

WORK SESSION  
March 3, 2009

A Work Session of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA at 7:30 PM for the purpose of reviewing the agenda of the March 3, 2009 Supervisors' Meeting. Chairman Joseph J. Palmer was present with Supervisors Brian W. Young, Anthony F. Greco, William L. McKernan III, and Adam D. Zucker. Township Solicitor James J. Garrity, Township Manager Phyllis C. Lieberman, Assistant Township Manager/Township Engineer Roman M. Pronczak, Police Chief Mark Smith, Director of Public Works Ronald J. Cione, Director of Code Enforcement Michael E. McAndrew, Fire Marshal David M. Camarda, and Director of Parks and Recreation Kurt W. Baker were also present. District Justice John Murray and three members of the public were present. Director of Finance John Marcarelli was absent.

The Supervisors reviewed the agenda discussing the swearing in of a new police officer, Sean Beitler, approval of the minutes of the February 17, 2009 Supervisors' Meeting, approval of the February 2009 Voucher List, approval of an agreement between the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Whitpain Township pertaining to a grant for retrofitting an existing Township owned stormwater detention basin in Village Circle for the purpose of improving water quality, a motion to authorize the Township Manager to advertise for bids for retrofitting an existing stormwater detention basin in Village Circle, and adoption of Resolution Number 886, welcoming Rabbi Joshua B. Kalev of Tiferet Bet Israel to the community and announcing his official installation, which will be held on the weekend of April 17-19, 2009.

Mrs. Lieberman noted that staff had met with Mr. Zucker to discuss the Waste System Authority Survey, had completed it and copied the proposed response to rest of the Board. She asked if the Supervisors were satisfied with the response. After some discussion, the Supervisors said they were. The general nature of the response was that we are uncertain at this time as to whether Whitpain will participate in our present means of trash disposal after the service agreement expires. The general consensus was that pricing will be a major factor.

Mrs. Lieberman then explained to the Supervisors that at the last meeting in a discussion about the Renaissance Kitchen and Bath Zoning Hearing Board application, she had misspoken when she said that the Board had voted to oppose the application. She noted that the Planning Commission had voted to oppose and the subject had been discussed during a work session with the Board, but the Supervisors never formally voted to oppose. The application has been heard by the Zoning Hearing Board and has been denied. The applicant is seeking a suitable site for the storage of materials that are presently on site.

Mr. Baker then spoke to the Supervisors about problems he is having with the Wissahickon School District regarding the Township's summer camp program. One issue is the cost proposal received from the district for the seventh week custodial service and the other is their allowing another for profit camp to use the same facility at the same time. He has spoken to the Superintendent and has gotten no response. After some discussion, the Supervisors said that they would contact the President of the Board.

Mr. Camarda noted that he had previously suggested that the Supervisors enact a resolution supporting the next edition of the International Residential Building Code regarding residential fire sprinklers and notifying the legislature not to remove that section when it enacts the code. He explained that the last time he brought it up the Supervisors asked for more information which he has now supplied to them. He said it only affects new housing, not additions or renovations. The Supervisors asked how much it would add to the price of a new home. He said about \$1.50 to \$2.80 per square foot. One member of the public said that he didn't want the government to regulate him anymore that it has to. The matter is still on hold.

Mrs. Lieberman noted that Mr. Bellevance had contacted her and said that the Historical Society would be paying for the roof of the 1895 Building itself and now just wants a 30 year lease extension. The Supervisors said that would be fine. Mr. Garrity will prepare the new lease.

The Supervisors then left for the public meeting

The Work session was reconvened at 8:40 PM.

The Supervisors discussed one legal matter, Wings Field and one personnel matter.

The Work Session was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

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Phyllis C. Lieberman  
Whitpain Township Manager

## #5-2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA. Supervisors Joseph J. Palmer, Brian W. Young, Anthony F. Greco, Adam Zucker, and William L. McKernan were present. Township Manager Phyllis Lieberman, Township Engineer/Assistant Township Manager, Roman Pronczak, Township Solicitor, James J. Garrity, Police Chief Mark A. Smith, Code Enforcement Officer, Michael E. McAndrew, Park and Recreation Director, Kurt W. Baker Director of Public Works, Ronald J. Cione, Fire Marshal, David M. Camarda, and Recording Secretary, Michele Alifano were also present. Director of Finance, John Marcarelli was absent. There were ten members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

For the first order of business, Chairman Palmer introduced a new police officer, Sean Beitler, to the Board of Supervisors and presented a brief detail of his background. Mr. Beitler was sworn in by District Justice John S. Murray, III.

Chairman Palmer explained that the Board will now be asking for public comment at the beginning of the meeting, and Mr. Young called for any public comments or questions regarding any of the agenda items. Mrs. Elizabeth Armento, who lives in close proximity to the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, expressed her concerns over the upcoming expansion project that she believes may compromise land, air, and water quality in her neighborhood. She was specifically concerned with the contaminant, cadmium, and overall air emissions from vehicles and road construction. Mr. Young asked Mrs. Armento if she had been in contact with the PA Turnpike Commission and what it was that she wanted the Board of Supervisors to do to assist her. Mrs. Armento stated she would like to have access to the results of an environmental impact study that was conducted by the Turnpike Commission, which she believed the Township had in their possession. Mr. Pronczak responded by saying that all of the documents the Township has in their possession are available for public review. He added that the studies which have been conducted mainly focus on noise that could present a problem. It was determined that cadmium was not a danger to the community. The Department of Environmental Protection was asked to get involved, and their organization responded in writing with their findings. Mr. Palmer acknowledged the concerns of Mrs. Armento as being valid, and he remarked that he had attended numerous Turnpike Commission meetings, and he was under the impression that they had communicated with Mrs. Armento. Mr. Zucker suggested that Mrs. Armento attend an upcoming environmental summit that is being held by Representative Gerber at Upper Merion Township on March 5, 2009, in order to speak to representatives from the DEP and possibly the Turnpike Commission.

Dr. Patrick Kane communicated his questions regarding the Township's 2009 budget, specifically addressing wasteful spending in the category of emergency services, and he inquired as to whether or not taxes had been raised. Chairman Palmer responded that taxes had not been raised and he also invited Dr. Kane, an emergency room physician at Mercy Suburban Hospital, to attend a future meeting with fire personnel in which the costs of quality responsiveness are discussed.

Mr. Jack Devitt had a question regarding the use of the fishing pond at Prophecy Creek Park and its regulation by the PA Fish & Game Commission. Mr. Baker replied that the Township needs to set up a meeting with the agency to have them come out and inspect the pond before it can be opened for use by the public.

There being no further public comment, the Board continued with the remaining items on the agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Zucker, duly seconded by Mr. McKernan, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2009 Supervisors' Meeting. Chairman Palmer and Mr. Young recused themselves from the vote, as they were not present at the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Young, duly seconded by Mr. Zucker, and unanimously passed approve all expenditures on the February, 2009 Voucher List.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. McKernan, and unanimously passed to approve an agreement between the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Whitpain Township pertaining to a grant for retrofitting an existing Township owned stormwater detention basin in Village Circle for the purpose of improving water quality.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. McKernan, and unanimously passed to authorize the Township Manager to advertise bids for retrofitting an existing stormwater detention basin in Village Circle.

A motion was made by Mr. Zucker, duly seconded by Mr. Greco, and unanimously passed to adopt Resolution Number 886, welcoming Rabbi Joshua B. Kalev of Tiferet Bet Israel to the community and announcing his official installation which will be held on the weekend of April 17-19, 2009. Mr. Zucker read the wording of the Resolution aloud to inform the public of the significance of the event.

Mr. Young then called for any comments or questions from the Board. There were none. He then called for comments or questions from the audience. There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Young the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony F. Greco, Secretary