

West Vincent Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting

January 16, 2017 7:00 PM

Attendance: Chairman John Jacobs, Vice Chairman David Brown, Michael Schneider, Township Solicitor John Walko, Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell and Lupin, Bryan Kulakowsky Township Engineer, Manager Erica Batdorf and Township Secretary Tammy Swavely.

Chairman John Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Jacobs announced that there was an Executive Session on January 6, 2017 to discuss real estate and prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel, and real estate.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of November 21, 2016 as revised and January 3, 2017 were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Schneider and a second by Mr. Jacobs.

Reports:

Police Report: Police Chief Swinger gave the Police Report for December 2016 which was acknowledged as received.

Bills List: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Bills List dated 1/17/2016 in the total amount of \$159,898.55 be approved as submitted. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. A question was asked on the weight limit of the Buttonwood Bridge. Township Engineer, Bryan Kulakowsky was asked to respond by the Board. The bridge is now going to be re-rated by an ordinance to 25 tons for a single axel and 30 for a combination vehicle. The Board answered some additional questions and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Snow Removal Contract: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board approve the Snow and Ice Removal Contract with Oz Properties as submitted with the rate of \$125.00 per hour for each vehicle used regardless of the type. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Ms. Batdorf shared that the Township went out to bid for this twice, the first time a bid was submitted that did not meet the requirements and the second time no bids were received. Per the Second Class Township Code, the Township is then permitted to contract with someone who can provide the service. Ms. Batdorf was able to find Oz Properties who have agreed to assist the Township with snow removal. They have been in contact with the Public Works Department and have worked out responsibilities. Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane asked if it was higher than last year. Ms. Batdorf yes, but each piece of equipment is priced the same versus the previous contract each was priced differently. Depending on the Township's need, it could be higher, or lower. The motion carried unanimously.

Fee Schedule: Mr. Brown made the motion that the Board approve Resolution 9-2017 revising the West Vincent Fee Schedule for 2017 in the form submitted to the West Vincent Township Board of Supervisors consisting of 7 pages including sections for Residential New Construction, Commercial New Construction, General Permits, Fire-code Official Fees, Board of Appeals Fees, Board of Supervisor Fees, Township Printed materials, Miscellaneous Fees, Subdivision/Land Development Fees, Engineering and Legal fees, Land Planner and Traffic Engineer Fees, Stormwater Ordinance Management Fees with an Electrical Fee Schedule attached totaling 12 pages. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. Ms. Batdorf explained that the changes include a new charge for the rectangular field as approved by the Park and Recreation Commission. The charge will go up from \$22.50/hour to \$30.00/hour. There also is a new line item under Building Permits for Miscellaneous at the request of the Building Department. This fee is \$100.00. Mr. Jacobs called for a vote which carried unanimously.

New Business:

EAC and Sustainability Committees: Mr. Jacobs stated that the thought process for combining these two committees began because there were many openings on the Sustainability Committee. Ms. Shick stated that she heard that there were many people who volunteered to fill the spots. Mr. Jacobs stated that just before the last meeting a list of names was provided but the Board did not have time to consider them. It was at that time the Board decided to have a discussion to see if they should be combined or not. Mr. Schneider stated that the names of the committees are similar, so it was thought that they do similar tasks. That, combined with the several vacancies on the Sustainability Committee had the Board consider combining the two. Mr. Jacobs agreed, but now he sees that the jobs are not the same. Ben James, former Chairman of the Sustainability Committee suggested that the Board review the ordinance that created each of them to find out. Mr. Brown stated that it seems as if they are two arms of one body and could work together. Tom Kalusky, 1781 Hilltop Road stated that the sustainability committee deals with energy, economy and equity. Those are not dealt with by the EAC. Mr. Schneider stated that he feels that they are both environmental. Michael Babich, Camphill Kimberton Hills, suggested that the Board read the mandate for each committee. Mr. Jacobs stated that he did read the mandates and feels that there are huge differences in each. Sam Cantrell, Sustainability Committee, agreed. Mr. Brown stated that the Board received an email from the EAC stating that they were basically fine with the merging of the committees. Ms. Shick stated that the EAC wanted to review the Sustainability Plan first. She added that the Township created a Sustainability Plan that received much celebration by Chester County since it was the first one in the county. Combining them would be minimizing the Sustainability Committee's role. They do not do the same thing. Mr. James stated that the Sustainability Committee's approach is to foresee future issues. He feels that the EAC works on current matters. They have a common theme but take different approaches. Kip Archinal, former Sustainability Committee member stated that they are similar in name only. The Sustainability Committee has been authorized with a plan to see how it can be executed. This has now been incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance. She added that she is sure that the positions can be filled. Mr. Schneider stated that if there are enough members on the committee then he does not see why it cannot stay a committee. Maria Jacobs, 2351 Beaverhill Road stated that maybe it is time to review both committees and rewrite an ordinance that would combine them both. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Sustainability Plan has some lofty goals and some are attainable, some are not. When the Board looked at the vacancies on that committee, it felt as if that is the

direction it needed to head. Mr. Schneider stated that Mrs. Jacobs had a good point. Mr. Brown stated that there is a lot of support at the meeting this evening for the Sustainability Committee. The enabling ordinances will be placed on the website for public review. To volunteer, there is a form on the website. Jane Helm, EAC stated that she had no preference if the committees combine or not, but cautioned on having a committee that is too large. The EAC is seven members which is a good size. Mr. James stated that the Sustainability Committee has been working with nine members each with a three-year rotation. There is no action needed by the Board if the committees are to remain separate. Each person who has interest in being on the Sustainability Committee should send an email to the Township or use the online form. The names and terms then can be completed and the Sustainability Committee can be formed at the next Board meeting.

EAC Appointment: Mr. Brown made the motion to reappoint Victoria Laubach and Christy Martin to the EAC for a term expiring December 31, 2019. The motion was denied. Mr. Jacobs made the motion to reappoint Victoria Laubach and appoint Pieter Ouwerkerk to the EAC for a term expiring December 31, 2019. Mr. Jacobs explained his reasoning stating that he wants to create new involvement. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. Mr. Jacobs called for a vote. Mr. Schneider voted yes, Mr. Jacobs voted yes, Mr. Brown voted no. Motion carried.

Open Space Advisory Board: Mr. Schneider made the motion to appoint Jody Reinbold to the Open Space Advisory Board to fill the vacancy with a term ending December 31, 2019. Mr. Brown seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Police Office Furniture: Chief Swinger stated that the office furniture that his officers use now is large and bulky and there is not much room to get around. He asked a representative from a COSTARS company, Benjamin Roberts Office Interiors, to come and give them an idea of how it could be refitted to be more efficient. They have suggested installing work stations and filing cabinets for a cost under \$9,400. Mr. Schneider asked how many officers are in the room at one time. Chief Swinger stated that it is very crowded with more than three people in the room. Mr. Schneider asked how often that happens and the Chief told him a few times a month. Mr. Jacobs asked about the file cabinets in the farmhouse section of the Township building. Chief Swinger stated that was his evidence area and that will not change. Mr. Jacobs stated that he would like a walk-through before he makes a decision. Ms. Batdorf stated that the officers have been super flexible dealing with the lack of space but this is an issue that needs to be addressed. They have been very patient dealing with each other. It is important moving forward with the space issue and the study that the Township plans to do this year. Chief Swinger stated that the prices go up on February 1st. This will be revisited as soon as the Board can take a tour of the facilities.

Sale of Police Vehicle: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board approve the winning bid for the sale of the 2011 Crown Vic to Michael Makon in the total amount of \$2,900. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Curry asked what the Blue Book value was and he was informed \$1,500. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Maria Jacobs, 2351 Beaverhill Road asked if the website could be updated so that the agendas and minutes from the calendar also go to the main page. Mrs. Jacobs asked what the status of the

Township Facebook page was. Ms. Batdorf stated that staff had an internal meeting and it should go live shortly.

Jim Helm, 2653 Veronica Drive asked how long it will be until the turnaround is installed at the gate at the intersection of Eagle Farms Road and S. Chester Springs Road. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Township is still waiting on the traffic study results from Pennoni where West Vincent Township, Upper Uwchlan Township and West Pikeland Township got together to find out about multiple intersections along Route 401. Mr. Helm did not see how that related to the gate. Mr. Schneider stated that it is now a potential litigation matter since other Townships do not want the road to be closed and sent a letter to the Board informing them. Solicitor John Walko stated that the study does deal with the turnaround. He advised the Board not to reveal specifics at this time. Ms. Schick was unhappy with the information about litigation and discussed another matter with the re-zoning of the Wheeler Aman property. Ever since Mr. Aman hired an attorney, the Planning Commission was not permitted to discuss it. She asked if there was a statute of limitations on that. She was told no. Mr. Walko informed her that litigation prevents discussions in public. Mr. Curry asked if the Township is hanging back from the installation of the turnaround because of potential litigation. Mr. Jacobs stated that it was more than that. The Township Engineer did a review of the turnaround and no matter what, there is no good spot for a three-point turnaround, it needs to be five or six which is difficult to do.

Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane stated that in the 2016 Reorganization Meeting the Board members were asked about his thoughts on open space and they were in favor of it. She asked if the feelings have changed. Mr. Jacobs stated that he was in favor of it, but that at some time there would be a goal hit and a saturation point.

John Ferrara, 28 Aldelphia Lane asked about the Duey obstacle course. Mr. Jacobs stated that it is in the hands of counsel at this time. Mr. Ferrara wanted to make sure that the residents be kept informed of all that goes on with the obstacle course. Mr. Brown stated that some of the neighbors have retained counsel and asked if he was one of them. Mr. Ferrara stated that he was. Mr. Brown stated that Mr. McGrory has been informing that attorney with any updates. Mr. Ferrara stated that he is sure that there are new obstacles. Ms. Batdorf stated that our Zoning Officer was on the premises and did not see any new ones, but if Mr. Ferrara could send her photos she could pass them on.

Ms. Batdorf announced that the Township has a new Zoning Officer and Building Code Official through Cedarville Engineering, Tom Wargo. His hours will be 12:30-4:30 daily. The Sustainability Committee meeting will be Tuesday at 7:30 PM in the small meeting room and the Zoning Hearing will be Tuesday at 7:00 PM. The Elected Auditor Meeting will be Wednesday at 5:00 PM. The Planning Commission for Thursday has been cancelled. There was a discussion about valid members on the Sustainability Committee. They can meet, but do not vote on any items until the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy Swavely, Township Secretary