

West Earl Township Board of Supervisors, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508

In Attendance:

Chairman:	Dale Wissler	Member:	Harold Keppley, Jr.
Vice Chairman:	John Ford	Member:	Russell Ressler, Jr.
Member:	Richard Stover	Manager/Secretary:	Kevin Tobias

Call to Order

Chairman Wissler called the January 27, 2014, regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Public Comment/Guests

Don Goularte, 47 Redwood Circle – Mr. Goularte was at the meeting to ask the Board what they were going to do about his neighbor's fence which is in violation of the Township's Zoning Ordinance. He said the line of site issue is worse during the winter time. Chairman Wissler said that the Board was originally going to send the owners a letter giving them a deadline to come into compliance with the Zoning Ordinance, however, because there may be many more fence violations in the Township the Board decided to take additional time to further review the Zoning Ordinance in order to be fair and consistent to all Township residents. Member Keppley reiterated that the Board members want to do what's fair and reasonable for all residents in the Township and asked Mr. Goularte to bear with them as the Board works through this issue. He also assured Mr. Goularte that the Board will work through this issue in a reasonable amount of time.

James & Debra Duckworth, 111 Brian Drive – Mr. Duckworth asked about the status of the sewer back-up and resulting damage at his home at 111 Brian Drive. He said he hasn't heard back from anyone in two months and wants to get this issue resolved. Mr. & Mrs. Duckworth expressed their frustration with the amount of time it is taking to resolve this. Mr. Duckworth would like the Township to reimburse him for the damages done to his home. Member Keppley said that the Township does not have the legal right to reimburse him because the West Earl Sewer Authority is a separate government entity. Chairman Wissler asked the Duckworths to attend the next Sewer Authority meeting and voice their concerns to all the members of that Board. The Duckworths will attend the next Sewer Authority meeting. Also, Mr. Tobias will again contact Selective and Longley insurance to get an update on the status of this issue.

Mark Morrison, Bible Fellowship Church – Bible Fellowship 5K race, April 5, 2014. Mr. Morrison said that the race will follow the same course as previous years. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Stover to approve the use of Township roads for the Bible Fellowship 5K race on April 5, 2014. Motion approved unanimously.

Representative Keith Greiner – Rep. Greiner said he was at the meeting to find out what's going on in West Earl Township and to also say that he will be here to help out if needed. The Board thanked Rep. Greiner for attending the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Ressler, second by Member Stover to approve the January 6, 2014 Organizational meeting minutes as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Works Director's Report

In addition to his written report, Jim Houser reported the following:

- **FEMA flood insurance** – The Township is required to adopt a new or amended floodplain ordinance that meets the National Flood Insurance Program requirement. The ordinance must be adopted by April 2015.

Police Chief's Report

The Board reviewed the monthly Police report. Chief Brandt also reported the following:

- **Radio project** – Chief Brandt will be ordering the new radios that are in the budget for this year. The cost will be \$19,000.
- **Computers** – Several computers in the Police Department are being replaced.
- **Drug task force invoice** – The Township received an invoice from the Lancaster County Drug Task Force. Chief Brandt said that this is the first time he's seen an invoice like this. In the past, the Township has set aside money to donate to the Drug Task Force but has not done this for a while. Chief Brandt said that the Drug Task Force does good work and it's up to the Board whether they would like to pay the invoice or not. He also said that there is no money in the Police budget to pay the invoice.
- **Employment contract** – Moved by Member Keppley, second by Member Stover to sign Police Chief Brian Brandt's employment contract. Motion approved unanimously.

Member Stover asked the Chief how much patrolling is done on Rt 222. Chief Brandt said that not much patrolling is done by the West Earl Police on Rt 222. Member Stover expressed concern about the excessive speeding between the Brownstown and Ephrata exits and said that something should be done about it.

Manager's Report

- **E. Main Street stormwater project** – payments to Wexcon Services. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Ressler to authorize payment application #2 for Contract 1 in the amount of \$18,382.50. Motion approved unanimously. Moved by Member Ressler, second by Member Stover to authorize payment application #2 for Contract 2 in the amount of \$5,112.18. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Advertising for full-time Road Crewman** – Mr. Houser said that he would like to eliminate the part-time road crewman position, contract out the mowing in the Township and add a full-time road crewman position. Mr. Houser said that the Township would have to put the mowing out to bid. After a brief discussion the Board said they would like to know what the cost of the mowing would be before they authorize the advertisement for a new, full-time road crewman position. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Ressler to authorize Township personnel to put a mowing contract out for bids. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Part-time plow operators hourly pay** – Seeking approval to increase the pay rate from \$14.00/hour to \$18.00/hour. The Board discussed the hourly rates that plow operators get at surrounding Municipalities. Moved by Member Ressler, second by Member Stover to raise the part-time plow operators pay to \$18.00 per hour. Ressler-yes, Stover-yes, Keppley-yes, Wissler-yes, Ford-no. Motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote.
- **18 Wolf Circle real estate tax refund** – Endeavor Title, LLC has paid the real estate taxes for 18 Wolf Circle twice and is requesting a refund of \$932.50. Moved by Member Keppley, second by Member Stover to refund real estate taxes in the amount of \$932.50 for 18 Wolf Circle. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Purchase agreement with Warwick Township** – Share costs for the purchase of a drum roller in the amount of \$17,427.50. The budgeted amount for this item was \$18,000.00. Moved by Member Stover, second by Member Ressler to pay \$17,427.50 for the purchase of a drum roller with Warwick Township. Motion approved unanimously.

- **Proposed Zoning Ordinance changes** – Mr. Tobias met with Steve Gabriel from Rettew Associates to review the condition of the current zoning ordinance. The Board directed Mr. Tobias to work with Tom Zorbaugh on the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Tobias will work with Mr. Zorbaugh and will solicit input from the Board and from the Planning Commission.
- **Resolution No. 2014-2** – Setting the compensation for the Township Manager. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Chairman Wissler to adopt Resolution No. 2014-2. Ford-yes, Wissler-yes, Stover-yes, Ressler-no, Keppley-no. Motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote.
- **Township Manager's employment agreement** – Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Ressler to sign the Township Manager's employment agreement. Ford-yes, Ressler-yes, Stover-yes, Keppley-no, Wissler-no. Motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote.
- **Resolution No. 2014-6** – Appointing Tom Ridder to a term on the Park and Recreation Board. Moved by Member Stover, second by Member Keppley to adopt Resolution No. 2014-6. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 2014-7** – Appointing Diane LaMonica to a term on the Park and Recreation Board. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Stover to adopt Resolution No. 2014-7. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Resolution No. 2014-8** – Tax collector's fees. Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Ford to adopt Resolution No. 2014-8. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Ordinance** to advertise the Police Pension. The Board would like Mr. Tobias to send this to the Township's Solicitor for review before it is advertised.

Correspondence

- **Jeff Zimmerman, Lions' Club Halloween Parade** – The Lions' Club is seeking approval to have the 2014 Halloween Parade on October 23, 2014. Moved by Member Stover, second by Vice Chairman Ford to allow the use of Township roads for the 2014 Lions' Club Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 23, 2014. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Lancaster County Assessment Office** – Lot 246A at Eagleview Estates is not tax exempt.

Payment of Bills

Moved by Member Keppley, second by Member Ressler to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Annual Rectric Century Bike Ride – The ride will be held on June 22, 2014. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Stover to allow the use of Township roads for the Rectric Century Bike Ride on June 22, 2014. Motion approved unanimously.

Supervisors' Comments

John Ford

- Vice Chairman Ford thanked Rep. Keith Greiner for coming to the Board of Supervisors' meeting.
- Vice Chairman Ford told Mr. Houser that he's noticed graffiti showing up again on the route 222

overpass bridges in the Township. Mr. Houser will contact the painting company and have the graffiti taken care of.

- The fire company meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2014.

Russell Ressler

- Member Ressler asked Rep. Greiner what it would take to revitalize Route 23. Rep. Greiner said he believes that any funding that's available is being used on projects that take priority over route 23, however, there is some talk about traffic light improvements.

Harold Keppley

- Member Keppley asked if a new sewer operator has been hired. Mr. Houser said that they did hire someone at a salary of \$50,000.00 per year.

Adjournment

Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Ressler to adjourn the January 27, 2014 regular meeting at 9:39 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.