

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
Westtown Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown
Monday, May 19, 2014 at 6:30 PM

In attendance were: Chair Carol De Wolf, Vice Chair Mike Di Domenico, Police Commissioner Tom Haws, Township Manager Rob Pingar, Planning & Zoning Director Chris Patriarca, WEGO Police Chief Brenda Bernot, and Township Solicitor Patrick McKenna.

I. Call to Order

Chairman De Wolf led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. Mr. Di Domenico then asked if anyone in the audience was recording or videotaping the meeting. Kendal Gapinski from the Daily Local News stated that she was taping the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes (Board of Supervisors May 5, 2014)

Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to approve the May 5, 2014 minutes. Mr. Haws seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion was approved.

III. Departmental Reports

A. Westtown East Goshen Police Department – Chief Brenda Bernot

Chief Bernot informed residents of a Military Collection Drive on Saturday, June 1 from 9:00 AM -12:00 PM at the WEGO Police station. A Westtown resident is collecting items to send to members of our armed services stationed overseas.

She also encouraged residents to share the road with cyclists, giving them a 4 foot berth, as is required by law. A copy of the Chester County Cycling Coalition guidebook for cyclists and motorists is available at the police station.

The Chief also reported on a fatal motorcycle accident on Manley Road. There was also a 15 year old under the influence of PCP who was streaking, as well as an undercover prescription drug bust in the 900 block of S. Concord. There was also a burglary at the Hobbytown store in the Marketplace Shopping Center.

With the warmer weather, the department has seen an increase in theft via open garage doors. Chief Bernot cautioned residents to close their garage doors while working in their yards. She also reminded residents to remove valuables from their cars and lock the doors.

There were no questions or comments.

B. Township Solicitor – Pat McKenna

Mr. McKenna reminded residents that when the Board is considering a conditional use application, it is improper to contact a member of the Board directly via email, voicemail, or in conversation to discuss an application. He asked that all residents keep their comments limited to the actual hearings. This ensures due process so the applicant or any other party has the opportunity to hear the comment, to cross examine, or respond to the comment. He asked that the public please refrain from contacting the Board directly with any comments or concerns. If you can't come to a hearing, please send your comments to the Township Manager so they can be read into the record at the hearing.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

C. Parks & Recreation Commission – Rob Pingar

Mr. Pingar reported that buyer turnout for the community yard sale on April 26 was lower than in past years, perhaps due to the weather, but the vendor spaces sold out. There will not be a fall yard sale.

On June 20th P&R is hosting a Summer Kickoff Concert from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM featuring the West Chester Community Concert Band and Woodside Farm Creamery. More information is available on the Township website.

Summer Movie Nights were announced:

Friday, June 27 – Frozen

Friday, July 25 – Narnia

Friday, September 5 – Ghostbusters

The commission is continuing to work on advertising, the Oakbourne Mansion website, and getting a lighted sign installed at Oakbourne Park.

Finally, Mr. Pingar stated that the P&R is looking for volunteers to help with events or to join the commission.

There were no questions or comments.

D. Planning Commission – Russ Hatton

Mr. Hatton reported on the May 7 Planning Commission (PC) meeting. The PC discussed prohibiting members of Township staff or Township consultants from being appointed to the commission to eliminate the appearance of a conflict of interest. This would require a change to the PC bylaws. The PC also suggested the need for its own consultants or solicitors as expert witnesses depending on the situation.

Under new business, the PC discussed if there was a need for a student housing ordinance, and the need to update the Township's Comprehensive Plan, which was last updated in 2001.

On the agenda for Wednesday, 5/21 meeting, the PC will discuss the bi-directional amplifier ordinance, the PC mission statement, and bylaws. Mr. Hatton reported that three members of the Commission, a member of the Board, and Chris Patriarca recently completed a three night training course given by the Chester County Planning Commission on Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) review. Chris is now recognized by Chester County as a Master Planner.

There were no questions. Ms. De Wolf congratulated everyone who took the course.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

A. Authorization to Advertise PMRS Pension Plan Ordinance

Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to advertise the PMRS Pension Plan Ordinance. Mr. Haws seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion was approved.

B. Citizens' Website Committee

Ms. De Wolf announced that there will be five citizens serving on the website committee. Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to appoint the five members. Ms. De Wolf seconded the motion. Mr. Pingar stated that seven residents responded to the advertisement for the committee. One had a conflict of interest, and one was not a resident in good standing. There was no further comment and the motion was approved, with Mr. Haws abstaining because, due to an administrative oversight, he did not receive the information on the appointees in his packet.

C. Announcement

The Cars and Motorcycles of England show returns to Oakbourne Park on Saturday, May 31, 2014. The field opens at 8:30 AM, and the judging begins at 10:00 AM.

VI. Public Comment on All Topics

There was no public comment.

VII. Payment of Bills

Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to pay the check register for May 16, 2014 in the amount of \$202,441.63 for the General fund, and \$22,591.73 Wastewater fund, totaling \$225,033.36. The motion was seconded by Mr. Haws. There was no public comment and the motion to approve the bills was approved.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Haws. There was no public comment and the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Pingar, P.E.
Township Manager