

WARWICK TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors' Public Work Session Meeting Minutes
March 16 2009

Members Present: Judith A. Algeo, Esq., Chair
Edward P. Thompson, Member

Member Absent: John W. Cox, Vice Chairman

Others Present: Gail Weniger, Township Manager
Mary Eberle, Township Solicitor
Linda Grant, Recording Secretary

■ **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Warwick Township Board of Supervisors' March 16, 2009 public workshop 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.

■ **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chair Algeo reported that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session discussion prior to this evening's meeting to discuss a matter of litigation.

■ **CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Bob Yates, 2104 Wynne Way and Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm, 2106 Wynn Way, were present regarding previously discussed issue of possible zoning violations with their neighbor. It was reported that the rooster has been removed. The residents presented the Board of Supervisors with photos and information regarding the problems they are experiencing with their neighbor. The residents noted information discussed with the SPCA.

During this discussion Mary Eberle, Township Solicitor noted that this zoning matter is in the hands of the magistrate and is currently scheduled for March 19. Ms. Eberle explained that this may take some time for things to happen because of the processes that must be followed. Gail Weniger, Township Manager, noted that the neighbor has filed for permits for his structures since the matter was filed.

Chair Algeo and the Township Solicitor repeated what they have said in previous discussions the residents should hire an attorney to pursue a private nuisance action.

■ **WORK SESSION ITEMS:**

⇒ UCC Code – Discussion of Application (exhibit)

Rich O'Brien and Michael Imperial, Keystone Municipal Services, were present for this discussion. Mr. O'Brien referred to the re-sale U&O checklist, reminding that the reason for the re-sale U&O is for the health, safety and welfare of residents. It is not intended to be an all inclusive UCC code compliance inspection or to replace the homeowners inspection.

Mr. Thompson initiated discussion regarding finished basements and the requirement for egress. Mr. O'Brien noted review of Township records would indicate whether there were permits issued for basement finishing and residents would have opportunity to come into compliance prior to being issued a U&O. Mr. Thompson said he recalls that basements finished prior to the requirement for egress were to be grandfathered. It was noted during discussion that some townhomes would be unable to comply with an egress window. Mr. Thompson believes any basement that was finished prior to the egress requirement should be left exempt whether there was a permit or not. Ms. Algeo disagrees.

Mr. Thompson requested hard copies of Board of Supervisors' meeting minutes from 2004, 2005 and 2006. Continuing discussion of this matter was deferred.

⇒ 2009 Bid Recommendations - Road Materials (exhibit)

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

Motion by Mr. Thompson to approve the 2009 Bid Award Recommendation for Road Materials, to Eureka Stone Quarry, Inc., lowest responsible bidder, as presented by the public works director.

Second to motion by Ms. Algeo.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

(E. Thompson, J. Algeo – in favor; J. Cox – absent)

⇒ New Mowing Program (exhibit)

Lorenzo Cuoci, Public Works Director and Dan Sharapan, Parks and Recreation Director, presented a mowing program regarding naturalization of basins and open areas which will save the cost of labor and wear and tear on machines.

Mr. Thompson questioned if bi-annual mowing is adequate for naturalized basins. Mr. Sharapan noted that is the recommended cutting frequency for this type of basin. Mr. Thompson asked if basins are re-seeded every year. Lorenzo noted there is annual mixed in and for the first two to three years, seed will be required until the basin is stabilized.

During discussion, it was noted that residents who live near basins are used to the basins being mowed and those residents who will be affected by the naturalization of the basins will be notified of the Township's intent to naturalize the basins. There will also be an article in the newsletter. The Board members present were in agreement with this plan.

⇒ Mail Box Replacement for Residents

Gail Weniger, Township Manager, asked the Board if they want consider revising the current policy for replacing residents' mail boxes that were damaged during snow plow activity. Ms. Weniger cited resource cost of inspecting complaints, going to buy the replacements, and delivering the replacements. This occurs when we need the resources to be available for snow and ice control. Mr. Cuoci, Director of Public Works added that many times the employees had been working very long shifts and this adds to the burden. Ms. Weniger noted that PennDOT does not replace mailboxes that are in the right of way and suggests that Warwick Township could consider the same approach.

Mr. Thompson was in agreement to change the policy and discontinue the replacements. Ms. Algeo expressed that there was more time to consider and decide what to do.

⇒ March 9, 2009 Board of Supervisors' public meeting minutes. (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Thompson to approve the March, 2009 public meeting minutes, as submitted.
Second to motion by Ms. Algeo.

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

Motion passed unanimously.
(E. Thompson, J. Algeo – in favor; J. Cox – absent)

⇒ LD 04-13 Ridings of Warwick, Phase I – Escrow Release N^o. 4 (exhibit)

Motion by Mr. Thompson to approve LD 04-13 Ridings of Warwick, Phase I – Escrow Release N^o. 4 in the amount of \$173,992 (leaving a balance of \$582,066.03).
Second to motion by Ms. Algeo.

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

Motion passed unanimously.
(E. Thompson, J. Algeo – in favor; J. Cox – absent)

⇒ Bill Payments March 16, 2009 (exhibit)

General Fund		
Check N ^o : 16371 – 16423	\$	113,523.81
Parks & Recreation		
Check N ^o : 4954 through 4967	\$	2,700.37
Park & Rec Capital Projects Fund		
Check N ^o : 1002 - 1003	\$	30,254.20
Road Machinery Fund		
Check N ^o : 144	\$	<u>37,853.18</u>

Total - \$ 184,331.56

Motion by Mr. Thompson to approve the March 16, 2009 Bill Payments, subject to audit.

Second to motion by Ms. Algeo.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

(E. Thompson, J. Algeo – in favor; J. Cox – absent)

■ **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment this evening.

■ **ADJOURNMENT:**

The March 16, 2009, Warwick Township Board of Supervisors' public meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Weniger,
Township Manager/Secretary

These minutes were approved at the
Board of Supervisors' meeting held: **May 4, 2009**