

**Tredyffrin Township
Minutes – October 19, 2009**

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 Warren Kampf, Chairman; Robert Lamina, Vice Chairman; John DiBuonaventuro, Mark DiFelicianantonio, Judy DiFilippo, Paul Olson, and John Shimrak. Also in attendance were Mimi Gleason, Township Manager; Thomas Scott, Assistant Township Manager; David Brill, Finance Director; Stephen Norcini, Director of Public Works; Stephen Burgo, Township Engineer; Superintendent Andrew Chambers; Thomas Hogan, Solicitor; and Jolene Buffman, Recording Secretary.

Call to Order

Mr. Kampf called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Minutes

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Lamina, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 5, 2009.

Announcements

Township residents who would like to receive the monthly electronic newsletter from the Township should send an email to the Township at Tredyffrin@tredyffrin.org to be added to the electronic newsletter list.

Financial Report

Mr. Brill presented the Financial Report for September 2009:

Financial Performance Year-to-Date versus Budget

	<u>YTD vs. Budget – Fav (Unf)</u>			<u>Concerns</u>	<u>Yr. Forecast</u>
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>		
General Fund	(475,353)	352,207	(123,146)	Transfer tax below Budget (\$219K) On budget for July & Aug	Driving closer to budget, continued cost containment action
Sewer Utility Fund	74,858	104,102	178,960	None	Fav. to budget By \$0.2M
Valley Creek Trunk Sewer Fund	(22,840)	45,201	22,451	None	On budget
Township Wide Expenses		531,626		None	Fav. to budget By \$0.7M

Cash & Investment Position - Reserves and cash flow remain healthy.

	<u>Balance \$M</u>	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Prior</u>
Unrestricted	14.4	15.4
Restricted	43.6	42.6

Debt Position – Current with debt payments and covenants.

Mr. Olson asked if we expected any transfer taxes in the near future, and Mr. Brill said he was not aware of anything, but we recently received \$166,000 from the sale of the Strafford Village Shops.

Police Report

Supt. Chambers said the police have made 34 criminal arrests and issued 255 traffic citations so far this year. There were five burglaries since last month - three residential and two business retail.

Supt. Chambers reported on an accident in the 700 block of Old Eagle School Road where a seven year old boy was struck by a vehicle. He asked residents who have any information regarding this accident to contact the police at 610-644-3221.

Mr. DiBuonaventuro noted that the DUI rate looks like it has improved since last year and asked Supt. Chambers what it was attributed to. Supt. Chambers said he wasn't sure if it was due to less drunk driving or more enforcement, but officers such as Russ Hittle are routinely cited for their good work in this area, and the word is getting out.

Fire Company Reports

Eamon Brazunas presented Berwyn's report. There were 30 fire calls for the month with several false alarms. The fire company took delivery of a 2009 Horton ambulance. The 115th anniversary celebration took place on September 26th.

John Beatty presented Paoli's report. There were 12 fire calls and 38 EMS calls for the month. There were 10 false alarms in the Township. Total membership returns to date are 1,415 from residents for \$100,130, or 28%, and 99 from businesses for \$10,815, or 18%. Mr. Beatty reminded everyone October is Fire Prevention Month.

Public Works

Mr. Norcini said Public Works crews removed trees from Township roads due to recent heavy rains and are beginning to prep snow equipment. Various intersections were painted, signs installed, and potholes patched. The sewer crew cleaned 15,375 feet of sewer main and televised 6,564 feet of sewer main.

Mr. DiBuonaventuro asked if Mr. Norcini was comfortable to deal with snow and ice with the crews that were available after the work force reduction. Mr. Norcini said there are funds available in the budget for outside contractors, and he was confident that with our crew and additional outside help, we could combat the elements.

Engineering

Mr. Burgo said all of the PennDot requirements have been completed on the Sidewalk Project. PennDot will advertise the project next week to receive bids in November. The project is slated to begin in early 2010.

Mr. Burgo said the Route 252 Amtrak Grade Crossing feasibility study is going through a multi-step process with PennDot. Four short-listed consultants will be asked to submit technical proposals.

Mr. Burgo said work will begin on a portion of Vincent Road in early November as part of the Maude-Lisa-Vincent Drainage Improvement Project. Notices were sent to residents regarding the start date. PENNVEST grant requirements have been completed for this project. Mr. Kampf thanked Mr. Burgo and staff for the work done on the PENNVEST grant.

Mr. Burgo said on October 8, 2009, the Turnpike held a Design Round Table meeting to discuss design alternatives for the three sections of the Turnpike Mile Post 320-326 Proposed Widening and Reconstruction Project. Even though the project is on hold, the Township continues to provide stormwater management information to the Turnpike. Mr. DiBuonaventuro publicly recognized Mr. Burgo for his work on the Turnpike project. He said the improvements made in the last six months are a result of the due diligence that Mr. Burgo did with the Turnpike engineers. These efforts are recognized by all members of the Stormwater Subcommittee.

Mr. Lamina asked if there was any good news on the opening of the Valley Forge Road Bridge. Mr. Burgo said site inspection was completed ahead of schedule and it looks like the bridge could open on October 26th.

Libraries

Mr. Sherwood said year-to-date circulation continues to be higher with an additional 82,000 items circulated or 36% higher than last year. The Friends of the Library Book Store is now open. The Fall Author Series presents a fascinating collection of author programs starting on October 26, 2009.

Supervisor Liaison Reports

Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to reappoint Yolanda Van De Krol to a three-year term on the Library Board of Trustees, term to expire October 18, 2012.

Mr. Olson said he wanted to clear up rumors he has heard about the Paoli Library. It is not going to close.

Mrs. DiFilippo said the Sidewalk, Trails and Paths committee discussed the beginning of construction on the Chester Valley Trail in East Whiteland Township, and when the Tredyffrin portion might come on line. She said the design phase would probably begin in 2010.

Mrs. DiFilippo said STAP would be changing their meetings in 2010 from quarterly to bi-monthly. There was a discussion about the Patriots Path, which is a joint project from East Whiteland, Malvern Borough and Tredyffrin. Patriots Path will eventually connect to the Chester Valley Trail.

Mr. Kampf said the Board met in Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

Miscellaneous - Presentation from the Easttown Tredyffrin Veterans Association

Mr. Bill Bellew, of the Easttown Tredyffrin Veterans Association, presented to the Township a first edition book entitled "*The Citizen Soldier Project*", which his group compiled. The book lists all veterans from the Tredyffrin area since the War of 1812. Mr. Kampf thanked Mr. Bellew on behalf of the Board, the Township, and the citizens.

Miscellaneous - Discussion about bond refunding

Mr. Brill said the Township has three outstanding General Obligation Bonds, and the 2003 Series is eligible for refunding at this time. He said with the favorable interest rate market, a refunding at this time is very attractive. Staff has identified \$2.5 million of unspent bond proceeds that could be used to pay down the outstanding principal.

Mr. Michael Wolf, Boenning and Scattergood, said he has been an investment banker for seventeen years and done more than ten bond issues for the Township. Eight involved refinancing, and the grand total of money saved is approximately \$3.6 million. He said two weeks ago, tax exempt municipal rates reached their lowest levels since August 1967. If we take \$2.5 million of Township funds, the size of the refunding will be less than \$3 million, and the final maturity would be 2023.

Mr. DiBuonavenuro said one of the reasons we want to reduce the debt service is because we would have access to other monies, should an opportunity come up for Library Services. Ms. Gleason said that is correct. We have other bond funds that have significant enough proceeds that a few years down the road, if we find a new location for the Paoli Library, that money would be available.

Mr. Shimrak asked if this refinancing would affect our Aaa bond rating, and Mr. Wolfe said he spoke to Moody's today, and everything was well received.

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mr. Olson to authorize Mr. Wolf and his firm to proceed with the refinancing of the General Obligation Bonds Series 2003 for refinancing and savings and not go below the present market value of greater than 3% of the refunded principal of \$5.24 million. Mrs. DiFilippo seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Wolf said he would like to do the refinancing a new way by advertising to adopt a parameter ordinance at the Board of Supervisors meeting on November 9th. Mr. Hogan recommended that Mr. Wolf's recommendation be accepted. Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo and passed unanimously to advertise and schedule a public hearing on November 9, 2009 to adopt such an ordinance for the previously authorized refinancing of the General Obligation Bonds Series 2003.

Miscellaneous - Presentation from the Environmental Advisory Council on "Green Tredyffrin"

Molly Duffy, Chairman of the EAC, said the EAC have developed a sustainability plan for the Township which addresses eight areas and their accomplishment and goals for a "Green Tredyffrin". Many of these goals offer cost savings or are low cost. The plan will serve as a road map to provide focus on where we go in the future, and would help leverage funding. The goals stated are closely aligned with goals in other guide documents the Township has. Kathie Jackson suggested using the Township newsletter and website, and the cable channel to communicate to businesses and residents.

Mr. Shimrak said the goals are admirable, and asked if the EAC could identify which goals are no cost, which would have cost savings, or goals that would cost without payback. He said there were cost implications the Board needs to understand before it passes the plan. Mrs. Duffy said she would provide this information.

Miscellaneous - Stormwater Ordinance amendment

Mr. Burgo said at the September 14th Supervisors meeting, the Board asked staff to consider language changes to the stormwater ordinance that would reduce the requirements for a stormwater permit to give credit for existing impervious surfaces on a property where construction is proposed. The Township is part of an advisory committee working on a model ordinance for the Valley Creek Watershed, part of an Act167 watershed plan being developed by Chester County. Under Act 167, we are required to adopt equivalent regulations to the model ordinance. The Valley Creek regulations under consideration are stricter than the current Township ordinance. In addition, the Township's existing stormwater regulations are intentionally strict in order to begin to chip away at the lack of stormwater controls in place today. We anticipate having to make updates in the next year or so to remain compliant when the County adopts their plan, so staff is suggesting not amending the stormwater ordinance at this time.

Mr. DiBuonaventuro said he had previously suggested changing the stormwater ordinance but is now comfortable with the recommendations made by Mr. Burgo. He suggested revisiting it again in six or nine months.

Mr. Lamina said it is important that we try to have an equivalent ordinance that will match up to the County ordinance. Mr. Burgo said he will continue to have discussions with the County, as well as DEP. Mr. Kampf said we will table this issue.

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New Matters – Board

Mr. Kampf said this is leaf season, and the Cassatt Road leaf site is open during the week from 7:30 am to 2:45 pm only, and is not open on weekends.

New Matters – Citizens

Resident Liz Feinberg suggested having the leaf site open on the weekend instead of during the week. Ms. Gleason said we could do that if we had volunteers.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene E. Buffman
Recording Secretary