

**Tredyffrin Township  
Minutes – February 22, 2010**

The second regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Tredyffrin Township for the month of February was held on the above date at the Township Building. Board members present included Robert Lamina, Chairman; Paul Olson, Vice Chairman; John DiBuonaventuro, Philip Donahue, Warren Kampf, Michelle Kichline and Evelyn Richter. Also in attendance were Mimi Gleason, 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. Lamina called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Minutes**

Motion was made by Mr. Kampf, seconded by Mr. Donahue, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 8, 2010, as amended.

**Announcements**

Residents interested in receiving the Township's monthly e-newsletter can submit their email addresses to [enewsletter@tredyffrin.org](mailto:enewsletter@tredyffrin.org).

**Financial Report**

Mr. Brill presented the draft Financial Report for January 2010:

Financial Performance Year-to-Date versus Budget

	YTD vs. Budget – Fav (Unf)			Concerns	Yr. Forecast
	Revenue	Expenses	Total		
General Fund	73,664	232,078	305,742	Snow storm removal costs	YTD variances to budget
Sewer Utility Fund	(37,137)	37,625	488	None	YTD variances to budget
Valley Creek Trunk Sewer Fund	(2,250)	29,562	27,312	None	YTD variances to budget
Township Wide Expenses		299,266		None	YTD variances to budget

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

	Balance \$M	
	Current	Prior
Unrestricted	8.8	9.2
Restricted	42.8	42.8

Debt Position – Current with debt payments and covenants.

Mr. Brill said there is a budget risk because of the snow storm removal costs of overtime, supplies and rental equipment. He said the storm was a big impact to the Township. Ms. Gleason said the State will be releasing our Liquid Fuels Tax refund a month earlier this year to help off-set the snow costs. Also, Chester County is going to be seeking assistance through the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, in turn through FEMA, for the cost of the snow removal.

Mr. Brill said the Real Estate Property Tax bills were mailed out, and sewer bills are going out in April. He urged residents to take advantage of the 2% discount if they pay their taxes before the end of March.

Mr. Olson asked about recent transfer tax revenue, and Mr. Brill said the Township did receive a settlement of \$71,000 on a large property that recently sold, and a general transfer tax of \$100,000. He was not aware of anything in the future.

### **Police Report**

Superintendent Chambers said there is a crime trend in Tredyffrin Township. Pickpockets, or a group of pickpockets, are operating in local restaurants, and he urged residents to be aware of their belongings when they are out.

### **Public Works**

Mr. Norcini said there have been four snow events this winter, and the last two were the most significant. On February 5<sup>th</sup> there was 21" of snow in the Township, and on February 9<sup>th</sup> there was another 21" of snow. He said the second storm was much tougher to fight, and he had pride and admiration for the members of his Public Works Department who worked around the clock to clear the streets for residents. Mr. Lamina, Mrs. Kichline, and Mr. Donahue all offered their thanks and appreciation to Mr. Norcini and his department for their outstanding effort.

### **Fire Company Reports**

John Beatty introduced Pete Schofield, the newest Board member of Paoli Fire Company. Mr. Beatty said there were 5 fire calls and 40 EMS calls in Tredyffrin for the month of January. There are still ongoing false alarm issues. Operating income was \$63,474 for January, and expenses were \$48,023.

Eamon Brazunas presented Berwyn's report. There were 19 fire calls for the month. He mentioned the Strafford Station Apartment fire and thanked the Police for their assistance. He reminded residents to clear snow from their fire hydrants.

### **Engineering**

Mr. Burgo reported on two capital construction projects. Regarding the sidewalk project around Conestoga High School, residents have been notified of upcoming activity. Tree and vegetation removal will take place in the next few weeks, as well as installation of a retaining

wall on Irish Road. Full blown construction will start in late March. Mailings to residents will go out on a monthly basis.

Mr. Burgo said the Maude-Lisa-Vincent Drainage Project has been slightly delayed due to the two snow storms. Work is expected to be completed at the end of March.

### **Libraries**

Mr. Sherwood said although the library was open 19% fewer hours than last year, overall circulation increased by 7%. Volunteer services were up by 100% compared to January 2009. Usage remains high for reference services, public computers and wireless access.

### **Recognition of Township Volunteer**

Mr. Lamina presented Joseph Barks with a Certificate of Appreciation for his ten years of service on the Park and Recreation Board.

### **Miscellaneous - St. Davids Path**

Mr. Lamina reviewed the discussion that took place during the last two public meetings regarding the release of an escrow from St. Davids Golf Club for sidewalks. He then made the following motion: I move that the Board's motion of January 25<sup>th</sup> regarding St. Davids be reversed and rescinded, and hereby further resolve that the Board of Supervisors form a joint subcommittee with the Planning Commission and the STAP to begin a process to re-examine where the community wants and needs sidewalks, with a goal that this Board may adopt more formal policies and procedures to provide additional guidelines relative to design, development and construction of the sidewalks and paths in the Township at-large. At a minimum, this re-assessment should address both the timing prioritization, funding sources, the conditions upon which the Planning Commission may from time to time grant relief from our Land Development Ordinance, and recommend any other changes the prospective new policy might require. While the subcommittee process takes place, neither the Board nor the Township will be formally moving to compel St. Davids to build the path, until the new policies are adopted or the Township has put in place designs and funding for sidewalks or paths that would connect to the proposed St. Davids pathway. The subcommittee in carrying out its reassessment will seek input and participation from the public and the committees involved which necessarily will include the Planning Commission and the STAP. Mr. Olson seconded the motion.

Mr. Lamina said St. Davids has confirmed their continued obligation to construct the path. He said he doesn't want to diminish the work the Planning Commission put into the Comprehensive Plan. He said the plan is to have the new subcommittee begin work in March with the goal to conclude the process by the end of this year. Ms. Gleason said this idea has been discussed for quite awhile, and there is a recommendation in our Comprehensive Plan to have a public process to refine the green routes network in the Comprehensive Plan which shows long term paths and trails in the Township. She talked to members of the Planning Commission and the Sidewalks, Trails and Paths Committee, and they support the subcommittee's work.

Kevin Stroehman said he was opposed to sidewalks around St. Davids. Hans van Naerssen agreed with getting the public involved, and said not to exclude funding from the plan. Several residents requested the motion be made into two separate motions, and they included Alan Yockey, Jerry Henige, Dariel Jamieson, Margaret van Naerssen, Laurie Elliott. Patty Benson thanked the Supervisors for coming up with the motion, but only wanted one motion to reverse the escrow.

Jane Yockey asked Mr. Lamina why the motion wasn't two separate motions. Mr. Lamina said it was a response to the comments heard from citizens and puts us on a path to get where we should have been in the first place relative to sidewalks, trails and paths. Mr. Kampf said government often is about compromise, and this process is about compromise between this Board and the voice of the people who have spoken through various media.

Bruce Parkinson said St. Davids has tried to be a good citizen, and doesn't like the idea of this being a political football.

Mrs. Kichline said there is nothing being said or done with this motion that is not transparent. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said that he asked two weeks ago to reverse the January 25<sup>th</sup> vote, start over, and play by the rules. In addition, the sidewalk issue is very controversial in the Township and needs a forum to be addressed. The new subcommittee provides that forum. It will help avoid these types of arguments going forward. Mr. DiBuonaventuro indicated he would support the motion whether it was consolidated or bifurcated.

At the end of discussion, Mr. Lamina called for a vote, and the motion carried with all Supervisors voting "yes".

### **Supervisor Liaison Reports**

Mr. DiBuonaventuro said he was appointed fire liaison for 2010 and reported on the first meeting held January 27<sup>th</sup> with members of the Radnor, Berwyn and Paoli fire companies; Tom Scott and Mike Pilotti, Township staff; the County Fire Marshall, and the Police department. The goal of the group is to determine what our public safety priorities will be, primarily for the fire companies. This Fire Task Force also includes Mr. Lamina and Mr. Donahue. He said he would report back on the goals and objectives that need to be achieved.

Mr. Donahue made a motion to appoint Chuck Cutshall to a three year term on the Environmental Advisory Council, term to expire February 8, 2013. Mr. Olson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Kampf made a motion to appoint Bill Rountree to a five-year term on the Municipal Authority, term to expire January 1, 2015. Mr. Lamina seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Kampf reported that our Police Pension Plan financial performance for 2009 ranked within the 10% quartile of similar sized plans, both public and private. Mr. Kampf also said the BAWG recommended looking into purchasing annuities instead of having a privately managed Police Pension Fund. This was discussed at the Pension Trustees meeting, and it is something we are looking into in the future.

Mr. Olson asked about the change of leadership at the Paoli Library. Mr. Sherwood said Beverly Michaels is the new Branch Manager of the Paoli Library. She was formerly Head of Circulation at Tredyffrin Library, and the Children's Librarian at Paoli.

**Miscellaneous - Paoli Pedestrian/Bike Plan Study Committee**

Mr. DiBuonaventuro made a motion to appoint Sean Moir, Molly Duffy, Ed Auble, Bob O'Leary, Tim Lander, Dave Rowland and Andy Wilson to the Paoli Pedestrian/Bike Plan Study Committee. Mr. Donahue seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**New Matters – Board**

None

**New Matters – Citizens**

Sandi Gorman thanked Steve Norcini and the Public Works Department for the great job they did during the recent snow storm. She also said in her work with TE Cares, she has become aware of the needs of low income and struggling families in the community. She said the libraries are incredibly valuable, not just in books, but for computer use and free kids program. She also thanked the community for their support to the families affected by the fire at Stafford Station Apartments.

Laurie Elliott wondered if there was a plan for sustainable and ample funding for fire companies in 2011. Mr. DiBuonaventuro said one of the goals identified at the first fire liaison meeting was for that a dedicated funding stream in 2011 was the top priority.

Liz Feinberg spoke about the community benefits of having the Paoli Library.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**Public Hearing - Consideration and possible adoption, via resolution, of the "Patriots Path Plan", as an amendment to the Tredyffrin Township's Comprehensive Plan**

At the end of discussion, motion was made by Mr. DiBuonaventuro, seconded by Mr. Donahue, and passed unanimously to adopt a resolution for the adoption of the 2009 Patriots Path Plan.

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