

WARWICK TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors' Public Work Session Meeting Minutes
NOVEMBER 2, 2009

Members Present: Judith A. Algeo, Esq., Chair
John W. Cox, Vice Chairman
Edward P. Thompson, Member

Others Present: Gail Weniger, Township Manager
John Rice, Esq., Township Solicitor
Bryan McAdam, P.E., Township Engineer
Linda Grant, Recording Secretary

■ **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Warwick Township Board of Supervisors' November 2, 2009 public meeting, held at Warwick Township Administration Office, 1733 Township Greene, Jamison, PA., was called to order at 7:05 p.m., by Chair, Judith Algeo who then led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

■ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

⇒ October 5, 2009 (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Cox to approve the October 5, 2009 Board of Supervisors' public meeting minutes, as submitted.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ October 14, 2009 Budget Work Session Meeting (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Cox to approve the October 14, 2009 Board of Supervisors' public budget work session meeting minutes, as submitted.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ October 26, 2009 Joint meeting with Water and Sewer Authority (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Cox to approve the minutes for the October 26, 2009 Board of Supervisors' joint public meeting with the Water and Sewer Authority, as submitted. Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

■ **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chair Algeo announced that the Board of Supervisors had met in Executive Session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss matters of personnel and matters of litigation.

■ **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Weniger reminded that tomorrow, November 4th, is election day.

■ **CITIZENS' COMMENT:**

➤ Bill Guldin, 928 Jamison, reported that he was before the Board of Supervisors in 2005 regarding flooding. Mr. Guldin states the flooding has been an on-going problem and there is a silt building up in the swale, along with a lot of debris. Mr. Guldin gave some pictures to the Board of Supervisors to show what he is talking about. Mr. Guldin said that he has letters, received in 2005, from the Township Engineer and from the Township Manager. Ms. Weniger's letter informed him that this situation is not a Township matter.

Ms. Algeo noted that the Township Manager and the Public Works Director will look into this.

■ **MANAGER REPORT:**

- ⇒ Resolution N°. 2009-27-Police Pension Plan Smoothing (exhibit)
- ⇒ Resolution N°. 2009-28- Amended Uniformed MMO (exhibit)
- ⇒ Resolution N°. 2009-29 – Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Smoothing (exhibit)
- ⇒ Resolution N°. 2009-30 – Amended Non-Uniformed MMO (exhibit)

Gail Weniger, Township Manager, explained that these resolutions will allow smoothing over the next five years to get the Minimum Municipal Obligation to what they should be.

Motion by Mr. Cox to approve Resolution N°. 2009-27-Police Pension Plan Smoothing, Resolution N°. 2009-28- Amended Uniformed MMO, Resolution N°. 2009-29 – Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Smoothing and Resolution N°. 2009-30 – Amended Non-Uniformed MMO, as presented . Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

- ⇒ Resolution N°. 2009-31 – PECO Green Region Open Space Grant – Basin Naturalization (exhibit)

Ms. Weniger presented this resolution that authorizes submission of a grant application in the amount of \$10,000 and notes assurance that the Township will match the necessary funds.

Motion by Mr. Cox to approve Resolution N°. 2009-31 – PECO Green Region Open Space Grant – Basin Naturalization, as presented.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

- ⇒ Resolution N°. 2009-32 –Support Doylestown Township's letter to Bucks County Commissioners (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Cox to approve Resolution N°. 2009-32 –Support Doylestown Township's letter to Bucks County Commissioners, as presented.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

- ⇒ Draft 2010 Budget (exhibit)

Ms. Weniger gave an overview of Warwick's draft 2010 budget and requested authorization to advertise this draft budget to be considered for adoption at the December 7, 2009 public meeting. Ms. Weniger notes that the draft budget, along with the Power Point presentation will be put on the Township website.

- ⇒ Request Authorization to Advertise the Draft 2010 Budget (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Cox to authorize advertisement of the draft 2010 budget, to be considered for adoption at the Board of Supervisors' public meeting on December 7, 2009.

Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ Fire Bonus Recommendation for Employees Who Volunteer (exhibit)

Ms. Weniger presented a recommendation for a \$500 bonus for 2009 to employees who volunteer as firefighters. Ms. Weniger notes that in 2010, each volunteer firefighter will be awarded a per call stipend which will be explained to the volunteers by a member of the Warwick Fire Company.

**Motion by Mr. Cox to approve \$500 bonus to Warwick employees who volunteer as firefighters, per recommendation of the Township Manager.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.**

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ 2009/2010 Snow Bid - Recommend Award (no exhibit)

This matter tabled for further review by the Public Works Director.

⇒ Bill Payments November 2, 2009 (exhibit)

General Fund Check N ^o 17078 through 17119	\$	42,766.20
Park & Recreation Check N ^o 5294 through 5302	\$	2,552.50
Capital Projects Fund Check N ^o 1134	\$	158.13
General Obligation Fund Check N ^o 1012	\$	<u>520.00</u>
Total -	\$	<u>54,145.64</u>

**Motion by Mr. Cox to approve the November 2, 2009 Bill Payments, subject to audit.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.**

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ Treasurer's Report September 2009 / Finance Report

General Fund	\$	4,875,620
Firehouse and Equipment		1,241,761
Road Machinery Fund		207,782
General Obligation / Sinking Fund		901,348
Open Space Fund		122,527
Capital Projects Fund		87,780
Highway Aid Fund		254,440
Parks and Recreation		719,905
Parks and Recreation Capital Fund		1,457,270
Capital Reserve		<u>489,863</u>
Total	\$	<u>10,358,296</u>

Mr. Thompson asked why there is still a fund balance for the Bien Tract. Brief discussion notes it is possible they have forgotten it is there and the Township can collect interest. John Rice, Township Solicitor, notes that it may eventually escheat to the State and there should be a way to use the funds, possibly per an agreement, before it goes to the State.

**Motion by Mr. Cox to accept the September 2009 Treasurer's Report, as prepared by Rose Christie, Finance Director.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.**

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

■ **SOLICITOR REPORT:**

⇒ Deed Registration Ordinance 2009-01 -- Authorization to Advertise (exhibit)

John Rice, Township Solicitor, is requesting authorization to advertise this draft ordinance.

Ms. Weniger explained that this ordinance would enable all deeds to be copied to each property file. This would allow the Township to review the deed through review processes.

Mr. Cox asked about the mechanism to notify title companies or realtors to do this. Mr. Rice notes that title companies and realtors will be aware of the ordinance.

Mr. Thompson is concerned about the phrase "any person" and the fine. Mr. Thompson also asked what happens when someone simply refinances. Mr. Rice said that refinancing does not transfer the property, the ordinance notes conveyance, change of ownership. Mr. Rice further explained that the Township may choose not to be strict on enforcement and the fine is not self-executing. The Township may desire to enforce this only if there is a refusal by someone to supply the required deed.

**Motion by Mr. Cox to authorize advertisement of the draft Deed Registration Ordinance, as presented by the Township Solicitor.
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.**

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

Motion passed unanimously.

■ **ENGINEER REPORT:** There was no Engineer's report this evening.

■ **OLD BUSINESS:**

⇒ Fee Schedule

Ms. Weniger asked the Board is they would consider a 10% discount for LEED certified projects?

Mr. Cox asked if this could be restricted to home owners only or cap it. Ms. Weniger noted the 10% would be per house, not on the whole development, and would be related to permit fees.

Greg Mester, Fairway Drive, feels it is a small amount of money and would not be worth the complicated paper work it would require. Ms. Weniger notes that the energy efficiency efforts are required for funding and Warwick would be providing an offset for residents who would have to pay more for the energy efficient purchases.

Ms. Weniger noted the permits are required for hot water tanks, HVAC systems, windows, etc. and the discount is on the permits, not land development.

Mr. Thompson spoke of a disparity in escrow fees on page 3 of the schedule. Mr. Rice clarified the fees are relative to the cost of administering escrows.

■ **NEW BUSINESS:**

⇒ Curbing and Sidewalk

Ms. Weniger presented a survey of surrounding Townships that make repair of sidewalk the resident's liability, and believes this would be a cost saving implementation for the Township. Ms. Weniger notes that Mr. Thompson requested information on this topic and is asking if the Board members are interested in pursuing this idea.

Mr. Thompson commented that he believes the curbing should left to the Township if the resident takes care of the sidewalk. Mr. Cox asked if curbs can be private property. Mr. Rice said it depends on deeds of dedication and the general rule is, abutting property owners are responsible for curb and sidewalk. This would need to be defined via ordinance. The Board members noted that they want to think about this and come back to it.

■ **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

➤ Richard Hartz, Stony Road, asked how he can send an email directly to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Algeo noted that all communication for the Board of Supervisors goes through the Township Manager.

Mr. Hartz said that he had problems getting a copy of what was presented at the joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the Water and Sewer Authority. Ms. Algeo explained that what was presented belonged to the Water and Sewer Authority and that the Township does

not have a copy. Ms. Algeo further explained that the Water and Sewer Authority and Warwick Township are two separate entities. Mr. Rice also explained that the ACT 537 Plan is required by law.


Ms. Weniger and Mr. Sullivan have a meeting scheduled with Mr. Hartz later this week to review any additional issues related to the recent Act 537 study.

➤ John Cox relayed that some citizens have come by to say what a wonderful job was done by Warwick Township for the Halloween Happening, and people were very pleased.

■ **ADJOURNMENT:**

The November 2, 2009, Warwick Township Board of Supervisors' public meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gail V. Weniger,
Township Manager/Secretary

These minutes were approved at the
Board of Supervisors' meeting held: **November 16, 2009**

Warwick Township
Warwick Township

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