

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
Westtown Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown
Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 7:30 PM

In attendance were: Chair Carol De Wolf, Vice Chair Tom Haws, Police Commissioner Michael Di Domenico, Township Manager Rob Pingar, Chief Brenda Bernot, Township Solicitor Patrick McKenna, and Planning Commission member Elaine Adler. There were 22 guests present.

I. Pledge of Allegiance & Call to Order

Ms. De Wolf led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. She asked if anyone was using a recording device. No one responded.

Rep. Dan Truitt presented 94-year old WW II veteran Joe Valentino with a citation, recognizing him for his service in WW II, and for being a long-time resident of Chester County and Westtown Township. A considerable number of guests present for the citation then left the meeting for a reception in honor of Mr. Valentino.

II. Approval of Minutes (December 21, 2015 & January 4, 2016 Reorganizational Meeting)

It was noted that in the January 4, 2016 Reorganizational meeting, the Board neglected to vote on the appointments and other items on the agenda. Mr. Haws made a motion to approve the Appointments, Appointments of Depositories, State Convention & Other Voting Delegate, Township Holidays, and Township Meetings dates from the January 4th Reorganizational Meeting. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There were no comments and the motion was approved.

Mr. Di Domenico made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the December 21, 2015 Board of Supervisors Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Haws. There were no comments and the motion was approved.

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve the January 4th Reorganizational Meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. There were no public comments and the motion was approved.

III. Workshop Meeting Summary (January 19, 2016)

Ms. De Wolf stated that there were two items on the workshop agenda:

- A. National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat Program Letter of Support
- B. Auditor (elected) appointments

The Board also discussed the Planning Commission Solicitor and meeting frequency for the Board. An Executive session on WEGO Patrol Unit staffing was also held.

There were no questions from the public regarding the workshop.

IV. Departmental Reports

A. Township Solicitor - Patrick McKenna

Mr. McKenna noted that the Board will go back into Executive Session after the meeting to discuss a real estate matter.

Mr. McKenna provided an update on the Deer Creek Malt House expansion proposal. He has reviewed the document prepared by the Agricultural Security Advisory Committee (ASAC), and has been working with Township Staff and Tom Foster, and has contacted Doug Wolfgang with Dept. of Agriculture about the proposed expansion and verify interpretations of the current zoning. He is waiting to hear back from Mr. Wolfgang. He stated that he would communicate with the Board once he has heard back from him. The Board will then review the report before passing the decision on to the ASAC.

There were no questions or comments.

B. Parks and Recreation (P&R) – Jennifer Masiko

Ms. Masiko stated that the current agenda for the P&R is the spring yard sale. The P&R also plans to introduce an annual 5K run/ walk in May. There will be separate events for adults and children. P&R is brainstorming ideas for booths and sponsorships for the event. The three movie nights are scheduled to return, and in the fall there will be a farmers market and a Westtown History Day.

Ms. Masiko also mentioned assembling an RFP to create a Master Plan for township parks. The plan will provide guidance for the P&R and address needs of specific parks.

Mr. Di Domenico asked if there has been any interest in the commission vacancy. Mrs. Masiko stated there has not.

There were no other comments or questions.

C. Planning Commission (PC) – Steve Rodia

Mr. Rodia reported that at their January 6 meeting the PC discussed the election of the chair and vice chair. Mr. Pomerantz and Mr. Hatton will remain chair and vice chair.

The second item on the PC agenda was the proposed Dunkin Donuts on Skiles Blvd. The Township Traffic Engineer reviewed the traffic study and has adjustments for the applicant to make. The plan will have to be resubmitted.

Mr. Di Domenico asked if there was access for trucks to get into the lot. Mr. Rodia was not sure if that particular issue has been addressed at this point. Mr. Pingar noted that the applicant is preparing to return to the PC with an updated plan with greater detail. Mr. McKenna noted that as part of the Conditional Use Hearing, the type and size of truck would be limited by condition.

There were no other comments or questions.

D. WEGO Police- Chief Brenda Bernot

Chief Bernot encouraged residents to read the police blotter available on their website (www.westtownpolice.org) to stay informed about significant police activity in the community. The Chief congratulated Officers Leon Bynum and Ted Lewis who were recently recognized by the Chester County Police Chiefs Association for saving lives through the administration of a drug that is used to counteract opioid overdoses.

The Chief also noted that Officer Weaverling and the department received a free Preliminary Breath Test device (PBT) from the Pennsylvania State Police. Officer Weaverling was selected for his commitment to DUI enforcement, having made 51 DUI arrests since 2012.

Mark Schatzel, 1108 Fielding Drive, asked the Chief why there was a spike in the DUI arrests in recent years. The Chief stated that it is due to increased training and enforcement implemented since 2013.

There were no other comments or questions.

V. Public Comment Non Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

VI. Old Business

A. National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Community Wildlife Habitat Program

Mark Schatzel, P&R Commissioner, stated that the NWF Community Wildlife Habitat Program will help to engage residents. Mr. Haws then made a motion to authorize the Parks & Recreation Commission to proceed with registering for the National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat Program and direct the Township Manager to send a letter of support to the National Wildlife Federation. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There were no comments or questions and the motion was approved.

VII. New Business

A. Parks & Recreation Commission Appointment

Mr. Haws made a motion to appoint Ida Fritsche to the position of Parks & Recreation Commissioner for an unexpired 3 year term ending December 31, 2016. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There were no questions or comments and the motion was approved.

B. 2015 WEGO Police Commissioner Appointment - Thornbury Township Citizen at Large

Under terms of the October 1, 2013 Westtown East Goshen Police Agreement, both townships appoint a "citizen-at-large" member to serve on the Westtown East Goshen Regional Police Commission by February 1 of each year. Under the terms of an agreement between the Commission and Thornbury Township (the contracting municipality) that citizen-at-large member is to be a representative offered by the Board of Supervisors of Thornbury Township. At their January 4, 2016 re-organization meeting, the Thornbury Township Supervisors appointed Jim Benoit as their Police Commission representative.

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve Thornbury Township Board of Supervisor Jim Benoit as a Citizen-At-Large member of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Commission for 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. There were no questions or comments and the motion was approved.

C. Auditor (elected) Appointment

Mr. Haws made a motion to appoint Jim Hanak to the position of Auditor for a two year term ending December 31, 2017. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There were no questions or comments and the motion was approved.

D. Auditor (elected) Appointment

Mr. Haws made a motion to motion appoint Mark Bredin to the position of Auditor for a two year term ending December 31, 2017. Mr. Di Domenico seconded the motion. There were no questions or comments and the motion was approved.

VIII. Announcements

The Township is seeking volunteers to fill a vacancy on the Parks & Recreation Commission. If you would like to become involved with Township parks and recreation programs, activities, and planning, please send your letter of interest and resume to the Township Manager, Rob Pingar.

IX. Public Comment on All Topics

Kathy Di Domenico, 1530 Woodland Road, asked for a status update for Phase 3 of the Septic Management Program (SMP). Mr. Pingar noted that the completion rate for Phase 3 was as well or better than the previous 2 phases. This can be attributed to the fact that some Phase 3 residents have been submitting their initial inspection reports in previous phases.

Mrs. Di Domenico asked Mr. Pingar what additional forms are required from the township when a resident has their system pumped. Mr. Pingar noted that no additional form has been drafted yet. Mrs. De Wolf stated that the program required pumping only once every three years, but that the Board needs to meet soon to determine the contents of the second form.

Mrs. Di Domenico also asked why meeting minutes for various commissions are not all updated on the township website. Mr. Pingar did not know the specific reason, but told Mrs. Di Domenico that he would communicate with the township staff to get her an answer.

There was no additional public comment.

X. Payment of Bills

Mr. Haws made a motion to approve General Fund bills in the amount of \$1,828,862.22 and Wastewater Fund bills in the amount of \$69,521.53, for a grand total of \$1,898,383.75. The motion was seconded by Mr. Di Domenico.

Kathy Di Domenico asked if the Board had received a copy of the items that were purchased on the credit cards. Mrs. De Wolf replied that the Board had received a copy.

There was no additional public comment and the check registers were approved.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Haws made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Pingar
Township Manager