

MINUTES OF THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD MARCH 9, 2015
(Approved April 13, 2015)

The Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 9, 2015. Present for the meeting were supervisors Ray Kolb, Mariea Geho, Karen Nocella and Michael Albert Moyer. Mr. W. Atlee Rinehart was absent. 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 7:03 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Hosterman stated that an executive session was held at 6:30 p.m. immediately preceding this meeting to discuss one matter of litigation and the potential lease of real estate.

1. MINUTES

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2015 monthly meeting. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Moyer commented on the February 9, 2015 presentation of the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Comprehensive Plan – December 2014 version to the Board of Supervisors at which time the Board of Supervisors agreed that language should be included stating that the Board was against tolling on Rt 422. Mr. Moyer noted that this request did not receive favorable review from the PMRPC except that Lower Pottsgrove also thought such language was important. Mr. Moyer stated that subsequent to the Regional Planning Commission meeting he wrote a letter to the Editor (which was published) and as a follow up he proposed that the Board adopt a Resolution stating East Coventry wants anti-tolling language in the new Comprehensive Plan and that the Township will not vote to approve the Comprehensive Plan unless this language is in there.

Mrs. Geho agreed with Mr. Moyer.

Mr. Hosterman suggested a letter be sent to the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Comprehensive Plan Committee rather than doing a Resolution.

Mrs. Geho made the **motion** to send a letter to the Pottstown Metropolitan Region Planning Commission stating the Township wants anti-tolling language in the new Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

3. REPORTS

Township Manager's Reports

Consideration of letter from Open Space Committee recommending the purchase of the Elliott Farm parcel for Township Open Space

Mr. Rodgers stated that at last month's meeting the Board reviewed a request from the Chester County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for the Township to participate with it to purchase an agricultural easement on the 25+/- acres of the Elliott Farm, located at 583 Old Schuylkill Road, Pottstown, PA 19465. The Township Open Space Committee reviewed the proposal at its March 4, 2015 meeting and forwarded a letter of recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in favor of the acquisition. Mr. Rodgers asked if the Board of Supervisors wanted to participate with Chester County in the purchase of the agricultural easement and, and if so, to authorize the appropriate officials to sign the required documents/agreement.

Mrs. Geho reviewed the Open Space Committee's evaluation of the Elliott Farm with the Board of Supervisors. The property is currently being farmed.

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the purchase of the agricultural easement with the Chester County Agricultural Land Preservation Board and to authorize the appropriate Township officials to sign the agreement/documents necessary for the acquisition. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Agreements for the Extension of Sanitary Sewer to service three (3) properties along East Cedarville Road

FM Development Corporation, Inc. has proposed the extension of the sanitary sewer to service three (3) properties along East Cedarville Road by extending the line outside the existing state right-of-way. It submitted the sanitary sewer design to the Township Engineer, who has approved the design. The Township Solicitor is currently preparing the necessary documents, improvement agreement and easements to allow the extension to proceed. Mr. Rodgers requested that the Board authorize the appropriate Township officials to sign the agreements/documents when approved by the Township Solicitor so that work could proceed.

Mr. Kolb made a motion to authorize the appropriate Township official to sign the agreement/documents. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Mr. Kolb asked Mr. Flaharty if he received any further information on the extension of the sanitary sewer for the three (3) lots along East Cedarville Road. Mr. Flaharty stated he did receive the request and spoke to the engineer about the design and plans needed.

Mr. Hosterman stated he also spoke to the engineer. They need to make some modifications to the easement plan to revise the legal descriptions.

Mr. Kolb asked how they were making out with the Highway Occupancy Permit. Mr. Hosterman stated they were working on that as well.

Mr. Rodgers stated once the agreements are signed, they also want to submit the Highway Occupancy Permit to PennDOT.

Mrs. Geho made a motion to approve the signing of the Highway Occupancy Permit application once all other documents are in place. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Wireless Communications Facilities Overlay District Boundaries and Regulations Ordinance

Mr. Rodgers wanted to let the Board of Supervisors know that the Wireless Communications Facilities Overlay District Boundaries and Regulations Ordinance will be on the March 18, 2015 Planning Commission Meeting Agenda. If the Planning Commission makes recommendation to approve, Mr. Rodgers requested approval to advertise for adoption at the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 13, 2015.

Mr. Moyer made a motion to approve the advertisement of the Wireless Communications Facilities Overlay District Boundaries and Regulation Ordinance if approved by the Planning Commission at their March 18, 2015 meeting. Mrs. Geho seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Consideration of Township Engineer Report

Mr. Flaharty read the following announcement regarding the MS4 Program for entry into the minutes:

In the support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors is sponsoring a cleanup of the Pigeon Creek between Route 724 to the Schuylkill River. Persons interested in keeping East Coventry clean and green are invited to volunteer a few hours of their time to participate in this 8th annual community stream cleanup initiative. Interested volunteers should gather at the Schuylkill River Trail parking lot located at the intersection of Bethel Church Road and Route 724 at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2015. The rain date will be Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Mr. Woessner asked if the area at Bethel Church Road and Route 724 is an official parking lot. Mr. Kolb state it is not an official parking lot, but people park there to use the Schuylkill River Trail.

Consideration of approving reports from various departments and committees

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 4-0-0 vote.

4. Subdivision and Land Development - No business

5. Zoning Hearing Board Applications – No business

6. Other Business

Exonerations

Mr. Moyer read the list of exonerations. Mr. Kolb asked why some of the names were shown on the list when they had passed away more than a year ago. He asked if property owners send notices when someone is deceased. Mrs. King indicated that they do. However, she revised the spreadsheet and forgot to save it. That is the reason why some of the names of the deceased showed again.

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 4-0-0 vote.

7. Payment of Bills

Mr. Kolb made a motion to pay the bills as presented:

Fund Name	Amount to Pay
General Fund	82,882.89
Fire Hydrant Fund	-
Open Space	-
Sewer Operating Fund	17,154.70
Sewer Capital Fund	-
Traffic Impact Fee Fund	546.50
Capital Reserve	-
Highway State Aid Fund	18,400.41
TD Escrow	-
Heritage Escrow Fund	-
Totals	\$ <u>118,984.50</u>

Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

8. Information Items and Additional Items to be Brought Before the Board

Mrs. Geho stated East Coventry Township needs to form a committee to review the Trails, Greenways and Recreation Plan by Natural Lands Trust. The committee is to include representatives from the Planning Commission, the Open Space, the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee and the Historical Committee, along with an individual who is not represented by those committees. Mrs. Geho suggested William Keller be appointed along with the other committee representatives.

Mr. Rodgers stated Mr. Keller is an alternate member of the Township Zoning Hearing Board and that the Task Force members will be working with Natural Lands Trust.

Mrs. Geho made a motion to form the Trails, Greenways and Recreation Plan Task Force. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Mr. Woessner asked when the meetings will start. Mr. Rodgers stated the meetings will probably start in April.

Mrs. King asked if anyone has been approached about the Hydrant Tax. She is receiving a lot of complaints about the Hydrant Tax. Mrs. King tells the residents that they need to contact the Township because she cannot do anything about it. Mr. Kolb stated the tax is nothing new. The tax was just put back into affect this year. The tax is .012 mills times the assessment and properties located within 780 feet of a hydrant will pay the Hydrant Tax.

9. Adjournment

Mrs. Geho moved to adjourn the monthly meeting at 7:33 p.m. Mrs. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Kolb called for the vote and **the motion** carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard A. Rodgers
Township Secretary