

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
Township Municipal Building, Stokes Assembly Hall, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown
Tuesday, September 6, 2011 7:30PM

In attendance were Supervisors Vice Chair Charles P. Barber and Police Commissioner Carol R. De Wolf; Township Manager Robert Layman; Township Building Inspector John Wilson; Township Roadmaster Mark Gross; Planning Commission Member Jim Lees; Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Kristine Lisi; and Oakbourne Mansion Commission Chair Eva Foster. There were six guests in attendance.

I. Call to Order.

As there was a quorum present Vice Chair Barber called the meeting to order at 7:34Pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Minutes (August 1, and August 15, 2011 Regular Meeting).

Mr. Barber asked as Mr. Foster was not in attendance that approval of the minutes be tabled. Ms. De Wolf concurred and approval of the minutes was tabled at this time.

III. Summary of Board of Supervisors Workshop 9/6/11.

Mr. Barber stated the following items were discussed at the workshop: Connection of Westtown-Thornbury Elementary School to public sewer; Stormwater basin concerns at Wild Goose Farms and Liberty Square; Green Lane Village grading plan; Accident at Green Lane and Route 3 involving a pedestrian hit by a vehicle; Storm damage to the roof of the Police building; St. Maximilian Kolbe's 25th anniversary fund raiser; Heard report from Kristine Lisi, Chair Park & Recreation Commission, on park matters; and held an executive session on police personnel matters.

Ms. De Wolf stated that it is the Board's decision not to hold a special yard waste collection because of Hurricane Irene. The next curb side collection, as scheduled, will be held on Saturday, September 24th.

IV. Departmental Reports.

A. Township Building Inspector – John Wilson.

Mr. Wilson presented the August Building Report. He stated that WCASD has submitted the application for renovations to Westtown-Thornbury Elementary School. He also advised the Board that installation of air conditioning for the Oakbourne Mansion is scheduled to start this week. Mr. Barber asked if the building permits were now posted on the Township website. Mr. Wilson stated that once they are approved they are posted under the building department link from the home page on the website.

B. Township Roadmaster – Mark Gross.

Mr. Gross stated that the Department spent most of the month on stormwater and tree removal because of the August storms. He stated that the Department worked straight through Hurricane Irene keeping the roads opened. Mr. Gross commended the Road Department employees for their storm work. He stated that a list is being prepared for FEMA on the estimated cost of the storm damage. He also stated that this year's road restoration project has been completed and all the pavement markings have been done. Mr. Barber asked about the New Street Bridge project. Mr. Gross responded that due to the high water because of the storms the project is on hold. Ms. De Wolf thanked the Road Department for their great job during the storm.

Wayne Zimmerman, 300 Beechwood Road, stated his area was out of electric because of a tree down on Oakbourne Road at S. Walnut Street and did Mr. Gross know about this. Mr. Gross stated he did know but the tree was on a State Road, which is not the Township's responsibility, and second the tree hit a pole and there was no way of knowing if the wires were still hot until PECO investigated.

C. Township Planning Commission – Jim Lees.

Mr. Lees stated that the Commission did not meet on August 17th. The Commission will only meet for the first meeting of the month unless a second meeting is necessary. Mr. Lees thanked the Board for having the building permits posting on the Township's website. Mr. Lees stated that Mrs. Ryan Platt was in attendance at the Commission's August 3rd meeting to explain why she had withdrawn their appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board. He also stated that Lisa Stewart, a resident from Edgewood Chase Drive, asked that the Commission consider reviewing the size of an accessory building that could be allowed in a residential district. The Commission will take this under consideration. The Commission also reviewed an amendment to the C2 zoning district concerning the buffering between residential uses even if they are separated by a road. The Commission also reviewed an application to the Zoning Hearing Board for a front porch for the Mulloy property, 12 Stanton Avenue. The Commission recommends approval of the porch as long as it is not enclosed. Mr. Lees stated at this week's meeting, the Commission will continue review of the amendments to the fencing ordinance and should be making a recommendation to the Board. He also stated that the Commission feels that all alternative energy options should be compiled in one ordinance. The Commission also feels the Township Engineer or a consultant should be hired to prepare the ordinance. Ms. De Wolf said she feels that an Alternative Energy Ordinance should be addressed and written by a planning consultant. .

D. Parks and Recreation Commission – Kristine Lisi.

Ms. Lisi stated that the movie nights for Secretariat were of course rained out and with rain expected for this Friday she feels Movie Night will be cancelled again. She stated that she had attended the Board's Workshop and presented the Commission's recommendations for the parks. Ms. De Wolf asked that the handout on the park recommendations be included in the minutes. Mrs. Lisi stated that she is working on vendors for the Dog Show which will be held at Oakbourne Park on Saturday, October 8th.

E. Oakbourne Mansion Commission.

Mrs. Foster reported that Oakbourne Park will be a lunch/rest stop for those attending Chester County Day on October 1st. Oakbourne Mansion will be opened for Chester County ticket holders and non ticket holders who wish to tour the Mansion. She also stated that there are three weddings booked for the Mansion in October. Mrs. Foster thanked the Board of Supervisors for finally approving the air conditioning for the Mansion and that it is greatly appreciated.

V. Public Comment Non-Agenda Items.

Sara Proctor, 603 Bowers Drive, had questions about the Liberty Square Escrow funds. Mr. Layman responded that he does not have an answer from Malvern Bank. Ms. Proctor said there is a list of items that has not been completed. She stated there is a problem with the retention basin not draining properly and this is affecting Wild Goose Farms. Mr. Barber advised Ms. Proctor that this is being reviewed by the Township Engineer.

Herb Hoppe, 613 Picket Way, said the drainage problems started when the northern end of the basin was excavated. He stated that for the past three years his sump pump runs constantly. Mr. Hoppe said as the water is being retained the mosquitoes are multiplying and he has concerns with children possibly drowning. Mr. Layman said in speaking with the Township Engineer it appears the piping is clogged. He also stated that DEP requires that basins are installed so the water is retained and drains naturally. Mr. Barber asked if there are two separate basins. Mr. Hoppe stated that there is only one basin. Mr. Layman advised Mr. Hoppe that representatives from Wild Goose and Liberty Square need to meet to discuss this mutual concern.

Paul ?, 605 Picket Way, said he has only lived here for a year and his sump pump runs all the time. He stated that this is bad for the foundation and something needs to be done. Ms. De Wolf asked that this be expedited. Mr. Layman said he has spoken to Mr. Pingar about this issue and all parties will be meeting in the near future.

Mr. Zimmerman expressed his frustration with PECO. He stated that since they moved here in 1993 they have lost their electricity at least eight times a year. Because they have a well he finally purchased a

generator. He stated that most of his frustration comes from not being able to talk to anyone when he calls PECO. In the recent hurricane their power was out for three days because a small tree fell on a pole and took out the wires. Mr. Zimmerman would like to have PECO investigate why the circuit that serves his property is always susceptible to outages. Mr. Gross, as he had stated earlier in the meeting that the Township was aware of the outage but it is a State Road and the wires were still hot when he was at the site. Mr. Gross stated that he thought PECO did a commendable job in our area. Ms. De Wolf said she had been in upstate New York where the conditions were very serious and understands his frustration at not getting a response to his calls. She stated she sympathizes with Mr. Zimmerman but feels due to climate changes, we are going to have more storms and more outages.

VI. Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

VII. New Business

A. West Chester Public Library Presentation.

Howard Sundwall, President Board of Trustees, and Victoria Dow, Library Director, were in attendance.

Mr. Sundwall said they were in attendance to request that the Board of Supervisors consider a donation to the West Chester Public Library when preparing the 2012 budget. He stated that Westtown is one of the six communities surrounding West Chester Borough that they serve. He also stated that there are 3,400 residents in Westtown who have library cards. Mr. Sundwall reviewed the services provided by the library. He stated that they have a teen advisory group who helps with services for teen and for the younger children they have over 100 story time events and a summer reading program with participation from 94 Westtown residents. Mr. Sundwall stated that in 2011 Westtown was the only community that did not allocate funds to the library. The library does receive funding from the State but the State requires that they receive matching funding from the communities they serve. Ms. De Wolf stated that she, as in the past, is in favor of supporting the library but does not have the support of the Board. She stated she feels that the Township has an obligation to support the library. Mr. Barber said that there are other organizations, like the Senior Center, who are also requesting funding. He stated that the library receives funding from tax payers. Mr. Barber reviewed the funds received from the library's annual fund drive and the debt the library incurred from their recent renovation. Ms. De Wolf asked that funding for the library be on the next workshop agenda.

B. Award Bid Sodium Chloride Winter 2011-2012.

Mr. Barber stated that Oceanport was the low bidder. The amount of the bid is \$60.00 FOB and \$60.24 delivered. The bids have been reviewed by Mr. Gross and he is recommending the bid be awarded to Ocean Port.

Ms. De Wolf a made motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to award the 2011-2012 Winter Sodium Chloride Bid to Oceanport in the amount of \$60.00 FOB and \$60.24 delivered. Mr. Barber asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion as presented.

C. Approve Escrow Release No.3 Jefferson Office Center in the Amount of \$541,108.30.

Mr. Barber stated that the escrow request has been reviewed by the Township Engineer who has recommended approval of the release.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber to approve escrow release No.3 Jefferson Office Center in the amount of \$541,108.30. Mr. Barber asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion as presented.

D. Approve Resolution 2011 – 8 St. Maximilian Kolbe Church 25th Anniversary Celebration.

Mr. Barber stated that the Church will be holding a special celebration and wish to be able to sell alcohol. As Westtown is a dry Township the Church needed approval from the State Liquor Control Board and a resolution of approval from the Township. As there will be no liability on the Township for this event the Township will approve the resolution.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve Resolution 2011-8 St. Maximilian Kolbe Church 25th Anniversary Celebration. Mr. Barber asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion as presented.

E. Approve Emergency Declaration Hurricane Irene.

Mr. Barber stated that approval by the Board of the Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Irene had to preclude this meeting. Approval this evening is for administration purposes.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Irene. Mr. Barber asked for public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the motion as presented.

VIII. Public Comment (all topics)

Ms. De Wolf said she had addressed, with the Police Commission, the need for police presence, at the intersections of Kerwood, Dogwood, and Goodwin Lane because of traffic concerns.

IX. Payment of Bills.

On the motion of Ms. De Wolf, seconded by Mr. Barber, the bills were unanimously approved for payment as presented.

X. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 on the motion of Ms. DeWolf, seconded by Mr. Barber.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Layman,
Township Manager.