

WORK SESSION
April 7, 2009

A Work Session of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, April 7, 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 April 7, 2009 Supervisors' Meeting. Chairman Joseph J. Palmer was present with Supervisors Brian W. Young, Anthony F. Greco, and Adam D. Zucker. Supervisor William L. McKernan III was absent. Township Solicitor James J. Garrity, Township Manager Phyllis C. Lieberman, Assistant Township Manager/Township Engineer Roman M. Pronczak, Director of Finance John Marcarelli, 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. Three members of the public and one reporter were present.

The Supervisors reviewed the agenda discussing an announcement about a previous Executive Session and receipt of the Tree City USA Award for the consecutive year, approval of the minutes of the March 17, 2009 Supervisors' meeting, approval of the March 2009 Voucher List, adoption of Resolution Number 889 proclaiming April Earth Day in Whitpain Township, a public hearing on proposed Ordinance #312 providing for stop signs at the intersections of Grant Avenue and Lee Road and Grant Avenue and Cherry Lane, and a public hearing on proposed Ordinance #4-226 deleting Chapter 160 of the Code of the Township in its entirety as it existed prior to Ordinance #4-223 adopted by the Board of Supervisors on August 5, 2008 and replacing it with a new Chapter 160 entitled "Zoning."

Mrs. Lieberman noted that on April 9, 2009 Chief Mark Smith will have worked for the Township for 30 years. The Board congratulated him for his service.

Mr. Palmer stated that a long time resident of Penlynn Blue Bell Pike had asked if the road's name could be changed to Blue Bell Pike or Blue Bell Road. He noted that the portion of the road from Township Line Road to Stenton Avenue had that designation previously. After some discussion the Supervisors agreed to poll the community to determine who would and would not be in favor if it.

Mrs. Lieberman and Mr. Pronczak then showed the Supervisors the new signs the WVWA was suggesting to be placed on the properties they own in the Township. The Supervisors liked the signs, but on the properties jointly purchased with the Township asked that the Whitpain logo be larger. Also, on the Armentrout Preserve they asked that the sign indication access from both Beale Road and Miles Drive.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if the Supervisors were ready to make the appointment to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission at their next meeting. They said they were and to place it on the next public agenda.

Mrs. Lieberman and Mr. Pronczak stated that the Planning Committee had met with the owner of Parcel D of the COPT Property who said that he is now ready to participate in the discussions about the future of the site. No specifics were discussed.

The Supervisors then discussed a legal matter.

The Supervisors then left for the public meeting

The Work Session was reconvened at 8:30 PM. The Supervisors discussed two other legal matters.

The Work Session was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Phyllis C. Lieberman
Whitpain Township Manager

#7-2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA. Supervisors Joseph J. Palmer, Brian W. Young, Anthony F. Greco, and Adam Zucker were present. Township Manager Phyllis Lieberman, Township Engineer/Assistant Township Manager, Roman Pronczak, Township Solicitor, James J. Garrity, Director of Finance, John Marcarelli, 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. There were fifteen members of the public in attendance at the meeting. William L. McKernan, III was absent.

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

Chairman Palmer began the meeting with several announcements. The Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 8:30AM at the Township Building.

Chairman Palmer congratulated the members of the Shade Tree Commission, Joe Steuer, Joan Kniess, and Andrew Meehan for their dedication to the Township, and he congratulated their efforts which have been instrumental in Whitpain Township receiving its Tree City USA Award. Also, the Township has earned a Sterling Award Designation from the National Arbor Day Foundation. This designation has been awarded to only two other Pennsylvania communities.

Chairman Palmer announced that an Open House event is being held by the DEP to answer questions the public may have regarding the Bo-Rit site. Mr. Cione advised that the meeting would be held at 324 W. Maple in West Ambler on Saturday, April 18, 2009, from 9am to 12pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Zucker, to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2009 Supervisors' Meeting. Chairman Palmer called for any comments or questions on this item from the Board and the audience. There were none. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Young, duly seconded by Mr. Zucker, to approve all expenditures on the March, 2009 Voucher List. Chairman Palmer called for any comments or questions on this item from the Board and the audience. There were none. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Zucker, duly seconded by Mr. Greco, to adopt Resolution Number 889 which proclaims April 30, 2009 as Earth Day in Whitpain

Township. Chairman Palmer called for any comments or questions on this item from the Board and the audience. There were none. The motion passed unanimously.

As advertised, a public hearing was held for proposed Ordinance #312, an Ordinance amending The Code of The Township of Whitpain, Part II (General Legislation), Chapter 142 (Vehicles and Traffic), Section 142-21 (Stop Intersection Established) to designate the intersections of Grant Avenue and Lee Road and Grant Avenue and Cherry Lane as Three-Way Stop Intersection and provide for the erection of additional highway signs bearing the word "Stop" at certain designated corners of the intersections. Chairman Palmer called for any comments or questions on this item from the Board and the audience. Mr. Bob Whittock asked why it was necessary to add another stop sign at these intersections, because he did not feel that people obey the ones that are currently in place. Mr. Pronczak explained that there was an evaluation done on traffic calming devices, and it was found that in order to meet recognized safety standards, the Township would need to install the additional stop signs. The motion passed unanimously.

As advertised, a public hearing was held for proposed Ordinance #4-226, an Ordinance amending the Code of the Township of Whitpain, Part II (General Legislation), Chapter 160 (Zoning) by deleting Chapter 160 in its entirety as it existed prior to Ordinance No. 4-223, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on August 5, 2008, and replacing it with a new Chapter 160 entitled "Zoning". Chairman Palmer remarked that the supermajority clause that had been eliminated from the wording of the Ordinance was now being reinstated. Chairman Palmer then called for any comments or questions on this item from the Board and the audience. There were none. A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Zucker, and unanimously passed to adopt Ordinance #4-226.

Mr. Young then called for any comments or questions from the Board. There were none. He then called for any comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Bob Whittock voiced his concern over a dip in the road in the vicinity of Skippack Pike & Belfry Drive. Mr. Pronczak stated that attempts have been made to have CSX Corporation correct the problem, but to no avail. The Township does not have jurisdiction, as Route 73 is a state road. Mr. Cione added that the Public Works department has even offered to provide help with flagging at the work site. Mr. Pronczak was advised by CSX that the site is on their schedule for the repair work to commence, but the Township has not heard anything further. A complaint has been filed with the Pennsylvania Utilities Commission, and the office of Representative Kate Harper will be contacted regarding this matter.

Township resident, Erin Krump, requested that there be recycle bins placed at Township playgrounds and ball fields. Mr. Cione responded by saying that the Township can certainly look into providing the receptacles, but that it was a matter of what would be feasible within the budget. Mr. Young advised that there is a cost associated with paying the waste management companies to remove the materials once they have been collected by the Township. Mr. Cione stated that it would be possible to have some smaller containers placed at select locations.

Mr. Wes Runnels then addressed the Board of Supervisors regarding his Zoning Board Case, which requests a temporary tent that will be used for the sale of sparkler products, that is scheduled to be heard on April 16, 2009. Mr. McAndrew advised the Board that temporary non-conforming uses were eliminated from the Zoning code, and that applicants must now appear before the Zoning Hearing Board to request a variance for such uses. Mr. Runnels was advised to attend the meeting of the Whitpain Township Planning Commission which would be held on April 14, 2009.

Mr. Joseph Wallin, a previous Township resident whose daughter currently resides in the Township, addressed the Board regarding an issue of a trash truck taking down a lamp post outside his daughter's home. He explained that he had tried to resolve the issue with the trash company, but they had not been cooperative. Mr. Cione explained that he had tried to intervene to resolve the situation, by contacting the company back in January, and again approximately three weeks ago. Mr. Zucker advised that the Board of Supervisors does not have the power to intervene in this type of situation, but if there is a legitimate dispute, it can be taken before District Justice John Murray.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Young the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony F. Greco, Secretary