

MINUTES OF THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD APRIL 13, 2015
(Approved May 11, 2015)

The Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 13, 2015. Present for the meeting were supervisors Ray Kolb, Mariea Geho, Karen Nocella W. Atlee Rinehart and Michael Albert Moyer. Also present were Bernard A. Rodgers, Township Manager, Mark A. Hosterman, Township Solicitor, and Brady L. Flaharty, Township Engineer.

Mr. Kolb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Hosterman stated that an executive session was held at 6:00 p.m. immediately preceding this meeting to discuss one personnel matter and one matter of real estate.

Mr. Kolb swore in two new Fire Police. Sworn in were Joseph Pennypacker and Cody Martin.

1. MINUTES

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2015 Board of Supervisors monthly meeting. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-1 vote. Mr. Rinehart abstained.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. William Keller, 91 Do-Jan Drive, Pottstown, PA 19465 wanted to commend the Supervisors for their comments and information provided on the Rt 422 tolls. Mr. Keller stated without people having EZ-Pass, he does not know how the state would handle tolling on Rt 422. Mr. Keller also discussed the limited availability of Park-n-Ride locations on Rt 422.

Mr. Keller stated he lives on Do-Jan Drive, which has turned into a high traffic area. Tractor-trailers are dropping off items at a business on Do-Jan Drive. Mr. Keller asked if a sign could be placed on Do-Jan drive stating "No Tractor Trailers". After delivering the items, the tractor trailers travel down Do-Jan Drive to turn around in the cul-de-sac. Do Jan Drive is not made to handle tractor trailers. Mr. Rinehart asked if we could place a sign on Do-Jan Drive with a length limitation for trucks. Mr. Rodgers asked if Mr. Keller knew the address of the business on Do-Jan Drive. Mr. Keller does not know the address, but could provide the home's location on Do-Jan Drive. A discussion ensued pertaining to Zoning for businesses in Residential areas. Mr. Keller stated he was not sure where to go with the issue. Mr. Rinehart stated Mr. Keller came to the right place by bringing the issue to the Supervisor's attention. Mr. Kolb stated the issue will be turned over to the Building Code Official.

Mr. Dave Miller, Miller's Greenhouse, 804 Sanatoga Road, Pottstown, PA, expressed his concern pertaining to the flower tent sales at the Coventry Café and the length of time the tent will be at that location. Mr. Miller stated this is a traffic hazard when people are trying to pull out of the area onto Rt. 724, especially when turning left. Mr. Miller cannot see how the \$50.00 fee is worth it to the Township to allow these type of tents. He asked if the Supervisor's could create an ordinance stopping tent sales when the applicant does not have a business in the Township. These types of temporary businesses take business away from the people who have a business located in the Township. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Keller discussed the water issue at Bethel Church Road and Ellis Woods Road. He stated the channel is blocked. Mr. Keller stated the ten foot (10') to twelve foot (12') area next to the channel is also blocked. Mr. Keller asked if the Township could dig out the area with the backhoe. Mr. Kolb stated both roads are state roads and the Township cannot perform any work on state roads for liability reasons. He has met with PennDOT and they are aware the pipe is crushed under Bethel Church Road. The Police

have documentation showing flooding at the intersection.

Mr. Keller also discussed the sign with the 15 mph limit at the East Coventry Elementary School. Is it possible to place a sign with the hours of when the speed limit should be fifteen (15) mph? A discussion ensued. Mrs. Geho stated the Supervisors had discussed this with the Owen J Roberts School when they came in to discuss the proposed new elementary school.

Mr. Moyer wanted to thank Mr. Keller for coming in to thank the Township Board of Supervisors for speaking up about the Rt 422 tolling. The other Municipalities did not want to hear about adding language in the draft Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Comprehensive Plan pertaining to the Rt 422 tolling. The Committee did not want to single out just one road, however, the Municipalities agreed to add language to the Comprehensive Plan stating that they would oppose any tolling of any kind on any roads throughout the region. If this language is added then all the Municipalities will probably approve the Comprehensive Plan.

3. REPORTS

Township Manager's Reports

Discussion and approval of Aborganic Acres as a Township resident drop off site for leaf waste

Mr. Rodgers discussed the proposed agreement between the Township and Aborganic Acres, which allows the Township Residents, not Commercial businesses, to drop off leaf/yard waste. The agreement allows residents to drop off any leaf waste materials up to 6" in diameter and up to 8' long. Tree stumps or other items containing subterranean materials would not permitted to be taken to Aborganic Acres.

The hours of operation are Mon thru Saturday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Mr. McMullen and the Township have agreed to an amount of \$4,000.00 for the year 2015 for this service. Mr. McMullen will provide the Township with details of waste collected in order to provide this information to DEP. Mr. Rodgers is requesting approval from the Board of the agreement and the payment of \$4,000.00 for the year 2015 between Mr. McMullen and the Township.

Mr. Rinehart made a motion to accept the leaf waste agreement between Aborganic Acres and East Coventry Township and payment in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the year 2015. Mrs. Geho seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Consideration of approval of Bid results for 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Cruiser

Mr. Rodgers discussed the results of the bids received for the sale of the 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Cruiser. The Township received six (6) bids. The bidders were Robert E Fritz Jr, bidding \$2,350.00; Grace Quality Used Cars, bidding \$3,267.00; Walter Hunt, bidding \$2,310.00; Chicago Motors, Inc, bidding \$2,507.00; William Dixon, bidding \$851.00 and Bayridge Motors, Inc, bidding \$2,279.00. The lowest bid was in the amount of \$228.00 and the highest bid was in the amount of \$3,267.00. The highest bid was received from Grace Quality Used Cars. Mr. Rodgers is requesting the Board approve the award of the bid to Grace Quality Used Cars for the amount of \$3,267.00. Mr. Rinehart made the motion to award the bid of the 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Cruiser to Grace Quality Used Cars for the amount of \$3,267.00. Mrs. Geho seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Discussion of Capital Improvement Projects letter received from North Coventry Municipal Authority

Mr. Rodgers wanted to let the Board of Supervisors know that the Township received a letter dated March 17, 2015 from the North Coventry Municipal Authority regarding the two (2) Capital Improvement Projects at the sewage treatment plant.

The first project will be the replacement of the original feed system. The estimated cost for the unit and installation is \$9,000.00. The Township will be receiving an invoice and supporting information in mid-April 2015.

The second project will be the upgrading of the existing PLC's, the software and computer components. The estimated cost for the equipment and the programming is \$85,000.00. A workshop meeting for this project will be in June 2015, with the estimated start time for this project in the beginning of 2016.

East Coventry will be responsible for ¼ of the cost of these projects. Mr. Kolb asked if the payment would come out of the Capital Budget. Mr. Rodgers said the payment will come out of the Sewer Capital Fund.

Mr. Kolb asked the other Board members if they would like to have Mr. Flaharty attend the meeting in June. The Board members agreed. Mr. Rinehart made a motion to approve Mr. Flaharty attending the meeting for the Capital Improvement Projects for the sewage treatment plant at North Coventry Municipal Authority. Mrs. Geho seconded. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Consideration of approval of support letter for Tri-County Primary Trails Study

Mr. Rodgers stated Tri-County is looking for support letters from the Township for grant submittals and asked whether the Township wanted to be represented on the task force and if the Board would like to have representatives on the task force and send a support letter. Mrs. Nocella made a motion to have Mr. Rodgers send a letter of support to Tri-County for the Primary Trail Study. Mrs. Geho seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Whispering Woods

Mr. Rodgers stated the Township received the revised submission for the Preliminary Plan for review of the proposed 80-unit Townhouse development. He also noted that the Township received another request from Langan Engineers to approve the Sewage Facilities Planning Module Exemption for submission to DEP.

Mr. Rodgers requested approval from the Supervisors to allow the appropriate Township Official to sign the Sewage Facilities Planning Exemption Module. Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the appropriate Township Official to sign the Sewage Exemption Module for the Whispering Woods Development. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-1 vote. Mr. Rinehart abstained.

Mrs. Gail Brown, 500 Sanatoga Road, Pottstown, PA questioned whether signing the Sewer Module Exemption would prevent the Township from receiving the cultural resources notice. Mr. Flaharty believes the cultural resource notice is also required for the NPDES permit application. The Township would have the opportunity at that time to review the cultural resource notice.

Consideration of Township Engineer's Report

Mr. Flaharty wanted to remind the Township that the annual Stream Cleanup of the Pigeon Creek will take place this Saturday, April 18, 2015. The cleanup will be between Route 724 to the Schuylkill River. The group will be meeting at 10:00 am at the intersection of Route 724 and Bethel Church Road.

Mr. Kolb asked what the plan was for inclement weather. The plan is to have Mr. Kolb make the call at 9:00 am if the Stream Cleanup will be canceled. He will notify Mr. Flaharty and then go to the

meeting location to let the volunteers know the Cleanup will be rescheduled until Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Consideration of approving reports from various departments and committees

Mr. Kolb wanted to note the report from Barry Isett & Associates, Inc from Larry Andes; the Building Code Official is a good report to add to the monthly department reports. The April report was very enlightening. The report allows the Township to know what is happening with permits and Zoning.

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the reports from various departments and committees. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

4. Subdivision and Land Development - No business

5. Zoning Hearing Board Applications – No business

6. Other Business

7. Exonerations

Mr. Moyer read the list of exonerations. Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the Exonerations List. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Part-time Laborer

Mr. Kolb discussed the Memo requesting the hiring of George Strutynski for part time work starting May 4, 2015 through October 2, 2015 at an hourly rate of \$15.38 per hour for 2015. Mr. Rinehart made a motion to approve the hiring of George Strutynski for part time work starting May 4, 2015 through October 2, 2015 at the hourly rate of \$15.38 per hour. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

8. Payment of Bills

Mrs. Geho made a motion to pay the bills as presented:

Fund Name	Amount to Pay
General Fund	129,247.91
Fire Hydrant Fund	3,274.66
Open Space	-
Sewer Operating Fund	14,260.49
Sewer Capital Fund	-
Traffic Impact Fee Fund	1,768.60
Capital Reserve	-
Highway State Aid Fund	18,968.55
TD Escrow	-
Heritage Escrow Fund	-
Totals	\$ <u>167,520.21</u>

Mrs. Rinehart seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

9. Information Items and Additional Items to be Brought Before the Board Ordinance No 2015-05

Mr. Hosterman discussed Ordinance No 2015-05 Condemnation of a parcel of land at the corner of Rt 724 and Linfield Road, consisting of 379 feet. Mr. Hosterman has been trying to identify the owner of the parcel in order to acquire the land for the installation of the new Traffic Signal. Mr. Hosterman is asking the Board to approve Ordinance No 2015-05 in order to proceed with the condemnation of the parcel.

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve Ordinance No 2015-05, Condemnation of a parcel of land at the corner of Rt 724 and Linfield Road, consisting of 379 feet. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Mr. Rodgers asked if the Township can start the installation of the new Traffic Light once the declaration is recorded. Mr. Hosterman stated that is correct.

Mr. Rinehart asked if there is a 30 day waiting period. Mr. Hosterman stated there will be public notices posted right along the road and newsletters will be distributed monthly with the information. There may be an escrow required for potential damage for 2 years.

Mrs. King asked if there will be left turning lanes on both sides and whether there will be cameras at the intersection. Mr. Rodgers stated there will be video monitoring which will monitor the traffic flow and trip the lights when needed.

Public Notice - Bid Proposal – Faulk Tract

Mr. Hosterman also presented a public notice for the purpose of obtaining proposals for Communication Towers to be placed on Township properties. The proposal is for the Faulk Tract. Bids are to be submitted by May 6, 2015, with the bids being opened and awarded on May 11, 2015 at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the advertisement of the proposed Communication Tower for the Faulk Tract. Mr. Rinehart seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Additional Items

Mrs. Geho stated she was told in conversation the Zoning Hearing Board members were questioning the amount they receive for attendance at the Zoning Hearing Board meetings. Mrs. Geho asked Mr. Rodgers to check to see if the members were receiving the correct payment.

Mr. Kolb asked how the Board felt about Mr. Miller's point tonight about the Flower Tent at the Coventry Café. Mr. Rodgers state the ordinance is not very restrictive. Mr. Moyer stated we should charge more than \$50.00 for the Solicitation Permits. Mr. Hosterman stated he recently revised an ordinance for another municipality and stated he could compare the current ordinance for East Coventry Township to the recently revised ordinance he just revised. Mr. Kolb stated Mr. Miller also brought up the issue with the traffic. Mr. Kolb stated there is a hazard with the traffic when the café is busy. Mr. Hosterman stated maybe we should restrict the length of time the tent is there. Mr. Kolb stated this is something to think about.

Mr. Kolb discussed the Pavilion Picnic Tables. The Park, Recreation and Conservation Committee had suggested some picnic tables from one of the catalogs. A 6 foot picnic table would cost \$653.00 and trash containers would be \$785.00. Mrs. Nocella stated that she would take the topic back to the Park, Recreation and Conservation Committee for further discussion. Mr. Kolb stated he could probably build 12' picnic tables for approximately \$200.00 worth of materials. Mr. Kolb is concerned that if we go with 6' tables, they might disappear. Mr. Moyer asked where the picnic table from Towpath Park was purchased. Mr. Kolb stated Mark Elliott built the table years ago. Mr. Kolb

discussed the box for the Pickle Ball supplies. He has a box that can be placed outside by the pole building.

Mr. Rinehart stated he will be at PSATS next Sunday through Tuesday. He asked if anyone had anything they would like brought up for discussion, please let him know.

Mr. Moyer wanted to remind people that April 15, 2015 was Income Tax due date. Mr. Moyer wanted to remind people the per capita tax due date for discount was April 30, 2015.

10. Adjournment

Mrs. Geho moved to adjourn the monthly meeting at 8:02 p.m. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 5-0-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard A. Rodgers
Township Secretary