergency Management Coordinator to request a meeting to learn more about these programs and registrations. Mr. Nyman also encouraged residents to sign up for the Township's e-news service from a link provided on the Township website www.eastrockhilltownship.org.

Public Comment II – Jim Nietupski of Route 313 asked who would be required to connect to public water under the Township's Ordinance. It was explained that new development in the water district abutting the water system within one hundred fifty feet would be required to connect as well as property owners affected by a public health or safety concern.

Mr. Nietupski also asked the Board if East Rockhill Township has plans to adopt a Historic Resources Ordinance similar to the one under review in West Rockhill Township. Also, if East Rockhill Township has, or has intention to conduct an inventory of historic resources in East Rockhill Township? Mr. Nyman responded that there has not been any discussion about developing either a Historic Resources Ordinance or an Inventory in the near future. It was noted that the Township does not have a Historical Society of its own and does not have any funding available for such an endeavor at this time.

Mr. Nietupski stated that he was very much opposed to the Historic Preservation Ordinance proposed by West Rockhill Township and was glad to hear that East Rockhill is not working on a similar one.

Mr. Don Duvall of West Rockhill Township was recognized by the Board of Supervisors. He explained that that West Rockhill Township received a grant and funding from the Historical Society to pay for a Historic Resources Inventory and prepare an Ordinance

designed to encourage preservation of West Rockhill's historic resources and notify the Township of threats to historic structures. He said they drafted the Ordinance and invited every affected property owner to a public meeting to discuss the ordinance and share their thoughts. He stated that despite a misleading unofficial notice about the hearing and ordinance, that the meeting was very informative and gave the Township a lot to think about and the Township now has a better understanding of the thoughts and concerns of the property owners would be affected by the ordinance.

Item #11: Adjournment:

On motion by Mr. Cressman, **seconded** by Mr. Volovnik, the Board adjourned into an Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel matters at 8:00 P.M. With no additional comment, **all voted in favor**. The next Regular meeting is March 17, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne W. Klepfer, Secretary / Township Manager

Date Approved