

Minutes – May 1, 2006

The first regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Tredyffrin Township for the month of May was held on the above date at the Township Building. Board members present included Judy L. DiFilippo, Chairman; Bill DeHaven, Mark DiFeliciantonio, Paul Drucker, Brooks Keffer, and Robert Lamina. Also in attendance were Mimi Gleason, Township Manager; Supt. Richard Harkness; Stephen F. Norcini, Director of Public Works; David Brill, Finance Director; Michael Fahey, Director of Building and Zoning; Vincent Pompo, Solicitor; and Jolene Buffman, Recording Secretary.

Call to Order

Mrs. DiFilippo called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. DeHaven, seconded by Mr. DiFeliciantonio, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 17, 2006 as amended.

Announcements

The Cassatt Road Leaf Site will be open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. until May 26th. Residents may drop off leaves and branches under 6” in diameter.

Leaf Compost is available for free at Teegarden Park, Strafford Park and the Cassatt Road Leaf Site. Mrs. DiFilippo asked Mr. Norcini why the compost site was not open on weekends. He told her there were no funds in the budget for spring weekend manning of the compost site. In the fall, there will be Saturday and Sunday hours.

The Public Hearing scheduled for tonight to consider and adopt an ordinance authorizing acquisition of land from Valley Creek Associates at 1375 West Swedesford Road for open space preservation, has been postponed until the May 22nd meeting.

Miscellaneous - Supervisor Liaison Reports

Mr. DeHaven attended the Park and Recreation Board meeting on April 19th. They discussed Community Day, which will be September 16th, and plans for the 4th of July celebration. There was a discussion on playground equipment for special needs children, and a visit to a park in Downingtown which has such equipment, will take place this week.

Ms. Gleason said the hazardous waste collection program had a tremendous turn out, which created long delays. It had been moved from the Township Building parking lot to Wilson Farm Park because of the traffic creating an unsafe situation. The Chester County Health Department, who sponsor this event, is looking for other locations in the area to hold it next year.

Mr. DiFelicianantonio attended the Library Board meeting where there were a number of discussions about the new project. He said Friends of the Library made a pledge of \$50,000 some time ago, and they will be releasing the first half of this pledge in May. Commerce Bank is offering a program where they will donate a portion of any account opened to the Library. He said construction and design documents are 65% complete. He said the fundraising effort is short \$400-500,000, and seems to be stuck. He encouraged residents to support the Library any way they can. Regarding the two vacancies, a number of people are interested in these positions.

Mrs. DiFilippo said the Historic Preservation Trust is holding their final spring lecture on May 4th at the Library.

Miscellaneous - Recognition of Sgt. John Bailey's attendance at FBI National Academy, Quantico, VA

Supt. Harkness said Sgt. John Bailey attended an 11 week course on advanced investigative techniques at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He said this is a rare opportunity for police on a township level. Sgt. Bailey, who has 28 years of local law enforcement, excelled in this course. Supt. Harkness said he does a tremendous job for the Township. Mrs. DiFilippo said the Board offered their congratulations for his hard work and extra efforts.

Miscellaneous - Approve an agreement with Niva Productions to produce a film documentary about Tredyffrin Township as part of the 2007 Tricentennial commemoration

Motion was made by Mr. Lamina and seconded by Mr. Keffer to approve an agreement for \$53,600 with Niva Productions to produce a film documentary about Tredyffrin Township as part of the 2007 Tricentennial commemoration.

Ms. Gleason said the Tredyffrin 300 Steering Committee found a local film company based in Tredyffrin Township that has done similar documentaries. This film will be shown next year at the Tricentennial. DVD's will be available for sale which should recoup the cost of documentary production.

At the end of discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous - Award contract for bituminous concrete.

Mr. Norcini said on April 13, 2006, three sealed bids were received for bituminous concrete. Independence Construction Materials was the lowest bidder, and staff recommends awarding them the contract.

Motion was made by Mr. DeHaven, seconded by Mr. Keffer, and passed unanimously to award a contract for bituminous concrete to Independence Construction Materials.

Escrows

Motion was made by Mr. Lamina, seconded by Mr. DiFelicantonio, and passed unanimously to release \$88,892.70 from Malvern Federal Savings Bank to Norcini Builders, Inc., covering site improvements at Maple Avenue Subdivision; balance remaining \$88,172.30. Mr. Norcini recused himself, and said ARRO Consultants performed the review.

New Matters – Board

Mrs. DiFilippo said a number of thank you letters were received from students of the TE School District for the improvements made by the Township to L.A.D. Park. She said it was very nice reading these letters from the students.

New Matters – Citizens

Mr. Al Charpentier, President of the Great Valley Association, said he and members of his group wanted to discuss the proposed changes to the Swedesford and North Valley Road intersection. He introduced Anita Lawson, who stated several reasons why the GVA was against the planned improvements to the intersection. Their position is that the intersection should be re-evaluated once the expansion of Route 202 is completed, the slip ramp is completed and the Turnpike is enlarged. She said the watershed can't stand another round of repaving.

Mr. Joe Piernock presented traffic information at the intersection. He said in a poll taken last week, 100 of the GVA respondents want to do nothing at all to the intersection, instead of what the Township proposes. He said residents object to more than the number of lanes, size, and straightening the roads. He said it will increase the risk to residents and children by increased traffic volume and speed on these roads. He said Swedesford is a safety valve for Route 202 traffic jams. He said the intersection is not dangerous, and there were only two reportable accidents last year at the intersection. Having the speed limit reduced from 45 mph to 40 mph has impacted the number of accidents positively. He suggested the Supervisors look at another place to fix, and not this intersection.

Mr. Charpentier suggested we ask PennDOT to reconsider going back to 35 mph on Swedesford Road. He said the GVA will support a plan that addresses the safety of the intersection when a traffic pattern has been established.

Several Great Valley Association members in attendance asked the Board to consider their requests to lower the speed limit, and to not do anything to the intersection until more data is presented.

Mrs. DiFilippo thanked the speakers for bringing their concerns to the Board's attention. This has been an issue for at least ten years, and the Township sought funding from PennDOT for the construction. She said we are still collecting data and expect to have another public discussion on this at the June 12th meeting.

A representative from the Chester County Coalition for Voting Integrity urged residents to use paper ballots instead of the optical screen system at the upcoming Primary Election.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Public Hearing - Consider and adopt an ordinance amending all articles of the Zoning Ordinance, except those related to Signs and the Special Paoli Development District, and related provisions of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, required for consistency.

At the conclusion of testimony, motion was made by Mr. Lamina, seconded by Mr. Keffer, and passed unanimously to adopt an ordinance amending all articles of the Zoning Ordinance, except those related to Signs and the Special Paoli Development District, and related provisions of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, required for consistency.

Complete notes of testimony were taken by Arlene LaRosa, Court Reporter, and are on file at the Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene E. Buffman
Recording Secretary