

LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minutes of Board Meeting held August 18, 2009

A business meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Lower Paxton Township was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairman William B. Hawk on the above date in the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Supervisors present in addition to Mr. Hawk were: William C. Seeds, Sr., William L. Hornung, and Gary A. Crissman.

Also in attendance were George Wolfe, Township Manager; and Steven Stine, Township Solicitor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Seeds led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2009, workshop meeting and the August 4, 2009, business meetings. Mr. Seeds seconded the motion, and a unanimous vote followed.

Public Comment

Mr. Hawk noted that Debra Battisti, from the Dauphin County Library System, wanted to make a presentation to the Board.

Ms. Battisti explained that she is the Manager of the East Shore Area Library. She noted that the library is a very busy place with many new users coming to the facility for the first time. She noted that job seekers are coming to the library for books on how to write a resume or cover letter, or to use the Internet to look for jobs or complete job applications. She noted that many

people prefer to borrow the books instead of paying for them. She noted that parents are grateful for the many programs that are offered by the library for their children. She noted that patrons can now pick up items placed on hold, and check out their items on the self-check out machines, without waiting in line. She noted that staff is always available to help patrons find what they need.

Ms. Battisti explained that the community has helped the library relocate many of its programs since it recently started renovations. She explained many reading programs occurred at the Friendship Center during the summer and, in the fall, they will sponsor ten weeks of, Tales at Twilight, for members and their families at the Friendship Center. She noted that Friday morning story times will be held at the Colonial Park United Church of Christ. She noted that she is very grateful that these places have offered to sponsor these activities.

Ms. Battisti explained that the renovations include expanding the parking lot, replacing the old HVAC systems, and enlarging the check-out area to accommodate the increased business. She noted that new carpeting is to be installed, and the library will function and look much better.

Ms. Battisti noted that the library's best friends are The Friends of the East Shore Library, the creative and hardworking people who support the library, and she introduced Ms. Andrea Morrison, who would like to make a small presentation.

Ms. Morrison noted that Ms. Battisti is the group's leader and they are under her umbrella. She noted that The Friends do many things with Ms. Battisti's approval. She noted that her organization tries to share the information about the library with the community. She explained that 100 people were polled, and only 15% knew that the East Shore Area Library was located on Ethel Street. She noted that she was very surprised about that and decided to make

cards to pass out to people to spread the information on the library. She noted that the library provides 24-7 on-line service, and noted that many handicapped persons use the on-line services as well.

Ms. Morrison noted that The Friends provide monetary assistance to purchase book drops, display cases, shelving, and t-shirts for the staff for the summer reading program. She noted that they will sponsor a used book sale in October, but, due to the library renovations, they are looking for an off-site place to have it. She noted that they would like to advertise this event through the Township's newsletter, and explained that the dates will be October 28 through the 30th. She noted that The Friends are working on a community outreach to help people understand what the library is all about. She noted on September 29, 2009, at the Colonial Park Mall, they will be selling books and distributing information about the library to the community.

Ms. Morrison noted that she would like to express her appreciation to the Board for their support and concern for the library.

Ms. Battisti noted that The Friends have raised thousands of dollars for the library. She noted that they have been crucial to the success of the library, and with the State budget cuts, The Friends have been a great resource to the library. She noted that the library is another reason why Lower Paxton Township is such a great place to live, and she wanted to thank the Township and the citizens for their support.

Mr. Hawk noted that he is a relatively new member and had the opportunity to be present at a book review and to meet the author. He noted that the library does a fantastic job.

Mr. Seeds wanted to thank the volunteers, and questioned when the construction would start. Ms. Battisti answered that construction for the building starts September 8th; however, the parking lot is almost complete. She noted that the library would be closed from August 29th

through September 7th prior to the start of construction. Mr. Seeds noted that he was surprised to hear that only 15% of the people knew where the library was located. He questioned if the poll was taken in the Township. Ms. Morrison noted that the poll was done a year ago, and it included 100 people in the County.

Mr. Wolfe noted that he would include an article on the library in the next newsletter.

Mr. Seeds noted that he was very glad that they did not have to cut their hours like some other local libraries.

Mr. Crissman wanted to thank the library staff, on behalf of the community, for the services that it provides. He noted that the children's' library is superlative, and the services provided for children are great. He noted that, last week, he went to the library for a specific request for two new books, and Laura was very helpful in helping him locate the books. He noted that she provided a delightful service in locating the books.

Mr. Hornung noted, in looking on the website, there are many audio books that can be downloaded. He noted that it is awesome that the library provides those services. Ms. Battisti noted that she has audio books in the library and they can also be downloaded to an ipod.

Mr. Hawk thanked Ms. Battisti and The Fiends for attending the meeting.

Chairman & Board Members' Comments

No comments presented.

Manager's Report

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Friendship Center would be closed for maintenance and repairs from Sunday, August 30th until Saturday, September 5th. He noted that the facility will be cleaned, and annual service will be performed to the various building systems. He noted that this weekly shutdown is necessary to maintain the building and keep it in great shape.

OLD BUSINESS

Action on an amendment to the Police collective bargaining agreement providing for 12-hour shifts

Mr. Hawk noted that the Board has been asked to accept an amendment to the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement to provide for 12-hour shifts.

Mr. Wolfe explained that the current collective bargaining agreement with the Police Officers calls for eight-hour shifts. He noted that it is the desire of management and labor to provide a 12-hour shift, and to have a significant portion of the Police Department convert to the 12-hour shift. He noted that this amendment changes no other provisions of the contract other than providing for a 12-hour shift of work. He noted that this amendment has been ratified by the bargaining unit and is now being presented to the Board of Supervisors for action.

Mr. Crissman questioned if the Board has received a signed copy of the amendment. Mr. Wolfe answered that the Board would sign the amendment first and then it would be sent to the Police Bargaining Unit for their signatures.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve action on an amendment to the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement providing for 12-hour shifts. Mr. Hornung seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a roll call vote: Mr. Crissman, aye; Mr. Hornung, aye; Mr. Seeds, aye; and Mr. Hawk, aye.

Ordinance 09-11; Accepting Blackberry Alley between North Mountain Road and Blue Mountain Parkway as a public road

Mr. Wolfe noted that, upon recommendation from the Village Of Linglestown Committee, the Board has been working to accept Blackberry Alley, from Blue Mountain Parkway to North Mountain Road, as part of the Township's public transportation system. He

noted that the intent is for the Township to take over the alley, and install improvements, and to provide for access through the alley to abutting properties during construction. He noted that the alley would become a service road to those properties after Linglestown Road is reconstructed.

Mr. Wolfe explained that this is the second time the Board was presented with the Ordinance. He noted that the first version was discussed several weeks ago, at which time public comment was heard and it was suggested to make some minor amendments to the Ordinance. He noted that the Ordinance is ready for the public hearing and Board action since the amendments discussed at the previous meeting have been made. He noted that it would be appropriate for Mr. Stine to conduct a public hearing at this time. He explained that Gary and Patricia Dietrich, who own the property on the northeast corner of Blue Mountain Parkway and Blackberry Alley, are present to make comment on the Ordinance.

Mr. Stine noted that this is the time and date set for the public hearing on Ordinance 09-11 which would accept Blackberry Alley between North Mountain Road and Blue Mountain Parkway as a public road. Mr. Stine questioned if anyone in the audience wished to be heard on this matter.

Ms. Patricia Dietrich, 1405 Blue Mountain Parkway, noted that she has lived on that corner for 32 years, and the traffic has tripled in that time. She questioned if the alley would be a one-way street, paved, since the dust is horrible, and what the speed limit would be. She noted that some of the neighbors have grandchildren and she has a dog, and is concerned for their safety. Mr. Wolfe noted that he met with Mrs. Dietrich, in the field, to discuss her concerns, and he indicated that the level of improvement, and how the alley would be paved, would be a decision made by the Board. He noted that if the Board authorized pavement of the alley, that speed tables would be installed to reduce the vehicle speed on what should be a very slowly

traveled road right-of-way. He noted that there has been ongoing discussion, at the Board level, and the Village of Linglestown Committee level, that the traffic should be restricted to eastbound or westbound. He noted that no final decision has been made. He noted that he was unable to answer all of Ms. Dietrich's questions but he was able to provide some information to her.

Mr. Seeds noted that some trucks went flying down the alley today and the dirt and stones went flying. He noted that when the road is paved, it would help with that problem. He noted that speed tables would help, but he did not know if making the alley a public road would increase traffic, since people use it now as if it were a public road. He noted that the Township would have to do something to slow the traffic, but that is true for all roads in the Township. He noted that his home abuts Koons Park, and this time of the year, with football and baseball seasons, people drive their vehicles too fast down the alley. He explained that he sometimes puts up slow down for children warning signs in an attempt to slow traffic in the alley.

Mr. Seeds suggested that paving the alley would not increase traffic, but it would during the construction project. He noted that making Blackberry Alley a public road would make it better for anyone who has property that abuts the alley.

Mr. Stine questioned if anyone else wished to be heard on Ordinance 09-11. He noted that seeing no response, it would be appropriate to close the hearing on Ordinance 09-11, and the Board may take action if it so desires.

Mr. Wolfe noted that he indicated to Mrs. Dietrich that the level of improvement to the alley would be up to the Board of Supervisors, but he indicated that the Board will be asked to take action on a grant application, later on the agenda, to secure funds for improvements to the alley.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve Ordinance 09-11, accepting Blackberry Alley from Blue Mountain Parkway to North Mountain Road as a public road. Mr. Seeds seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a roll call vote: Mr. Crissman, aye; Mr. Hornung, aye; Mr. Seeds, aye; and Mr. Hawk, aye.

Mr. Hornung noted that this is only the beginning of the process and it is important to let the residents know what would be done. He assured Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich that the Township would not compound their lives, but try to improve it. Mr. Wolfe noted that it is not the Township's desire to make the Dietrich's life more difficult and if the Township makes improvements to Blackberry Alley, that it would be paved in a way that would match the Dietrich's concrete driveway apron.

Action on an agreement to settle AFSCME
Grievance 90-2944-0105

Mr. Hawk noted that the Board has been asked to take action on an agreement with AFSCME for Grievance 90-2944-0105. He noted that the grievance has been resolved and the Board needs to take official action.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve action on an agreement to settle AFSCME Grievance 90-2944-0195. Mr. Hornung seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 09-38; Authorizing the submission of a Dauphin County Local Share Grant application for funds to improve alleys in the Village of Linglestown

Mr. Wolfe noted that he provided the Board members a copy of the grant application as well as the grant program requirements. He noted that the Local Share Grant program is funded

by the Gaming Funds that Dauphin County receives through the licensing of the gaming facility that has been constructed in East Hanover Township. He noted that Lower Paxton Township does not directly abut East Hanover Township, and is not an eligible applicant for these funds unless it partners with another municipality that does abut East Hanover Township. He noted that, through the efforts of Mr. Hawk, a request has been made to Middle Paxton Township to sponsor the Township's grant application. He noted that a letter requesting Middle Paxton Township to sponsor the Township has been included in the Board's information.

Mr. Wolfe noted that Middle Paxton Township Board was to act on that request at their meeting held last night, and he is awaiting their response. He explained, if Middle Paxton Township authorizes participation by the Township in the grant process, the Township would submit an application to Dauphin County requesting \$250,000 in grant funds to improve Blackberry and Raspberry Alley, and to construct a satellite parking facility off of Raspberry Alley in conjunction with the Village of Linglestown project. He noted that the justification for these funds is due to the impact from traffic coming from the east on Linglestown Road, primarily, and also from the northeast traffic coming from Blue Mountain Parkway from Middle Paxton Township that accesses the traffic from the east on Route 443. He noted that some of this traffic is generate by the licensing gaming facility in East Hanover Township, and it is his belief that this project is eligible for funding under the Local Share Program.

Mr. Wolfe noted, by resolution, the Board could take action on this grant, subject to receiving authorization by Middle Paxton Township of participation in the process. He noted that the submission date for the application is September 1, 2009.

Mr. Seeds noted, on page five, it states that improvements are expected to be constructed this year, but later it states next year. Mr. Wolfe noted that the Linglestown improvements will

begin this year, but the alley improvements could not occur until action is taken on the grant applications, and those decisions will be made after March 1, 2010.

Mr. Hawk suggested that Middle Paxton's approval should be forthcoming as they approved a similar action for Susquehanna Township.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to approve Resolution 09-38, authorizing the submission of a Dauphin County Local Share Grant application for funds to improve alleys in the Village of Linglestown. Mr. Seeds seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

Action on bids for vehicle fuels

Mr. Wolfe noted that staff received two bids during its bid opening that occurred on August 3, 2009 for vehicle fuels. He noted that the lowest responsible bidder was Petroleum Traders Corporation for both gasoline and diesel fuel. He noted that the vendor margin for regular unleaded gasoline is .0180 (\$/gallon) and .0177 (\$/gallon) for diesel fuel. He explained that the bid submitted by Petroleum Traders was reviewed and found to be acceptable, and that it is staff's recommendation that the Board accept Petroleum Traders bid to supply vehicle fuels for the Township.

Mr. Hornung questioned what the current price is. Mr. Wolfe answered that it is usually around .022. He suggested that this is a little less than what was paid in the recent past.

Mr. Seeds noted that the memo from Mr. Robbins stated that the funds for the purchase of referenced materials are contained within the 2008 fiscal year budget. Mr. Wolfe noted that it should read the 2009 fiscal year budget.

Mr. Crissman made a motion to award a contract to Petroleum Traders Corporation for vehicle fuels with a vendor margin for regular unleaded gasoline at .0180 (\$/gallon) and .0177

(\$/gallon) for diesel fuel. Mr. Hornung seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a voice vote and a unanimous vote followed.

Payment of Bills

Mr. Seeds made a motion to pay the bills of Lower Paxton Township and Lower Paxton Township Authority. Mr. Hornung seconded the motion. Mr. Hawk called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Crissman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Seeds seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Heberle
Recording Secretary

Approved by,

Gary A. Crissman
Township Secretary