

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
STOKES ASSEMBLY HALL 1039 WILMINGTON PIKE
December 19, 2005 7:30Pm

In attendance were Supervisors Chairman Kenton S. Stokes, Vice Chairman Thomas Foster, and Carol De Wolf Police Commissioner; Township Manager Robert Layman; Westtown-East Goshen Police Chief John M. Dumond; and Township Solicitor Robert F. Adams. There were 14 guests in attendance.

I. Call to Order.

As there was a quorum present Chairman Stokes called the meeting to order and led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

II. Approval of Minutes (Regular Meeting December 5, 2005).

On the motion of Mr. Foster, seconded by Ms. De Wolf, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the minutes of the December 5, 2005 as presented.

III. Departmental Reports.

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

Chief Dumond stated that November was a quiet month in Westtown for the Department. He reported on two incidents at Westtown School. He also commended Officer Ted Cam for rescuing a dog in Thornbury Township that had fallen into a frozen drainage basin.

Chief Dumond wished Dr. Stokes well and stated that he had enjoyed working with him when he was on the Police Commission and as a Township Supervisor.

B. Township Planning Commission.

Mr. Layman stated the December 7th, Planning Commission meeting was canceled and the December 21st meeting will also be canceled.

C. Financial Report – Robert Layman.

Mr. Layman stated as of this date the Township is in good financial condition. The revenues are up due to aggressive collection of past engineering inspection and review fees. Additional rents were also collected because the police did not move out of the old Township Building until June. Ms. De Wolf asked that the Township meet their financial obligation to the Police Department by the end of the year. Dr. Stokes asked what has been paid for snow removal. Mr. Layman responded that approximately \$15,000 has been spent so far which does not include salt. He stated that the cost of salt has increased but the bids for snow removal were compatible to last year.

IV. Public Comment-Non Agenda Items.

William Steele, 1005 E. Niels Lane, addressing Dr. Stokes, stated that he appreciated Dr. Stokes service and the time he gave to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Steele said Dr. Stokes humor and ability to defuse potential problems enabled the meetings to run smoothly.

V. Old Business:

A. Approve 2006 SPCA Contract.

Mr. Layman asked that the Board approve Option 1 of the Contract in the amount of \$1,657.00. He stated that under Option 2 Township personnel would be responsible for

picking up any stray animals and taking them to the SPCA. Option I is a full service contact and would be less expensive in the long run.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve the 2006 SPCA Contract, Option 1 in the amount of \$1,657.00. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors approved Option 1 of the 2006 SPCA Contract.

B. Approve Payments Westtown-East Goshen Police Department.

Mr. Layman reviewed the following payments: W. DeLong gas tank installation - \$5,000; Phone America - \$4,897.22; Dell Computer Lease - \$3,980.62; Xotive Facility Solutions moving expenses \$4,325.00; M. Meshorue computer installation -\$4,335.00 for a total of \$22,537.84. This payment does not include any furniture items.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve payment to the Westtown-East Goshen Police Department in the amount of \$22,537.84. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the payment to the police department.

VI. New Business:

A. Approve Final Payment Robin Drive Improvements Lechmanik in the Amount of \$2,245.00.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve final retainage payment to Lechmanik for the Robin Drive improvements in the amount of \$2,245.00. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the payment to Lechmanik.

B. Adopt Resolution 2005-19 Sanitary Sewer Industrial Discharge Requirements.

Mr. Layman stated that earlier this year the Township adopted Ordinance 2005-2 pertaining to pretreatment of wastewater discharged by non residential properties. This resolution sets the standards of treatment required by the Ordinance.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to adopt Resolution 2005-19 Sanitary Sewer Industrial Discharge Requirements. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Resolution.

C. Adopt Resolution 2005-20 – Police Budget.

Ms. De Wolf stated that the Township is not in the position at the present time to approve the 2006 police budget as there are differences with East Goshen concerning the budget. Adopting the Resolution will continue the police default budget for thirty days. During this period any significant payments other than to the personnel will have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors of Westtown and East Goshen. The Boards of Westtown and East Goshen will be meeting in early January to hopefully resolve their differences.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve Resolution 2005-20 as stated. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment there was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Resolution.

D. Adoption of the 2006 Budget.

Mr. Layman reviewed the 2006 Budget. He stated that there are increases in expenditures for roads which include road repairs and replacement of a vehicle. There are also increases for the parks as the Township will have to match the grants they have received for park improvements and playground equipment. The Gate House at Oakbourne Park will be renovated. Township revenues will also increase. The

trash/recycling fee will be raised to \$55.00 per quarter due to an increase in the contract and tipping fees. The Township will institute an Emergency Services Tax in the amount of \$52.00 per year. This will be assessed on anyone working in Westtown Township as they use our services even though most do not live in the Township. There will also be an increase in sewer rates of 4% in each district as the Township has incurred increases in our variable loan rates.

Mr. Layman stated that there will be a recycling survey in the first quarter Township newsletter. He asked that all residents take the time to complete the survey as their input will help determine the next recycling contract.

Mr. Foster stated that the Township tax will not increase in 2006 but will remain at 1.5 mils.

Ms. De Wolf said she felt it is important to mention that there are cutbacks in the Township recreation program, which has been provided by West Chester Recreation, as it would be hard to provide these programs without an increase in taxes.

Dr. Stokes stated that the Board had debated these changes at length and worked hard on the budget in order not to have to increase taxes this year.

1. Adopt Ordinance 2005-6 Emergency Municipal Services Tax.

Mr. Foster made a motion, seconded by Ms. De Wolf to Adopt Ordinance 2005-6 Emergency Services Tax. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. Mr. Adams reminded the Board that there is a limit to what the tax can be used for.

Mr. Pavelchek, 1050 S. New Street, said it is his understanding that it is a restricted use and may only be used to reduce the cost of police and emergency services. Mr. Adams responded the tax can be used for road work as well as emergency services. Mr. Layman stated that Berkheimer Associates will collect the tax from the employers in Westtown. The Township should receive approximately \$115,000.00 in revenue from the tax.

The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Emergency Municipal Services Tax Resolution.

2. Adopt Ordinance 2005-7 Amend Chapter 132 Sewer Collection System.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to adopt Ordinance 2005-7 Amending Chapter 132 Sewer Collection System by increasing the sewer rate by 4%. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted Ordinance 2005-7

3. Adopt Resolution 2005-21 Amend Solid Waste Recycling Ordinance

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to adopt Resolution 2005-21 increasing the trash/recycling fees to \$55.00 per quarter. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment. There was no public comment. The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Resolution.

Ms. De Wolf made a motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve the 2006 Township Budget as presented. Dr. Stokes asked for public comment.

Mr. Pavelchek suggested that the each page of the budget be dated and include a column showing if the item is an actual or projected amount. He asked if it was realistic not to increase the cost of utilities. Mr. Foster said he feels it is as PECO has not filed with the PUC for a rate increase. Mr. Pavelchek asked about the increase in debt service. Mr. Layman responded that this is due to the increase in the variable rate loans. Mr. Pavelchek asked if park grants were budgeted for \$16,000 and if \$90,000 was allocated for the Gate House. Mr. Layman responded yes that is correct.

Ms. De Wolf amended her motion, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve the 2006 Township Budget conditioned on the budget being amended when the expenditures for the Westtown-East Goshen Police Department are determined. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the 2006 Township Budget.

VII. Public Comment.

Christopher Schubert, Riley, Riper, Hollin & Colagreco, attorney for Gaudenzia, stated that the conversion of the warehouse to a women's residence is almost completed but there appears to be a problem with connecting to public sewer. He also stated that they have applied to DEP for an exemption from Act 537 planning. When the plan was reviewed by URS, Township sewer consultant, it was determined by Mr. Chiu that the Pleasant Grove Pump Station which pumps are designed to handle 540 gallons per minute could not handle the additional 30 gallons per minutes that would come from Gaudenzia. Mr. Schubert stated that Gaudenzia has looked into a pump and haul operation but cannot get funding for this. He would like permission from the Board for their engineer to discuss this situation with our consultant. Dr. Stokes asked about the exemption from DEP. Mr. Layman responded that an exemption is handled by DEP. There is a shorter procedure when a project is tying into an existing sewer system. Ms. De Wolf asked if there was another option then going to the Pleasant Grove pump station. Mr. Schubert stated that is the only way to connect to the system. Mr. Foster said he did not know a building permit had been issued because of the problem of Gaudenzia being zoned R1. Mr. Schubert said it was a decision of the Township Zoning Hearing Board in the past that Gaudenzia is an educational use. Mr. Foster asked if the sewer connection was discussed when the permit was issued. Mr. Schubert stated that it was always understood that they would connect to public sewer. Mr. Adams suggested that it would be good to have both engineers review this issue.

Ms. De Wolf asked if any of the young people in the audience would like to introduce themselves and if they have any questions the Board would be glad to answer them.

Keith Farrell, Scout Troop 149, stated he is working on his citizens and community merit badge.

Jeff Markland, 914 Oakbourne Road, Delaware County Christian School, said he is working on his Civic's project and needs four hours of political involvement.

Halley Girard, Delaware County Christian School, said she is also working on her Civic's project.

Mr. Pavelchek thanked Dr. Stokes for his service to the Township on the Board of Supervisors and the Parks Advisory Group. He stated he appreciates all Dr. Stokes has done and stated he also has respect for residents who give of themselves to serve in these positions.

Ms. De Wolf said what a pleasure it has been to work with Dr. Stokes and she will miss his humor and his ability in tense or tedious situation. She also stated that she has learned so much from him about being a supervisor since she has been on the Board.

Dr. Stokes introduced Charles Barber, who will take office as Supervisor in January. He stated that Mr. Barber has lived in Westtown for thirty years and is a Vietnam Veteran. He feels Mr. Barber will serve the Township well.

Mr. Layman thanked Dr. Stokes for all his help, and for the kindness and consideration that he has shown towards him.

Dr. Stokes said the name Westtown means a lot to him. It stands for integrity, and a quality place to live. He stated that since he has been involved with the Township the property values have increased; we have a good police force, a good solicitor who gave good counsel even when I didn't agree with him. He also said when he sees signs like Westtown Auto Sales he knows they are borrowing on a good reputation. Dr. Stokes said he leaves the Township in the hands of this Board who have the ability to carry on the high standards of Westtown. He thanked the Board for their gentlemanly and lady like qualities. He also stated his respect for Mr. Pavelchek.

VIII. Payment of Bills.

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

IX. Adjournment.

On the motion of Ms. De Wolf, seconded by Mr. Foster, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Layman,
Township Manager