

**MINUTES**  
**EXETER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2004**

A Regular Meeting of the Exeter Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, February 9, 2004, at the Township Hall, 4975 DeMoss Road, Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Lachlan MacBean, Chairman, called the Meeting to order at 7:03 P.M., with the following in attendance:

**SUPERVISORS**

Lachlan MacBean, Chairman  
Dr. Christ L. Ganas, Vice Chairman  
Dona L. Starr  
Lisa M. Ciotti

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Troy S. Bingaman, Manager/Secretary/Treasurer  
John A. Hoffert, Jr., Esquire, Solicitor  
Gerard A. Radke, Chief of Police  
Cheryl A. Franckowiak, Zoning/Assistant Code Enforcement Officer  
Paul A. Herb, Wastewater Treatment Superintendent  
Clarence D. Hamm, Highway Superintendent  
Terry L. Francis, Fire Marshal  
Joseph I. Seltzer, III, Parks & Recreation Superintendent  
Joseph P. Rogosky, P.E., Great Valley Consultants

The Meeting was opened with the Pledge to the Flag.  
Absent from the Meeting: Supervisor Dave Barbieri

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**THOMAS HOWELL**, 4970 Hafer Road, stated he was concerned about the INGENCO Power Plant being proposed for the Pioneer Crossing Landfill. He felt there was enough time, between now and when the Board would be presented with the request for approval, to have an engineering expert look at the specifications and do the calculations to see what the plant's emissions would be. He felt no one currently employed by the Township had the expertise to do the calculations or know the regulations associated with power plant emissions.

**DONNA B. POWELL**, 1350 Pineland Road, commented on a variety of subjects. She told the Board she was moving as of March 15<sup>th</sup>; told Reading Eagle Reporter Yvonne Wenger she wrote a "horrible article that was all negative" about the police dogs because they did a lot of good; complimented the Landfill for trying really hard to operate a decent facility; and offered to drive the Supervisors to Western PA to learn about how to remove snow because in that part of the State they really knew how to keep the roads open. She then requested Mrs. Starr explain how the money for the Recycling Grant was going to be used, and felt very concerned about the burning ban and its effect on the farmers. She stated she was on the medical malpractice insurance "bandstand", and was trying to help the doctors who had to pay large sums of money for their coverage.

**DAVID FLAMM**, 656 Gerhart Lane, stated his street was very narrow, and parking on it caused problems for safe travel and for snow removal. He stated he and his neighbors **CHRISTINE & THOMAS RAPP**, 666 Gerhart Lane; **PATTI MAURY**, 619 Gerhart lane; **BARBARA SIGAL**, 660 Gerhart Lane were there to ask for no parking signs to be placed along their road because they felt it was a dangerous situation.

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2004 REORGANIZATION MEETING**

**MOTION** by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2004 reorganization meeting as presented. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**DISBURSEMENTS**

**MOTION** by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to approve for payment the bills presented on the Disbursement Lists dated February 6, 2004 in the amounts of \$124,226.41 in the General Fund; \$3,141.32 in the Utility Fund; \$109,029.01 in the Sewer Fund; \$67.44 in the Library Escrow Fund; \$12,358.02 in the Park Fund; \$3,763.16 in the State Fund and \$10,402.81 in the Traffic Improvement Fund. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to accept the Treasurer's Report dated January 31, 2004 and file the same for audit. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**INCOMING AND OUTGOING COMMUNICATIONS** were submitted and are available for public inspection in the Township Office

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The Engineering, Highway, Police, Park & Recreation, Fire Marshal and Wastewater Treatment Monthly Reports, and reports of scheduled activities for the week of February 9, 2004, were submitted for the Board's review. Ms. Ciotti stated she wanted to make sure everyone knew about Family Fun Night and asked if it had been advertised anywhere other than through the flyers. Mr. Seltzer stated it was on the Internet as well as on the flyers that were distributed to all the schools in the area. He further explained distribution of the information.

**GRASS MOWING AND TRIMMING SEALED BIDS**

The Township Manager opened sealed bids stating bids had been received from GMS Landscaping in the amount of \$39,480.00; Greenview Landscaping in the amount of \$42,774.00; Riverview Tree & Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$138,348.00; and Samsel Landscaping in the amount of \$48,954.00 all with properly executed bid bonds.

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to refer bids to the Highway & Engineering Departments for review. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**CONDITIONAL USE: SUSAN KELLY – 1201 STONEHENGE DRIVE**

Mrs. Franckowiak stated Susan Kelly proposed operating a dog and cat grooming business in her home at 1201 Stonehenge Drive as a home occupation. Dr. Ganas stated his only objection would be to putting up a sign advertising the business on the property. Mrs. Franckowiak asked Mrs. Kelly if she intended to erect a sign to which she responded, no.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to approve the Conditional Use for Susan Kelly to operate a pet grooming business in her home at 1201 Stonehenge Drive conditional upon no sign being erected on the property and as recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**ADOPT AMENDED ZONING MAP ORDINANCE #564**

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to adopt Ordinance #564 accepting the amended zoning map as advertised. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**EXTENSIONS OF TIME:**

**CIOCOIU SKETCH PLAN OF RECORD & KARPATI SUBDIVISION**

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to accept the 90-day extension of time for the Cioucoiu Sketch Plan of Record, and a 60-day extension of time for the Karpati Subdivision. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**GIBRALTAR ROAD RALUMAC**

The Highway Superintendent stated a request had been received from Dwayne Texler, of 12 Gibraltar Road, to either improve the road surface in front of his home or to consider installing a guiderail along Gibraltar Road to help prevent vehicles traveling along Gibraltar Road from jumping the curb and hitting his house. The Superintendent felt the best solution would be to add the anti-skid material Ralumac to the road; but, needed authorization to add approximately 16,000 square yards of Ralumac to the annual contract, and to transfer \$20,000 from Liquid Fuels funds earmarked for paving East Neversink Road to the Ralumac budget line item to cover the cost of the project. He stated this project would replace resurfacing East Neversink Road this year. He felt the Gibraltar Road situation was a very serious safety issue and urged the Board to approve these requests

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded Mrs. Starr, to authorize adding approximately 16,000 square yards of Ralumac to the annual contract and transferring \$20,000 from Liquid Fuels Paving Projects to the Ralumac line item. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING AMENDED TRAFFIC ORDINANCE**

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to authorize advertising an amended traffic ordinance eliminating parking on both sides of Gerhart Lane from Butter Lane to the dead end. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**ADOPT DISPOSITION OF RECORDS RESOLUTION #04-06**

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to adopt the Disposition of Records Resolution #04-06. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**2004-2006 PennDOT MOWING CONTRACT**

The Highway Superintendent stated PennDOT was offering to pay about \$4,000 a year for the Township to mow the grass along several state roads; but, felt it was not cost efficient for the Township to do it because it took several workers about a month to do the mowing.

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to reject the proposed 2004-2006 PennDOT Mowing Contract in accordance with the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**PLANNING COMMISSION LEGAL REPRESENTATION**

Donald Wilson, Chairman of the Planning Commission, requested Legal Counsel attend the Planning Commission Meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> when the FR&S/INGENCO project would be presented. Mr. Wilson stated the Commission members were concerned due to the events of the last INGENCO presentation, and did not want to overstep their authority and make an error that would affect the Township.

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to authorize Chris Hartman, only, to attend any and all meetings of the Exeter Township Planning Commission where the Pioneer Crossing (FR&S/INGENCO) Power Plant is to be discussed. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF GEAR REDUCERS FOR PRIMARY 2 & 3**

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent stated there was a need to purchase gear reducers which were repair parts for use in existing Township equipment. He stated the sole item of its kind was manufactured as a replacement part. He noted, according to our Auditors, bidding was not required under the PA Second Class Township Code, Section 3102(h(7)).

**MOTION** by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to authorize the purchase of Gear Reducers for the Wastewater Treatment Plants Primary #2 & #3 from Brown Engineering in the amount of \$13,990, in accordance with Section 3102 (h (7) of the PA Second Class Township Code. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

**CLAIRE DRIVE/DAUPHIN PLACE/SUNSET MANOR DRIVE DEEDS OF DEDICATION**

The Solicitor stated he prepared the deeds of dedication for Claire Drive, Dauphin Place and Sunset Manor Drive and with the Board's permission would transfer these deeds to be executed by Exeter Associates Inc. to be accepted in lieu of condemnation to avoid the transfer tax.

**VENKLER SEWER LIEN**

The Solicitor stated he received a check in the amount of \$1,043.43 and was turning it over to the Township Manager tonight.

**MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS AGREEMENT/LAUREL VILLAGE PHASE 8**

The Solicitor stated the last Municipal Improvements Agreement had been issued for Laurel Village Phase 8, along with a letter of credit, in the amount of \$806,363.97. He also stated there was a small adjustment and advised they execute a Note in the amount of approximately \$15,000 to be held in Escrow to replace electric lines in the vicinity. Anthony Maras stated his client would be in agreement with that and explained the need to replace electric lines.

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to authorize the Solicitor to prepare a supplemental note for approximately \$15,000 and execute the addendum to the already executed Municipal Improvements Agreement. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**INDIVIDUAL REPORTS**

**PennDOT AGILITY PROGRAM**

The Highway Superintendent stated he needed Board approval to participate in PennDOT's Agility Program. He stated it meant PennDOT would give the Township salt brine and the Township would reciprocate by street sweeping Route 422. He felt it was a good deal and would not cost the Township anything.

**MOTION** by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to approve participation the PennDOT Agility Program by the Highway Department. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

**POLICE FURNITURE**

Police Chief Radke publicly thanked Muhlenberg Township for donating the furniture for the detectives' office. The Board will send a note of thanks to Muhlenberg. Chief Radke also thanked the Highway Superintendent's crew for moving and assembling the furniture.

**WILD DOGS**

Mrs. Powell asked if the Police had found the wild dogs she reported were roaming through the Township. The Police Chief stated no wild dogs had been found. Mr. MacBean stated there had been no reports of people being bitten by wild dogs. Mrs. Powell stated there were and the information was at the Daniel Boone Homestead. She suggested Mr. MacBean call them.

***K-9 DOGS***

Dr. Ganas stated the Township had four K-9's one for each patrol unit. He stated the dogs were only used when necessary. He also stated the Board was very proud of the Police Department. He felt there was no such thing as too much safety for our citizens and paying for the K-9's was money well spent. Dr. Ganas felt we should support and maintain our Police Department. He also stated having fully equipped fire fighting apparatus with a tower on it was deemed necessary by the Reiffton Fire Company, and if it saved one life, it would be worth the cost of the fire apparatus. He stated the Township was not wasting money when it spent money looking out for the welfare and safety of everyone.

***FIRE APPARATUS***

Mrs. Starr stated the newspaper was questioning the fire company's tower apparatus because it was 90 feet high and the buildings in Exeter Township were not that high. She stated the Planning Commission was working on the Zoning Ordinance that would change the allowable height of buildings built in the Township to 85 feet. She felt the newspaper needed to do a little homework to discover why we were getting certain types of apparatus. Mr. MacBean stated this fire fighting equipment was a dual function apparatus serving as both a pumper truck and a ladder truck. He stated it was the first apparatus at a fire scene when there was a structural fire, and could reach the second floor of a building immediately. He stated it was an effective use of equipment because it did the job of several pieces of equipment.

***PUBLIC COMMENT***

***GLENN HOOVER***, 131 S. Center Road, suggested the Board include on the Agenda, the procedure for signing-up for public comment and should ask at the end of the meeting if there were any additional comments. He felt some people came in late and missed the opportunity to comment. The Board felt that was a good suggestion.

***TEMPORARY ADJOURNMENT-EXECUTIVE SESSION***

***MOTION*** by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to temporarily adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss personnel and potential litigation. The Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor.

The Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

The Meeting reconvened at 8:30 P.M.

***LIBRARY GRANT***

Mr. MacBean reported he and the Township Manager met with U.S. Representative Samuel Rohrer regarding the Library Grant, and Representative Rohrer said he would look into it as there might be some possibilities.

***ADJOURNMENT***

***MOTION*** by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to adjourn the Meeting. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Ms. Ciotti voting in favor. The Meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Troy S. Bingaman  
Township Secretary