

Tredyffrin Township**Minutes – October 5, 2009**

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

Call to Order

Mr. Kampf called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 21, 2009.

Announcements

Chester County is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event in West Chester on Saturday, October 10th from 9 am to 3 pm. The event is located at the Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road. Bring unwanted hazardous household automotive products, home maintenance, lawn, pest control products and equipment attached to a computer – monitors, keyboards, cables, printers, faxes, scanners, etc. TV's smaller than 27 inches are also accepted.

Supervisor Liaison Reports

Mr. Olson made a motion to appoint Michael Ford to fill an unexpired term on the Library Board, term to expire October 18, 2011. Mrs. DiFilippo seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous - Discussion on address changes on Weadley Road

Mr. Kampf said the Township received a petition at the public meeting held on September 21st from residents who were against a name change for Weadley Road. The Board also received many letters in favor of a name change, as well as recommendations from the chiefs of Radnor and Berwyn fire companies for a name change or address renumbering. He opened the meeting up to residents' comments.

Some of the residents speaking against a name change were Joanne Belsky; 629 Weadley, John Linehan, 869 Weadley Road; Lee Dastur, 625 Weadley; Eleanor Ciarrochi, 583 Weadley (Radnor); Barbara Howarth, 544 Weadley; Carol Listino, 516 Weadley; Joe McBryan, 664 Weadley; Benjamin Lei, 542 Weadley; and Michael Sklar, 508 Weadley.

Residents in favor of a name change were Hilary Vadner, 674 Weadley; Nick Gruschow, 601 Weadley Road; Leslie Adams, 617 Weadley; Barbara and Randy Gibbons, 639 Weadley; and Benjamin Auslander, 675 Weadley.

Louise Wennberg, Senior Research Analyst for the Chester County 911 system, said only the section of Weadley between West Valley and Old Eagle School Roads needs to be changed. She said the County recommends changing the name slightly to Upper Weadley Road. There was a discussion on adding an “East” or “West” designation or renumbering the street. Ms. Wennberg said there was no reason why the numbers should be changed, and advised against “East” or “West” because directionals often are dropped.

Mrs. DiFilippo reminded everyone that the emergency services’ recommendation is to change the name, and she would support the recommendations from the County to change the name to “Upper Weadley”. Mr. Lamina said even though he previously said there wasn’t any reason for a change, it is hard to ignore two fire departments stating they believe some kind of change is necessary in order to improve public safety in the area, and he supports the name change to “Upper Weadley”.

Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to change the name of the section of road between West Valley and Old Eagle School Road to “Upper Weadley Road”. Mrs. DiFilippo said Ms. Wennberg offered to help residents with the changing of their addresses, and this change should be effective January 31, 2010, to give residents more time to make changes.

Miscellaneous - Certificate of Appropriateness – 1696 Yellow Springs Road, located within 250 ft. of Historic Site #16, the Diamond Rock Octagonal School House

Mr. Scott said the owner of the property at 1696 Yellow Springs proposes to build an additional 6 ft. to the rear of the house and change the roof line to construct a library. A fireplace will be added, windows added and the bedroom expanded. The Historical Architectural Review Board has approved the construction plans for the property.

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the renovations and addition to 1696 Yellow Springs Road, which lies within 250 ft. of Historic Site #16, the Diamond Rock Octagonal School House.

Subdivisions - Approval of Final Subdivision Plan for F & H Mainline, LP

Mr. Scott said the applicant seeks approval for a nine-lot subdivision consisting of eight single-family attached dwellings and one single-family detached dwelling on Henry Avenue in the R4 Zoning District.

Bill Bryant of Pennoni Associates said the applicant will establish a homeowners association, and install a plaque in recognition of Mazie B. Hall at the site.

Resident Donna Shipman said she was concerned about the properties being occupied by college students, and about the upkeep of the property until the houses were sold. Mrs. DiFilippo said the owner is responsible for the property until it is sold, and the homeowners association would be responsible for the maintenance. There was discussion on where the plaque for Mazie B. Hall would be located, and Mr. Kampf suggested there be an open dialog between the residents and the property owner. Mr. Petrone, the property owner, agreed to maintain the property while the homes were being built.

Miscellaneous - Discussion on the term “present” as it applies to the Board of Supervisors’ meetings

Mr. Kampf said over the last year there were two times when Board members were called away but had participated in some portion of the public meeting. He said the School District has a policy which the Supervisors reviewed. Their policy says two times a year a board member would be permitted because of an unavoidable conflict to participate by telephone at a remote access. The technology we currently have in Keene Hall does not allow full participation for a Board member calling from an outside location, so we aren’t technologically ready to adopt this policy. He requested tabling this because it would cost money to upgrade the current system, and we are not in favor of spending money at this time. The Supervisors were in agreement and the issue was tabled until the Township is prepared to spend whatever it costs to upgrade the current system.

Escrows

Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to release \$5,789.40 from Bryn Mawr Trust Company to Radnor Chase Cronies, covering site improvements at 14-18 Paoli Court; balance remaining \$0.

New Matters – Board

Mr. Kampf said last Wednesday, the Township laid off eleven employees after a lengthy period of discussion of potential downsizing. The decision involved the Board of Supervisors, Township Manager and department heads, as well as input from the Budget Advisory Working Group. He said this layoff will address the short-term and long-term economic issues of the Township. Staff is going through a full scale internal restructuring to make sure they deliver full service to the Tredyffrin Township residents as its current staffing level.

New Matters – Citizens

Al Charpentier, President of Great Valley Association, discussed new construction on Swedesford Road. He said no permits had been issued, and Zoning laws need to be enforced. Mr. Hogan said the Township has been monitoring the litigation related to this construction. The litigation started with applications in front of the Zoning Hearing Board on two separate issues – use of a horse farm on Victoria Farm was considered an agricultural use, and the second issue was an indoor building for a riding arena. The Zoning Hearing Board held that the horse farm use was acceptable but that the riding arena was not permitted. This was appealed to the Common Pleas Court who ruled the indoor riding building and use of the horse farm both were

allowed. Both decisions were appealed to the Commonwealth Court where they are currently pending. Attorney Edward Seglias commented on behalf of surrounding neighbors, stating that he believed a building permit was required. Attorney Debbie Shulski commented on behalf of the farm, stating their belief that no building permit was required. Mr. Hogan stated that the Township would apply and enforce all applicable laws and court orders, and he would be happy to discuss the matter further with the attorneys.

Allan Yockey asked what the decision was regarding the term “present” at Township meetings. Mr. Kampf said our Home Rule Charter indicates it is permissible to be remote and still be “present” under the law in Pennsylvania.

Jerry Henige, 433 Homestead Road, said the structural long term problems of the Township aren't solved by the current lay-offs.

Mr. Kampf said the budget process for 2010 is scheduled to begin at the first meeting in November. We plan to have at least three meetings – one workshop on a Saturday in November, and two regular Board of Supervisors meetings. Some of the issues raised will be discussed in great detail publicly.

Donna Shipman asked about the student housing situation on Mt. Pleasant Avenue. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said he and Mrs. DiFilippo have been reviewing ordinances, and there is a level of consistency that includes registration, zoning approval, inspection, parking, etc. They plan to make recommendations that will address these issues and will bring it to the floor for public discussion. Mrs. DiFilippo said they would share the recommendations with Mrs. Shipman and Mr. Tremoyan, and discuss them before formal action is taken.

Meeting was adjourned at 9.55 p.m.

Public Hearing - Consider a Conditional Use Application for a sign at 20 Paoli Pike in the Town Center Zoning District

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mr. Kampf, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to approve a Conditional Use Application for a sign at 20 Paoli Pike in the Town Center Zoning District.

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