

**Tredyffrin Township
Minutes – November 30, 2009**

The second regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Tredyffrin Township for the month of November was held on the above date at the Township Building. Board members present included Warren Kampf, 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; Lt. Anthony Giaimo, and Jolene Buffman, Recording Secretary.

Call to Order

Mr. Kampf called the meeting to order at 7:32 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 November 9, 2009.

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the budget workshop meeting held November 16, 2009, as amended.

Announcements – Recognition of Bryan Baynard – Volunteer at the Cassatt Road Leaf Site

Mr. Kampf said Bryan Baynard, a volunteer who staffed the Cassatt Road Leaf Site two Saturdays ago, has graciously stepped forward to staff the leaf site again. The Cassatt Road Leaf Site will be open on Saturday, December 5th from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mr. Kampf presented Mr. Baynard with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Financial Report

Mr. Brill presented the Financial Report for October 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	(414,230)	1,026,629	612,399	Transfer tax below Budget (\$227K)	Favorable to budget by \$0.5M
Sewer Utility Fund	88,281	148,165	236,446	None	Fav. to budget By \$0.4M
Valley Creek Trunk Sewer Fund	(19,757)	73,248	53,491	None	Fav. to budget By \$0.3M
Township Wide Expenses		1,246,260		None	Fav. to budget By \$1.5M

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

	<u>Balance \$M</u>	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Prior</u>
Unrestricted	13.1	14.4
Restricted	43.9	43.6

Debt Position – Current with debt payments and covenants.

Police Report

Supt. Chambers said year-to-date we are up almost 3,000 calls for service over the first ten months of 2008. We are down in the number of alarms received.

Supt. Chambers reported on a house fire which occurred Thanksgiving day at Valley Stream condominiums. A disabled person in a wheel chair was trapped in her house. Corp. Kevin Moore, Officers Glatz and Butler had the resident out of the house within minutes, and the fire companies responded immediately. Congratulations were offered to the police and fire companies who rescued the resident and contained the house fire.

Fire Company Reports

John Beatty presented Paoli's report. There were 10 fire calls and 37 EMS calls for the month. There were 6 false alarms in the Township. Total membership returns to date are 1,496 from residents (29%) for \$105,310, and 108 from businesses (19%) for \$11,690. During Fire Prevention Month, 3 schools in Tredyffrin were visited.

Eamon Brazunas presented Berwyn's report. There were 39 fire calls for the month and 2 assists related to flood waters. Berwyn's 115th birthday celebration was very successful.

Public Works

Mr. Norcini said highlights of the month included ordering and stockpiling of salt and prepping trucks for the upcoming winter season, installing various signs around the Township, paving and patching various Township roads, cleaning 18,351 ft. of sewer main, park maintenance and Township vehicle maintenance. The Box Hill Pump Station project is 60% complete.

Engineering

Mr. Burgo said PennDot has received bids for the Sidewalk Project and the low bidder was Marino Corporation at \$1,947,725.35 for construction of the 1.7 miles of sidewalks, stormwater drainage improvements and associated roadway work. Construction is expected to commence in 2010.

The Route 252 – Amtrak Grade Crossing feasibility study consultant selected was Bergmann Associates. We are awaiting PennDot's concurrence, and soliciting a detailed scope of work and cost estimate. The feasibility study should begin in January 2010.

The Maude-Lisa-Vincent Drainage Improvement Project is scheduled to begin on December 7th, and residents have been notified.

The Pennsylvania Turnpike held a design roundtable meeting on November 12th to discuss further work they will be doing on the three sections of proposed widening. The next roundtable is scheduled for December 17th.

Libraries

Mr. Sherwood said overall year-to-date circulation continues to be higher with an additional 88,000 items circulated or 35% higher than last year. Usage remains high of reference services, public computers and wireless access. The Tredyffrin Library will be closed on Wednesdays, but open Sundays from 1-5 p.m. year round. The Paoli Library will be closed on Tuesdays, but open 9-5 p.m. on Saturdays and 1-5 p.m. on Sundays.

Supervisor Liaison Reports

Mr. DiBuonaventuro said the Park Board discussed having the building of the Crabby Creek Park bridges become an Eagle Scout Project. The Scouts have done similar projects at Upper Merion and Radnor townships. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said 39 deer have been harvested in the Township. The IRS has sent a letter with an identification number for the Park & Recreation Foundation, and the full determination should be received by mid-February.

Mr. Kampf said as liaison to the EAC, he has been in discussion with Molly Duffy and Chris Minshall on the "Green Tredyffrin" plan the EAC would like the Township to adopt. This matter will be brought up at one of the February Board meetings.

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

Miscellaneous - Recognition of the Budget Advisory Working Group (BAWG)

Mr. Kampf introduced Tom Colman, Chairman of the BAWG. Mr. Colman said the BAWG was appointed in March and was comprised of a group of volunteers appointed by the Supervisors to find ways to help the Township with its \$2.7 million deficit. Their recommendations were presented to the Board, and some of them contributed to the Township's balanced budget for 2010.

Mr. Kampf said the BAWG report was on the Township's website and the BAWG's website. He said it is something useable by the Township and its citizens. He congratulated each of the members of the committee and presented them with Certificates of Appreciation. In addition to Mr. Coleman, certificates were presented to Robert Betts, David Bookstaber, Robin Gorneau, Hank Lloyd and Joe Muir. John Corr was not present to accept his certificate.

Motion was made by Mr. Kampf, seconded by Mr. DiBuonaventuro and passed unanimously to accept the Tredyffrin Township Budget Advisory Working Group formal report and discharge the members of that group.

Miscellaneous - Discussion of 2010 Proposed Budget

Ms. Gleason said since the budget workshop, some changes have been made to the budget:

- The latest assessment shows a small decline in Tredyffrin's assessment, resulting in a reduction of \$37,000 in expected revenue in 2010.
- Comcast's franchise agreement expires in 2010 and the fee to be paid by Comcast is \$10,000.
- We restored the contribution of \$17,000 to TE School District for crossing guards.
- The contribution to the Paoli Fire Company includes an additional \$15,000 to offset the drop in vehicle insurance.
- In order to balance the budget for these changes, small reductions were made to supplies and government administration, ending with a \$5,600 surplus.
- Four capital projects need to be carried over to 2010 to be completed. Total funding is not changing, just being stretched into the first quarter 2010.
 - Richards & Upper Gulph Roads stormwater improvement
 - Swedesford Road parking lot and bridge replacement
 - HAC upgrade for the Township Building

Ms. Gleason said there are two open items from the budget workshop: Whether to replace the bridges in Crabby Creek Park during the next five year, and whether to keep the fireworks for July 4th in the budget. Also, some fees are proposed to be increased for 2010.

Ethan Norris, Treasurer of the Berwyn Fire Company, asked the Township to reconsider funding the fire companies in 2010 to the levels of 2009. Mr. Kampf said the draft budget has a 5% reduction in capital and operating contributions to the fire companies. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said in addition to the 5% mentioned, State aid has been cut by roughly 10%. Tredyffrin will be the only local township reducing funding from the 2009 levels.

Marie Thibault said she doesn't think the library budget should be cut, as the facilities are used all the time. Pattye Benson asked several questions about a BAWG recommendation regarding sidewalks on Gulph Road. Laurie Elliott urged the Board not to cut any money to the fire company. Jack McAllister had several questions about the reserves which Ms. Gleason answered. Sandi Gorman said she would like to see the July 4th fireworks continue in the Township and offered some suggestions on fundraising. Mark Werther asked if any changes were made at the budget workshop, and Mr. Kampf said no changes were made at the workshop, but Ms. Gleason summarized changes resulting from the workshop.

Motion was made by Mr. DiBuonaventuro to restore the capital and operational funding for the Paoli, Berwyn and Radnor fire companies to the 2009 level. Mrs. DiFilippo seconded the motion.

A vote was taken with Mr. DiFelicianantonio, Mr. DiBuonaventuro and Mrs. DiFilippo voting yes, and Mr. Kampf, Mr. Olson and Mr. Shimrak voting no. Since the vote was tied, it did not carry.

There was more discussion on having the Crabby Creek Bridges become an Eagle Scout project for a local scout troop. Sean Moir said the only cost would be for the materials. Mr. Olson asked who would guarantee their safety, and Mr. Hogan said the only way it would work is if staff verified the bridges were safe and posted signs for people to use at their own risk. Mr. DiFelicianantonio made a motion to put money back in the budget for the Crabby Creek Bridges, but there was no second. Resident Ray Clarke said he fully supported using Eagle Scouts for this project.

John Petersen asked if longevity pay was in the budget. Ms. Gleason said it is in the budget only if required by contract. If not, it was removed from the budget.

Ms. Gleason asked about keeping the fireworks in the budget for \$20,000. Mr. Kampf said to leave the money in, and try to raise the money privately.

Motion was made by Mr. Kampf to adopt the Preliminary Budget as drafted. A vote was taken. Voting yes: Mr. Olson, Mr. Shimrak, Mrs. DiFilippo, and Mr. Kampf. Voting no: Mr. DiBuonaventuro and Mr. DiFelicianantonio. Motion passed by a vote of 4-2.

Miscellaneous - Public Hearing to amend the Pension Ordinance

Ms. Gleason said the 2010 budget includes no contribution of Township funds to the Money Purchase Plan, the 401k style defined contribution plan for non-union Township employees. To implement that change, the pension ordinance must be amended.

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to schedule a public hearing on December 21, 2009 to amend the Pension Ordinance.

Ms. Gleason said we will need a public hearing to increase the sewer utility fee and should hold it on December 21st also.

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to schedule a public hearing on December 21, 2009 to consider whether to increase the sewer utility fee.

Miscellaneous - PennDot Snow Plowing Contract

Mr. Norcini said for at least 15 years the Township has entered into an agreement with PennDot to maintain certain State-owned roads during the winter months. This maintenance entails snow plowing and salting during snow storms, ice events or after hours for icy patches or drifts of snow. It is a 5-year contract in the amount of \$20,271.25. This is a flat fee and would not change unless the winter is deemed "severe".

Motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to sign the Winter Traffic Services 5-Year Agreement with PennDot.

Escrows

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed to release \$28,600 from the Bank of New York Mellon to Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, covering site improvements at 1001 Chesterbrook Boulevard/PennMedicine at Valley Forge/off-site sidewalk and trail; balance remaining \$123,593.01. Mr. Kampf abstained from the vote.

New Matters – Board

Mrs. DiFilippo suggested having a subcommittee meet with the Planning Commission to discuss the BAWG recommendation regarding accepting \$50,000 from St. David's Golf Club in lieu of a sidewalk on Upper Gulph Road. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said in October 2008 this was brought up at the Planning Commission and voted down 5-2. Mr. Kampf volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

New Matters – Citizens

John Petersen thanked Mr. Norcini for his assistance in a stormwater problem at Valley Hills. He also questioned the BAWG comments on St. David's.

Eamon Brazunas said Easttown will not be contributing to the fireworks this year, and urged that Tredyffrin funding be restored to the 2009 level for the fire companies. He also asked if Berwyn Fire Company would be paid for working at the July 4th fireworks. Ms. Gleason confirmed they would, if the fireworks are held. Matt Valocchi, also from Berwyn Fire Company, said he was disappointed that the money could not be put back in the budget for the fire companies.

Ray Clarke said the BAWG's suggestion for a Strategic Plan was a good idea.

Another resident urged the Board to put the money back in the budget for the fire companies instead of fireworks.

Hans van Naerssen commended the work of the BAWG and asked for more information about the St. David's sidewalks recommendation.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene E. Buffman
Recording Secretary