

EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 7, 2016

The November 7, 2016 Business Meeting took place in the Township meeting room at 566 Beaumont Road, Devon and was called to order at 7:00 pm. Supervisors present included: Christopher D. Polites, Chairman; James W. Oram, Jr., Vice Chairman; Marc J. Hepe, Betsy Fadem, and Fred Pioggia. Also attending were Dan Fox, Township Manager; Eugene C. Briggs, Jr., AICP, Assistant Township Manager; Dave Obzud, Police Chief; Gary Bernhard, Public Works Director; Karen Wertz, Finance Director; Kate Jones, Administrative Coordinator; and Andrew D.H. Rau, Township Solicitor.

MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Oram, and seconded by Mr. Hepe, the minutes of the regular business meeting of October 17, 2016 were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Polites announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss matters of litigation and personnel.

The following public meetings will take place at the Township Building unless otherwise stated:

- Municipal Authority on Wednesday, November 9, 7 pm
- Historical Commission on Wednesday, November 9, 7 pm at Easttown Library
- Easttown Citizens Advisory Committee on Monday, November 14, 6:15 pm
- Parks and Recreation Board on Tuesday, November 15, 7 pm
- Library Board on Wednesday, November 16, 7 pm at Easttown Library
- Next Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, November 21, 7 pm

Township Offices will be closed on Friday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day.

The Berwyn Veterans will hold a Veterans Day Memorial Program at their memorial site at the Berwyn SEPTA Station on Friday, November 11, 7:30 pm.

LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Polites requested an itemized list of expenses per vendor per year.

On a motion by Mr. Hepe, seconded by Mr. Pioggia, the Board unanimously approved the payment of \$719,496.36; a total of Warrants (\$443,479.99) and Payroll (\$276,016.37), date ending November 3, 2016.

SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Oram announced that the Pension Committee had its quarterly meeting with the PFM Group.

Mr. Pioggia stated the Hilltop Committee had met and that the exterior painting of Hilltop House is approximately 60 percent complete. In addition, he and Mr. Bernhard attended the Valley Forge Authority meeting regarding its 2017 Budget. He also requested that Staff provide the Board with a list of EDUs currently available per pump station in the Township.

Mr. Heppe reported that a subgroup of Tredyffrin Easttown Fire Companies Funding Coalition Task Force including himself and Mrs. Fadem met with Mr. Fox and Ms. Wertz to discuss the Fire Companies' upcoming budget presentation to the Board. Mrs. Fadem added that it was a very productive meeting and it was suggested that Township Managers of the municipalities covered by both Berwyn and Paoli Fire Companies join the discussions as the Task Force begins to look for funding recommendations and models for 2018 fire company budgets.

Mrs. Fadem stated that the Comprehensive Plan Task Force had met for its October meeting and that the goals and objective phase discussion has concluded for now and the Task Force has headed into the recommendations to achieve these goals and objectives. The biggest focus moving forward is the Route 30 Corridor and that conversation will continue at the Task Force's November meeting.

Mr. Polites announced that he will be attending the Easttown Library's annual Donor Appreciation Event. He also requested that Board members announce their liaison positions prior to their reports for the benefit of members of the public.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mr. Fox updated the Board on administrative matters. The Township is exploring the possibility of changing banking services. In addition he and Ms. Wertz discussed the possibility of having the County collect Township taxes because it is cost effective based on the Township's need to replace antiquated tax software and allow Finance Staff to focus on other important Township projects. This proposed move to the County will be on the Board's agenda for action on November 21, 2016.

Mr. Bernhard updated the Board on public works matters, including the substantial completion of the Daylesford Pump Station.

NEW BUSINESS

Devon Center Overlay Ordinance – Referral to Chester County Planning Commission for Review

Mr. Briggs updated the Board on this item. On September 21, 2016, the Township received a new petition from Anthropologie, Inc. revising its proposed Devon Center Overlay District Ordinance amending Chapter 455 Zoning with an Overlay District for the former Waterloo Gardens property and select adjacent properties. The Planning Commission held three Special Meetings with the Applicant and public, including one on Monday, November 7, 2016 at 6 pm, where the Commission recommended the proposed Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors. The most notable changes from the previous draft are: 1) all references to residential uses, including multifamily buildings and townhouses, have been deleted from the Ordinance; 2) the Devon Family Practice and Denise Lehman Properties have been removed from the Overlay District; and 3) all buildings are to be set back a minimum of 40 feet from the ultimate rights-of-way of Berkley and Waterloo Roads.

Procedure now calls for the Board to consider accepting the proposed Devon Center Overlay District Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission and authorize Staff to forward the draft Ordinance to the Chester County Planning Commission for review in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

On a motion made by Mr. Heppe, seconded by Mr. Polites, the Board unanimously accepted the proposed Devon Center Overlay District Ordinance and authorized Staff to forward the draft Ordinance to the Chester County Planning Commission for review.

Parks & Recreation Board Budget Discussion

Ted Babiy and Tom Toscani, members of the Parks and Recreation Board, were in attendance to discuss the Parks and Recreation proposed 2017 budget. After discussion, Mr. Fox requested that the Parks and Recreation Board provide Staff and the Board with an itemized wish list for both recreational assets and for Hilltop House.

Fire Companies Budget Discussion

Nam Truong, President, Eamon Brazunas, Fire Chief, and Michael Baskin, EMS Captain were in attendance representing Berwyn Fire Company. Andrea Testa, Fire Chief, Ethan Norris, Treasurer, and Harrison Holt, Safety Officer, were in attendance representing Paoli Fire Company.

Discussion included setbacks for reimbursements for Advanced and Basic Life Services. In addition to the loss of this income, volunteerism has dropped and career employee expenses are rising. Mr. Brazunas, spoke on behalf of the Tredyffrin Easttown Fire Companies Funding Coalition, stating that 2017 goals for the Companies include transparency, accountability, strategic planning, and creating funding streams and its five year goals include obtaining reasonable staff levels and emergency response times.

The Board and Mr. Fox thanked the Fire Companies for its detailed and transparent efforts to keep the Township informed regarding its budgetary issues and needs.

Street Lights – PECO Buy Back Program

Mr. Fox presented this item to the Board. Due to the cost and potential liability associated with assuming responsibility for the street lights currently owned and maintained by PECO, the Board opted to table this discussion.

Resolution 2016-16 - Winfield Road Dedication

Mr. Fox stated that by adopting this resolution, the Township will complete the steps necessary to take ownership of Winfield Road.

On a motion made by Mrs. Fadem, seconded by Mr. Pioggia, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 2016-16, Winfield Road Dedication.

OLD BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC FORUM

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Jones
Assistant Township Secretary