

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2020**

Township Supervisors:

Ms. Robin Stuntebeck, Chair
Mr. Shaun Walsh, Vice-Chair
Ms. Ashley Gagné., Member
Mr. John Hellman, Member
Mr. Hugh Purnell, Member

Township Officials:

Mr. Casey LaLonde, Township Manager
Mr. Derek Davis, Assistant Township Manager
Mr. Richard J. Craig, Township Engineer
Mr. Bill Webb, Township Zoning Officer
Ms. Kristin Camp, Township Solicitor

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of West Goshen Township was called to order by Chair Robin Stuntebeck, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at the West Goshen Township Administration Building.

Ms. Stuntebeck opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Ms. Stuntebeck requested that all audience members silence their cell phones.

Ms. Stuntebeck made notice to all members of the public in attendance that they may be recorded via audio and video by other members of the public.

Ms. Stuntebeck reminded the audience of the meeting conduct and public comment rules.

Monthly Reports

Chief Gleason gave the December 2019 Police Department report. Chief Gleason stated that the Department will once again host the Citizens' Police Academy.

Ms. Andrea Testa, gave the Fire Marshal's Report for the month of December 2019. Ms. Testa also gave the report for Good Fellowship Ambulance Company and the Goshen Fire Company.

Mr. Beswick provided the Building Inspector Report for the month of December 2019.

Supervisors Announcements

Mr. Walsh announced that the West Chester Area Council of Governments was hosting a meeting with the Cadmus Group at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at the West Whiteland Township building to discuss their renewable energy report. The public is invited to attend.

Mr. Walsh announced that Goshen Fire Company has approached the Township to hold a meeting on future funding and the sustainability of the Fire Company, capital equipment needs and volunteer levels.

Appointments

Planning Commission Liaison

On a motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Purnell, the Board unanimously appointed Mr. John Hellman as Liaison to the Township Planning Commission.

Vacancy Board

On a motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Stuntebeck, the Board appointed Mr. Curt Haltiwanger 3-2 with Ms. Gagné and Mr. Hellman opposed.

Supervisors Announcements, Continued

Ms. Gagné announced that Supervisors and Township staff met with members of the West Chester University staff and Borough of West Chester staff at the BUTOG (Borough / University / Township Official Group) earlier today and discussed various topics, including the proposed West Chester University Overlay Ordinance.

Mr. Hellman announced that he attended the Smart Energy Initiative of Southeast Pennsylvania workshops on smart energy and sustainability on January 15th.

Township Manager's Announcements

Mr. LaLonde announced that the Township Historical Commission was hosting a free lecture at 7:00 p.m. on January 22nd, "Exploring the Corridors of Greystone Hall." Historical artifacts, maps and other materials are on display in the hallway.

Township Engineer Stormwater Update – Woodlands at Greystone Update

Mr. Craig stated that the Township is still waiting for its MS4 permit.

Mr. Craig stated that Aram Avenue is open and the traffic signals on Aram Avenue at Pottstown Pike and Phoenixville Pike are operational.

Jerry Dickens had questions regarding The Woodlands at Greystone project.

Ms. Gagné asked who designed the Aram Avenue / Phoenixville Pike intersection. Mr. Craig responded that PennDOT and Traffic Planning & Design with the project developer designed the intersection.

Zoning Officer's Announcements

Mr. Webb announced that the Zoning Hearing Board met on January 9th to reorganize with Mr. Joseph DeFelippes as Chair, Mr. Shannon Royer as Vice-Chair.

He announced that on Thursday night, the Zoning Hearing Board will hold a hearing on the Hain Celestial property for 10% retail space for indoor self-storage by Special Exception.

Mr. Webb announced that there will be two Hearings in February. One is for an existing single-family home at 940 South Walnut Street which is currently Zoned C-3 and should be Zoned R-3. Mr. Webb requested authorization to start the process.

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Hellman, the Board unanimously approved holding a Hearing on March 17, 2020 for the 940 South Walnut Street Rezoning.

Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes of January 6, 2020 and January 13, 2020 with the addition of several comments by Margie Swart. The January 6, 2020 minutes shall include Ms. Swart's comments, "Manager's private use of vehicles," "was opposed to Carroll Engineering's appointment," and add the Township Manager's and Assistant Manager's salaries to the minutes. For the January 13, 2020 minutes, shall strike Ms. Swart's comment, "other interests."

December 31, 2019 Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report of December 31, 2019 for the General Fund, the Sewer Fund Revenue Fund, the Waste and Recycling Fund, and the Capital Reserve Fund and the bills to be paid from these Funds.

Mr. Walsh asked when the Township will have ending 2019 numbers. Mr. LaLonde responded around February 15th.

Supervisors Hearing 1-2020 – Continued Conditional Use Hearing for Tru-Mark Financial Bank at 700 East Market Street

Ms. Stuntebeck turned the meeting over to Ms. Camp who began the Hearing for Tru-Mark Financial Bank at 700 East Market Street.

The Board went on the record for the Hearing at 7:55 p.m.

The Board went off the record for the Hearing and back into regular session at 9:03 p.m.

See Official Transcript

Refugee Resettlement Issue

Ms. Camp introduced the issue of Refugee Resettlement, the September 2019 Executive Order issued by President Donald J. Trump and the recent Federal Judge Order suspending the Executive Order.

Ms. Camp suggested no additional action be taken until the issue has been resolved in the courts.

Ms. Camp stated that prior to the Federal Judge's Order, the Borough of West Chester adopted a Resolution regarding refugee resettlement. Mr. Hellman requested a copy of the Borough's Resolution.

WCASD School Resource Officer Agreement

Ms. Camp introduced and explained the Memorandum of Understanding between West Chester Area School District and West Goshen Township to provide a School Resource Officer to Peirce Middle School. The Agreement provides \$120,000 annual funding for three years for West Goshen Township to place a Police Officer / School Resource Officer in Peirce Middle School.

Ms. Gagné asked where any additional funding would come from above and beyond the \$120,000 annual payment. Mr. LaLonde stated it would come from the General Fund.

Mr. Purnell made a motion to approve Resolution 4-2020, approving a three-year Agreement with West Chester Area School District to provide one Police Officer / Resource Officer to Peirce Middle School with District funding at \$120,000 per year. Ms. Gagné seconded the motion.

Dr. Douglas White asked if the Board could negotiate the offer.

Curt Haltiwanger had comments regarding the Agreement.

Al Warren stated he supported the motion.

After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 4-2020.

Discussion of 2020 Supervisors' Initiatives

Ms. Stuntebeck announced that the 1st Wednesday of each month shall serve as a publicly advertised Board workshop meeting, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., preceding the monthly Sewer Authority meetings.

Ms. Stuntebeck stated that she would encourage the Board to work on some strategic planning projects, including establishing a Roslyn Community group to address West Chester University and University Overlay Project issues; a Traffic Working Group to address traffic issues throughout the Township; and a Sustainability Committee.

Ms. Gagné stated that she would recommend the following 2020 initiatives, including an Environmental / Sustainability Advisory Committee; have the Township staff conduct a CPA firm search; and undertake a redesign of the Township's website.

Mr. Hellman stated that he would recommend updating the Township's Emergency Response Plan to include pipeline safety; and establish a responsible contractor law.

Mr. Walsh stated that he would recommend a Traffic Committee and begin with the Roslyn community; a Sustainability Advisory Committee; and solicit resident input on the budget process with meetings over this coming summer.

By consensus, the Board agreed to discuss the proposed West Chester University Overlay Ordinance Project as the topic for the February 5, 2020 Board workshop.

Mr. Purnell requested that work continue on the Township Historical Resources Ordinance.

Margie Swart suggested having a separate role of recording secretary would be of benefit to the Board meetings.

Public Comment

Robert Brochet had comments regarding snow clearance and Resolution 11-2019.

Margie Swart had comments regarding previous minutes that she believes do not reflect the details of her statements on the Vacancy Board, transparency in budgeting, the Neighborhood Improvement District and entering into a 5-year Police contract without Labor Counsel. She had questions regarding a recent Police arbitration case. Mr. LaLonde stated that the Township was represented by Labor Counsel during the arbitration and Ms. Camp further described the Police contract arbitration process.

Ms. Swart stated that the Township Manager entered into Police contract negotiations without Labor Counsel and she considered that to be malfeasance.

Margie Swart raised concerns about the Police Association's fundraising activities and their use of a Township mailing address, implying this activity was being sanctioned by the Township. Mr. LaLonde responded that the Township has no jurisdiction over Police Association (union) activities. Ms. Swart stated she provided Mr. LaLonde with information regarding Police Association fund raising a year ago and he did nothing about it. Ms. Stuntebeck interjected to state that the Township has no jurisdiction over the Police Association. She also stated that several months ago, to avoid confusion for our residents, the Township requested the Police Association change their mailing address from the Township building.

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Ms. Swart asked why the Township doesn't have oversight of the Police Association's activities. Mr. LaLonde responded that the Police Association have 1st Amendment rights and Federal laws protect union activities. Ms. Stuntebeck reiterated that the Police Association is a separate organization and requested that if Ms. Swart had an issue with the Police Association, she should take it up with the Association.

Mr. Curt Haltiwanger asked that the Supervisors' email addresses be added to the Township website.

Please view this meeting's video recording via YouTube with the link located at www.westgoshen.org.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Casey LaLonde
Township Secretary