

**Tredyffrin Township  
Minutes – November 9, 2009**

The first 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; 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; 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.

**Public Hearing - Consideration of adopting a debt incurring ordinance to refund the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003**

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to adopt an ordinance to refund the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003.

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

**Minutes**

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 19, 2009.

**Announcements**

There will be a workshop discussion about the 2010 Township budget on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Tredyffrin Public Library.

The Board of Supervisors' meeting scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. It has been rescheduled for Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Building. The 2010 budget will be on the agenda.

**Supervisor Liaison Reports**

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

Mr. Kampf said the Board met with the Supervisors of Willistown Township in Executive Session on October 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss a joint Municipal Authority, and authorized the Board and the Solicitor to file an application for an injunction to compel compliance with its laws.

**Miscellaneous - Resolution amending the Articles of Incorporation of the East Whiteland-Tredyffrin Joint Transportation Authority**

Ross Unruh, attorney for the Joint Transportation Authority, said this resolution is to extend the Authority's term for two years. When this Authority was created in 1986, it provided the Authority would end pre-payment of the last bonds on January 1, 2010. Unless extended by this resolution, the Authority would terminate on January 1, 2010. He said it will not cost the Township anything to keep it going.

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to adopt a resolution amending the Articles of Incorporation of the East Whiteland-Tredyffrin Joint Transportation Authority for two years.

**Miscellaneous - Discussion of a Paoli Joint Transportation Authority**

Ms. Gleason said an idea has been floating around for some time to create an authority that would facilitate funding for road improvements around the new train station planned for Paoli. She said both townships have agreed it is time to move forward to develop this authority.

**Miscellaneous - Schedule a public hearing for the Patriot's Path Plan**

Mr. Scott said the Patriot's Path Plan is a proposed trail network in East Whiteland Township, Malvern Borough and Tredyffrin Township to connect three local parks and open space sites that have special American Revolutionary War significance. He said the Planning Commission has recommended the Board adopt the Patriot's Path draft plan as an amendment to the 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson and passed unanimously to hold a public hearing on Monday, January 4, 2010 to consider the Patriot's Path Plan as an amendment to the 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

**Miscellaneous - Discussion of 2010 Proposed Budget**

Ms. Gleason said there is \$33 million in total operating and capital costs in the 2010 proposed budget. Of the \$33 million, there are two main components – the Operating Budget which is \$23.1 million, and the Capital Budget which is \$9.5 million. The four main funds are the General Fund, the Sewer Utility Fund, the Valley Creek Trunk Sewer Fund, and the Municipal Authority.

Ms. Gleason said the 2010 budget is significantly smaller than the 2009 budget, with a \$4 million reduction. There was a great deal of attention from the Board, staff and citizens to try to find savings in this year's budget. The main focus was in the General Fund. The General Fund operating budget is \$16.4 million which is \$3 million under 2009. The largest category is salaries. The largest source of revenue is the real estate tax, which pays for half of general fund operating costs. The other sources of revenue are transfer taxes, the local service tax, and an assortment of fees, fines and grants. She is recommending an increase in fees for services.

Ms. Gleason said the Sewer Utility Fund is smaller than the General Fund. It pays for the operation and maintenance of the Township sewer system, street lights and traffic signals. 12% of the expenses cover salaries and benefits. The largest expense is sewage treatment and conveyance. Revenue comes from the sewer utility fees which are currently \$200 per year. She is recommending an increase in this fee which has not been raised since 1989.

Ms. Gleason said the Valley Creek Trunk Sewer Fund pays for the operation and maintenance of the Valley Creek Trunk Sewer, and is operated by the Township on behalf of neighboring municipalities. It includes the Wilson Road Pumping Station which is nearing capacity.

Ms. Gleason said the Municipal Authority is a financing authority. The \$1 million budgeted in this fund will go to pay for bonds the Municipal Authority has issued on behalf of the Township.

Ms. Gleason said the General Fund budget does not use any operating reserves and is completely balanced. No tax increase is recommended. She said that it took a lot of work to balance the budget. We have a solid amount of reserves in the General Fund and are still able to maintain our Aaa credit rating. We will have to be diligent in the coming year to maximize our reserves.

Mr. Kampf thanked Ms. Gleason and staff for all the work they put in to this year's budget, and acknowledged how difficult it was to get to a balanced budget. Mr. Lamina echoed Mr. Kampf's thanks, and said in his twelve years on the Board, he can't remember a budget that was structurally balanced at the outset with no tax increase.

Robert O'Leary commented that he was concerned about the staff reductions that took place to balance the budget for next year and whether that will reduce the services that citizens seek. He asked the Supervisors to consider an earned income tax. He was also concerned about the police levels being reduced, and parks and road maintenance being a challenge with fewer employees. He said there were several important projects that were not included in the five-year plan.

Jerry Henige asked the Board to discuss an earned income tax at the Budget Workshop. He said the Township needs to look at alternative revenue sources. Mark Werther asked what kind of detail there would be at the Budget Workshop. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said the Board will go through the budget line by line, and it will be open for public scrutiny.

Ray Clark commended Ms. Gleason on the outstanding job she did for a balanced budget. He also asked to have a discussion on an earned income tax at the Budget Workshop. He questioned how the benefit costs have gone down. Ms. Gleason said the Township changed health insurance to save money, will reduce the money purchase plan for non-union personnel for a one-year period because of the economy, and there will be no increase in 2010 unless required by contract.

Mrs. DiFilippo said Ms. Gleason previously prepared a PowerPoint presentation on earned income tax and asked her to present it at the Budget Workshop.

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### **Escrows**

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to release \$13,363.00 from US Bank National Association to Carnuntum Associates, LP, covering site improvements at the Devon Square Shopping Center; balance remaining \$19,286.53.

Motion was made by Mrs. DiFilippo, seconded by Mr. Lamina, and passed unanimously to release \$1,686.60 from DNB First to LeBoutillier Road Associates/Toad Hall Associates LP, covering site improvements at the intersection of Mill Road and LeBoutillier Road for the Highgrove Subdivision; balance remaining \$290,508.55.

### **New Matters – Board**

Motion was made by Mr. Kampf, seconded by Mr. Olson, and passed unanimously to reappoint Thomas Cooper to a four-year term on the Planning Commission; term to expire November 28, 2013.

Mr. Kampf said Michelle Kichline has resigned from the Zoning Hearing Board, and he congratulated her and the other newly elected Supervisors who will be sworn in in January. Motion was made by Mr. Kampf, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo and passed unanimously to appoint Suzanne Ciccarone to a three-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board, term to expire January 1, 2013.

Motion was made by Mr. Kampf, seconded by Mrs. DiFilippo, and passed unanimously to appoint Kristen Mayock as an alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board, term to expire January 1, 2013.

Mr. DiBuonaventuro said he and other supervisors have been receiving complaints about the Cassatt leaf site being closed on weekends. Ms. Gleason said this is an area we have cut back on, and we haven't been able to staff it on Saturdays or any weekdays. This will be discussed more at the upcoming Budget Workshop. She said any residents who are interested in volunteering could help with the leaf site.

Mrs. DiFilippo said the Library By-Laws have been updated, and based on some of the new amendments, there are still some issues that the Board and Library Board need to discuss regarding the relationship of the two boards.

### **New Matters – Citizens**

Robert Haver asked what we were doing about studying long term contracts as they relate to future costs. He said we should have some idea of how long we can project revenues.

Mark Werther said there have been several robberies in the Panhandle area near Radnor and asked for more police presence.

Steve Ross said the residents around the Delaware Valley Friends School appreciated the work staff and Mr. Hogan have done regarding the temporary lighting, but asked for a commitment from the Township that this will be the last season for these temporary lights. Mr. Hogan said enforcement action has been started with the school to address the issues Mr. Ross brought up, and to come up with a solution for next year.

Meeting was adjourned at 9.00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene E. Buffman  
Recording Secretary