

West Vincent Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting

February 6, 2017 7:00 PM

Attendance: Chairman John Jacobs, Vice Chairman David Brown, Michael Schneider, Township 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 February 3, 2017 to discuss real estate and litigation.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of January 16, 2017 were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Schneider and a second by Mr. Brown.

Reports:

Township Manager Report: Ms. Batdorf gave her report for the time period ending February 6, 2017 which was acknowledged as received.

Bills List: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Bills List dated 2/2016 in the total amount of \$159,784.54 be approved as submitted. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The Board answered some additional questions and the motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

The Chester County Solid Waste Authority has announced their 2017 Household Waste Collection Events. These dates will be posted on the Township website Facebook page and on the bulletin board. John Rieder, 1580 Hollow Road asked if they are taking electronics. They are not. A list of acceptable materials in on their website. Research will be done to see where residents can recycle their electronics.

Subdivision/Land Development:

Eagle Farms Subdivision/Toll Bros.: Toll Bros. has requested Surety Reductions on a Performance Surety Bond and Cedarville Engineering is recommending their release. This is for site improvements and Upper Uwchlan Township has previously approved this release. Mr. Schneider made the motion to approve Release #3 in the total amount of \$10,583.57. Mr. Brown seconded the motion, there was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Police Department: This item was tabled from the last meeting so that the Board members could each had a tour to understand the difficulties they face on a day-to-day basis. Mr. Schneider made the motion to approve the purchase of the office furniture from the COSTARS vendor, Benjamin Roberts Office Interiors for the total amount of \$9,396.92. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane asked if this purchase was the result of the study of space in the Township building. Mr. Jacobs stated that this is to improve their space and in the event the Township needs to be redesigned it can be reused. Mr. Curry asked about the change in workstations that was mentioned at the last meeting. Mr. Schneider stated that the way it is laid out, 7 workstations make sense and each officer will have their own space. Mr. Jacobs added that this is drastically needed and will be able to walk around in there now. The motion carried unanimously.

Sustainability Committee: Mr. Brown made the motion to appoint the following members to the Sustainability Committee with the terms listed expiring 12/31 of the year listed: Steve Bazil, 2017, Thomasina Webb, 2017, Bryan Sladky, 2017, David Weber, 2018, Sam Cantrell, 2018. Bernie Couris, 2018, Jennifer Munson, 2019, Tom Kalusky, 2019, and Barbara Mueller, 2019. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. Brian Curry, 512 Black Horse Road asked if the terms of each committee member could be listed on the website. This can be done. Mr. Jacobs thanked all of the volunteers and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

New Zoning Hearing Application: A new Zoning Hearing Application was received from Christopher and Lynn Capobianco, 2554 Veronica Drive for a variance from Section 503 D.1 and 505 F.6 of the Townships Zoning Ordinance. This is for impervious coverage to install a swimming pool. This will be forwarded to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Fellowship Trail Phase II: Ms. Batdorf stated that the Township does not have an accurate or useful survey of the Phase II portion of the proposed Fellowship Trail. This will give a trail alignment so that the Township can coordinate with St. Matthews Church. Mr. Jacobs added that the church did allow us to go outside the right of way, but it did not work. Mr. Brown stated that there has been a lot of back and forth with the church. Ms. Batdorf stated that the Township will do whatever makes the most sense taking into consideration the history to get it sorted out. This plan will show the church what can and cannot be done to have a safe and public trail. Mr. Jacobs asked if a grant was available for this. Ms. Batdorf stated that at this time few grants accept projects that are not shovel ready. Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board approve the Cedarville Engineering proposal dated January 19, 2017 for the Alignment Feasibility Study and establishment of the Trail Route for the St. Matthews Connection portion of the Fellowship Trail in the total amount of 9,600.00. Mr. Brown seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

PFM Fee Arrangement: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Board authorize the execution of the Fee Arrangement Agreement with PFM Financial Advisors as presented to the Board this evening. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Schneider explained that this is the company hired to evaluate the sewer plants and to go to the next step. Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane asked

if it is an hourly rate and she was told yes. There was no further comment and the motion carried unanimously.

Speed Limit Ordinance: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Speed Limit Ordinance for French Creek Road be authorized for advertisement for consideration at the next Township Board meeting, February 21, 2017. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Maria Jacobs, 2351 Beaver Hill Road asked if they plan to do a speed study on the road. Mr. Jacobs stated that it has already been done and the speed limit will be posted is 25 mph. It has not been previously posted. Suzanne Roth, 1360 School House Lane feels that there is nowhere to monitor the speed on that road and if there is, to try to find a way to monitor School House Lane. Frances Ellis, 2823 Flowing Springs Road asked if there was any more thought into making School House Lane a one-way road and she was informed no. Mr. Jacobs called for a vote which was unanimous.

Buttonwood Lane Bridge Ordinance: Mr. Schneider made the motion that the Weight Limit on Buttonwood Lane Bridge Ordinance be authorized for advertisement for consideration at the next Township Board meeting, February 21, 2017. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Ms. Batdorf stated that the temporary shoring of the bridge has been inspected by a structural engineer and the weight limit can be raised from 7-10 ton combination vehicles to 25-30 tons. A combination being a truck pulling a trailer. She added that the Township has met with the engineer and although the bridge is not ideal, this has been a big improvement for the residents. This is their only access to their homes. It can be budgeted for a complete repair in the near future. Ms. Roth asked if a second bridge could be installed. Ms. Batdorf stated that there are a lot of things that can be done but it is all money. The fire departments will be informed of this weight change. Mr. Jacobs called for a vote which was unanimous.

Amphibian Crossing on Hollow Road: Harriet Stone, EAC, informed the Board that for the last 6 years there has been a group of people who gather to help amphibians cross Hollow Road. She is requesting that the Board give Chief Swinger approval to close Hollow Road from Horseshoe Trail to Birchrun Road. The frogs cross during cold rainy nights in late winter to early spring. She would like to have the roads closed from approximately 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. She invited anyone who would like to join them to contact her. Mrs. Stone is enthusiastic about saving these amphibians and encouraged others to join the event. She has asked Chief Swinger for permission and he is fine with it. Mrs. Jacobs asked several questions which Mrs. Stone answered. Mrs. Stone stated that although there are several places they could cross, this portion of Hollow Road seems to get many more than others, in addition, that portion of the road is an easy stretch to close. There is a vernal pond across the road which is their destination. They do cross to get back in a few weeks, but they are not protected at that time. At least their eggs get laid which is the main reason for helping them cross. Toads tend not to cross in the rain but they go in one big wave and then go back. Eggs can be transplanted from one area to another if someone would have some that they would like to move. Ms. Roth suggested that information be placed on the website when the frogs sing since it is wonderful to hear. Mrs. Stone stated that the frog population is decreasing worldwide. They also are helpful to have since they eat many mosquitos and other insects. Mr. Jacobs made the motion to authorize Chief Swinger to assist the EAC with the Amphibian Migration as needed and close Hollow Road when necessary. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Sara Shick asked the Board if they have ever considered dry hydrants at French Creek so that the Buttonwood Lane address could have better access for fire trucks. This will be taken into consideration. Mr. Curry added that a small dam could be constructed that could be used to pump out water.

Brian Curry discussed the advertisement of the Open Space Meeting held on Sunday, January 29th. Mr. Brown spoke to this stating that the Open Space Advisory Board met on January 24th without a quorum and they needed to take a vote before the Executive Session of the Board. He wanted to do this via email and the Solicitor told him that they had to have a meeting to take a vote. That is why the need for a quick turnaround meeting. Mr. Curry asked Mr. Brown if it was about the Conservation Easement 16 Years LLC that he referred to at the EAC meeting. Mr. Brown informed him that it was but the Board has not taken any action. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Board can only take any official action at a public meeting. Mr. Brown added that even though this was a real estate issue, it was revealed at the EAC so it is public information now.

Harriet Stone stated that there will be a public meeting on voting districts and gerrymandering by an organization called Fair Districts PA. This meeting will discuss issues on February 22, 2017 at the Henderson High School at 7:00 PM.

Maria Jacobs followed up on Mr. Curry's question about the Open Space Meeting. Ms. Batdorf stated that it was advertised in the Mercury and placed on the website, the Facebook page and Twitter. Mrs. Jacobs feels that notice should have been sent in an email.

Kip Archinal, 919 Fellowship Road asked how many people are on the email list. Mrs. Swavely informed the Board that there was approximately 400. Mrs. Archinal feels that is low (for a population of 4,567) and stated that the Sustainability Committee should try to push this at Community Day.

Mr. Curry asked about the Open Space minutes and if the draft ones could be posted. Mr. Brown informed him that it was fine. Mr. Curry asked several other questions on the Open Space Advisory Board which Mr. Brown was able to answer. Other minutes from 2016 have not been drafted at this time.

John Ferrara, 28 Aldelphia Lane asked about the Duey obstacle course since there were Township invoices referencing it. Mr. Brown informed him that his neighbor's attorney and the Township Solicitor are talking which is what the charge refers to. Mr. Ferrara stated that there was a proposal sent from the Duey's attorney to the neighbors which was a form of an agreement. Mr. Jacobs stated that the Board is not permitted to discuss litigation in public.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Swavely, Township Secretary