

Minutes of the
October 2, 2012
Board of Supervisor's Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of The Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 2, 2012 in the Doylestown Township Municipal Building, 425 Wells Road, Doylestown, PA. Members of the Board of Supervisors in attendance included Chairman; Barbara N. Lyons, Vice Chairman; E. Thomas Scarborough, Supervisors; Richard F. Colello, Shawn Touhill and Ryan Manion. Others in attendance included Township Manager; Stephanie J. Mason, Director of Operations; Richard E. John, Township Solicitor; Jeffrey P. Garton and Acting Chief of Police; Dean Logan

Absent: Township Engineer; Mario Canales

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROAD INSPECTOR: The Board met at 4:00pm to complete the annual Road Inspection with Road Superintendent; Paul Garr , Director of Operations; Richard E. John, Township Engineer; Mario Canales and Township Manager; Stephanie J. Mason.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board met previously in Executive Session, to discuss matters of personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next meeting of the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 7:00pm in the Municipal Building.

The Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors Special Meeting with the Public Water & Sewer Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2012, 7:00pm in the Municipal Building

The Budget Work Session will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2012, 4:00pm in the Municipal Building.

Community Yard Sale event is scheduled for Saturday, October 6, 2012 at Central Park from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

The Doylestown Township Administration Offices will be closed on Monday, October 8, 2012 in observance of Columbus Day.

The Howl-O-Ween event is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2012 at Doylestown Dog Park starting at 10:00 AM. If you'd like to participate please contact our office or email us at info@doylestownpa.org

The Doylestown Township Leaf and Yard Waste Recycling event is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2012 from 9 AM – 11 AM. This event will be held at Central Park (New Britain Road) and is for township residents only.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the September 18, 2012 Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting minutes be approved with the following corrections...

Page 1; under Minutes Approval – change Mansion to the correct spelling of Manion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Township Procurement Policy:

Prior to Mr. Lee Schwarz's presentation, Mrs. Lyons questioned if he received her response via email. Mr. Schwarz stated he was in receipt of the email. Ms. Lyons explained during her 12 years on the Board, there have been occasions where either one or no responses to bid requests have been received.

Ms. Mason stated for the record at the suggestion of Mr. Schwarz, she and Mr. John will begin including previous contractor and bid amounts as part of their Memos of Recommendation process.

Mr. Garton reported for smaller bids or road projects it may be difficult to have a contractor submit a proposal, due to high costs of bid and performance bonds in order to be qualified under the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDot) requirements.

Resident; Mr. Lee Schwarz of 189 Sunset View Lane clarified the reason for his September 18, 2012 email was to provide the township with a suggestion for a new bidding process in order to become more proactive in trying to stimulate more quotes. Mr. Schwarz noted the last several bids received went over budget due to only receiving one bid. He suggests the bidding policy now includes 1) always get three bids (exceptions need to be extreme), 2) they need to be opened at the Supervisors meeting so they are televised 3) residents should have a right to know who all bidders are. 4) We should know who had the previous contract if it's repetitive work and what the previous contract amount was. Mr. Schwarz's main point towards the bidding/procurement process is to propose a challenge or the competitive factor to keep costs down will have a risk of being lost.

Ms. Mason indicated to the Board that the bid award did not go over budget.

Mrs. Lyons responded through the bidding process the township is always trying to keep costs down with the assistance of the staff who try and locate contractors to bid and often solicits new bids. Also, Mr. John is always trying to keep costs down by receiving the lowest bid. Mrs. Lyons concluded by stating if there is more the Township can do, they will find a way.

Resignation of J. O'Malley:

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors accept Mr. Joseph O'Malley's resignation from the Traffic Advisory Committee with regrets.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

REPORTS:

Solicitor: No Report

Police Chief: No Report

Township Engineer: No Report

Township Manager: ChemFAB

Ms. Mason reported at a recent EPA meeting, EPA and Doylestown Borough have agreed to form a Citizen's

Advisory Committee as a link to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in order to keep the public informed. Doylestown Borough hosted a meeting, where Mr. John was in attendance. Several residents showed interested in participating in the committee. Ms. Mason will keep the Board posted on the next scheduled meeting and when the committee is formed.

SUPERVISORS:

Bucks County Police Regionalization:

Ms. Lyons reported due to New Britain and Plumstead Townships withdrawing their participation in the Bucks County Police Regionalization project, the three remaining municipalities of Doylestown Township, Doylestown and New Britain Borough have decided to review the consideration of what would a regional police department look like, the services and what are the advantages.

Some of the advantages would perhaps be an increase in level of service, because of the complexity of crime so the police may become more effective in detection and enforcement utilizing more sophisticated equipment shared in a regional police department.

Some of the concerns against regionalization are whether the level of service compared to foot patrolling will remain the same.

Other considerations were how to administer and share in the governing of the police regional department. Upon much discussion, a question of what cost savings would occur still remain. The cost savings for Doylestown Township was not evident. Also, cost savings could not be projected or guaranteed until a police contract was confirmed. The process may take up to three years and may show no cost savings at all, unless a multiple police regional contract was formed.

In order for the Board to move forward with the police regionalization, the three remaining municipalities must decide whether another investigation report should be performed with the Department of Economic Community Development and the Governors' Bureau. However, the remaining municipalities of Doylestown Township, Doylestown and New Britain Boroughs must again negotiate how to govern the police regionalization department, which may be a complex conversation. Also, all three municipalities will need to negotiate out of their original contracts with three different bargaining units to join as one central bargaining unit. This process may become much more expensive for the township. The cost may be approximately \$25,000.00, which represents 1/3 portion for each municipality to cover legal and accounting fees.

Mr. Scarborough commented with the possibility of additional costs to build a new police station and acquire land at ten million dollars, the township will not gain anything by giving up their autonomy. Doylestown Township currently has a very good police force and township building.

Mr. Colello commented although the police regionalization is an excellent concept, he no longer has the appetite to continue with the redundant process.

Mr. Colello made a MOTION; seconded by Mr. Scarborough the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors pull out of the Central Bucks Police Regionalization study process.

Mr. Touhill questioned if recently a regionalization agreement was dissolved. Mrs. Lyons answered; as of last evening Westtown-East Goshen Township Police Regionalization Department dissolved due to ongoing police department contract negotiations.

Public Comment: None

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

Doylestown Dog Park Opening

Mrs. Lyons reported on the September 22, 2012 opening of Friends of Doylestown Dog Park along Turk Park. The event was well attended and the park is beautiful. All members are required to have a key fob for entry and complete a training session. Dogs are required to be updated with all shots. The township will fiscally manage the dog park along with Doylestown Borough.

Mrs. Lyons thanked the Friends of Doylestown Dog Park Committee, township staff, Doylestown Borough and Bucks County for another successful example of multiple, municipal cooperation regarding a public/private partnership.

Part of the understanding regarding the agreement with Friends of Doylestown Dog Park was to form a Dog Park Advisory Board made up of three at-large standing residents from the community to assist with the governance. Mrs. Lyons then requested the staff prepare a resolution for Board's review, so advertising to solicit applicants for the Dog Park Advisory Board may begin.

Mr. Touhill commented how wonderful to hear the completion of the Dog Park has finally come to fruition with the community coming together. Also, he reported on his duties as judge at the October 20th Howl-O-Ween event, Mr. Touhill encouraged all to attend.

Mr. Scarborough reported on his attendance at the Wednesday, September 19th meeting with the Central Bucks Ambulance. Eight other municipalities were also in attendance to discuss options on how the department can function soundly and fiscally. The committee will meet every three months to ensure good coverage continues. Also, Mr. Scarborough attended the Friday, September 28th Delaware Valley College Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Life Science building. The event was well attended and the building will be a great asset for the college and township.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Connection to public sewer – 28 Pine Valley Road

Mr. Touhill made a MOTION; seconded by Mr. Colello the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors grant an emergency public sewer connection from the Harvey Avenue Treatment facility to Mr. & Mrs. David Stowe at 28 Pine Valley Road, due to a failed septic system.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

Pavilion at Furlong – Land Development Request for Extension

Mr. Colello made a MOTION; seconded Mr. Scarborough the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors grant an extension until January 25, 2013 to applicants; York and Swamp Associates to submit their revised Land Development Plans regarding the Pavilion at Furlong.

Mrs. Lyons questioned how many extensions the Board is allowed to grant. Mr. Garton answered; the extension is required since the applicants received a recommendation from the Doylestown Township Planning Commission on September 24, 2012.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

"Save the Castle" Initiative

Resident; Jonathan Biedermann of Ash Way approached the Board to request approval in establishing a merchant agreement between the township and SofterWare, Inc in order to initiate online donation collection through social media network campaign.

SofterWare, Inc. is a Fundraising Solution company with many non-profit corporations as clients. Mr. Biedermann agreed to donate his services to assist the Save the Castle committee raise funds in order to repair Kid Castle located in Central Park. He has also agreed to donate the cost of the company's Donor Perfect software and Constant Contact blast email account to assist with the online donation program at approximately \$6,000.00.

Mr. Scarborough commented on how the Donor Perfect system is a great idea and pleased the committee found a skilled individual to handle the task.

Mrs. Lyons questioned if Friends of Kid Castle formed a committee. Ms. Dawn Byers answered; a committee has been formed and meeting since August of 2012. She offered to provide the township with an official list of members to include sub-committees at a total of 82 people. Mrs. Lyons suggested some kind of formality be created between the committee and township, especially since monies are being exchanged. Ms. Byers indicated the committee approached the Board only to request use of an established account with the township in order to share with the Donor Perfect software for online donation collection.

A discussion ensued between the Board and Ms. Byers with regards to the logistics of why an agreement will need to be established between the Friends of Kid Castle Committee and the township.

Ms. Manion offered to provide the committee with options of email blast programs and cautioned a social fund raising plan be in place prior to activating the online donation process. Mr. Biedermann responded; there will be no cost to utilize the Constant Contact software and a strategic plan is in place awaiting approval.

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors approve the merchant agreement between the Township and Mr. Jonathan Biedermann on behalf of SofterWare, Inc pursuant to further discussions with the Board.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5 to 0.

Mr. Biedermann's 11 year old daughter, Annie approached the Board to voice her concerns in saving Kids Castle by explaining how the castle has been an important part of her life. It helped her imagination, as well as other children run free and she can't imagine life without it.

BILL'S LIST

Mr. Scarborough made a MOTION; seconded by Ms. Manion the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors approve the October 2, 2012 Bill's List in the amount of \$799,667.47.

ADJOURNMENT:

The October 2, 2012 Board of Supervisors Regular meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Stephanie J. Mason, Secretary