

### **Minutes – October 1, 2007**

The first 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; Warren Kampf, Vice Chairman; Bill DeHaven, Mark DiFelicianantonio, Paul Drucker, E. Brooks Keffer, and Robert Lamina. Also in attendance were Mimi Gleason, Township Manager; Stephen F. Norcini, Director of Public Works; John Farrell, Assistant to the Township Manager; Michael Fahey, Director of Building & Zoning; Stephen Burgo, Township Engineer; Supt. Richard Harkness; Thomas Hogan, Solicitor; and Jolene Buffman, Recording Secretary.

#### **Call to Order**

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

#### **Recognition of Tricentennial Sponsors**

Mrs. DiFilippo recognized Tredyffrin 300 Sponsors:

Centennial Sponsors: Devon Hill Motors, Shire Pharmaceuticals  
 Platinum Sponsors: Shuler's Jewelers, Vanguard  
 Gold Sponsors: Cedar Hollow Design Center, Lamb McErlane, PC, Unisys  
 Silver Sponsors: Baptist Church in the Great Valley, Traffic.com  
 Bronze Sponsors: Alliance Bank, Pattye & Jeff Benson, Bio Med Realty,  
 Luigi DiFilippo, Paoli Village Shoppes,  
 Picket Post Swim & Tennis Club, Pitcarin Properties  
 Nickel Sponsors: Braxton Animal Works, The Fox Companies,  
 Matthews Paoli Ford, Partners Advertising, Inc.

Mrs. DiFilippo thanked all the sponsors and the committee members for a very successful Tricentennial celebration, and said we can do it again in another 300 years.

#### **Minutes**

Motion was made by Mr. DeHaven, seconded by Mr. Keffer, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 17, 2007 as amended.

#### **Announcements**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on October 15, 2007 to consider amendments to Chapter 186 of the Township Code incorporating changes to the State law regulating the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on October 15, 2007 to consider an ordinance establishing regulations and penalties prohibiting discharging of certain materials into the Township Storm Sewer System.

In the interest of promoting identity theft awareness and recycling, Tredyffrin Township and SecurData Services, LLC are holding a free shred day for residents of Tredyffrin Township. On October 27th, residents will be able to bring up to three boxes of personal documents, financial statements, credit card offers, and other sensitive material to be shredded by the experts from SecurData Services. The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Wilson Farm Park. 100% of shredded paper will be recycled.

There will be a public meeting on Monday, October 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Building to present the draft of the new Comprehensive Plan. When ultimately adopted by the Board of Supervisors, the plan will lay out the Township's policy for future growth and redevelopment.

### **National Public Lands Day**

Pete Goodman said last Saturday, the Tredyffrin Township Public Works Department participated in a stream bank restoration project with Valley Forge Trout Unlimited, Delaware Riverkeeper, the Boy Scouts, and the National Park Service. He recognized Steve Norcini, Jeff Knighton and Dan Bullock of the Public Works Department for their assistance. Kris Heister, National Resource Manager of Valley Forge National Historical Park, said she was pleased and excited to have this partnership, and is looking forward to working on additional projects in different parts of the watershed.

### **Supervisor Liaison Reports**

Mr. Drucker made a motion to reappoint Eleanor Carroll and Grace Keffer to one-year terms on the Library Board, terms to expire October 18, 2008. Mr. Kampf seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Drucker said the one-year terms will realign the terms for Library Board members.

Mr. Drucker said the Library Foundation by-laws require Supervisor and Library Board members be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and he and Eleanor Carroll had never been formally appointed. Motion was made by Mr. DeHaven, seconded by Mr. Kampf, and passed unanimously to appoint Eleanor Carroll and Mr. Drucker to the Library Foundation.

Mr. Kampf said at this Thursday's Planning Commission Workshop Meeting, the residents of Circular Avenue are invited to share their thoughts on whether there should be an adjustment to a portion of the recently adopted Paoli ordinance affecting their street. This will also be discussed at the October 18<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Kampf said the proposed Penn Medical Facility site located at 1001 Chesterbrook Boulevard is still pending before the Planning Commission.

Mr. Keffer said he wasn't sure if the Verizon work is completed in the Township. Public Access has been up and running since September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Kampf said the Personnel Committee has completed a review of the draft Township Employee Handbook and are recommending the Board adopt it. It will be available for any citizen to review at the Township Building. Mrs. DiFilippo asked that it be put on the November 19<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**Miscellaneous - Discussion concerning sanitary sewer odors in the Crabby Creek area**

Mr. Norcini said residents in the area of Conestoga High school have complained in the last year about sanitary sewer odors, but these odors have reached a new high, and the residents asked what the Township was doing about correcting this problem. Mr. Norcini said there are two kinds of odors. One is general sewer odor due to the sheer volume of the sewage, but the odor that causes the most problem is hydrogen sulfide gas that smells like rotten eggs. Staff has tried to determine where this comes from, and they determined it was due to a force main from an adjacent township. Sewage in this force main goes septic due to lack of oxygen and causes hydrogen sulfide gas, hence the smell.

Mr. Norcini said we have gone from Long Lane to the high school, sealed the manholes and installed odor filters, although this is not a cure, just a band aid. Our pump stations are aerated which helps prevent hydrogen sulfide, and we are treating sewage in the Lancaster and Glenn Avenue pump stations with ferrous chloride. We have also contacted the adjacent township requesting their help in eliminating these odors. Mr. Norcini said the Public Works Department is working very hard on this issue and takes everyone's complaints very seriously. The last step the Public Works Department is looking into is smoke testing the lines to determine if the hydrogen sulfide gas is exiting the pipe from a point other than the manholes. The Public Works Department has done all that they can do from within the Township, the remainder of the solution lies with the adjacent Township.

Mr. Kampf and Mr. DeHaven said they would be happy to meet with the adjacent township to solve this problem. Mr. Norcini said there is no quick fix, and DEP water quality management permits and engineering will be required. Mr. DeHaven asked when the work could be completed, and Mr. Norcini said it could take a year, but he could not speak for another municipality in regards to their timeline.

Heidi Sproat and eight other residents from Long Lane, and some residents from Revere Road were in attendance, and Mrs. Sproat encouraged the Board to get this matter taken care of. Two residents from Sheldrake Drive also sited odor problems, and were concerned with health and safety issues.

At the end of discussion, Mrs. DiFilippo said the Board expects a response in a week or so from the adjacent township, and we will provide our residents with the next steps the Township will take to solve this problem.

**Miscellaneous - Update on Phase I – “Safe Routes to School” Sidewalk Project**

Mr. Burgo said the STAP Committee identified key routes for sidewalks around our schools. The Township has been working with a consultant on the layout and design work of the sidewalk project, and we are now into the final design for the first phase. We have had three

meetings with the public, which had good turn-out and comments. We have also had input from PennDOT.

Mr. DiFelicianantonio asked what the timeframe was for the project. Mr. Burgo said we should do preliminary submissions to PennDOT later this fall; construction and bid documents may be ready by February 2008, and at the earliest, we could start construction by the summer of 2008.

Mr. DeHaven said these sidewalks should have been considered by the Board fifty or more years ago. The community is walkable, especially the area around the middle and high schools. He asked what the sidewalk project would cost. Mr. Burgo said in the ballpark of less than \$2 million, for 1.2 miles of sidewalk, sidewalk management and traffic calming elements.

Mr. DiFelicianantonio said several citizens from the south side of Old Lancaster Road have been emailing, asking what is going on. Mr. Burgo said we have additional work to be done, and will continue to work with the residents.

A resident of Revere Road said he notices high school and middle school children walking along the road by the railroad tracks, as well as the track team running there, and it is quite dangerous.

Erika Von Hoyer, 1135 Old Lancaster Road, presented information from other residents on the south side of Lancaster Avenue requesting the implementation of a "Yard for a Yard" proposal, which is asking that the proposed sidewalk design and the roadway be shifted by three feet to save the residents' yards. Another resident on the south side was concerned about fencing and trees on residents' properties, and the loss of yard space.

At the end of discussion, Mrs. DiFilippo said the Township will be in conversations with each resident whose property is affected by the sidewalk project around the schools.

#### **Miscellaneous -      The Township's policy for replacing mailboxes damaged during snow plow operations**

Mr. Norcini said during snow plowing operations, some residents' mailboxes are damaged. In most cases, it is caused by the weight of the snow, when plowed to the curb or edge of the road, pushing the mailbox or post, or heavy wet snow and/or slush damaging the mailbox as the plow truck goes by. Mr. Norcini said we plow curb to curb because stormwater inlets are placed at the roads edge or curb line and need to be kept clear. Also, by not plowing the edge of the road, it reduces the width of the roadway, and the postman must be able to reach the mailbox from within their vehicle.

Mr. Norcini said the Township's most recent policy is to make repairs or replace a damaged mailbox with a standard plastic or metal mailbox and a 4" wooden post. The other alternative is to reimburse the resident up to \$50. He listed surrounding municipalities' policies.

After a lengthy discussion, motion was made by Mr. Kampf and seconded by Mr. DeHaven to revise the mailbox replacement policy as follows:

- If drivers of snow plows know they damaged a mailbox, a notice will be sent to that property owner explaining the Township's replacement policy within 24 hours.
- The Township will reimburse the property owner up to \$100 for a newly acquired mailbox or install a standard mailbox, or repair the existing mailbox, if possible.
- In either case, the new mailbox must be installed as far back from the edge of the road as Post Office regulations permit to reduce the likelihood of a repeat occurrence.
- Property owners must notify the Township within 21 days after the snow event which the mailbox was damaged to receive the reimbursement or new standard mailbox, and will be sent a notice explaining the Township's replacement policy within 24 hours.

Motion passed by a vote of 6-1 with Mr. DiFelicianantonio voting no.

**Miscellaneous - Rescind the Town Center Zoning District**

Mr. Drucker said he would like to repeal the Town Center district portion of the recently passed zoning ordinance. He is in favor of the train station very much, but doesn't think we need the Town Center right now, that it should evolve slowly. He made a motion to repeal the Town Center Zoning District because it should not have been included with the bundle of ordinances passed.

Mr. Hogan said because it is a zoning ordinance, we would have to go through the entire public hearing process. Rescission also would result in an absence of zoning in the area.

Mrs. DiFilippo asked if there were any members who would support this motion, and Mr. DiFelicianantonio was the only one, at which time Mr. Drucker withdrew his motion.

**Miscellaneous - Certificate of Appropriateness for construction at 2 Private Way, which lies within 250 feet of the Old Eagle School.**

Motion was made by Mr. DeHaven and seconded by Mr. Lamina to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for construction a 2 Private Way, which lies within 250 feet of the Old Eagle School.

Mr. Fahey said the applicant wishes to construct a 2,200 square ft. addition with cedar siding and shingles to match existing materials. HARB recommends approval.

At the end of discussion, motion passed unanimously.

**Miscellaneous - Award contract for "Transformer Removal at the Tredyffrin Public Library", Public Works Project #13-07**

Mr. Norcini said four sealed bids were received on Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> for the Transformer Removal Project at the Library. After reviewing the bids, the first two low bidders did not provide the required documentation as stated in the bid. Tier Environmental Services, LLC provided the lowest qualified bid in the amount of \$13,750.00.

Motion was made by Mr. DeHaven, seconded by Mr. Lamina, and passed unanimously to award a contract in the amount of \$13,750.00 to Tier Environmental Services, LLC. for “Transformer Removal at the Tredyffrin Library”, Public Works Project #13-07.

### **New Matters – Board**

Mrs. DiFilippo said the Board met in Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Mr. Kampf said he has had comments from residents on the accuracy of notices sent out for zoning and planning matters. Ms. Gleason said we use GIS data from the County for our notice addresses, but get addresses from the County assessment office for our taxes. She said our GIS data is not as accurate as the County assessment information. We are trying to connect the GIS system to the tax software to keep our addresses more current. We probably won’t be able to change over until next year. We are currently sending out notices addressed to Owner/Occupant to avoid the problem of mail not being delivered to the property when the owner’s name is wrong on the address.

Mr. DeHaven said PECO Wind will give the Environmental Advisory Council \$20 for each new resident who signs up for their alternative energy. The money is to be used for environmental initiatives of the EAC.

### **New Matters – Citizens**

Kevin Stroehman said there are some residences on Fairview Avenue and Mt Pleasant Avenue that are not being maintained and neighbors are concerned with health and safety issues. He also invited residents to attend a community wide meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> at Villanova sponsored by the Interfaith Coalition for Inclusive Community.

Bob O’Leary invited the Supervisors and Staff to attend an event on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Saturday Club in Wayne to discuss “Transit Oriented Development on the Main Line”. Carole Rubley and Joseph Duckworth are guest speakers.

Cindy Verguldi thanked the Township for building the All Abilities Playground. She said it was a wonderful addition to our Township.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene E. Buffman  
Recording Secretary