

THORNBURY TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Work Session

MINUTES December 7, 2010

The Thornbury Township Board of Supervisors Work Session meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Thornbury Township meeting room. In attendance were Supervisors: Mike Gast, Chairman; Robert Miller, Vice-Chairman, Ed Travis, Percy Neall and Bob Anthony, Board member. Also in attendance were Brody Bovero, Township Manager; Teresa DeStefano, Township Secretary. There was an executive session held before the meeting. There were 8 signed guests.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Scope of Work for S. Concord Road Traffic Study

Mike Gast gave a brief outline of the topic for discussion on the agenda. He noted that the traffic study was already been approved last year and was budgeted for; the intent of this discussion was to finalize the scope of work for the study. Mike Gast asked each Board member to give their opinion of the scope.

Bob Anthony commented that he would like to keep South Concord Road the way it is. He mentioned that, although the situation may not be perfect, it is only a minor inconvenience. He also commented on the beauty of the roadway and need to preserve that.

Ed Travis commented on his concern, which is the overall safety of roadway. He didn't object to the existing stop signs; and suggested that some areas could possibly use warning signs or mirrors if needed.

Percy Neall favored leaving the roadway in its current condition and commented on the money spent on previous traffic studies on South Concord Rd. He stated that his concerns are primarily safety, crime, the value of resident's properties and quality of life to the residents.

Bob Miller noted that no traffic study has suggested that the Township would narrow the roadway, but there are trees that need to be addressed. Bob Miller also noted that a lot of misinformation exists regarding this road. He also noted that stop signs are important but a lot of people run them anyway. He then indicated that nobody wants to change the beauty of South Concord Road.

Mike Gast noted that the previous changes did decrease traffic, and that further improvement may need to be implemented, if recommended by the study.

Public Comment:

Jack Hornberger – 616 Cricklewood Road – appreciated the Board’s concern for the road. Jack wanted to know where the funds would come from if major changes to the road are needed. He noted that he was not in favor of the study.

Celia Lang – 1375 S. Concord Road voiced opposition to the study. She indicated the lack of data indicating a safety issue along the road. She also indicated her concern for the impact that any changes would have on historic properties.

Bill Reilly – 1280 S. Concord Road voiced his opposition to the study, suggesting the Township use our police force to gather information, rather than spend additional money.

Jim Oliveira – 890 Echo Hill Road voiced his opposition to the study, and discussed patrol levels of the police force throughout the Township.

Mike Monahan – 520 Fox Meadow Road voiced his opposition to the study.

Matt Ricketts – 342 Old Bailey Lane voiced his opposition to the study, and suggested just studying intersections instead of the entire road. He also voiced his concern of increased traffic flow.

Steve Chen – 510 Deer Pointe Road voiced his opposition to the study, indicating that at first he thought the stop signs would be a major inconvenience, but now he appreciates them.

Rene Braun – 606 Cricklewood Road, voiced his opposition to the study. Rene asked why there was a meeting if the study had already been voted on.

Dorothy Dugan – 445 W. Deer Pointe Road, asked why a study is being considered when it was clear that many of the residents do not want it.

Chris Lang – 1375 S. Concord Road, voiced his opposition to the study and presented a letter to the Board. Chris requested that the Board rescind the approval for the study.

Joyce Bergin – 505 Dayspring Lane voiced her opposition to the study, indicating that if safety is the main concern, and there is no data to show that there is a safety issue, then why is the Township doing the study.

Mike Gallagher – 585 Fox Meadow Lane, inquired if the Township had any statistics, such as accident data, on the road.

Larry Lytle – 623 Woodbine Road asked if anybody wants the study, other than the Board of Supervisors.

Mike Gast thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and notified everyone that this item will appear on the December 21st agenda.

B. Consideration of interim plan for salt storage facility

Mike Gast noted that there needs to be a short term and a long term solution to the Township's salt storage solution.

Brody Bovero gave a brief review of the options for a short term solution. He indicated that by using a concrete block construction, the Township could construct a durable and affordable storage area, using a tarp to protect the salt. This option would allow the Township to re-use the blocks for the permanent solution. The discussion continued with the possibility sharing the concrete blocks with Cheyney University.

Bob Anthony expressed his desire to do anything possible to make the snow removal contractor's job easier and more efficient.

Ed Travis favored this options as a solution for this year

Bob Miller agreed.

C. Consideration of locations for salt storage facility

The Board had a discussion on the best location for the salt shed.

Ed Travis stated that Cheyney University is a reasonable location for a salt shed. He noted that the Township building rent is increasing and he would like to combine the historic Squire Cheyney Park with a future Township building, and include a salt shed.

Bob Anthony felt that there is not a perfect location in the Township for a salt shed, but suggested that the Town Center is the best location.

Bob Miller expressed concerns with having a salt shed at Cheyney University since the Township doesn't own the land. He liked the Town Center location because it is more central to all the roads in the Township.

Mike Gast suggested that the Cheyney University location may be the worst choice, but it is also the simplest choice for now.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa DeStefano

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