

THORNBURY TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Work Session

MINUTES – April 6, 2010

The Thornbury Township Board of Supervisors work session was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Thornbury Township meeting room. In attendance were Supervisors: Mike Gast, Chairman; Robert Miller, Vice-Chairman, and Ed Travis, Board member. Also in attendance were Brody Bovero, Township Manager; Teresa DeStefano, Township Secretary; Kathy Labrum, Esq., Solicitor. An executive session was held after the meeting.

1. Hearing – Comprehensive Plan Amendment – Update to Historic Preservation Section

Mike Gast opened the hearing for the Comprehensive plan amendment.

Ray Ott from Ott Associates gave a brief description of the change to the Comprehensive plan amendment. Ray Ott noted that under Goals and Objectives just the wording was changed. Also under Cultural and Historic Resources there is a section for the 2009 Township Historic Resource Survey. He noted that Jane Dorchester did the survey and Jeannine Speirs from the Chester County Planning Commission oversaw the project.

Then under Plan for Protection of Historic Resources we added changes to Map 7C and under Historic and Scenic Resources.

Kathy Labrum noted that we will mark Map 7C as exhibit 1.

Ed Travis inquired about the area in yellow on the map.

Jane Dorchester noted that she nominated all three parcels on the registry.

Brody Bovero noted the public advertisement was published in the Daily Local News two (2) times on the following dates: March 22, 2010, and March 29, 2010.

Kathy Labrum noted that we will mark the publication as exhibit 2.

Mike Gast solicited public comment. No public comment was heard.

Mike Gast closed the hearing.

Ed Travis motioned to adopt the Comprehensive Plan Amendment – Update to Historic Preservation Section. Mike Gast seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bob Miller motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 pm. Ed Travis seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MANAGERS REPORT

Chester County Association of Township Officials Conference

CCATO held its annual conference on March 11th, 2010. Speakers from the state, county and PSATS discussed various municipal issues. In addition to transportation improvement updates, information was given on Act 167 storm water planning and financing for municipal buildings.

Meeting with County Recycling Coordinator

Brody Bovero met with Nancy Fromnick, County Recycling Coordinator, to open a dialogue regarding recycling programs throughout the county. As we begin to implement the new recycling ordinance, she will continue to be a resource for us.

PECO Tree Maintenance

PECO has been conducting their annual tree maintenance along power lines. There is no indication of any tree maintenance within the Township rights-of-way. We have been notified of work to be done on Street Road between South Concord Road and Route 202.

Road Maintenance

A resident on Westbourne Road notified the Township of a forming hole along a culvert on his street. Neff Construction has inspected it and suggests the metal stormwater pipe under the road has eroded and will need to be replaced. This work will be done in two to three weeks, depending on weather.

Ed Travis noted that there is also a hole forming on Echo Hill Road and Westtown Thornton Road.

The Township Staff has begun working on a snow emergency policy with an aim to better manage the snow and ice removal during large winter storms. This will help the Township, the snow removal contractor, and residents understand the procedure for handling a large storm event, and achieve a common understanding of each other's responsibilities.

Brody Bovero had an onsite meeting with the Township Engineer at Town Center to discuss the best way to move forward with the construction of a salt shed and the parking expansion. Edgemont Township also provided a tour of their salt shed, which would be similar in size to our needs. Any Board members are free to have a tour of their salt shed.

Property Maintenance Enforcement

A letter was sent to the owner of 1259 Buck Lane on March 19, 2010 regarding non-compliance with a February enforcement letter. Due to the large February storms, the owner was given until April 30, 2010 to comply with the letter.

Newsletter

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The Township staff is preparing an advertising schedule for the quarterly newsletter. Specific focus will be on businesses located in the Township. This along with content issues for the newsletter will likely be discussed at the May Workshop meeting.

Park Maintenance

The Request for Proposals for the Goose Creek Park and Town Center mowing/landscaping contract was advertised in the newspaper with a submission deadline of April 9, 2010. It was also advertised in the Township email blast and is posted on the website. The proposed contract would be for one year with two additional one-year options.

The bulletin board at Goose Creek Park will receive a cleaning and a new 'look'. The Park and Recreation Committee will be discussing possible changes to the content on the bulletin board in order to keep it looking fresh at their meeting on April 8, 2010.

Electricity Purchasing

Quotes are being prepared for electricity purchase through three consortiums. One is through Chester County, who is contracting with Co-eXprise. Another is through WEGO, Westtown Township, and East Goshen Township, also through Co-Exprise. And the third is through the PA League of Cities and Municipalities, who is contracting with Constellation Energy. With rate caps expiring in 2011, the objective is to lock in historically low energy rates for longer time period.

Town Center

Neff Construction is working at 846 E. Street Rd, the 1st Floor, to allow a new tenant to occupy the space. A formal contract has not been signed but negotiations are positive and moving forward.

The Township and the Goose Creek Grill are continuing to move forward toward a new lease agreement for the restaurant building.

Right to Know

We received two Right to Know requests in the last week. One involved all documents relating to the Crooks Subdivision application, and the other was for previous park maintenance bids.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

On March 27th the Township conducted the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Goose Creek Park. The event had great attendance and was great success. We'd like to thank the volunteers from the Park and Recreation Committee and Teresa DeStefano for their efforts in organizing this great event.

Park Planning

Notices for public input on future park plans were posted at the Goose Creek Park bulletin board, the post office, and on the website. It was also sent out on the Township email blast and to each person on the Planning Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, and the Historic Preservation Commission.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Public Input on Future Park Plans

Mike Gast noted that the Board of Supervisors has had numerous discussions on the parks in the Townships. The Board would like the following topics covered:

- How many parks does the Township need
- Location
- What vision for the parks, (trails, ball fields, open space)

Ed Travis inquired if there are guidelines on how much park land has to be put aside per capita.

Brody Bovero noted that they do not promote any standard.

Lauren Durham, Chairman of the Park & Recreation Commission the commission worked on the Parks Master Plan and our goals were:

- I. Low level maintenance
- II. Open space
- III. Keep the view shed
- IV. Having the Springhouse as an education facility

Ron Miller noted that there is no magic number. As a Township it's nice to have different kind of parks, people love to just walk we should just keep Waln Run Park and keep it as a low maintenance walking park. We should not sell off assets. We have the Goose Creek Park that is a passive park and also the Soccer Field.

Barbara Iacovelli noted that Waln Run Park was purchased to be a park.

Ann Dzamba strongly supports keeping our assets. I believe that everyone should be able to walk to a park, so keeping Waln Run as a natural space for people to enjoy.

Phil Gordon noted that he feels strongly having parks were people can walk and also so we can preserve the history of the Squire Cheyney Park.

Barbara Iacovelli noted that she would like to see our money be put to use at Cheyney Park. It is accessible to more residents we could put a pavilion there which can be rented out for large function. It would also let us expand our Park & Recreation Commission for more function. If we had to sell one park I would suggest Waln Run Park, but put restriction on it.

Barbara Iacovelli also inquired about Ann's Parcel.

Ron Miller inquired if we could put a Township Building on Ann's Parcel?

Kathy Labrum noted that we can not.

Joe Ostrowski noted he would like to keep our open space. As a Township we don't need any more parks. Waln Run Park should be kept cut and maintain, people use it all the time to walk or walk there dog. The people in the area like it as is.

B. Salt Shed and Parking Expansion Analysis

Mike Gast gave a brief history of the salt shed building and its location. Discussions have been going on since 1994.

Brody Bovero provided two sketch plans for a salt shed and additional parking spaces for the Board's review. The sketch also shows the relocating of the two existing sheds. The only problem with the two plans is that the parking expansions are both dead ends.

Mike Gast inquired about cost difference of the two sketches.

Mike Conrad noted either design would cost around the same.

Mike Conrad noted that the stormwater management design is more flexible, the location is favorable for infiltration.

Bob Miller noted that in all our talks before we didn't discuss stormwater management.

Ron Miller inquired where the stormwater management would drain. Ron Miller also showed concern for the location of the salt shed, since it would be in front of a neighborhood.

II. OTHER MATTERS

Ed Travis summarizes the area left in the Comprehensive plan that the Planning Commission would work on. This is section 8 of the Comprehensive plan. Ed Travis would like to take this to the Planning Commission and say this is what the Board of Supervisors would like you to work on.

There was a brief discussion on the 3 levels of priority of item to be worked on at the Planning Commission.

II. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa DeStefano