

## **DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**July 20, 2010**

The Regular Meeting of the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at the Doylestown Township Municipal Building, 425 Wells Road, Doylestown, PA. Members of the Board of Supervisors in attendance included Chairman; Barbara N. Lyons, Vice Chairman; E. Thomas Scarborough, Jr., Supervisors: Cynthia M. Philo and Richard F. Colello. Others in attendance included Township Manager; Stephanie J. Mason, Director of Operations; Richard E. John, Township Solicitor; Jeffery P. Garton, Chief of Police; Stephen J. White and Township Engineer; Mario Canales

Absent: Supervisor: Barbara Eisenhardt

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Ms. Lyons announced the Board met in Execution Session, prior to the meeting, to discuss matters of litigation and contract.

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**

##### W. Andrew McPherson Brick Dedication

Vice Chairman and Solicitor of the Zoning Hearing Board; Mr. William Lahr III and William J. Bolla presented Chairman; Mr. W. Andrew McPherson with a brick that will be placed in Triangle Park, commemorating his long standing services with the Fire Police and Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Bolla read a letter from District Attorney; David W. Heckler, in which he thanked Mr. McPherson for his knowledge, judgment and leadership. Mr. Lahr then read a letter from ZHB Secretary; Mr. William Hodgkiss, congratulating Mr. McPherson on his 25 years of service with the Zoning Hearing Board and 10 years with the Fire Police.

Upon introducing his family, Mr. McPherson thanked the Zoning Hearing Board and Board of Supervisors for their recognition.

##### PECO Green Region- Ted Dorand

PECO representative; Ted Dorand and Diane C. Rosencrance, RLA of Nature Lands Trust presented the Board of Supervisors with a Green Region Grant in the amount of \$7,500.00 for the township's work with open space preservation. The grant will go towards the trail segment to enhance the Environmental Activity Center in central park for educational programs.

On behalf of PECO Energy, Mr. Dorand congratulated and thanked Mr. McPherson on his service.

**VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Resident; Mrs. Andrea Marino of 30 Radcliffe Drive questioned when the Route 202 Parkway road construction will actually begin. Currently construction has not begun and pedestrians can walk and bike across Wells Road, but no vehicular. Ms. Marino voiced her dismay with the detours that are very cumbersome and inconvenient, the traffic light at Lower State and New Britain Road causes more traffic due to the newly installed traffic light preventing drivers from making a right hand turn, and construction trucks parked behind her home during the weekend.

Chief White indicated the Route 202 Parkway project is overseen by PennDot, which indicated that Wells Road will be closed for 13 months, but although it's an inconvenience, the detour is required for the safety of motoring public. Ms. Philo added a request has been placed to PennDot to remove the No Right Hand Turn on Red signage and are currently working on changing the timing of the traffic light to alleviate traffic. Finally, Chief White reassured Mrs. Marino that he will personally contact the foreman of the construction crew to see if equipment can be stored elsewhere during non-working hours.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Board of Supervisors will **NOT** hold a meeting on Tuesday, August 3, 2010

The next Board of Supervisors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 17, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Sounds of Summer Concerts Series continue with The Bronx Wonderers on July 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., Central Park and the Christopher Dean Band on July 28 at 7:00 p.m., Chapman Park. Details on [www.doylestownpa.org](http://www.doylestownpa.org).

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) is conducting a youth award contest; deadline is September 15, 2010. All interested parties, such as Key Clubs, CB Cares, and Boy and Girls Scouts groups should contact the township for an application or at [http://www.psats.org/programs\\_awards\\_youth.html](http://www.psats.org/programs_awards_youth.html)

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION to accept the June 15, 2010, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Philo with corrections.

Page 3, under Doylestown Dog Park Title; Change sentence to read – *In May, 2010 the Bucks County Commissioners gave permission for a dog park, upon a letter from the Board of Supervisors indicating approval of Turk Park III as the proposed field for a dog park.*

MOTION was ADOPTED 3 to 0, Ms. Philo abstained.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORTS:**

**SOLICITOR:** No Report

CHIEF OF POLICE: No Report

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER: No Report

TOWNSHIP MANAGER:

Resignation of Ms. Martha Gasparian

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION to accept Ms. Martha Gasparian's resignation from the Performing Arts Committee with regrets, seconded by Ms. Philo.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 0.

Mrs. Lyons requested the Performing Arts Council position be added to the Board and Commission vacancies and advertised in September of 2010.

Mr. Colello made a MOTION to nominate Ms. Judy Hendrickson to the UCC Board of Appeals due to her application being recently accepted, seconded by Ms. Philo.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 0.

**SUPERVISORS:**

Mr. Scarborough with sadness announced the passing of Walter Berry, Chairman of the Vacancy Board and member of the Municipal Authority. He then requested these vacancies be added to the September advertisement of the Board and Commissions vacancies.

Mr. Scarborough then requested Board consider establishing recognition for Mr. Berry's years of support and participation with the township, in the form of possibly a park bench or brick.

Mrs. Colello informed the public of several pending items to include...

- 1) The Ways and Means Committee is currently working on the township's proposed 2011 budget. Mr. Colello commended the group of residents who are working very hard to establish a very difficult budget.
- 2) The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is currently reviewing the solar ordinance to provide their comments.
- 3) On July 27, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Doylestown Administrative Offices, the EAC will be conducting an energy seminar. Mr. Colello encourages any resident who is interested in attending to please arrive early for the seminar and often. The seminar will feature home energy audit, innovative installation technology and solar voltaic and water technology.
- 4) The TAB is also reviewing many of the information that will be shown on Doylestown Television (DTV), Channels 22 and 31.
- 5) The Planning Commission submitted the final draft of the Ground Water ordinance to Township Engineer;

Mario Canales to be presented to the Board of Supervisors by September.

- 6) At the last Doylestown Boro meeting a proposed cell tower will be affect several township residents along Shady Retreat Road.
- 7) The Bike and Hike Committee recently met with residents regarding Destination Peace Valley with positive results.
- 8) TAB Board is currently improving broadcasts on Doylestown Television.
- 9) Traffic Advisory has been working on traffic light issues between Lower State and New Britain Roads by monitoring the detours traffic, with no speeding to report. The committee is also looking into traffic issues along Pebble Hill Road and Edison Furlong. A signage change is in place to address little no room to turn and a one lane bridge.

Ms. Philo added the Traffic Advisory Committee is going forward in performing a traffic calming study along Saurman Road. Currently the committee is searching for funding to support the project. Ms. Philo then thanked the police department for their assistance with traffic control on Steeplechase Road.

Mrs. Lyons informed the Board of an ongoing management issue with Colonial Heritage Park community. Colonial Heritage is privately owned by GSP Management who are not responsive to tenant concerns, such as oil leaks, bad meters and insufficient electricity. Since the tenants have no recourse, Mrs. Lyons proposes a meeting with representatives of GSP Management and their attorney; Peter Harrison to meet with residents at Colonial Heritage, Township Police and Code Enforcement, PECO Energy, Department of Environmental Protection, and Bucks County Health Department in order to address all concerns. Mrs. Lyons stated this meeting is necessary due to several attempts by herself, the township Code Enforcement and Police departments to have GSP Management acknowledge numerous code and safety violations around the community.

Colonial Heritage Park resident; Dave addressed the Board with his experiences by indicating the rent is raised \$25.00 each year with no proof the increase is being applied to improvements. There have been oil leaks for over three years and a malfunctioning oil meter was installed to his unit, which provided incorrect readings. He confronted the maintenance department, who indicated the meter was malfunctioning, but the management company continues to bill customers incorrect oil readings and threatens to evict them if payment is not made.

Ms. Philo questioned if the tenants have submitted a class action suit against the management company. Dave answered that only Consumer Protection has been notified with no response.

Dave concluded by informing the Board of the electrical system provided to the community is obsolete and in serious need of replacement and residences in need of oxygen are left without electricity for days.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Request Authorization to Advertise Proposed Ordinance – Solar Energy

Mr. Garton advised the Board of a memorandum from the Environmental Advisory Council with recommendations to the Solar Energy ordinance, which may have not been reviewed by the Planning Commission. Ms. Mason indicated the commission is scheduled to review the recommendations at their next meeting of July 26, 2010.

The Board agreed by consensus to table advertisement for the Solar Energy Proposed Ordinance until the next Board of Supervisor meeting on August, 17, 2010.

Mrs. Lyons questioned Township Planning Consultant; Judy Stern Goldstein of any ordinance recorded preventing the disposal of prescription medications into the water systems. Ms. Stern Goldstein indicated there is no record listed on Zoning, Subdivision Land Development ordinances or Township's Code Enforcement.

Mrs. Lyons requested the Township look into creating an ordinance to prevent the disposal of prescription medications into the water system to prevent a health hazard. Mr. Scarborough informed Mrs. Lyons the Environmental Advisory Council has been working on an ordinance for Board's review in the future.

Chief White added the Drug Enforcement Administration has been searching for funding to have most communities enact a procedure, due to current actions being a violation with the Clean Water Act.

Emergency Hook-Up – 83 Buck Road

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION to approve an emergency hook-up provided to Mr & Mrs. Michael Moore of 83 Buck Road, due to the failing septic system, seconded by Ms. Philo.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 0.

Resolution-Opposition to Forced Local Government Mergers and Consolidation

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION to have Doylestown Township take a strong position and opposition to the state trying to mandate joining with other municipalities to become a larger municipality whereby the County of Bucks or other larger municipality would run the local government as drafted, seconded by Mr. Colello.

Mr. Scarborough believes it's a great idea to function as a local municipality in order for residences to express themselves.

Mrs. Lyons informed the public the resolution does not prevent municipalities from voluntarily merging, however the local municipalities will be making the decision that is not mandated by the state in order to make sensible decision in the most efficient and effective way.

Ms. Philo agreed that local government is very important, however is not sure what the cost savings potential could be to the residences, because it's making less government. Also Ms. Philo informed the public of a hearing on Capitol Hill on August 17, 2010 regarding Senate Bill 1357 and House Bill 2431 has been referred to the Local Government Committee since April, so nothing will be happening soon, but the township should keep an eye on the progress.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 0.

Zoning Hearing Board – Special Exception and Variance for 110 Tedwill Road

The Board agreed by consensus to forward a request for special exception and variance at 110 Tedwill Road to the Zoning Hearing Board.

**BILL'S LIST**

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION to approve both the June 25, 2010 Bill's List in the amount of \$800,786.00 and the July 20, 2010 Bill's List in the amount of \$447,716.51, seconded by Mr. Colello.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 0.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION to approve the July 16, 2010 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Colello.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4 to 0.

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**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by;

Stephanie J. Mason, Secretary