

**West Vincent Township  
Board of Supervisors Meeting**

**May 10, 2010            7:30 PM**

Attendance: Chairman Kenneth Miller, Vice Chairperson Clare Quinn, Zoë Perkins, Allan Greenwood of Siana, Bellwoar & McAndrew, LLP, Township Solicitor, Police Chief Michael Swininger, Township Manager Jim Wendelgass, Zoning Officer Sandra Cantrell-Edwards and Township Secretary Tammy Swavely.

Chairman Kenneth Miller called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

Supervisor Perkins opened the meeting with a thank you to the volunteers and staff who had anything to do with Community Day on Saturday, May 8, 2010, especially Tammy Swavely, Township Secretary who had a big part in organizing the event. It was a great day and a lot of wonderful people were involved to make it such.

All of the staff and volunteers were recognized. Township Secretary Tammy Swavely, Kit Trolier, Police Secretary Ruth McVey, Police Chief Mike Swininger, Barbara Dunn, Melanie McCartney, Amanda Gooding and Board Supervisor Vice Chairperson Clare Quinn.

The following were contributors of funds for the event: Ludwig's Corner Rental: Silver Contributor (\$1500.00); Toll Bros.: Silver; Carroll Engineering: Bronze Contributor (\$1000.00); The Hankin Foundation: Bronze; James Cochrane, Inc.: Bronze; Brady Orthodontics; NOVA Bank; Siana, Bellwoar, McAndrew, LLP; DNB First; Hibbeln Engineering Co., LLC; Collinson, Inc.; PECO; Trevdan; Birchrun Village, LLC; Francis A. Hall, Inc.; Joseph W. Davis, Inc.; Dave Hoffman's Auto Repair; Environmental Operations Services, Inc; Kimbertal Kennels, LTD; Law Office of Patrick O'Donnell; H. A. Thompson; Clear Spring, Inc.; Caruolo Associates, Inc.; GMG Solutions, Inc. d/b/a My Sherpa and Ludwig's Corner Veterinary Hospital.

The Boy Scout Troop 401 did a rough count all day of people coming and going. They are assuming they counted approximately 75% of those attending. They were at the main parking area along Malehorn Rd. and counted 505 adults and 322 children. With this count in the upper parking lot only, it is pretty safe to assume that there was close to 1000 people in attendance.

The first item of business was to award the bid for the **2010 Road Repair and Maintenance**. Chairman Miller reviewed these with the Township Manager to see if they conform to the bid requirements and recommends acceptance of the D.L. Fleck bid since it is the lowest bid and it meets all of the requirements. Perkins made the motion to accept the D.L. Fleck bid for the 2010 Road Repair, Equipment and Labor in its entirety. Quinn seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

Quinn made the motion to approve the minutes from **April 5, 2010** as submitted. Miller seconded the motion, there was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously. Perkins made the motion to approve the minutes from **April 19, 2010 and May 3, 2010** as submitted. Quinn seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports:**

Township Building: The Maintenance Building is looking to have a computer and needs internet access. This would enable the Road Crew to have an e-mail and receive the PA One Calls promptly. Quotes were received from Verizon Fios and Comcast Internet. Verizon is \$64.99 a month with a 2 year contract and they require a \$99.00 installation fee and a \$99.00 router. Comcast is \$59.95 a month for a 3 year contract. There is no installation fee. **Mr. Helwig, 2034 Pottstown Pike, Tax Parcel 25-3-2** suggested that the Township hardwire the building by running a wire through a conduit to the building. The Board was unaware of this procedure but has asked staff to determine if this would work. This will be tabled until more research is done.

Township Manager Report: The Township Manager Report for the week ending 5/8/10 was acknowledged as submitted.

Active Subdivision List: An Extension Request was received from Lisa D'Andrea for an extension for the **Weyl Subdivision**. Perkins made the motion to approve the extension for the Weyl Subdivision until 8/30/10 and to have the Applicant be in touch with the Township within 30 days of the deadline if they want to stay inactive and to incur no other fees. Quinn seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

Bills List: The Bills List was reviewed. Perkins made the motion to approve the Bills List dated 5/10/10, with the exception of the line item to Ken Miller for mowing the sewer plants in the amount of \$3000.00, in the total amount \$126,338.35. Quinn seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously. Perkins made the motion that the invoice from Ken Miller for \$3000.00 be approved for the mowing of the sewer plants. Quinn seconded the motion. Miller abstained from the vote. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Correspondence:**

A request to use the gazebo was received from Eliza Grissom, Downingtown, PA for a children's birthday party. Perkins made the motion to approve the use of the Gazebo for a children's birthday party on May 14, 2010 from 9:45-11:45 AM. Quinn seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

A request to use the meeting room was received from Martin Prescod representing the children's orchestra of Owen J. Roberts. He would like to use it every Tuesday evening

from 6:00-8:00 PM beginning September 7, 2010. The Board would like to know how long the practices will go into the year. This was tabled for more information.

### **Old Business:**

The Special Events Ordinance was tabled so that the Board can have more time to review it. This will be on the Board Agenda on May 24, 2010.

Community Day was discussed again at this point of the meeting. The local businesses who contributed goods and services were recognized: A. J. Blosenski, Inc., Birchrunville Store Café, Bravo Pizzeria, Chester County Cheese, Crystal Springs, Cara Graver, Greiner, Inc., Hairwaves, Kimberton Coffee, Ludwig's Corner Hardware, Ludwig's Inn & Oyster Bar, Ludwig's Village Market, Sandra Malamed, Molly Maguire's, Scooped, Parkway Cleaners, Rita's Italian Ice, Somerset Nursery, Top of the Hill Beverage and Z Gallery.

At the request of the Board, Jim Wendelgass, Township Manager, met with a company, AVT Digital Media Systems, which currently videotapes the meetings at the Phoenixville Borough and the Pottstown Borough. They have looked at the meeting room and given a quote to videotape the Board Meetings so that the meetings could be broadcasted on Wildcat TV. There are two ways to do this. The first way is to hire their three person crew and to use their equipment. This would cost \$995 per event. This includes setup and two cameras, microphones and at the end of each meeting they will provide the Township with a DVD of the meeting. The Township, on the average, holds 36 regular meetings a year, so the cost for this is approximately \$35,820.00. The other option was for the Township to purchase the equipment at an estimated cost of \$24,000. AVT would charge \$350 per event if this was the case, which would be an additional cost of \$12,600. AVT has informed the Township that they also have online streaming video which would be an additional cost of \$2995.00 for additional products and a yearly fee of \$2988 for video hosting. This is separate from the audio system that the Township is currently looking into purchasing which is to aid the hearing impaired. Much discussion ensued on this topic. **Mr. Helwig, 2034 Pottstown Pike, Tax Parcel 25-3-2** asked why the local high school wouldn't come in and do this for experience. Ms. Quinn stated that AVT does bring in the school students with them to aid in the production. **Kit Trolrier, 16 Hunt Hill Road, Tax Parcel 25-4-240** felt that the Township meetings were not television worthy and if a resident wanted to find out what was going on at a meeting that he or she should attend one. She asked who was behind the videotaping of the meetings and how many residents actually wanted it. Mr. Wendelgass stated that no other Township in the area currently uses videotaping of meetings, just Boroughs. The video taping must be done by a professional, not someone in the audience with a camera if it is to go on Wildcat TV. Mrs. Perkins stated that she has never been contacted by a resident who wanted the meetings recorded. Mr. Miller stated that he has never been contacted by a resident either, but Eric Smith, reporter for the Daily Local News, called him and asked why the Township wasn't video taping it's meetings. Mr. Miller asked Mr. Smith who was present who he had talked to that actually wanted the meetings recorded. Mr. Smith only stated that he was not a resident and did not answer Mr. Miller's question. Ms.

Quinn stated that this videotaping needs to be considered if there is some resident interest, even though she has not been contacted to have the meetings videotaped. East Vincent Township is currently audio taping their meetings and putting it on their website. This was discussed as a possibility for West Vincent. The state requirement is that the Township keeps written minutes. Ms. Quinn stated that evidently there are some residents who want an electronic version. **Sharon Davis, 932 Jaine Lane, Tax Parcel 25-3-143.5** thinks that this whole discussion is silly and that there is no reason to do the video taping. She stated that she feels everything in the Township is done above board and someone is making a mountain out of a molehill. Mr. Miller stated that as far as the Board knows, the only person aware of any residents who wanted videotaped meetings was Eric Smith from the Daily Local. Ms. Quinn stated that the Daily Local printed several articles on this topic and in the comment section on the Daily Local online there were people, not using their real names, making remarks about videotaping. Most of the residents present and Board were concerned with the amount of money that this would cost. Audio taping would be another consideration, even though it would be hard to know who was speaking without saying your name each time you spoke. It became evident at the end of the discussion that no township resident requested that the meetings being video taped.

#### **New Business:**

A new Lot Line Application has been received to the Township from John and Karen Planchak, 850 Fellowship Road, Tax Parcel 25-7-80.4. This is not a complete application since an engineered plan is not included. This is for a house built in the Susan Butler Subdivision. Evidently the builder installed the retention basin on the wrong side of the property line. To correct this, it seems to be easiest to do a lot line change. This also involves a Township owned trail. The Board will not acknowledge this application since there is not a plan included. The Applicant will be informed that to be an official Lot Line Change, an engineered plan needs to be submitted.

Ms. Quinn informed the audience and the other Board members that East Vincent Township has voted to withdraw from the Phoenixville Regional Plan by a vote 2-1. This will cost West Vincent Township approximately \$6000-\$10,000 this year. Ms. Quinn was asked her opinion as to why they withdrew. In her opinion, she stated that it was a political move. There is an audio tape available online if anyone is interested in hearing it. There are very many reasons. The sentiment from the residents was very strong to stay in the plan. The plan will be rewritten with the new census numbers in it. This was not budgeted for this year.

Sam Cantrell, 15 St. Andrews Lane, Tax Parcel 25-6-24 came before the Board to give them an update on the preparations being made for the Maysie's Farm Fest 2010 which will be held on his property on May 22, 2010. He stated that the promotions are going great and they have a website and WXPB is playing on the radio the artists that are coming to the event. This is very weather dependent. With regards to parking, he has obtained permission to use the field next to St. Andrews Church in addition to their parking lot. They will also use Trevdan so a pathway will be needed to be cleared for

this. He has the fire police scheduled and they will be at both ends of St. Andrews Lane when the road is closed. He has plans for a mobile medical unit to be on site. They have been granted a Special Occasion Permit from the Liquor Control Board which he feels will help in controlling underage drinking. Many food vendors are coming and a Chester County Health Department Permit has been applied for. Mr. Cantrell stated that he will be using solar power and plans to get a generator for backup. A hay wagon will be used as a shuttle back and forth to the parking areas. They are still looking for a vehicle to use for the handicapped. Tickets are now on sale for \$20 and they will be \$25 at the gate. There are 14 different bands playing and the event goes from 12:00 noon -10:00 PM. The letter recommended by the Board has not yet been sent to the neighbors informing them of the event and road closure. He expects to do this shortly.

**Business from the floor:**

**Art Ewell, 972 Fellowship Road, Tax Parcel 25-7-31** asked how Comcast cable is installed to the maintenance building. Mr. Wendelgass stated that this comes underground. Mrs. Swavely has been the contact and Comcast has informed her that the hookup is already to the maintenance building. The problem with Comcast is when the Township Building used the service; it would often go out when the weather was bad. Mr. Ewell stated that when he worked for Verizon, they would supply the cable if you would do the installation. This will be looked into along with the hardwiring suggested earlier.

Miller announced that there would be an **Executive Session** immediately following the regular meeting to discuss litigation and personnel.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Swavely  
Township Secretary