

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

October 8, 2013

Supervisors Present: Barbara Lindtner, Dave Long, Volker Oakey, John Oehler and Rob Zisko

Also present: Terry Clemons (Township Solicitor) Chief McDonald, Rich Schilling (Township Manager) and Jason Wager (Secretary/Treasurer)

Barbara Lindtner, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:52 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Mensch held a special meeting with the Board of Supervisors and residents prior to the meeting.

Minutes

Rob Zisko **moved** to accept the August 27, 2013 minutes as presented. John Oehler **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously. Rob Zisko **moved** to accept the September 10, 2013 minutes as presented. Volker Oakey **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously. Rob Zisko **moved** to accept the September 24, 2013 minutes as presented. Volker Oakey **seconded**; the motion **passed**. John Oehler **abstained** since he was not present at that meeting.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Donna Holmes, Township resident and Palisades School District Director of Community Relations and Development, stated how impressed she was with the Recreation Plan. She said that the school district would be willing and happy to participate at the committee or planning level and support this plan that would help students and residents of the Township.

Bob Bell, Township resident, responded to the correspondence about an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of any single projectile firearm within Township limits. He stated he hopes the Board of Supervisors think long and hard based on one person's request. He said he strongly believes the majority of the Township would be much incited.

Hans Reimann, Open Space Committee member, stated that when considering a monitoring change for a conservation easement, he thinks there should be at least two holders of the easement.

Jim Nielsen, Open Space Committee Chairperson, said he was not sure the property owners were aware of this discussion and suggested tabling this agenda item until the owners are made aware. Dave Long stated he had not been in contact with the owners of the conservation easement and was going to suggest tabling when the Board got to that agenda item.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held to obtain public comments and to consider adoption of the comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. Terry Clemons gave a briefing of the public hearing process and discussed a letter received from the Bucks County Planning Commission. Barbara Lindtner gave a briefing of the letter and the process on how the Parks and Recreation Plan was created and brought before the Board for adoption. She stated that within the plan is to create private and public partnerships available to the Township such as Palisades School District. She also said that the Township has put in for a grant seeking passive recreation for the Township owned 38 acres on Peppermint Road utilizing Municipal Open Space

Funds from the county and a DCNR grant from the state so that no taxpayer money would be taken from the General Fund. Hans Reimann, EAC Chairperson, reiterated his thanks for including the Environmental Advisory Council in the Parks and Recreation Plan. He stated that the EAC stands ready to help the school district with the outdoor classroom and said that the Township is now recognized as a Bird Town Municipality.

Terry Clemons recognized the following exhibits for the record:

- T-1 Draft of the Parks and Recreation Plan
- T-2 Copy of the letter sent from the Solicitor to Richland Township, Milford Township, Haycock Township, Quakertown Borough, Durham Township and Palisades School District
- T-3 Copy of the legal notice that the public hearing was advertised
- T-4 Copy of the letter from the Bucks County Planning Commission
- T-5 Email from Haycock Township
- T-6 Email from Palisades School District

Barbara Lindtner referenced the exhibits T-4 and T-6. Dave Long asked if any of the Supervisors had a problem funding any of the plan out of the General Fund in the future and stated that it is going to cost the Township something to do this even though the plan is supposed to be self-funding. He said he was concerned that if there weren't continued development there would be expenses that would need to be funded somehow. Barbara Lindtner said using the Road Department for the maintenance and a farmer maintaining the field in Peppermint Park, which was stated in earlier discussions. Volker Oakey discussed utilizing the partnerships created from the plan instead of creating these areas on our own. John Oehler and Rob Zisko said they were okay with using General Funds on a limited basis if needed. Township resident Bob Bell stated he had concern for Township employees spending time on the maintenance of the proposed parks and that stating this as a no cost item is not realistic because he feels the employees are worked to the maximum right now. Township resident Brian Flack said he appreciates the open space in the Township and that there are a lot of volunteers in the Township who would find time to help to offset the labor if it's something they want bad enough. Barbara Lindtner said there has been a response of over sixty volunteers and some of the Township organizations who plan to be involved with the program. She stated this is a guiding document and they hope to use partnerships and leverage what we can in terms of state and local grants available. She also said took a lot of time and effort to get this document together and she thinks it's an important legacy to leave to the Township. There was no further comment and the public hearing was closed. John Oehler moved to adopt the Parks and Recreation Plan with the corrected typos. Barbara Lindtner seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Governmental Matters

(1) Open Space Issues – Discussion on the transfer of monitoring on a conservation easement – The Board tabled this discussion to allow time to contact the conservation easement owner.

(2) PSATS News Bulletin – The Board reviewed the PSATS News Bulletin.

Planning Matters

There were no planning matters to discuss.

Old Business

(1) Traffic Calming Ordinance Draft – Terry Clemons gave a briefing of the draft ordinance he prepared. He stated the ordinance would be providing a policy for the Township in evaluating requests for traffic calming measures. The Board discussed the different sections of the ordinance with Terry Clemons. Township resident Bob Bell said everyone wants a

speed bump in front of their home, but he couldn't conceive thru traffic wanting speed bumps. He also stated the Board should be cautious of what this could bring by opening the door for traffic calming devices in the Township. The Board tabled the ordinance discussion for their next meeting and wanted the Township Solicitor and Township Engineer to go point by point and have the Township Engineer weigh in on the criteria since he was not present at this meeting to allow the Board of Supervisors to decide how they wanted the ordinance to look.

(2) 2014 Budget – The Board reviewed and discussed the budget as presented by Rich Schilling and Jason Wager. They also discussed the police section of the budget with Chief McDonald. The Board asked Jason to reformat the worksheet and tabled the discussion for the next meeting.

(3) Authorize sale of 1987 GMC Dump Truck & plow accessories – John Oehler moved to approve the sale of the 1987 GMC dump truck and plow accessories for \$4,300. Barbara Lindtner seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the correspondence and Barbara Lindtner recognized the letter from a resident requesting adoption of an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of any single projectile with Township limits and the PennDOT projected work schedule for the Route 412 bridge project.

Public Comment

Township resident Steve Doncevic thanked the Board for everything they do for the community.

Supervisor Comments

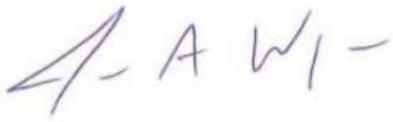
Dave Long asked Chief McDonald about the overtime detail and its effectiveness. Chief stated they had issued ten citations and twenty-five warnings during the detail and most of the people cited were Township residents

Barbara Lindtner said the county is reviewing weight restrictions for the bridges on Slifer Valley Road and she expected to have a response within a week.

Adjournment

At 10:23 p.m., Barbara Lindtner moved to adjourn the meeting. Rob Zisko seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. A. Wager". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Jason A. Wager
Township Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting: October 22, 2013
Approved: October 22, 2013