

**WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP
1645 ART SCHOOL ROAD
CHESTER SPRINGS, PA. 19425**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
DECEMBER 21, 2009**

The Board of Supervisors of West Pikeland Township met on December 21, 2009 at the Township Meeting Room. Those in attendance were Robert Shemonsky, Chairman; Richard Bright Jr., Vice Chairman; William Cracas, Supervisor, Ernie Holling, Supervisor; Harold Hallman III, Supervisor; Stephen J. Ross, Township Manager; Shane Clark, Chief of Police; Guy Donatelli, Solicitor; Harry Miller, Director of Facilities; Joan Cox, Treasurer, and Joan C. Matthews, Township Secretary.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** 7:30 P.M.

- II. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** - Mr. Shemonsky noted that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on December 10, 2009.

- III. MEETING MINUTE APPROVAL:** - Mr. Cracas made a motion to approve the minutes of November 16, 2009. Dr. Bright seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye with the exception of Mr. Holling who abstained.

- IV. PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD**

- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. Township Shed-Certificate of Appropriateness** – Mr. Ross stated that HARB has recommended that the Township restore the shed with new timbers and a roof. Mr. Ross has explained that the Township lacks the needed funds to preserve the deteriorating structure. Mr. Ross has received input from three people including John Matthews, Jack Brogan, and Mr. Cracas.
 - 1. John Matthews would like to retain an Amish carpenter to remove rotting wood and replace it with new wood for both the rafters and the vertical support pieces. Mr. Matthews envisions a “shed razing” event that could be a community social and fund raiser. Mr. Ross stated that he is currently awaiting cost estimates for “shrink wrapping” the building until such work can be completed.
 - 2. Jack Brogan provided the Township with a recommendation on May 20, 2008 suggesting photographing and measuring the shed, numbering, and saving any decent wood framing, and preserve the stone foundation.
 - 3. Mr. Cracas suggested a Certificate of Appropriateness for demolition of the shed, with numbering and storing of any decent wood framing in the barn at Pine Creek Park.Mr. Cracas made a motion to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness, dismantle the shed, number, and store decent wood framing, stabilize the foundation, and turn the interior part into a garden. Mr. Hallman

III seconded the motion. Mr. Hallman III asked if the current motion was an addendum to the motion made by the Board on September 28, 2009. Mr. Cracas stated that the current motion would follow procedure for a Certificate of Appropriateness for demolition of the shed. Mr. Holling suggested the Board seek a written opinion from the Pennsylvania Historic Commission to determine if the shed is historic. Mr. Cracas responded that the Commission has already been contacted the historic nature of the shed could not be determined. Mr. Matthews stated that the shed should be preserved and the Board should respect the recommendation of HARB. Mr. Shemonsky and Mr. Hallman III stated their concern regarding the safety of the shed and the liability to the Township. Mr. Shemonsky called the Board to order regarding the status of the motion. Mr. Holling, Dr. Bright, and Mr. Shemonsky voted Nay, Mr. Hallman III and Mr. Cracas voted Aye. Therefore, the motion did not carry. Mr. Shemonsky requested that the Township Manager with the assistance of Mr. Matthews, obtain proposals for the alternative ways to preserve the shed. Mr. Holling requested that the proposals be available for discussion at the January 19, 2010 meeting.

- B. Use of Air Horns in Pine Creek Park** – Mr. Ross reported that LYA has submitted an application for permission to use air horns during Lacrosse games at Pine Creek Park. The Park and Recreation Commission voted at their October 2009 meeting to reject “Sound Amplification” requests for air horns during recreational league play. Mr. Ross stated that the Township Solicitor is currently reviewing the Park Ordinance’s definition of amplification of sound. Mr. Holling made a motion to table the response to the LYA application for permission to use air horns in Pine Creek Park until the first meeting in March and direct the Solicitor to make appropriate legal modifications to the Park Ordinance to have more flexibility in the control of noise. Mr. Cracas seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting Aye with the exception of Mr. Hallman III who voted Nay. Mr. Hallman III stated he felt the Township should respond to LYA with an answer to their application. Mr. Shemonsky suggested Mr. Ross contact the Lacrosse Commissioner to discuss this matter.
- C. 2010 Budget Approval** – Resolution 2009-12-22 and 2010 Tax Rate – Resolution 2009-12-23 – Mr. Ross presented a power point program explaining both the revenues and expenditures for the 2010 Budget and an increase in the real estate taxes from .125 to .200 mills. Mr. Ross also reviewed the proposed expenditure goals for 2010. Mr. Hallman III requested that the Board consider repairing Horseshoe Trail Bridge and not continue to make immediate repairs. Mr. Hollings suggested that the 2010 Budget could be approved and the bridge issue could be addressed in 2010 after having an engineer review the needed repairs for actual costs involved. Mr. Freese stated that the Financial Review Committee has made a recommendation of a tax increase to .500. Mills. Mr. Holling stated that the Board could review the approved budget and review the current tax increase again in January 2010. Mr. Holling made a motion to approve Resolution 2009-12-22 amended to include Resolution 2009-12-23 appropriating the General Fund Budget estimated revenues at \$1,843,213, estimated

expenditures of \$1,737.835, Liquid Fuels, and estimated revenues of \$264,689.03 and estimated expenditures of \$233,000. with the Real Estate Tax rate of 0.2 mills. Mr. Cracas seconded the motion. Mr. Hallman III asked if there are any other tax increases or raises in amounts. Mr. Ross responded there is none. The motion carried with all voting Aye with the exception of Mr. Hallman III who voted Nay.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Bills for Approval** – Mr. Cracas made a motion to approve the bills submitted. Mr. Holling seconded the motion. Mr. Hallman III abstained from checks 2442 and 2456. After no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting Aye.
- B. **Anselma Crossing Land Development Extension** – Mr. Holling made a motion to approve the Anselma Land Development Extension to April 10, 2010. Dr. Bright seconded the motion. After no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting Aye with the exception of Mr. Cracas who abstained.
- C. **Chamber Music Series** – John Matthews stated that the Arts and Culture Committee is coordinating the winter/spring Chamber Music concert series to be held in the Black Box Theatre. Mr. Holling made a motion to approve the Chamber Music Winter Series in the Black Box Theatre to include concerts on the dates of February 7, 2010, March 7, 2010, and April 11, 2010 with a \$10.00 ticket price with each artist receiving \$200.00 per performance based on revenues received from ticket sales and business underwriters. If the sale of the tickets exceeds \$400.00, the Township will receive the proceeds. Dr. Bright seconded the motion. Mr. Hallman III requested that the Mr. Ross clarify the policy of funds with Mr. Matthews. Mr. William White stated that he thought the Township was going to hire a promoter to handle the Black Box and asked why that is not being accomplished. Mr. Hallman III stated he has suggested that the Township explore the possibility of the Township allowing an Authority to manage the Theatre. After no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting Aye.
- D. **Purchase Policy** – Mr. Ross stated he has submitted a proposed purchase procedure, as outlined that includes purchase order use. Mr. Hallman III stated that he has found an invoice and reimbursement policy previously used by the Township to compliment the proposed policy. Mr. Hallman III requested that the policy be tabled until further review of the additional documents and the handling of purchase orders by the police department during times of emergencies. Mr. Shemonsky noted that purchase orders could be implemented in 2010.
- E. **PECO Grant Resolution 2009-12-24** – Mr. Shemonsky made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-12-24 authorizing to execute and file the appropriate forms for the PECO Green Regional Grant Program requesting \$10,000.00 in funds for planning and improvements to further the Township passive recreation efforts, trails and protection of open space land. Mr. Cracas seconded the motion. Mr. Hallman III requested that Mr. Ross review the Green Region Grant awarded in

2006 to assure the Township can make a future application. After no further discussion, the motion carried with all voting Aye.

- F. **Horseshoe Trail Bridge Barricading** – Mr. Holling stated that he would like to address complaints he has received from residents regarding the method of barricading Horseshoe Trail Bridge during flooding. Mr. Holling stated that he has contacted NOAA regarding their studies of TADD, which specifies the dangers of moving water. Mr. Hollings stated that he has found that the risk of 6” of moving water creates a danger, which confirms the method of barricading the road. Mr. Holling will post the web page with this information. Mr. William White requested that this information also be included in the next newsletter.
- G. **Crack Sealing Mulberry Street** – Mr. Holling stated he has received complaints from residents of Mulberry Street claiming the Township did not crack seal the road correctly and left the road with an unsightly surface. Mr. Holling stated that he forwarded photographs to a construction company and PennDot who both indicated based upon the photos the treatment may have been performed incorrectly. Mr. Holling requested that the Township Engineer review the project to assure it be done correctly. Mr. Ross noted that PennDot approved the expenditure of funds for crack sealing as noted on the completion report, but doesn’t review the project for technical performance. Mr. Hallman III suggested the road be micro-surfaced to improve the look of the road. Mr. Shemonsky requested Mr. Ross have the Township Engineer review the road to assure it was done correctly and explore the possibility of having the road micro surfaced.

VII. REPORTS

- A. **Building/Zoning Officer** – Mr. Shemonsky read the November 2009 Building/Zoning Report.
- B. **Finance Committee** – Mr. Freese stated that the Committee is looking for an Alternate Member.
- C. **Fire and Ambulance** – Mr. Shemonsky read the reports of Kimberton, West End, Lionville, and Uwchlan Ambulance reports for November 2009. Mr. Hallman III stated that the EOC recently completed a Limerick Drill and would like letters of appreciation sent to all the members.
- D. **Police Report** – Chief Clark read the November 2009 Police Report.
- E. **Planning Commission** – Mr. Miller summarized the Planning Commission Meeting of November 9, 2010. Mr. Miller reported that the Planning Commission approved the Land Development Extension for Anselma Crossing.
- F. **Manager’s Report** – Mr. Ross summarized the Manager’s Report. Mr. Ross noted that the Act 537 Plan is currently being reviewed by DEP who will submit a report to the Township. Mr. Hallman III reported that he recently attended the Western Chester County Regional UCC Board Meeting on November 30, 2009. Mr. Hallman III stated that the Board is currently looking for qualified persons with construction experience to serve on the Board and requested any interested residents to contact him.
- G. **Treasurer’s Report** – Mr. Shemonsky read the Treasurer’s Report.

- H. Motion to Receive Reports – Mr. Ross noted that Mr. Holling has clarified that this motion is not necessary and will not be included in future agendas.
- I. **Recent Snow Storm** – Mr. Ross wish to thank and the Public Works, Snow Plow Team and Chief Clark for their successful efforts in clearing the Township roads during the recent snowstorm.
- J. **Holiday Stroll** - Mr. Shemonsky stated that the recent Holiday Stroll on December 4, 2009 was a great success and wished to thank Downing Hills Christian Fellowship Church, Joan Matthews, and others who contributed to the event.
- K. **Zoning Hearings** – Mr. Hallman III requested the Board of Supervisors receive copies of any Zoning Hearing Applications received by the Township for review and comment.
- L. **Recognition of Service** – Mr. Shemonsky presented Mr. Cracas with an appreciation plaque from the Township for his six years of service to the community as a Township Supervisor. Chief Clark also presented Mr. Cracas with an appreciation plaque from the Police Department. Mr. Cracas wished to thank his wife Janna for her work in making the community a better place to live.

VIII. PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

- A. **Bob Smith** requested that the Township Manager post the web page with the list and map of the properties that have been purchased by the Township.
- B. **John Henssler** stated he felt the Township Manager should send LYA a letter prohibiting the use of air horns at Pine Creek Park and the Board should be able to make that decision since they own the property.
- C. **John Matthews** stated that the ACMEC Barn is falling down. Mr. Donatelli stated that the current Ordinance does not contain requirements concerning disrepair.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Mr. Shemonsky noted that the Township Office will be closed on December 24, 25, 2009 and January 1, 2010 for the holidays.
- B. Mr. Shemonsky announced the Board of Supervisors Organization Meeting would be held on January 4, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
- C. Mr. Shemonsky announced the Board of Auditors Organizational Meeting would be held on January 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
- D. Mr. Shemonsky noted that the Township Office would be closed on Martin Luther King Day, January 18, 2010.
- E. Mr. Shemonsky announced that the next Board of Supervisors meeting would be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT-** Mr. Shemonsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan C. Matthews, Township Secretary

