

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
SMITH MANSION OAKBOURNE PARK, 1014 SOUTH CONCORD ROAD
January 16, 2007, 7:30Pm

In attendance were Supervisors Chair Carol R. De Wolf, Vice Chairman Thomas A. Foster, and Charles P. Barber Police Commissioner; Township Manager Robert Layman; Township Planning Commissioner member Richard Pomerantz; and Westtown-East Goshen Police Chief John M. Dumond. There were five guests in attendance.

I. Call to Order.

As there was a quorum present Chair De Wolf called the meeting to order at 7:31Pm and led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

II. Approval of Minutes (January 2, 2007 Organizational and Regular Meeting).

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2007 Organizational and regular meeting. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the minutes of the January 2, 2007 Organizational and regular meeting as presented.

III. Departmental Reports.

A. Westtown East Goshen Police – Chief John M. Dumond.

Chief Dumond reported that the Department is being plagued with thefts from vehicles especially in Thornbury Township. Cars parked in store parking lots and township parks seem to be the targets. He stressed that it is very important not to leave anything of value in your vehicle as the perpetrators are looking for computers and iPods that can be sold. Mr. Barber asked about the "level one inspections" in the police report. Chief responded this is inspections of trucks that appear to be overweight and if they are they incur heavy fines.

B. Planning Commission – Richard Pomerantz.

Mr. Pomerantz reported on the January 3, 2007 Planning Commission Meeting. He stated the Board will be receiving a letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval, with conditions, for the Stetson Middle School expansion plan. He reported that Mr. Steele advised the Commission of an existing stormwater problem on the school property of which the Township was not aware. This will be looked into by the engineer for the District. Mr. Pomerantz said that the Commission will be continuing review of the zoning amendments for the A/C District at this weeks meeting. The Commission members made a site visit to Crebilly on Saturday which was very helpful. Mr. Foster asked when the Commission will be making their recommendation to the Board on the zoning ordinance amendments. Mr. Pomerantz said the Commission will be discussing a memo from Mr. Snook on the amendments at the meeting and will make their recommendation to the Board when they have finalized the amendments.

C. Financial Report – Robert Layman.

Mr. Layman stated the December financial report reflects the end of the 2006 budget year and shows that the general fund is operating in the black in both revenues and expenditures. Some of the reasons for this are lower tipping fees for trash at the landfill, and reduced snow/ice removal costs because of a mild winter. In the wastewater fund expenditures were over because of engineering fees but this was offset on the revenue side by reimbursement of these engineering fees from developers.

IV. Public Comment-Non Agenda Items.

Richard Pomerantz, 1005 Robin Drive, said he had returned the questionnaire from URS concerning the public sewer project and had made arrangements for a home inspection. He stated the engineer inspector never came on the specified date. He stated the employee he talked to at URS concerning the missed appointment did not respond in a professional manner. He asked if there is a service expectation clause in the Township's contract with URS. Ms. De Wolf advised Mr. Pomerantz that they would address this with URS.

Mr. Pomerantz also expressed his concerns with Comcast and Verizon. Comcast had a leakage in their cable which they knew about but never informed the users of their service that this was also affecting phone service. He said when speaking to Comcast he was advised that Verizon was cutting Comcast lines either by mistake or otherwise. Mr. Pomerantz said when phone lines are down it affects the safety and welfare of the public as they are not able to call 911. Ms. De Wolf asked Mr. Layman to address this with the Council of Governments as several municipalities have franchise agreements with Verizon as well as Comcast. The Board also directed Mr. Layman to contact both Comcast and Verizon on this issue.

V. Old Business:

There was no old business at this time.

VI. New Business:

A. Accept Resignation Paul Coleman – Parks Advisory Group.

Ms. De Wolf stated that Mr. Coleman was resigning because of changes in his job and the possibility of moving from the Township.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to accept the resignation of Paul Coleman from the Parks Advisory Group. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously accepted Mr. Coleman's resignation.

B. Appointment of Township Fire Marshal.

Ms. De Wolf stated as the Board had just completed interviews this evening they would table both the Fire Marshal appointment and the Planning Commission appointment.

C. Appoint Planning Commission Member.

This item was tabled.

D. Appointment of Membership Oakbourne Mansion Commission.

Mr. Foster stated that a preliminary meeting was held on January 9th for those who were interested in the Commission. At that time it was emphasized that the Commission's main concentration would be on fund raising. Mr. Foster said he has talked to the Liquor Control Board concerning having alcohol at fund raising events as Westtown is a "dry" Township. He said it appears there is no State rule against this but is checking further. The Commission also discussed placing the Smith Mansion on the State Historical Register in order to apply for grant money specifically earmarked for historic properties.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to appoint the following to the Oakbourne Mansion Commission: Eva Foster, Emilie Barber, Patrick McDonough, Helen Greer and John Wilson. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the appointments.

Ms. De Wolf stated there are still openings on the Commission for residents who would be interested.

E. Appoint Ed Travis Citizen – At – Large Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to appoint Ed Travis, Thornbury Chester County, as the Citizen-At-Large to the Westtown-East Goshen Police Commission. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the appointment.

F. Appointment Representative to West Chester Regional Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission is recommending the appointment of Jeff House as Township representative and James Lees as the alternate to the WCRPC.

Mr. Barber made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to appoint Jeff House as the representative and James Lees as the alternate to the WCRPC. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the appointments.

G. Approve Auditor Contract 2007 Mingis Gutowski & Company.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve the contract with the firm of Mingis Gutowski & Company, Township Auditors for 2007. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the contract.

H. Approve Preliminary Final Plan Track 2004-3 Sharon Bank.

Michael Gill, solicitor for Sharon Bank, was in attendance. Robert Adams, Township Solicitor arrived at this time.

Mr. Adams advised the Board that they could grant final plan approval this evening conditioned on the Planning Commission's letter of November 2, 2006 without reconvening the Conditional Use Hearing. He stated that they would be approving a plan that is less intense than the original plan approved with the Conditional Use Order. The Board's motion would also constitute an amendment of the Conditional Use Order. Ms. De Wolf stated that she was not comfortable with approving the plan this evening as a final review letter has not been received from the Township Engineer or from URS. Mr. Layman said the deadline for plan approval is this evening unless the Board receives a letter of extension from Sharon Bank. Mr. Gill stated that he has an extension letter, extending plan approval to February 28, 2007. Mr. Layman then recommended that the Board table this item until the February 5, 2007 meeting. Mr. Adams advised the Board to acknowledge the letter of extension. The letter of extension was accepted by the Board.

I. Approve URS Revised Proposal Summit House.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve URS's revised proposal for Summit House not to exceed an amount of \$6,100 unless approved by the Board of Supervisors. Ms. De Wolf asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Summit House Proposal.

VII. Public Comment (All Topics).

Ms. De Wolf asked that a letter from William Steele, 1005 Niels Lane, be included in the record (attached). The Board will address the lighting issue in his letter.

VIII. Payment of Bills.

On the motion of Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Barber, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved payment of the bills as presented.

IX. Adjournment.

On the motion of Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Barber, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:26 Pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Layman
Township Manager