

MINUTES
EXETER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JUNE 28, 2004

A Regular Meeting of the Exeter Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, June 28, 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
Dave F. Barbieri

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
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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

KEN ROBERTS, 4972 Elderberry Drive, felt the Township's Website had changed from an easy to use version , to a more complicated version that was harder to use. He also objected to the acronyms used on the Website stating it was hard to figure out what the PC or the BOS meant. The Township Manager stated the Website was different because the Township had changed to the format consistent with the ones used by the county and the state. Mr. Roberts also felt the text of the minutes was very small and hard to read. Ms. Ciotti stated Mr. Roberts had control of the size of the text with Adobe Acrobat and could maneuver it. He stated everything else he used Adobe Acrobat on came up full screen; but, the Township's text came up quarter screen. Ms. Ciotti stated she was on the Website Friday night and had no problem with it. There was a general discussion of technological systems. The Police Chief stated Berks County was now the Township's Website Host, at no cost, and Talon was the previous Web service provider.

CHARLIE DOUGLAS, 370 Fairview Chapel Road, in reference to INGENCO and its possible attempt to resubmit a plan for a power plant to be located at the Pioneer Crossing Landfill, stated he had learned a lot about the long-term affects of emissions from this type of plant. He suggested the Board read and analyze the updated information regarding any long run detriment to Township Residents. Mr. Douglas also referred to his complaint about a Mascaro Truck and questioned whether or not he would receive a written response from the Township to which Mrs. Franckowiak stated, typically not. Mr. MacBean stated after a complaint had been filed, the matter is automatically handled. Mr. Douglas asked the status of the complaint he had filed regarding the condition of the properties along Route 422 and Route 82. Mrs. Franckowiak stated she would look into it.

MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2004 MEETING

MOTION by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2004 meeting as amended to remove the word “to” from the last line on Page 3. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

DISBURSEMENTS

MOTION by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to approve for payment the bills presented on the Disbursement Lists dated June 25, 2004 in the amounts of \$68,709.88 in the General Fund; \$3,499.00 in the Capital Expense Fund; \$61,582.86 in the Sewer Fund; \$14,275.02 in the Capital Projects Fund; \$3,851.20 in the Library Escrow Fund; and \$6,555.66 the State Fund. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Engineering, Highway and Wastewater Treatment reports of scheduled activities for the week of June 28, 2004, were submitted for the Board’s review.

AWARDING OF GENERAL CONTRACT: TROUT RUN FACILITIES

MOTION by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to award the Trout Run Facilities general construction contract to Ciatto Construction at a base price of \$44,900. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

REJECTION OF PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL CONTRACTS: TROUT RUN FACILITIES

MOTION by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to reject all plumbing and electrical contract bids submitted for the Trout Run Recreational Facilities. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING AMENDED PLUMBING SPECIFICATIONS – TROUT RUN FACILITIES

MOTION by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Mr. Barbieri, to authorize advertising amended plumbing specifications without the sewer and grinder pump hook up for the Trout Run Recreational Facilities. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor, and Ms. Ciotti opposed.

TROUT RUN ELECTRICAL, SEWER AND GRINDER HOOK UP

MOTION by Mr. Barbieri, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to have Township employees do the electrical, sewer and grinder pump hook up for the Trout Run Recreational Facilities. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

REJECT BID FOR WATER REEL & AUTHORIZE RE-ADVERTISING

MOTION by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to reject the bid received from Watson Irrigation and authorize re-advertising the sale of the water reel. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY (DISCUSSION)

Mr. MacBean reviewed the discussions previously held on the Traffic Impact Study and Mrs. Franckowiak stated the Planning Commission determined the Township could not use the money for the total cost of State roads, and after looking at zoning parameters, recommended the Board not use it. Mr. Rogosky clarified the Township could use money for State roads; but, for only 50% of the cost, and the Route 422 projects would be extremely costly. He stated pass by trips were also not included in calculating the amount developers would owe. Mrs. Starr stated she was at the Planning Commission Meeting and heard the money could not be used to remedy any deficiencies that were already in existence. Dr. Ganas stated he raised this possibility based on the probability of major commercial development in the Township and felt the Township would be stuck with a large bill should this occur. He stated, right now, it did not look like we needed it, however, commercial land within the Township was available for development. Dr. Ganas asked Mr. Rogosky if GVC had handled this matter for other communities to which Mr. Rogosky stated they did this for Spring Township and South Heidelberg Township in the early 90's, and there was money in the bank waiting for the development in South Heidelberg. Mr. Rogosky stated in Spring Township developers, posted money in escrow, and in other areas where there was commercial development and business parks, traffic impact money was used. The Board reviewed the Township map to determine the potential areas of development. Mrs. Franckowiak stated the northern part of the Township would be the area where there could be development and in that case, Oley Turnpike Road would be the road requiring upgrades. She stated within the area for potential development, approximately 1205 lots were available. She also stated revisions to the Township's Zoning Ordinance regarding lot size were currently being studied by the Planning Commission. **MOTION** by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to table the traffic impact study matter until the completion of the Planning Commission's studies to revise the Township's Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

RE-APPOINT CHRISTOPHER L. NEIDERT-POLICE PENSION BOARD CHAIRMAN (2004-08)

MOTION by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Mr. Barbieri, to re-appoint Christopher L. Neidert as the Police Pension Board Chairman from 2004 to December 31, 2008. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

LAKEVIEW AT GLEN OLEY SUBDIVISION REVISION TO PLAN

Mrs. Franckowiak stated the Planning Commission had reviewed Mr. Falkenberg's request and determined it made sense as Lot 12 had a 4 foot drop which would be hazardous for ingress and egress onto Glen Oley Drive.

MOTION by Mr. Barbieri, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to allow the Lakeview at Glen Oley Farms revision to the Plan of Record for Lot 12 to construct a driveway onto Oley Turnpike Road upon condition of securing the necessary building permits as recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

KERN/HAFER ANNEXATION PLAN

Mr. MacBean questioned the total number of hours charged by GVC for this simple annexation to which Mr. Rogosky stated, there was a minimum number of hours required to review plans submitted and, in addition, GVC had to submit information to the Kern/Hafer consultant which also required time.

MOTION by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Mr. Barbieri, to approve the annexation of a 16' strip of land between David & Eleanor Hafer and Michael & Susan Kern as recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

AMENDED BURNING ORDINANCE

The Fire Marshal stated modifications to the Burning Ordinance had been discussed during a recent meeting with the D.E.P. in Harrisburg regarding its recent awarding of a grant to the Township. He stated burning would be allowed for agricultural purposes and asked the Board's preference regarding the minimum amount of acreage upon which burning would be allowed within the Township. After a short discussion, Ms. Ciotti felt a 5-acre minimum was too large and suggested a 2-acre minimum to allow burning. The Board Agreed. In addition, the Fire Marshal asked about the fees that should be charged for burning permits citing the current regulations allowed burning without a permit or cost on the first Saturday in the first full week of each month, and a \$250 fee for a permit that allowed burning on any other three-day-period. The Board felt that was too much and decided to review the fee schedule.

MOTION by Mr. Barbieri, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to authorize advertising the amended Burning Ordinance in accordance with the requirements of the PA D.E.P. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

APPROVE D.E.P. SECTION 902 RECYCLING GRANT AGREEMENT

MOTION by Mr. Barbieri, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to approve the D.E.P. Section 902 Recycling Grant Agreement. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING SPECIFICATIONS FOR TUB GRINDER

MOTION by Mrs. Starr, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to authorize advertising specification for the purchase of a Tub Grinder. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING GIBRALTAR ROAD R.O.W. CONDEMNATION ORDINANCE

The Solicitor stated the Township could not wait any longer and should proceed with condemnation proceedings.

MOTION by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to authorize advertising the Gibraltar Road R.O.W. Condemnation Ordinance. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN CABLE FRANCHISE CONSORTIUM

The Township Manager stated the cable consortium was being formed to re-negotiate old franchise agreements, to make sure the Township was receiving the 3% based on all of Service Electric's revenue resources, to securing our right of ways and to make sure the residents were getting the best service they could get from the cable providers. He felt an increase in the franchise fee from 3% to 5% would not be the thing to do because the increase would just be passed through to the consumer.

MOTION by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Mr. Barbieri, to authorize participation in cable franchise consortium. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

SAGEBROOK ESCROW RELEASE, REQ. #11, RELEASE #12

MOTION by Ms. Ciotti, seconded by Dr. Ganas, to approve the Sagebrook Escrow Release Req. #11, Release #12 in the amount of \$53,152.50 for concrete work and restoration. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

ROYAL VIEW ESTATES SUBDIVISION PLANNING MODULES

The Township Manager stated the planning module for the Royal View Estates Development, a six lot subdivision off Hartman Road which had been approved by the Planning Commission and Berks Envirotech, required approval from the Board. He stated these were standard D.E.P. forms for our on lot sewer systems, were customarily handled by the Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent or Berks Envirotech, and all the necessary approvals were in place.

MOTION by Mr. Barbieri, seconded by Mrs. Starr, to approve the planning module for the Royal View Estates Development. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Parks & Recreation Superintendent stated there are 19 1/2 foursomes scheduled for the Township's annual Golf Tournament in September and urged anyone who wanted to sign up to do so.

REGIONALIZATION OF SERVICES

Dr. Ganas inquired if other Board members had gotten a letter from a County Commissioner regarding the Regionalization of Services. The Board stated it had gotten the letter; but, felt this would not be appropriate for Exeter Township.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON YOUTH VANDALISM

Mrs. Starr stated she attended the roundtable discussion on youth vandalism and youth programs from the area. She felt the discussion was very good and there were plans of action the group wanted to take. The next meeting was scheduled in September.

PIONEER CROSSING ADDITIONAL EDU'S

The Township Manager stated the first installment was made and the second installment was mailed today.

EXETER SCHOOL TAX INCREASE

Mr. MacBean noted the announcement in the News of Southern Berks referred to the recent increase in Exeter School Taxes as Exeter Township Taxes and felt the record should be clarified.

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN

Mr. MacBean asked if a response was required for the notices received on the Delaware River Basin. The Township Manager stated he would look into it.

PARKS & RECREATION – EXETER COMMUNITY DAYS

Mr. MacBean felt the Township should consider having a Community Days event. The Parks & Recreation Superintendent stated he was in the process of planning an event of that nature.

FUNDRAISING ALONG ROUTE 422

Dr. Ganas stated the church group that was collecting money on the Route 422 highway at the intersection of Gibraltar Road was doing so illegally. He stated the police stopped the activity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. MacBean stated there would be an executive session after the meeting to discuss potential litigation and personnel.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dr. Ganas, seconded by Ms. Ciotti, to adjourn the Meeting. Motion carried with Mr. MacBean, Dr. Ganas, Mrs. Starr, Ms. Ciotti and Mr. Barbieri voting in favor. The Meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Troy S. Bingaman
Township Secretary