

West Vincent Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting

September 18, 2107

7:00 PM

Attendance: Chairman John Jacobs, Michael Schneider, Township Solicitor Joseph McGrory of HRMML, Township Engineer Bryan Kulakowsky of Cedarville Engineering, and Township Secretary Tammy Swavely.

Chairman John Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Mr. Jacobs announced an Executive Session immediately prior to tonight's meeting to discuss real estate.

Mr. Jacobs announced that at the next meeting and moving forward anyone wishing to speak must come to the microphone so that all can hear what is being said.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Schneider made the motion to approve the September 5, 2107 minutes as submitted. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Reports:

Police Report: Sergeant Russell gave the August 2017 Police Report which was acknowledged as received.

Bills List: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Bills List dated 9/18/2017 in the total amount of \$90,593.76 be approved as submitted. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The Board answered a few questions and the motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

A thank you note was acknowledged as received to the West Vincent Township Police Department from Donald Rosato, 1169 St. Matthews Road for assistance during the horse carriage parade on Labor Day weekend.

A letter dated September 7, 2017 was acknowledged as received from PA DEP with information on the 2014 Recycling Grant. West Vincent Township received \$5,442 reflecting 491.5 tons of materials recycled by the residents in 2014.

An email was received from Jim Helm, 2563 Veronica Drive requesting to delay the dialogue on the stop sign installation at S. Chester Springs Road and Rt. 401 since he and others need more notice and he also would like the Township Manager, Erica Batdorf to be present. The Board agreed to this and received comments. Jennifer Farnham 2665 S. Chester Springs Road asked the

Board to amend the minutes from August 21, 2017 to more accurately reflect how many signatures were on the petition submitted by those who want to keep the gate closed at the intersection of S. Chester Springs Road and Eagle Farms Road. She stated that there are 200+ signatures and feels that should be reflected. The Board informed her that the comment would be in these minutes which she agreed to. Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane asked if the Board can stop Penn DOT from installing the stop sign. Mr. Jacobs asked Mr. Schneider to find out. Mrs. Farnham asked about the paving of the turnaround. Solicitor Joe McGrory stated that the Board needs to pick a date next month to discuss this topic and all related issues. The Board meeting on October 16, 2017 was chosen.

Subdivision/Land Development:

Kanavy Land Development: An extension request was submitted by Daniel McKenna, P.E. for the project. Mr. Schneider made the motion to grant the Extension for the Kanavy Land Development until December 31, 2017. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The Township Engineer, Bryan Kulakowsky stated he has been in contact with the engineer of this project and they have been working on clearing up items with Chester County. There were no further comments and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Snow and Ice Removal Bid: Mr. Schneider make the motion to reject the bid for Snow and Ice Removal since the contractor did not include the necessary documents to make the bid complete. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. Mr. Jacobs added that since this was bid twice, the Township will formalize a contract with the same company. There was no Bid Bond included and one will not be required for this contract. The motion carried unanimously.

French Creek Road Culvert: Mr. Schneider made the motion to authorize an environmental study on parcel 25-4-136. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. Mr. Jacobs explained that the land owner will not give the Township an easement to encroach 15 feet for either a temporary or permanent easement, but would rather give the parcel to the Township. There has been a questionable history on the pond on this parcel, so a study must be done so that the Township knows what is there. If it comes back clear, the Township will take the parcel, it is a quicker way to obtain the parcel and get the work done to the culvert. Brian Curry, 512 Black Horse Road asked when the culvert failed and he was told that the road was closed March 1, 2016. Mr. Jacobs hopes to get this project done as soon as possible. After answering a few more questions Mr. Jacobs called for a vote which was unanimous.

Fellowship Trail: Mr. Schneider stated that the Township was alerted that part of the trail cannot be paved and a change order will need to be done to take care of that property. He stated that French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust has an easement on the West Vincent Land Trust parcel in Upper Uwchlan that does not allow non-porous pavement. He stated that the best thing to do is to stop it at the line leave it in grass and start it up again. Ms. Shick stated that she thought the trail was to be stroller friendly. Mr. Schneider stated that this is out of the Township's control.

It is 270' long. Pam Brown, French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust stated that another solution would be to use porous paving which is stroller friendly. Mr. Kulakowsky stated that porous paving is very expensive since the plant must shut down for a day. Mr. Schneider stated that we can leave it grass for now. Maria Jacobs, 2351 Beaver Hill Road asked what the concern about the pavement is. Ms. Brown stated that it was agreed on long ago and it reduces impervious coverage. She added that she did not write the document, but it is difficult to get around an easement. Mr. Jacobs stated that he feels that it is too restrictive and had to be done with a reason. Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board authorize a change order for the Fellowship Trail on the Upper Uwchlan parcel. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. Mr. Kulakowsky will get options from the contractor. Mr. Jacobs stated that his idea of this trail was for a family with a stroller and a child on a bike would use it and this ruins that concept. Ms. Brown stated that non-porous paving could be an option. She added that with the sewer plant sale, there is a conservation easement on many of those parcels and French and Pickering Creeks will need to be notified of any agreements moving forward. This was done with good intent. She added that if there was a trail easement overlay done with French and Pickering Creeks it may be possible to change that. The issue with that is the Trust requires a stewardship payment of \$2500 and the Board was unwilling to pay that fee. Mr. Jacobs called for a vote which was unanimous.

New Business:

Park Maintenance: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board authorize the hiring of Windview Athletic Fields to do maintenance on the soccer field and baseball field for the Fall 2017 season and the Spring 2018 season as submitted in their proposal dated July 11, 2017 in the total amount of \$6,875.00. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Fee Schedule: Mr. Jacobs stated that the Township has not raised the Fee Schedule for Commercial Permits for 15 years and the Township is not covering costs. Ms. Shick asked what is was changing from. Mr. Jacobs stated there are about four different items but it is to cover the costs and the Board has the right to do so when it needs to. Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board approve Resolution 20-2017 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. Jacobs seconded the motion. The Board answered a few more questions and the motion carried unanimously.

Volunteer Positions: There are a few positions open on the committees. The first is on the Park and Recreation Commission and there are two openings on the Sustainably Committee. Mrs. Swavely stated that if you are interested in volunteering to contact her at the Township office by phone or email.

MMO 2018: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board approve the funding for the Police Pension in the total amount of \$72,422 for the year 2018. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. Mr. Jacobs asked if the rise in costs has to do with an aging police force. Mr. McGrory stated that could be an affect, but the assumptions for the rate of return are generally higher. The motion carried unanimously.

Hire Traffic Engineer: Mr. Schneider made the motion to hire Pennoni as a Traffic Engineer to do a study on the gate at S. Chester Springs Road and Eagle Farms Road in the total amount of \$800.00. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. This is to get an opinion on the parameters of the area. This company did the other traffic study in the area, so they are familiar with the intersection. This is for an interpretation and a conclusion about the gate. It will be a very limited study. Some people want the gate open, some people want it closed. This study it is hoped to help the Board make a decision. There was much discussion about the scope of the study. Mr. McGrory stated that Pennoni will give the Township advice and if they need to expand the area they will let the Township know. When these results are complete, they will be placed on the website. After the discussion on October 16th, a vote may or may not take place, it depends on the report.

Road Department Truck: Mr. Schneider made the motion to purchase the 2018 Dodge Ram 5500 chassis and service body in the total amount of \$93,278. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. Mr. Jacobs stated that this truck was in the 2016 Budget but the purchase got postponed with other costs. The 2001 truck will still operable but the body needs work. It will be used as a snow plow and a flatbed will be added. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Gloria Shontz 2415 S. Chester Springs Road gave a history of what she remembers about the discussion on the intersection at S. Chester Springs Road and Eagle Farms Road. She discussed the calls that were made to the State Representatives by a Board member. Mr. Schneider stated that he contacted Becky Corbin. Penn DOT wanted the gate open before any safety issues were addressed at S. Chester Springs Road and Rt. 401 and the Board would agree if this was done concurrently. He sought her assistance in getting Penn DOT to agree to do it concurrently. If the Township does not open the gate, then the Township would not be getting the safety improvements that are necessary from Penn DOT. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Board will deal with this discussion on October 16th. Mrs. Farnham addressed this issue feeling disheartened and is concerned with the Boards actions and motives. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Board will listen to anything she has to say.

Sara Shick asked about the progress of the sewer sale. Mr. McGrory stated that the Township is in negotiations now and are going very well. Ms. Shick asked about easements on the trails on the parcels. Mr. McGrory stated that there are all sorts of issues and are being cleared up. If there is a particular trail that is not documented anywhere he needs that information so that an easement can be drafted for it. Ms. Brown will meet with Mr. Kulakowsky to discuss all the trails.

Ms. Shick asked about the high density zoning since the Planning Commission wanted to remove it from the Zoning Ordinance and after the landowner obtained an attorney they were not allowed

to talk about it. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Board decided not to take any action on that recommendation.

Ms. Shick asked about the Trash Task Force request for proposals and their report. Mr. McGrory stated that it was a very well written report, but it was not something the Township could do legally due to restrict of trade conflicts.

Ms. Shick asked about the bridge surface that was dangerous to horses that was brought up in the last meeting. The Road Department is looking for a solution.

Jane Helm, 2563 Veronica Drive asked about the status of the Fox Hollow Trail. Mr. Schneider stated that the trees are marked as to where it should go. As soon as the Road Department has the time they will do the work.

Art Ewell, 972 Fellowship Road thanked the Township for getting lights on the flagpole. Mr. Jacobs added that Mr. Schneider was very instrumental in seeing that get done.

Harriet Stone, 1645 Birchrun Road announced that if you like to work outdoors, there is an opportunity to volunteer as a Schuylkill Water Steward. They will train you as to what is needed and it is this fall. She had brochures to distribute.

Suzanne Roth, 1360 School House Lane stated that when Penn DOT paved Flowing Springs Road it was upsetting to her that they did not unclog the pipe that is on the side of the road. She is concerned that there will be icing across the road in the winter.

Ms. Roth questioned her neighbor's construction of a garage. It did not have to have a hearing to build it and she would have to put in a running shed. Mr. Jacobs stated they did have the necessary permits to do what they are doing. The running shed may have been a setback issue.

Liz Gavin, representing Marc Duey, 2000 Art School Road spoke to the Board about the Duey family purchasing the 72 acres in the Bryn Coed Subdivision instead of West Vincent Township purchasing it. She stated that the Township could buy other property across the road. She was unsure why the Township was not willing to purchase a different property and both sides of the road would be protected. The Duey's want to have an aquaponics farm and keep all the buildings. They would allow the land to be used as a park and construct public bathrooms and a parking lot. Mr. Jacobs stated that the 72 acres proposed to be bought by the Township connects with the NLT parcel and would be ideal. Ms. Gavin offered many details including an easement on the property that would require the land open to everyone and offer the Township the Right Of First Refusal should the Duey's ever decide to sell. After a discussion, the Board will discuss this further in Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy Swavely
Township Secretary