

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING
Westtown Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown
Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:30 PM

In attendance were: Chair Mike Di Domenico, Vice Chair Carol De Wolf, Police Commissioner Tom Haws, Township Manager, Rob Pingar, Chief Brenda Bernot, and Township Solicitor Patrick McKenna. There were 5 guests present.

I. **Pledge of Allegiance & Call to Order**

Mr. Di Domenico led the Pledge of Allegiance, and called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM. He asked if anyone was recording the meeting. There was no response.

II. **Approval of Minutes (Dec. 19, 2016 Regular Meeting and Jan. 3, 2017 Reorganizational and Regular Meetings)**

Ms. De Wolf made a motion to approve the December 19, 2016 Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes, and the January 3, 2017 reorganizational meeting and regular meeting minutes. Mr. Haws seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the minutes of all three meetings were approved.

III. **Workshop Meeting Summary (January 17, 2017)**

Mr. Di Domenico summarized the three items that were on the Board's workshop agenda. They discussed the land development application for two new single family homes on Garden Circle, and a letter from the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding the West Wynn I Special Study. Lastly, Mark Gross, Director of Public Works, presented plans for expanding the Public Works garage, and answered questions about the project.

Mr. Haws elaborated on DEP's West Wynn I response, stating that the DEP made an unfavorable assessment of the township's special study of the West Wynn I area. The township sewer engineer will prepare a response to DEP's letter, countering DEP's interpretation of the results of the SMP program.

There were no questions regarding the workshop.

IV. **Departmental Reports**

A. **Westtown East Goshen Police (WEGO) – Chief Brenda Bernot**

Chief Bernot reported on two areas of concern for the police this month. First, there have been a number of thefts from lockers at Rustin High School. The Chief encouraged parents to make sure their students lock their gym lockers. Many students do not bother to lock their lockers and have had cell phones, laptops, and other valuables stolen. The Chief also stated that despite the colder weather, the department continues to receive reports of theft from vehicles. She said to make sure that your car is locked and do not keep valuables in your car.

The Chief stated that the department is currently investigating 19 traffic complaints in Westtown. She asked residents to report traffic concerns to the traffic safety unit.

Mr. Haws asked about the Police Protection Unit (PPU) accounting for theft at Rustin. The Chief stated that Westtown is billed for incidents of theft at Rustin, but not billed for incidents such as child abuse, unless the abuse occurred in Westtown. Mr. Pingar asked if the thieves at RHS are usually apprehended. The Chief stated that more often than not, the thief is caught. She

encouraged parents to write down their child's cell phone serial number and enable the tracking feature, because this aids the police in recovering stolen cell phones. Mr. Pingar asked if phones are being stolen for money. The Chief replied that phones are often being stolen simply to spite another student. She said the phones are stolen and then immediately turned off and never used. Mr. Di Domenico asked if the township could bill the parent of a student caught for stealing in school. Township Solicitor, Patrick McKenna, responded that the township does not seek restitution for any other crimes committed in the township, and residents already pay taxes for police protection. The Chief stated that restitution is allowed for damages, such as a phone replacement or lost wages for court appearances.

Mr. Haws announced that the first Police Commission meeting of the year will be January 23. The Chief welcomed residents to attend Police Commission meetings if they want to learn more about department operations. She stated that the meetings are woefully unattended.

There were no additional comments or questions.

B. Township Solicitor – Patrick McKenna

Mr. McKenna stated that the bulk of his time has been spent reviewing materials related to the Crebilly conditional use application. His office has worked on a draft lease for the mansion caretaker, and a fire escrow ordinance to cover municipal costs of securing properties destroyed by fire, and amendments to false alarm ordinance. His office has also been working on a site visit of the AME Cemetery property on Shiloh Road. Ms. De Wolf asked that the Historical Commission be included in the visit. Mr. McKenna replied that they have already been notified.

There were no other questions or comments.

C. Parks & Recreation Commission (P&R) – Jennifer Masiko

Mrs. Masiko stated that the commission elected new officers at their January 10 meeting. She is now chair, Phillip Garabedian is Vice Chair, and Donel Menke is Secretary. Mrs. Masiko stated that the commission is down two members, and another commissioner was not present at the meeting, so his status is unknown. The Commission would still like to hold the annual yard sale in the spring.

Mrs. Masiko reported that the commission will rotate appearances at Board meetings, so that the supervisors can meet all the commissioners. She said P&R is hoping to host the Summer Movie nights and Winter Festival, but they need more commissioners.

The commission also prepared a prioritized list of ten improvements they would like to see made at the township parks. She will send the list to Mr. Pingar to distribute to the Board.

Ms. De Wolf asked about the property next to Penn Wood School. Mrs. Masiko said access is only available via the school. Mrs. Masiko felt that the property is only used by the school and suggested that the township sell it to the school district and use the money for something else. Ms. De Wolf asked Mr. Pingar if he has received any applications for the P&R Commission. He said he had not, but that he hopes the vacancy announcement in the Gazette will result in responses.

D. Planning Commission (PC) – Jim Lees

Mr. Lees reported that at their January 4 meeting, the PC elected officers. There were no changes to the slate of officers. The PC also discussed Westtown Woods. The developer was not present at the meeting, and there are still outstanding issues, including temporary access from Rt. 202, constructing a retaining wall, and sewer. Mr. Lees said he thought the PC will be prepared to make a recommendation at their next meeting. Mr. Di Domenico asked about an

easement for ongoing maintenance of the wall. Mr. Lees replied that an easement likely would not be needed because the developer thinks it can be confined to the right-of-way.

The PC also discussed the 2 lot subdivision on Garden Circle (Marsh Creek Properties). The PC unanimously recommended approval of the preliminary final plan, with full compliance with the engineering letters.

The PC will not meet on January 18 due to the Toll/Crebilly meeting on January 24 at Rustin High School. An additional Toll/Crebilly meeting may be scheduled in February. Mr. Lees thanked the Board for allowing Kristin Camp to assist the PC with their review of the application.

Mr. Haws asked who would maintain the Westtown Woods emergency access road to Robin's Nest. Mr. Lees stated that the plan indicates an easement, but ongoing maintenance has not been determined. Mr. Pingar said that the access road is narrow and winding and may not be feasible. The Board will have the opportunity to decide on the access road at a later date.

There were no other questions or comments.

V. **Public Comment Non Agenda Items**

Daniel Maietta, 1023 Stable Lane, asked the Board to support Sunoco's Mariner East Pipeline Project. He stated the project will create jobs and benefit the community.

There was no additional public comment.

VI. **Old Business**

There was none.

VII. **New Business**

There was none.

VIII. **Announcements**

Mr. Di Domenico made the following announcements:

1. The Parks & Recreation Commission has two vacancies. Appointments are for a term of 5 years. Interested Westtown residents should send their resume and letter of interest to Township Manager, Rob Pingar.
2. Crebilly Tract/Toll Brothers Conditional Use Application, Planning Commission Meeting. Tuesday January 24, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Rustin High School auditorium.
3. The Comprehensive Plan Task Force will meet at 7pm on Thursday, January 26 at the Township Building.
4. Mr. McKenna announced that the Board will hold an Executive Session regarding litigation after the regular meeting tonight.

IX. **Public Comment on All Topics**

Jim Lees stated that at the Board's request, the PC is considering a pipeline ordinance. A representative from the Chester Country Planning Commission will come to a Planning Commission meeting in February to discuss the topic.

There was no additional public comment.

X. **Payment of Bills**

Ms. De Wolf made a motion to approve the General Fund bills in the amount of \$779,589.73, Wastewater Fund bills in the amount of \$23,628.02, and Capital Projects Fund bills in the amount of \$28,303.96, for a grand total of \$831,521.71. The motion was seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. There was no public comment, and the check register was approved.

XI. **Adjournment**

Mr. Haws made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Di Domenico. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Pingar
Township Manager