

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2008**

The monthly meeting of the Longswamp Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Longswamp Township Municipal Building, 1112 State Street, Longswamp Township, Mertztown, Pennsylvania, 7:30 p.m., prevailing time as previously advertised and posted.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG. ROLL CALL.

Officials Present: Donald Siegfried, Chairman; Steven Wyka, Vice Chairman; Maryann Lantz, Supervisor; Jill Smith, representing the Engineer; Richard Orwig, Esquire, representing the Solicitor; Joni McPike, Treasurer; Ed Bender, Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer; Barbara Ebert as Consultant to Secretary, and Jennifer Wassell-Bonser, Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Donald Siegfried called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m., and announced the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 22, 2008, would not take place. Draft copies of those minutes were available in the meeting hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Steve Wyka made a **motion** to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of July 22, 2008; Maryann Lantz seconded that motion. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

None at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Donald Siegfried welcomed Jennifer Wassell-Bonser as the Secretary for Longswamp Township. Barbara Ebert will remain as a Consultant to Jennifer as necessary.

Reading Philharmonic Performance

The Reading Philharmonic will be performing at Pavilion #1 in the Park on Wednesday, August 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Sewer Management Program Cycle 2 Second Postcard Reminders Sent

A second postcard reminder was sent out for the Sewer Management Program Cycle 2 in order for property owners to submit a record of pumping forms no later than August 22, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Mike Sacks asked if there were any problems with bees on the Township Property. Ms. McPike stated there is a problem with bees in the sandbox at the park and that there have been several wasps in the Township Office recently. Steve Wyka also stated they are on the backboard of the basketball net as well. Mary Beth Hendley said she had Ehrlich Pest Services called out to look at the bees in the sandbox. She was told they are burrowing bees and there is not much that can be done to prevent the problem. Don Siegfried suggested we post something at the sandbox noting the public of the bee problem.

Mr. Mike Sacks announced as of August 18, 2008, there is a new Superintendent of the Brandywine Heights Area School District, Dr. Handler, who is from New York. Don Siegfried extended words of welcome and an offer of support to be conveyed to him.

Maryann Lantz announced the upcoming three-day Pennsylvania Renewable Energy Sustainable Festival in Kempton. The Festival runs from September 19 through 21, 2008 and will be hosting green building workshops, children's activities, and food.

No further comments.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Jill Smith announced two time extensions submitted to the Township for consideration.

Gross School Bus Services – Final Plan

The first request is for Gross School Bus Services – Final Plan, which is the second extension, valid to October 31, 2008. Steve Wyka made a **motion** granting the extension review of the land development plan; Maryann Lantz seconded the motion. All in favor.

Dax Funderburk Annexation – Final Plan

Second request for time extension, valid to December 2, 2008. Maryann Lantz made a **motion** granting the extension; Steve Wyka seconded the motion. All in favor.

Golden Meadows

Jill Smith announced Golden Meadows is slowly starting construction and have submitted a request for Escrow Release #1 for approval. The Board of Supervisors authorized Hanover Engineering to review the report and provide a recommendation to the BOS at the next meeting. The request includes the release of monies for the installation of silt fence and the setting of monuments and pins to identify the property corners of Lot 13, the lot conveyed to the Berks County Conservancy. Golden Meadows is also requesting the Board of Supervisors defer the requirement for providing elevations for the concrete monuments until as-built plans are submitted. A **motion** to accept the request for release of escrow and authorize Hanover Engineering to review and provide a recommendation was made by Steve Wyka; Maryann Lantz seconded the motion.

ZONING AND CODES ENFORCEMENT

Lick Trucking

Ed Bender filed a civil complaint in District Court against Lick Trucking after completing a site visit on Sunday to their location and noting 17 trucks and 10 trailers parked on their property. Don Siegfried added that he has taken pictures to this effect as well. Steve Wyka commented that he has seen trailers parked at the entrance which may block entrance for emergency access.

Gross School Bus

An Enforcement Notice has been sent by Ed Bender to Gross School Bus to mow the grass.

Chappell Sewer Replacement

Ed Bender commented that Mr. Chappell is in the process of installing the sewage replacement system at his property on Walker Road. It was noted the facility is a peat moss system costing \$24,000. Mr. Chappell has been very cooperative and the situation is being resolved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Richard Orwig submitted the proposed Zoning Amendment Ordinance to the BOS. The proposed changes were reviewed by the Planning Commission and recommended for approval.

Mountain Village Mobile Home Park

Request for Zoning Amendments and Map Change

Mountain Village forwarded a request for the Township to consider allowing additional uses in the MHP-Mobile Home Park District and to consider expanding the MHP District. Mountain Village is requesting the Township to consider rezoning three or four properties on the East side of State Street across from their existing Mobile Home Park. The lots under consideration are currently zoned Conservation District and MVMHP is requesting the BOS to consider re-zoning these lots to the MHP-Mobile Home Park District. Mountain Village is also requesting the Township to consider allowing additional uses, either by right or by Special Exception in the MHP District. The Board of Supervisors discussed referring this matter to the Planning Commission for review. Maryann Lantz made a **motion** to forward Mountain Village's request for zoning changes to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation. Steve Wyka seconded the motion. All in favor.

RECREATION REPORT – Marybeth Hendley

A request was made by the Parks and Recreation Summer Playground for permission to host a Luau/Cook-Out/Sleepover to be held in the park on Friday, August 15, 2008. The campers will set up numbered tents for security purposes in Pavilion #1 facing inward for counselor supervision. The total cost is \$375 for payroll for five paid counselors at a minimum wage for ten hours each. Marybeth Hendley added that several parents have made monetary donations as well as food donations. There is a Permission/Waiver Form for parents to sign for the 25 – 30 campers who plan to be in attendance. There will be a 4 to 1 ratio of campers to counselors. Steve Wyka made a **motion** granting permission to hold the sleepover event on August 15, 2008; Maryann Lantz seconded the motion. All in favor.

ROADMASTER REPORT

Report for July, 2008.

OLD BUSINESS

Don Siegfried announced and approved a wage increase be granted to Ed Bender based on additional hours worked over what he was originally appointed to do. The new salary is retroactive to the first pay period in July, 2008.

Steve Wyka made a **motion** granting a wage increase to Ed Bender effective the first pay period in July, 2008; Maryann Lantz seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approval was given to finalize the purchase of a new black and colored ink copier for the Township Office from Fraser Advanced Business Systems. The proposed copier will be a Sharp Model #MX-4501N at a cost of \$11,100.00 to be purchased outright. The Treasurer will arrange self-finance through a loan from the Capital Reserve Fund which shall be and paid back over time. The proposal includes a \$200 trade-in on the old machine under State Contract #101802.

Maryann Lantz made a **motion** authorizing the purchase of a Sharp Model #MX-4501N Copier for the Longswamp Township Office at a cost of \$11,100; Steve Wyka seconded the motion. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Southern Management Corp. Tax Credit - Bear Creek

The Solicitor discussed litigation concerning Southern Management Tax Credit – Bear Creek. No action has been taken. The matter will be discussed in Executive Session.

Graffiti Removal Program/Prisoner Work Release Program

A letter was received from the County of Berks – Court Administration Services Center notifying the Board that Berks County has a three-year grant available at no cost to every Township and Borough in the county

for graffiti removal. They anticipate the program to be operational by August 15, 2008. There is no Ordinance required to participate in the program. A copy of the letter will be sent to Scott Miller, Public Works so he is aware the program is available to the Township. Jennifer Wassell-Bonser will also get clarification directly from the Graffiti Abatement Coordinator, Steven Harranty, in order to get more details on how a private residence would be handled.

PA Dutch School

Approval was granted for Dutch School to be held in the Longswamp Township Meeting Room every Thursday night from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. starting September 4, 2008 and ending December 11, 2008. There will be a \$10.00 registration fee for each attendee which will in turn be given to the Township to cover expenses such as heating, electrical, etc. Steve Wyka made a **motion** to grant approval for use of the Township Meeting Room for Dutch School; seconded by Maryann Lantz. All in favor.

Issue a Township Cell Phone To Michael Salvadge

Maryann Lantz made a **motion** authorizing issuance of a Township cell phone to Michael D. Salvadge of the Park Maintenance and Road Crew Department; Steve Wyka seconded the motion. All in favor.

Payroll Processing for New Township Secretary

Maryann Lantz made a **motion** appointing Jennifer Wassell-Bonser as the Longswamp Township Secretary. Don Siegfried clarified the starting wage structure as a new employee as per the current Employee Manual as well as the 60-day probation period. He also clarified it would be legal for Jennifer to sign township documents as the Township Secretary as of her appointment date, August 4, 2008. Barbara Ebert will also continue as a Consultant for the new Secretary as needed. Steve Wyka made a **motion** approving a beginning wage of \$16.00 per hour for Jennifer Wassell-Bonser; Maryann Lantz seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approval of Temporary Mobile Home Replacement Escrow Agreement (Sutliff)

Maryann Lantz made a **motion** approving a temporary mobile home replacement escrow agreement in the amount of \$2,000 to Mark and Angela Sutliff of 14 Wetzel Road; seconded by Steve Wyka. All in favor.

RECORD NOTES

None at this time

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Steve Wyka made a **motion** to approve processing for payment, bills totaling \$67,572.70 and transfers totaling \$44,945.17; Maryann Lantz seconded that motion. Roll Call Vote: Maryann Lantz, Yes; Don Siegfried, Yes; Steve Wyka, Yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

BOARD COMMENTS

Following this meeting, the Board of Supervisors will be holding an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Steve Wyka made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.; Maryann Lantz seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer A. Wassell-Bonser

Township Secretary