

**Minutes – October 17, 2005**

The second regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Tredyffrin Township for the month of October was held on the above date at the Township Building. Board members present included Judy L. DiFilippo, Chairman; Paul Olson, Vice Chairman; Bill DeHaven, Warren Kampf, Brooks Keffer, Robert Lamina, and John Petersen. Also in attendance were Mimi Gleason, Township Manager; Captain Andrew Chambers; William J. Bryant, P.E., Township Engineer and Director of Public Works; David Brill, Finance Director; Vincent Pompo, Solicitor; and Jolene Buffman, Recording Secretary.

**Call to Order**

Mrs. DiFilippo called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

**Minutes**

Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mr. Keffer, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 3, 2005.

**Announcements**

Cassatt Road Compost Site will be open starting Monday, October 17, through Friday, December 11, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Weekend hours starting Saturday, October 29 will be: Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Historic Preservation Trust Fall 2005 Lecture Series begins on October 20, 2005 at the DuPortail House, 297 Adams Drive in Chesterbrook. The guest speaker will be John D. Milner. See the Township website for more information.

There is an opening on the Library Board of Trustees. Anyone wishing to be on the Library Board should send a letter of interest to the Board of Supervisors, Tredyffrin Township, 1100 DuPortail Road, Berwyn, PA 19312.

The Public Hearing scheduled for tonight to consider and adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 208, Article XVI of the Zoning Ordinance, Hotel Office District, has been postponed until the November 7, 2005 meeting. This is at the request of the applicant.

**Financial Report**

Mr. Brill read the Executive Summary and Cash Position sections of the Financial Report for the month of September 2005.

He indicated the following from the Executive Summary:

- Year to date revenues are \$1,428,630 favorable to budget
- Year to date expenditures are \$117,526 favorable to budget
- Year to date overall we are \$1,546,156 favorable to budget
- We are currently forecasting the year to be between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000,000 favorable to budget. This forecast is based on the expectation that expenditures will remain in line with budget and revenues will continue to exceed budget. The revenues driving the favorable position are Real Estate Transfer Tax (due to favorable long term interest rates as well as positive local market conditions) and Building / Plumbing Permits (due to higher commercial property renovation activity)

He indicated the following from the Cash Position:

General Fund		\$6,418,228
Capital Reserve Fund		4,608,343
State Fund		530,320
Highway Improvement Fund		435,840
Debt Service Fund		10,333,841
1996 Bond Proceeds		
- Twp. Building	\$ 134,057	
- Parkland Acquisition	177,961	
- Highway Project	<u>3,636,408</u>	
		3,948,426
2003 Bond Proceeds		
Construction Projects	\$3,826,575	
Library Expansion	<u>2,957,913</u>	
		6,784,488
Total Cash Balances		\$33,059,486

Mr. Olson asked if there were any transfer taxes. Mr. Brill said transfer taxes for the month were \$931,085, which reflects a significant commercial property sale of the Valley Forge Office Center. The sale price of the property was \$64,000,000, and the Township received transfer tax revenue of \$627,200.00.

Mr. Lamina said it is very encouraging to see the strength of our local economy. When we decided not to raise the milage last year, there was a possibility we could be running into a deficit, and now we are predicting a healthy surplus this year.

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mr. Lamina, and passed unanimously to approve the Finance Report for September 2005.

### Police Report

Captain Chambers said there was nothing to report in addition to the material provided to the Board in their packet. He said he would be presenting the Emergency Management Plan later.

### Public Works

Mr. Bryant said he had a few items in addition to his written report. The Church Road Bridge replacement project has begun. The rain event of October 7, produced 6" of rain. There wasn't any significant flooding. The biggest problem was the power outages at intersections, and some downed trees.

Mr. Bryant said at Wilson Park, Anthony Wayne Drive has been paved, and the park is substantially complete. There is some landscaping work to be finished, but all systems are operational. Mrs. DiFilippo said Ms. Gleason received a letter from the new construction company praising Mr. Bryant and Joe Chrupcala for their work and assistance to them as they concluded work in the park. Mrs. DiFilippo expressed her appreciation for the excellent job that was done for Community Day.

### **New Matters - Citizens**

Sandi Gorman thanked the Township for making the Compost Site available this year. She also said she thought Wilson Farm Park was fantastic. Mrs. Gorman complimented the Township on being willing to work with "T and E Care" and the Hurricane Katrina victims.

Mrs. Gorman said on behalf of Green Hills and Chesterbrook, she would like the Township to consider applying for a cell tower in Wilson Park. She said the reception in Chesterbrook is terrible. She has contacted Verizon who said the Township has to be the applicant. There could be revenue of up to \$1,000 per month, potentially \$12,000 per year which could be savings for Township residents in taxes. Mrs. Gorman also had letters from five additional residents asking the Township to apply for the cell tower. Several other residents encouraged the Township to consider locating a cell tower in Wilson Park because of the terrible reception. Ron Silver agreed with a cell tower, but asked the Board to consider another area within the boundary lines other than Wilson Park.

Mrs. DiFilippo said the Board would take seriously this request and get information from Verizon and other cell phone providers.

### **Miscellaneous-      Emergency Management Presentation**

Mrs. DiFilippo said the Township has been fortunate not to have had any disasters such as occurred on the Gulf Coast, but that incident has prompted us to review our Emergency Management Plan. She introduced Captain Andy Chambers who has been working with Staff personnel to update our Plan.

Captain Chambers said that eleven officers from Tredyffrin Township spent eight days in New Orleans last month assisting in the rescue operations. He showed several slides of the devastation in the city, and praised his officers for their dedication and compassion during this rescue effort.

Captain Chambers introduced John Haynes, the Deputy Director of 9-1-1- Operations for Chester County Emergency Services, and Ron Harmon, the new Emergency Management Coordinator for Tredyffrin Township. Captain Chambers said the definition of Emergency Management is: “The judicial planning, assignment and coordination of all available resources in an integrated program of prevention, response and recovery for emergencies of any kind, whether from attack, human or natural sources”.

Captain Chambers said every single day our Police Department responds to emergencies. The approach would be the same for a disaster as it would be for an accident. We would set up a Command Post led by an Incident Commander, where all emergency facilities (police, fire, EMS) are coordinated. If the emergency grows, we would open up an Emergency Operations Center at the Township Building. The EOC would make long-term decisions, procure resources from other entities, and communicate with the media. Some resources available to us are the National Incident Management System (NIMS), which consists of FEMA, PEMA, County and the local EOC group.

Captain Chambers said an emergency can be declared by the police (through a chain of command); the Township Manager (who activates the EOC); and the Board of Supervisors (working with the Township Manager to declare an emergency). A local emergency might be declared because a significant number of people are affected and/or normal functioning of the community is interrupted; the Township officials/employees will be involved for an extended period of time; or there is a serious risk to health, life or safety. The Municipal Emergency Plan is designed to be utilized for all types of natural emergencies: natural; human made/technology; and public disturbances/terrorists.

Mr. Lamina asked what Captain Chambers learned in New Orleans and what this community should be doing regarding first responders. Captain Chambers said the Township website has very good emergency assets on it, and he encouraged everyone to review it for any type of emergency. He said one of the most important things in an emergency is communication with citizens.

Mr. Petersen said he was very proud to see what our police department did for the residents of the Gulf Coast. He wondered if we needed a full-time person to plan and coordinate emergency efforts. Captain Chambers said the Police Department does the emergency planning. Other townships have a full time EMC person, and that person wears many hats. Ms. Gleason said John Farrell, the Assistant to the Township Manager, has been working closely with Captain Chambers and Ron Harmon to make sure we our emergency plan is up-to-date. The public version will shortly be put on our website. Ms. Gleason said right now, with Ron Harmon working with us, there isn't a need for a full-time person.

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Mr. Kampf asked if there was a HAZMAT accident, how residents would be evacuated. Captain Chambers explained how the police would identify the chemicals involved, determine the area to be evacuated, contact the HAZMAT unit of Chester County who would do the evacuation using area bus companies.

Mrs. DiFilippo thanked Captain Chambers for the very informative presentation. If citizens need additional information, they can contact Captain Chambers through our website or stop by the Township building.

**New Matters – Board**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene E. Buffman  
Recording Secretary