

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JUNE 29, 2016
(rescheduled from June 6, 2016)**

Township Supervisors:

Mr. Raymond H. Halvorsen, Chairman
Mr. Edward G. Meakim, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Mr. Philip J. Corvo, Jr., Member
Mr. Christopher Pielli, Esq., Member
Mr. Hugh J. Purnell, Jr., Member

Township Officials:

Mr. Casey LaLonde, Township Manager
Mr. Richard J. Craig, Township Engineer
Mr. William E. Webb, Zoning Officer
Ms. Kristin Camp, Township Solicitor

A rescheduled regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of West Goshen Township was called to order by Chairman Raymond Halvorsen at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at the West Goshen Township Administration Building. Mr. Halvorsen opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Captain Greg Stone gave the Police Report for the month of May 2016.

Ms. Andrea Testa, Fire Marshal, gave the Fire Marshal Report for the month of May 2016. Ms. Testa also gave the report for Good Fellowship Ambulance Company and the Goshen Fire Company.

Mr. John Beswick gave the Building Inspection Activity Report for May 2016.

Mr. Corvo nominated Mr. Shaun Walsh as a new member of the Sewer Authority Board to replace recently resigned member Dave Johnson with a second by Mr. Purnell. Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, stated that she agreed with the appointment, but would have rather had this appointment as a separate item on the agenda. The motion carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Walsh to the Sewer Authority Board.

Mr. LaLonde announced that at the July 13, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting, a discussion will occur on rules and regulations on the electronic recording of Board of Supervisors meetings.

Mr. Webb stated that the failure to achieve a quorum of the Township Zoning Hearing Board was becoming problematic and that during the months of June, July and August, it is nearly impossible to schedule Zoning Hearings due to the existing three members and one alternate and their vacation schedules. Mr. Webb requested the Board consider appointing an additional four (4) alternate members so Zoning Hearings may be scheduled in a timely basis. Mr. Webb stated he is interested in nominees from the Board of Supervisors.

The agenda item to discuss the 200th anniversary of the creation of West Goshen Township and East Goshen Township was tabled to July 13, 2016.

On a motion by Mr. Halvorsen, seconded by Mr. Pielli, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the May 11, 2016 minutes with the requested amendments by Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, referring to his questions regarding the Township Code Chapter discussion and Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, referring to her hand-delivered amendments. Mr. LaLonde will make the amendments and present them at the July 13, 2016 meeting for approval.

On a motion by Mr. Meakim, seconded by Mr. Purnell, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2016, for the General Fund, the Sewer Revenue Fund, the Waste and Recycling Fund, and the Capital Reserve Fund, and the bills to be paid from these funds.

Ms. Camp stated that the proposed Ordinance regulating drones and other model aircraft should be indefinitely tabled, as the United States Congress is currently reviewing a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funding bill that addresses drones directly and would possibly pre-empt local jurisdiction and Ordinances over drones and other model aircraft.

Mr. Halvorsen presented the January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019 Township Waste & Recycling Collection Contract bid. The apparent low-bidder is Republic Services, the hauler used by the Township for

many years and contracts through the bidding process, prior to the current contract awarded by low bid to J.P. Mascaro. Mr. Halvorsen stated that the Township offered one option for trash collection, two options for recycling collections and a new option to have the hauler collect trash and recycling from some or all of the twenty-one (21) SEPTA bus stops located throughout the Township.

Mr. Halvorsen explained that on the trash collection option, side-loading, automatic pickup is mandated. The Township trash totes currently in possession of single / multi-family homeowners would again be used as intended, for a single contractor employee truck that uses a side-loading arm to lift, deposit and return the toter to the curb.

Mr. Halvorsen explained that two options were provided for recycling collections. The first option is a traditional style of recycling collection, using a three-employee truck with a single driver and two collection employees who ride on the back of the truck making the collections. The second option was to move to side-loading, automatic pickup of contractor provided 65-gallon recycling toters. Mr. Halvorsen stated that all local municipalities who moved to automatic recycling collection saw their recycling collections increase. He stated that the current blue recycling bins are only 20-gallons, meaning homeowners could increase their recycling efforts by three times. Mr. LaLonde stated that the 65-gallon toter has the footprint of approximately two of the 20-gallon bins.

Mr. Halvorsen then explained that on a request by Mr. Pielli and complaints received by property owners along SEPTA bus routes, an option was designed to have the Township provide and install trash and recycling bins at the approximately twenty-one (21) SEPTA stops. Mr. Halvorsen stated that in some locations, due to steep slopes or other obstructions, collection bins may not be feasible at all locations.

Mr. Purnell stated the number one complaint he hears is from residents complaining about trash and recycling service and our current contractor.

Mr. John McTear, 991 Maule Lane, asked if bulk trash would still occur once per week. Mr. Halvorsen responded that no changes to service levels are proposed. He stated trash would still be collected once per week, bulk trash once per week and recycling once per week.

Maxine, a resident of The Arbours development located on Ward Avenue, asked if Republic Services was getting the contract, and if so, would they have to lay off employees given we are moving back to automated collection. Mr. Halvorsen corrected her, stating J.P. Mascaro is the current contractor and the new contractor is Republic Services.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, stated that he has driven large trucks in the past and that automatic, side-loading collections may be difficult. Mr. Purnell responded that the trash hauling trucks can move inches at a time if necessary.

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Meakim, the Board voted unanimously to award Option 1: Automatic, side-loading trash collection; Option 2A: Automatic, side-loading recycling collection with the contractor providing 65-gallon recycling toters; and Option 3: SEPTA bus stop trash and recycling collections to Republic Services for the contract period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

Company	Waste Collection 1 (Total)	Traditional Recycle-2 (Total)	Automated Recycling - 2A (Total)	Bus Stop Collection - 3 (Total)
Eagle Disposal	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid
Republic Services	3,212,846.40	1,152,015.40	1,440,065.84	15,578.22
JP Mascaro & Sons	4,983,266.40	1,188,231.36	1,935,907.68	55,692.00
AJ Blosenski	3,422,812.00	997,026.00	4,025,376.00	31,500.00

Mr. Halvorsen described the recently approved multi-municipal grant award for adaptive traffic signals on West Chester Pike (Rt. 3). He stated that West Goshen Township, East Goshen Township and Westtown Township applied for and received \$514,167 in funds from the Pennsylvania Green-Light-Go grant program to install adaptive traffic signals from the Strasburg Road / West Chester Pike intersection east, through East Goshen Township, to Westtown Township at the Rt. 352 / West Chester Pike intersection. The purpose of the grant is to allow for better vehicular traffic flow through the three Townships.

Mr. Halvorsen introduced Resolution 11-2016, Designation of Agent declaration for the PEMA 2016 blizzard reimbursement for expenses incurred by Public Works during the monumental storm. Mr. LaLonde shall act as the Agent for the Township regarding the reimbursement. Mr. LaLonde announced that in addition to the original amount of just over \$55,000 applied for in recent months, FEMA contacted him and stated the Township was eligible for approximately \$20,000 in additional funding, bringing the total reimbursement amount to just over \$75,000.

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Meakim, the Board unanimously to approve Resolution 11-2016.

Mr. Craig introduced Resolution 12-2016, establishing "no parking" for E. Washington Street. Mr. Craig stated that a business in the vicinity has access problems during Henderson High School football games. Mr. Purnell asked about the location and Mr. Craig said the business was Unipak, Inc. at 715 E. Washington Street.

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Meakim, the Board voted unanimously to approved Resolution 12-2016.

Mr. Halvorsen stated the Township recently received a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Growing Greener Grant to completely reconstruct the stormwater basin on Basin Road. He stated that the engineering firm that drafted the Growing Greener Grant application, AKRF, Inc., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, submitted a proposal to do the engineering for the project in the amount of \$144,500. The contract calls for services in project design through the construction bidding, project as-builts and project closeout with PADEP.

Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, questioned the expenditure. She asked if HRG (Herbert, Rowland & Grubic) was still the Township's stormwater engineer. Mr. Craig responded that HRG is still the stormwater engineer for TMDL issues and in the process to examine a stormwater fee.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, stated that he didn't understand why this particular basin is projected to cost as much as all of the other basins to get retrofitted. Mr. Craig responded that this particular basin is many times larger than the other basins described in the TMDL plan and that it needs to be completely reconstructed, as the outflow structure and the overall basin was built in 1974 with very little maintenance conducted over the years. Mr. Craig stated that in addition to the structural problems, the basin has filled in over the decades with tons of silt and debris, leading to the basin not functioning correctly.

Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, stated that more and better communication needs to be done regarding this stormwater project and other projects.

Mr. Pielli stated that he understands Ms. Swart's position and that better communication is needed, but this project is a good thing.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, asked how do we know the engineering is correct for this project. Mr. Craig stated that he, as Township Engineer, conducted a thorough review of the construction estimates and found them to be acceptable.

Mr. Halvorsen stated that he has been working on this project for four years and we need to do this project.

Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, asked how do we know once constructed, the basin will be maintained. Mr. Craig responded that since this is Township property, the basin will be maintained by the Township.

Mr. Pielli stated that we need to communicate with residents but will also take any input.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, stated that we need a better system to approve grants and consider looking at East Goshen Township's system.

Mr. Mark Kropinski stated that communication should be better.

Mr. Purnell stated that with the upcoming West Goshen Township – East Goshen Township bicentennial, he supports the creation of a Bicentennial Committee of residents to oversee the planning of festivities in conjunction with East Goshen Township.

Mr. Halvorsen stated that resident Bonnie Dean would like to participate.

Mr. Purnell stated that Ms. Dean is anticipating publication of a book on West Goshen Township history and historical documents.

Mr. Halvorsen stated that with the upcoming 200th anniversary, West Goshen Township will be working with East Goshen Township on all aspects of the celebration and will work well together. He stated that the activities will be focused in Community Park.

Mr. LaLonde stated that the Township Park & Recreation Board wants to be involved as well and has already started thinking about possible activities.

Mr. Bob Sheller, 205 Alyssa Circle, asked if the Township intends to videotape future meetings, that the Board members use their microphones.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, asked that the March 9, 2016 Board meeting minutes be amended to include his comments regarding his opinion that the Board of Supervisors violated the "Chapter 7 Ordinance." The Board agreed to amend the March 9, 2016 meeting minutes and approve them at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mr. Casey also asked about the recent potential for a catastrophic explosion at the sewer plant. Mr. Casey stated that according to the information he received, improper maintenance was conducted at the plant during the last few weeks regarding the digester building and that the building was not vented correctly to release methane gas prior to maintenance work being conducted on the building.

Mr. Mike Moffa, Township Sewer Superintendent, stated that the maintenance Mr. Casey is describing took place in February and March 2016 and that all staff took the necessary precautions regarding safety during the digester building maintenance operations and that the methane was correctly and safely vented during the activity.

Mr. LaLonde stated that Max Stoner of Glace Associates, the Sewer Authority's consulting engineer, was in the audience and asked if Mr. Stoner had anything to say regarding this charge of an unsafe maintenance activity.

Mr. Max Stoner of Glace Associates and Township Sewer Authority Consulting Engineer, explained who he was and his relationship to the Township Sewer Authority. Mr. Stoner described his understanding of the unsafe condition but was not present during any of the maintenance activities. Mr. Stoner went on to state that he believes there are personnel problems at the plant.

Ms. Camp stated that Mr. Stoner has no idea about the personnel issues at the plant and he does not have all of the information regarding the pertinent facts of the Sewer Department situation.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, stated that he believes there is an environment of hostility at the sewer plant.

Mr. Halvorsen stated that no one needs to fear working at the sewer plant.

Mr. Tom Casey, 1113 Windsor Drive, questioned the management decisions regarding the Sewer Department.

Mr. Pielli stated that unless an employee would come forward with an accusation regarding the Sewer Department, I would act on the information, but without hard evidence, we are going in circles with this discussion and that the sewer improvements process is a project by project process. He stated that he is always available to any employee with complaints about the Township.

Ms. Tracy Walsh, 210 Netherfield Lane, asked Mr. Corvo if he saw the 2016 Township budget. Mr. Corvo responded that yes, he did see all of the Township budgets.

Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, stated to Mr. Corvo that she was glad he voted against the budget. She stated that she was asked by Mr. Murphy to be on the budget committee.

Mr. Halvorsen stated that in addition to normal budget adoption meetings, additional public meetings will be held to discuss the 2017 budgets.

Mr. Ted Murphy, 806 Spruce Avenue, stated that he only encouraged Ms. Swart to attend future budget meetings.

Ms. Swart asked if the Board of Supervisors has the authority to hire and fire employees. Mr. LaLonde stated that it is his authority in Township Code to hire and fire employees.

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Mr. Purnell announced that long-time Township Supervisor Bob Lambert had recently passed away. Mr. Lambert served the Township for over thirty years.

Ms. Margie Swart, 1519 Links Drive, stated that properties should be posted for all hearings. Mr. Webb responded that the Township requires all properties to be posted with signage for upcoming hearings and that West Goshen Township goes above and beyond other Townships in that all adjacent property owners are also notified by mail prior to a hearing.

Maxine, a resident of The Arbours development on Ward Avenue, congratulated the Board for doing a good job on explaining the bureaucracy of the Township.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Mr. Meakim, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Casey LaLonde
Township Secretary