

**THORNBURY TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES – March 15, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Thornbury Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Mike Gast at 7:12 P.M. in Thornbury Township's meeting room. In attendance were Supervisors Mike Gast, Chairman; Bob Miller, Vice Chairman; Bob Anthony and Ed Travis, Board Members. Brody Bovero, Township Manager and Kathy Labrum, Esq., Solicitor; also attended. An executive session was held before the regularly scheduled meeting to discuss real estate and personnel matters. Also present were four signed-in guests.

**II. WESTTOWN EAST GOSHEN POLICE REPORT – Sergeant Gorman**

Sergeant Gorman presented the February police report. There were 137 calls for service in Thornbury Township which constituted 13% of the total calls for the three townships.

John Blazik stated that there is a presence of the police at the intersection of Fox Meadow Lane and Brinton Lake Road. John also stated that he would to have the stop sign removed.

Ed Travis noted that 10 citations have been issued at that location.

**III. MANAGERS REPORT**

**Land Development and Subdivisions**

Brinton Village – Southern property line has been prepared for new landscaping.

Cheyney University – The MOU for the Carver Science Center sign was signed by the University and the Township. The University also obtained their NPDES permit from the Soil Conservation District. The Township has come to an agreement with the University and has withdrawn its appeal.

Mike Gast inquired about the salt shed at Cheyney.

Brody Bovero noted that we are moving forward.

**Road Maintenance**

Routine pothole repairs and limb debris clearing were conducted now that it appears the winter storms have ended.

## **Code Enforcement**

### February 2011 Code Enforcement Statistical Report

	<u>#</u>	<u>+/- from prev. 3 month avg.</u>
Building Permit Applications:	5	-1
Building Permits Issued:	2	-2
Certificates of Occupancy:	2	-1.7
Building Inspections:	7	-8.3
Site Inspections:	4	-6.7
Enforcement Actions:	1	-0.3
Code-related Complaint Responses:	1	-1

A site meeting was held with representatives of Caln Nether Co. to provide an overview of the timber harvest operation at the corner of Route 202 and Greentree Drive. A video recording documenting the condition of that portion of Greentree Drive which will be impacted by the project was made. A temporary driveway permit has been issued and escrow funds have been posted.

## **Grants & Financial Aid**

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, the Chester County Municipal Grant application for Squire Cheyney Park was submitted.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Brody Bovero met with the DCNR Regional Advisor to obtain direction in preparing the grant application for Squire Cheyney Park. This is an important step in preparing a competitive grant application.

## **Parks & Open Space**

The Planning Commission discussed the updated site plan for Squire Cheyney Park at their March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. The park plan was on the March 9<sup>th</sup> agenda of the Historical Preservation Commission meeting. The Parks and Recreation Commission will discuss the matter at the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The annual Goose Creek cleanup event is scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> at Goose Creek Park. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Teresa Destefano at the Township for time and directions.

The annual Thornbury Township Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm at Goose Creek Park.

## **Town Center**

Roof repairs were needed at the Goose Creek Grill due to recent wind storms.

## **Recycling**

The 2010 annual recycling reports have arrived from the private haulers. The reports indicate that Township residents and businesses recycled a total of 525.7 tons of material in 2010.

Mike Gast noted that while this is a good effort, we can do better. He will be following up on recycling to assure that we are receiving the maximum benefit from the program.

Bob Miller suggested that we get back to discussing this subject.

## **Administrative Items**

The annual audit was completed and, as required by law, was advertised in the local newspaper. Final copies will be distributed upon receipt from the auditor.

Brody Bovero noted that the numbers from the 2010 Census are coming in and the Township now has 3,017 residents, a 12.2% gain since the 2000 Census. There are 21 townships smaller than Thornbury and 51 with greater populations.

Bob Miller asked if we have the dates for the closing of Brinton Lake Road.

## **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **A. February 15, 2011 BOS Meeting**

**Mike Gast made a motion to approve the minutes with the administrative changes. The motion was seconded by Bob Miller. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

### **B. March 1, 2011 BOS Work Session**

**Bob Miller made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ed Travis. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

## **V. AGENDA BUSINESS**

### **1. Approval of Goose Creek Park/Town Center Mowing Contract Extension: TS Morris Landscaping Inc.**

Brody Bovero noted that this is the proposed Goose Creek Park/Town Center Mowing Contract Extension. This is the first of two possible renewals. The estimated cost is \$9,870.

**Ed Travis motioned to approve the Goose Creek Park/Town Center Mowing Contract Extension: TS Morris Landscaping Inc. The motion was seconded by Bob Miller. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

**2. Approval of Waln Run Park/Roadside Mowing Contract: Ralph E. Jennings**

Brody Bovero noted that this is the proposed Waln Run Park/Roadside Mowing Contract. The Township has the option of two possible renewals.

Roadside mowing includes three (3) cuttings at \$275 each for a total of \$825.00. Waln Run Park is cut approximately every three (3) weeks or as needed, as determined by the Township. The total contract is \$560.00 for seven (7) cuts at \$80.00 per cut.

**Ed Travis motioned the approval of Waln Run Park/Roadside Mowing Contract: Ralph E. Jennings. The motion was seconded by Mike Gast. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

**3. Brinton Village Escrow Release #21: \$26,300 Recommended Amount**

Mike Conrad stated that Yerkes Associates reviewed the escrow release for Brinton Village in the amount of \$28,752.30. They are recommending a release of \$26,300.00. The difference of \$2,452.30 is for item 91, street signs for the intersection of Caleb Drive with Street Road. Mike Conrad noted there is still escrow remaining for project completion.

**Bob Miller motioned the approval of Brinton Village Escrow Release #21: \$26,300 Recommended Amount. The motion was seconded by Ed Travis. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

**4. Authorize Advertisement for Temporary Political Signs Ordinance Amendment, April 19 2011**

Mike Gast stated that the Township wanted to make this ordinance fair to all residents and business. There are five points to this ordinance as follows:

- [1] Such sign was posted only with the permission of the landowner.
- [2] Such sign is posted a minimum of five (5) feet from the edge of pavement of any street in the Township.
- [3] Such sign does not block vehicle driving sight lines or present any other traffic safety hazard.

- [4] Such sign is posted no earlier than 21 days prior to the relevant election and is removed no later than three (3) days after the relevant election.
- [5] The size of such sign does not exceed 3 ½ square feet.

Ed Travis inquired as to what would happen if a sign is in the right of way.

Kathy Labrum noted that the homeowner does have the right to remove the sign.

Ed Travis asked if the ordinance will prohibit anyone from posting a sign on a pole.

Brody Bovero stated it will not as long as permission is obtained from the owner of the pole.

Ed Travis stated that maybe we should just keep the ordinance that is already in place except change the size of the signs.

Mike Gast noted that this proposed ordinance is simple. There are only five (5) items to keep people within the law.

Bob Miller noted that our current ordinance put everyone in violation. The new ordinance will ensure the signs will be in compliance.

Ed Travis removing the restriction for posting of the sign prior to the event and increasing required removal of the sign to seven (7) days after the election.

Kathy Labrum read the ordinance to the public with the removal of the restriction for posting of the signs prior to the election and changing the time for removal of such sign to (7) days after an election.

**Mike Gast motioned to authorize Advertisement for Temporary Political Signs Ordinance Amendment. The motion was seconded by Bob Anthony. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

## **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Blazik stated that he came in front of the Board back in August for some relief regarding his neighbor who is running a business from his home. He noted that the neighborhood is residential, and suggested that this is in violation of Township ordinances.

He stated that to date he sees more equipment on the property and also there are more advertisements indicating he is running a business from his home.

Brody Bovero stated that the Township does allow businesses like this in the Township. The Township has inspected the property and that the neighbor is in compliance with our current ordinance.

John Blazik directed his question to our solicitor for help with this matter. "What can you do to help me save my property? I have been fighting this for 10 years now."

Bob Miller noted that it is important that residents be allowed to run a business from their home. With that being said, there should be limits. Bob Miller asked if there are regulations and limits regarding home occupied businesses.

Kathy Labrum noted we have an ordinance about home business, but we don't regulate the number of vehicles he can have. Mr. Blazik can pursue violations of a nuisance ordinance.

Mike Gast stated that the zoning officer has been out and we have to look at two things here:

1. Did we do due diligence?
2. Should we change our laws?

Bob Miller stated that the Board can have Brody Bovero check out what other Townships do about home business.

Mike Gast suggested that we have a work session on this matter and that way we can try to resolve this matter.

## **VII. OTHER MATTERS**

None

## **VIII. COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **A. Planning Commission – Ed Travis**

The Planning Commission will be forwarding the Riparian Buffer Ordinance to the Board.

### **B. Historic Preservation Commission – Ed Travis**

The HPC reviewed the Squire Cheyney Park plan and were happy with the changes. They also committed to review an option for the house and barn submitted by Ed Travis which would allow the Township to retain ownership.

Bob Miller inquired about a sign on Ann's Parcel advertising the Preserve at Squire Cheyney development, and if it can be there.

Brody Bovero stated that we can move it.

**C. Council of Government – Mike Gast**

Meets on Thursday night

**D. Cheyney Liaison – Mike Gast**

**E. Park and Recreation – Mike Gast**

They are getting ready for the annual Egg Hunt on April 9, 2011

**IX. APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$110,148.29 – Bob Miller**

Bob Miller inquired about feedback with the change over from Berkheimer to Keystone Collections.

Brody Bovero stated that he attended the CCTC meeting and the transition has not gone smoothly so far. The database that was provided by Berkheimer to Keystone contained a corrupted file which caused some of the delays.

Ed Travis inquired what the alternative is.

Bob Miller presented the March bill list in the amount of \$110,148.29.

**Ed Travis motioned to approve the bill list. Bob Anthony seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

**X. ROAD MASTER REPORT**

Brody Bovero noted that he has spoken to the Township Manager at West Goshen about getting a brine solution for use on the roads for next season's winter snow/ice control. This will be a cost savings to the Township.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Bob Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bob Anthony seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Brody Bovero  
Township Manager/Secretary