

**West Vincent Township  
Board of Supervisors Meeting**

**November 18, 2019                      7:00 p.m.**

Attendance: Chairman, Mike Schneider; Vice Chairman, Bernie Couris; Member George Dulchinos; Erica Batdorf, Township Manager; Michele Hogrelius, Township Treasurer. Absent: Kathryn Shillenn, Township Secretary.

Chairman Schneider called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Schneider announced that an Executive Session was held before the Board of Supervisors meeting at 4:30 p.m. to discuss litigation.

**MOTION** by Mr. Couris to approve the minutes of November 4, 2019; second by Mr. Dulchinos.

There being no comments or questions, *MOTION carries unanimously.*

**REPORTS:**

**Police Report:**

Police Chief Swinger read his report. Report acknowledged as received.

**Bills List:**

**MOTION** by Mr. Couris to approve the Bills List, dated November 18, 2019 in the amount of \$1,017,293.03; second by Mr. Dulchinos.

**Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane** stated that normally the full bills list is read, not just the total. Mr. Schneider asked if she meant the reimbursables vs. capital vs. open space. Mr. Schneider read the complete list of totals. Ms. Shick also asked about the Nationwide Trust Co. on the reimbursables. Where is this reimbursed from? Ms. Batdorf stated that this is from the State Pension Aid. This year it covered all of our non-uniformed obligations for the pension.

There being no further comments or questions, *MOTION carries unanimously.*

**Announcements:** None.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Presentation:** None.

**Subdivision/Land Development:**

**670 Birchrun Road Land Development - Acknowledge Receipt of Application** -Receipt acknowledged by the Board of Supervisors.

**352 Blackhorse Road Subdivision - Request for Waiver of Historical Impact Study Requirement** - **MOTION** by Mr. Couris to grant the waiver for the Historical Impact Study; second by Mr. Dulchinos.

**Jim Helm, Chair of the Historic Commission** – The Historic Commission did recommend the applicant complete a Historic Impact Study, but only four components. The four components were to document existing conditions, overview of the historic development over time, create a statement of historical significance and a list of the recommendations to mitigate the steps. Mr. Couris asked if he had any idea of what the cost would be to the developer. Mr. Helm said that he did as they have a couple of informed members that do this type of work. It should be about \$2000 to \$2500. A full impact study would be about three or four times that amount. Mr. Couris asked if Mr. Helm was aware that the Planning Commission voted against this study. Mr. Helm stated that the developer came before the Historic Commission before they went before the Planning Commission. At that time they were not asking for a waiver. Three days later they went before the Planning Commission. Mr. Schneider asked what the purpose of the impact study is. Mr. Helm said the purpose is so that the applicant and the township can fully understand the history of the project. Part is documentation and then recommendations to the applicant on how to mitigate the project. Mr. Dulchinos doesn't see any reason for an impact study as there is nothing that the current applicant is doing that will affect the historic building.

**Harriet Stone, 1645 Birchrun Road** would just like to know what the historic issues or problems are and she hasn't heard that. She just wants to know what there is to be protected.

**Karl Brachowitz, 1286 Hollow Road** stated that he's been involved in historic preservation for 35 years. He thinks it's a bad idea to get involved with an impact study on this property for a subdivision. It makes no sense. A waiver for this study makes sense. Historic Commissions are an impediment to restoration. He encourages preservation, as a private endeavor.

**Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane** was curious as to whether the Historic Commission or engineer has visited the site. Do we really know of the extent of the history on the property?

There being no further comments or questions, **MOTION carries unanimously.**

**Old Business:**

**Authorize Advertisement of DRAFT 2020 Budget** – **MOTION** by Mr. Couris to authorize the advertisement of the 2020 DRAFT Budget; second by Mr. Dulchinos.

Ms. Batdorf stated that the budget has been slightly refined. Ms. Batdorf read through the numbers; the budget will be posted and available for public inspection for at least 20 days per township code.

There being no comments or questions, **MOTION carries unanimously.**

**New Business:**

**Green Valleys Watershed Association Request for 2019 Contribution - MOTION** by Mr. Couris to authorize the Green Valleys Watershed Association request for a \$1,500 contribution for 2019; second by Mr. Dulchinos.

**Karl Brachowitz 1286 Hollow Road** asked if this is a general fund distribution for a specific project.

**Brian Curry, 512 Blackhorse Road** asked if Green Valleys does a solicitation to the residents of West Vincent for funds every year.

**Harriet Stone, 1645 Birchrun Road** stated that she doesn't think there is mailing to every resident or to everyone within the watersheds that they serve. They ask their members and also get grants and they are serving the township incredibly.

**Brian Curry, 512 Blackhorse Road** agrees with Mr. Schneider that an organization goes to government to get money from the residents in the area and not appealing to the residents.

**Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane** said the Treevitalize Grant she thinks is how Green Valleys is getting trees and shrubs; it needs to have matching funds so they are asking for a contribution from an outside agency which is why they are asking the township to put some money in. It is a donation to the Bryn Coed Park for vegetation.

**John Eldridge** noted an interesting comment in that the fire company solicits money from the residents and the township also gives them significant amounts money.

There being no further comments or questions, *MOTION carries 2-1, with Mr. Schneider voting no.*

**Public Comment:**

**Karl Brachowitz, 1286 Blackhorse Road** stated now that the election is over and the voting was pretty clear, will you be putting Sara Shick in the seat now or wait until the New Year. Mr. Schneider stated that is has to be the 6<sup>th</sup> of January at the Reorganization Meeting. Mr. Brachowitz stated that it doesn't have to be; Mr. Dulchinos can resign his seat warmer position right now and you can put Sara in the seat right now. It's easy to do. Mr. Couris objected to Mr. Brachowitz calling Mr. Dulchinos a seat warmer. Mr. Brachowitz stated that Mr. Dulchinos doesn't have a long history of great guidance to offer. It's just a statement of fact to move things along and get Ms. Shick up to speed. Best thing for the township is to move things along as quickly as possible. Mr. Couris stated that Ms. Shick is getting up to speed on things and she doesn't need to sit up here to do that. Mr. Brachowitz claims that the supervisors are now getting political. He feels that Mr. Dulchinos doesn't need to be in any more meetings or executive sessions. He feels that Ms. Shick's term should start. Will she be participating in executive sessions? Mr. Schneider stated that Ms. Shick will in the beginning of the year.

There being no further discussion, the **MOTION** to adjourn was brought forward by Mr. Couris; second by Mr. Dulchinos. **MOTION carries unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Erica L. Batdorf  
Township Manager