

DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR MEETING

March 4, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at the Doylestown Township Municipal Building, 425 Wells Road, Doylestown, PA. Members of the Board of Supervisors in attendance included Barbara Lyons, Chairman, E. Thomas Scarborough, Jr., Vice Chairman, Barbara Eisenhardt, Cynthia Philo, and Jeffrey Bennett. Others in attendance included Jeffrey Garton, Township Solicitor, Lieutenant Dean Logan, Police Department Mario Canales, Township Engineer, and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Lyons noted that Ms. Eisenhardt will be taping the meeting tonight along with Liz Vile, Recording Secretary.

PRESENTATIONS:

Central Bucks Family YMCA:

Herb Sudfeld, Esquire, Eugene Smith, Central Bucks Family YMCA and Eric Clase, Engineer with Gilmore & Associates was present to discuss the proposed expansion of the Central Bucks Family YMCA. They also discussed six items of relief from the zoning ordinance that they will seek from the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Sudfeld said the expansion includes a new aquatic facility, additional parking, expansion of the Wellness Center, children's special needs facility, childcare facility, older adult programs, and a children's activity area. The variance for relief of the 100 foot setback to relocate a picnic pavilion is not necessary because the pavilion will be located beyond the 100 ft. setback.

The variance requests are as follows:

1. To permit the detention basin/playfield within 100 ft. of the property line.
2. To remove the building setback along a collector road from 68 feet to 58 feet in the location of the proposed building addition.
3. To reduce the required amount of parking from 499 spaces to 400 spaces.
4. To permit more than 30 parking spaces between planting strips and also not to provide planting strips between rows of parking within the proposed parking area located along Lower State Road.
5. To permit paving within 25 feet of a building.
6. To permit parking in the front yard along Lower State Road.

Ms. Eisenhardt expressed concerns about not having enough parking and inquired about banking parking spaces in reserve in case they are needed for the future.

Mr. Sudfeld agreed that if there is additional parking needed, we will provide it.

Ms. Lyons asked for any public comments.

John Everett, 11 Turk Road, asked whether the Township has a mechanism for enforcing the applicant to have more parking?

Solicitor Garton replied yes, and it will be crafted as a condition of the decision and the Township can enforce that decision.

George Guise, resident, asked if the applicant is required to provide additional parking, what does the Township require with regards to exit/entrance of the property?

Ms. Philo replied it will be looked at.

Ms. Eisenhardt made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Philo to not send the Township Solicitor to the ZHB conditioned upon the applicant put in writing that they will have additional parking in reserve across the creek as shown on the plan of the land adjacent to Teversall.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Proposal to Cablecast Township Meetings:

Kurt Krause, TAB (Telecommunications Advisory Board), provided a written proposal to cablecast Township meetings to the Board. (See attached to minutes).

Ms. Eisenhardt asked about microphones for residents.

Mr. Krause replied there will be a pedestal microphone setup for public speakers.

Ms. Philo made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to move forward with the plan to cablecast Township meetings.

Mr. Bennett asked for the amount budgeted for this project.

Ms. Mason replied \$19,700.

Mr. Bennett said he supports the idea of televising meetings; however, he expressed concerns about using volunteers to televise the meetings as they may not be as reliable as paid staff and may compromise the integrity of the meeting. He asked about an alternative to paying someone to do it and for the cost.

Mr. Krause replied we did not obtain any cost estimates for that.

Ms. Lyons asked for any public comments.

Joe Paternostra, resident, asked about using directional microphones for public use and suggested hiring someone to televise the meetings if a volunteer does not show up.

John Everett, Turk Road, asked about looking into the possibility of archiving the meetings and playing them back on the Township website.

Mr. Krause replied that is an option.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Bill Lahr, Bunker Hill Road, expressed concerns about the left-hand turn lane at the traffic light at Rt. 611 and Almshouse Road.

The Board directed Ms. Mason to contact Armour & Son and Pennoni & Associates, the township consultant, to inspect it to make sure it is operating per the permit and report back at the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Lyons announced that the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2008.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 19, 2008:

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2008 Board of Supervisors meeting.

One addition and one correction were made as follows: Page 5 – Public Hearing – The vote: MOTION FAILED 2-3. Ms. Philo, Mr. Scarborough and Ms. Eisenhardt opposed. Page 9 - spelling correction – Doris Clegg, EAC Chairperson.

Mr. Bennett asked for the legal requirements of what is to be included in the minutes.

Solicitor Garton replied the minutes are at the discretion of the Board. The minimum requirements are: attendance, time/day of meeting, any action taken and the vote on that action and comments from the public.

Joe Paternostra, resident, commented that since the Board will have visual copies of the meetings; why worry about the minutes.

Mr. Bennett indicated that he will provide his comments about the minutes in an email to the Board.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no report.

REPORTS:

Solicitor: There was no report.

Township Engineer: There was no report.

Police Chief: There was no report.

Township Manager: There was no report.

Supervisors:

Ms. Philo commented that she attended an open space meeting regarding the Special Equestrian Center.

Mr. Scarborough commented that Stuart Simon, who spent 10 years on the Telecommunications Advisory Board, has left and should be recognized for his service.

Ms. Eisenhardt commented regarding the RFP request that is going out for the potential on lot site inspection project in the Pebble Ridge area; she is concerned about those who respond to the RFP presenting permission slips to the homeowners of each lot or property, and that it would be cost prohibitive for them to pay their engineers to do it. That matter should come back to the Township. The RFP's are due on March 10th and she would like to be there when they are opened.

Solicitor Garton suggested that if any homeowner has a problem, they should contact the Township as opposed to asking for permission slips to be returned.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Doylestown Hospital Authority Bond Issue 2008:

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to approve the resolution No. 1401 for the Doylestown Hospital Authority Bond Issue 2008.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hancock Group Proposed LI & C1 to C2 Zoning Change:

Ms. Eisenhardt expressed concerns about an offer to the Township of a free sewer line for residents to tap into and she would challenge that the Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority does not put a second sewer line every place there is a restaurant. She made a MOTION to TABLE until there is further information from the BCWSA before advertising a Public Hearing.

David Shafkowitz, representing the applicant, the Hancock Group, asked the Board to consider the request for advertising for the proposed rezoning, and said that any concerns of the Board will be addressed at the Public Hearing.

James Bingler, 29 Turkey Lane, asked is it a problem taking such a large parcel from one district and placing it another district.

Mr. Shafkowitz replied the issue is not the designation of the zoning district; it is the uses that are permitted in these districts.

Doris Clegg, EAC Chairman, proposed that the Board of Supervisors meet with the Planning Commission to discuss updating the Comprehensive Plan.

MOTION to TABLE FAILED 1-4. Mr. Bennett, Ms. Philo, Ms. Lyons, and Mr. Scarborough opposed.

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Bennett to approve advertising a Public Hearing for the Hancock Group proposed LI & C1 to C2 zoning change.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-1. Ms. Eisenhardt opposed.

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Eagle Scout Proclamations:

Kyle W. Wood, Troop 71:

Ms. Philo made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to approve the Proclamation of Kyle W. Wood, Troop 71.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Zachary Robert Thorne, Troop 130:

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to approve the Proclamation of Zachary Robert Thorne, Troop 130.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

2008 Sounds of Summer- Performers Contracts:

Ms. Eisenhardt made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Bennett to approve the 2008 Sounds of Summer Performers Contracts of BAM Percussion and Vital Theater Company.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

2008 Oktoberfest –Skelly’s Amusements Contract:

Ms. Eisenhardt made a MOTION, seconded by Mr. Bennett to approve the 2008 Oktoberfest – Skelly’s Amusements Contract.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Sweeper Contract Bid:

Ms. Philo made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to approve the Sweeper Contract Bid to RMC Clean Sweep in the amount of \$11,600.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

2008 Sign and Post Bid:

Mr. Bennett made a MOTION, seconded by Ms. Eisenhardt to approve the 2008 Sign and Post Bid per Mr. John’s memo dated 2/28/08.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

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ANNOUNCEMENT:

Ms. Lyons announced that the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Mason, Township Manager

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