

**NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP
299 STARR ROAD
LANDENBERG, PA 19350
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2014**

Present:

Betty Gordon, Chairman

J. Patrick Little, Vice-Chairman

Stephen Allaband

Richard Ayotte

Randy Geouque

Spencer J. Address, AICP, Interim Manager

Lewis Gay, Secretary/Treasurer

Vince Pompo, Solicitor

Kenneth Reed, Public Works Director

Gerald Simpson, Police Chief

Jon Martin, Airport Manager

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

C. 1. PERSONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

There was no one scheduled to appear before the Board.

Solicitor Pompo gave an update on the following items:

a. St. Anthony's is contemplating holding events, however, no application has been received to date. The Solicitor is reviewing issues such as zoning, noise, traffic, Township services (i.e. police and public works). He will have further information for the March meeting.

b. Artesian – The Solicitor has not received a response from his letter of early January. He spoke with Senator Dinniman who is very interested in the Artesian matter and wants to assist the Township any way he can.

2. PERSONS WHO WISH TO BE RECOGNIZED

None

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Capital Projects Five (5) Year Loan.

Motion by Mr. Allaband and second by Mr. Ayotte to move forward with the Capital Projects Five (5) Year Loan in the amount of \$186,000 for the listed items at an interest rate not to exceed 2.8%. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

2. West T-Hangar Apron Project Bid.

Motion by Mr. Little and second by Mr. Geouque to approve Resolution No. 712 accepting the bid of Martin's Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$308,507.50 for the rehabilitation of the West T-Hangar Apron Project subject to Penn DOT approval. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

3. Appointment of New Garden Township Representatives to the Kennett Area Regional Planning Commission.

Motion by Mr. Allaband and second by Mr. Little to appoint Ms. Gordon as the representative and Mr. Ayotte as the alternate from the Board of Supervisors and Ms. Linderman as the representative and Mr. Bowe as the alternate from the Planning Commission to the Kennett Area Regional Planning Commission. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

4. Preparation of an Ordinance Amendment to Increase Sewer User Rates. Mr. Andress explained the rate increase proposal.

Motion by Mr. Allaband and second by Mr. Geouque to table this item until after the Board's work session. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Rehabilitation of East End WWTF Screen Room Channel.

Motion by Mr. Little and second by Ms. Gordon to accept the proposal of Repair & Protection Technologies, Inc. for rehabilitation of the East End WWTF screen room channel in the amount of \$7,830.76. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

2. Recoating the East End WWTF Influent Room 8" Influent Pipe.

Motion by Mr. Allaband and second by Mr. Little to approve the proposal of Repair & Protection Technologies, Inc. for recoating the East End WWTF influent screen room 8" influent pipe in the amount of \$3,935.37. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

3. Proposed ordinance which addresses conducting special events. Solicitor Pompo requested the Board members review the proposed ordinance and provide him with questions and suggestions as soon as possible. This item can be placed on the agenda for the March work session.

F. FUNCTIONAL AREA UPDATES

1. Administration.

a. Public Works Director Ken Reed updated the Board regarding recent storm events. There were minor equipment breakdowns. The Road Department will be repairing potholes; Penn Green in particular has several. The Road Department had several complaints related to damaged mailboxes due to the heavy snow pushed up against them. The Township has ordered 400 tons of salt to replenish the inventory.

b. The Director of Aviation, Jon Martin, recently received confirmation of a state grant for the West T-Hangar Apron project. He also discussed the Aviators program.

c. Chief Simpson.

(1) Chief Simpson explained that he is moving forward with hiring two part-time officers and hopes to begin their training in March.

(2) Chief Simpson expects to have a draft Needs Assessment to the Board for the March or April meeting.

(3) There were no concerns expressed by the neighbors related to the small arms range training recently conducted at the airport. Chief Simpson will now take the next step in the process of establishing a permanent range at the airport for weapons training and qualification.

(4) Police Officer Commendations will be presented at the March 24, 2014 meeting.

(5) Chief Simpson discussed cooperative efforts with neighboring police departments and requested guidance on exploring the possibility of forming a regional police force.

Motion by Mr. Little and second by Mr. Geouque to look further into the concept of forming a regional police force and meeting with neighboring municipalities. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

d. Proposed Ordinance Related to Billboards. Mr. Andress and Mr. Pompo reviewed the proposed ordinance to address billboard advertising.

Motion by Mr. Geouque and second by Mr. Ayotte to move forward with preparing an ordinance to address billboards advertising. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

e. Proposed Ordinance Amendment Related to Airport Development Zone Uses.

Motion by Mr. Little and second by Mr. Ayotte to move forward with preparing a new definition of "Cultural Facility" for possible application in the Airport Development Zone. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

f. Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment Relating to Highway Commercial Zone Uses.

Motion by Mr. Little and second by Mr. Allaband to proceed with revising the definition of “Museum” for possible application in the Highway Commercial zoning district. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

g. Waste and Recycling Program Evaluation.

Mr. Address presented a report on Waste and Recycling Program prepared by Gannett Fleming, Inc. for the Township. The report makes recommendations related to ways in which to improve the Township’s recycling program.;

Motion by Mr. Geouque and second by Mr. Allaband to take the next step to come into compliance with recycling requirements. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

h. DEP Approved Extension Request – Artesian Water.

An update related to the well testing program proposed by Artesian was discussed, however, no action was taken by Board.

i. Update Health Insurance Renewal Options.

Mr. Address explained efforts taken and underway related to renewal of health plan coverage for Township employees.

Motion by Mr. Geouque and second by Mr. Ayotte to renew with Aetna and continue to search for alternative new coverage. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

2. Solicitor. Solicitor Pompo had nothing to report.

3. Treasurer. Several questions were answered regarding various invoices.

a. Approval of Disbursements. Motion by Mr. Ayotte and second by Mr. Geouque to approve payment of the disbursements in the amount of \$197,436.62. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented. Mr. Allaband abstained from voting on the Richard Crossan invoices.

b. Paid Bills Report. Motion by Mr. Allaband and second by Mr. Little to ratify payment of the bills on the Paid Bills Report totaling \$40,139.08. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

G. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Motion by Mr. Little and second by Mr. Allaband to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 27, 2014. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

H. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Little suggested that the Township needs a newsletter. The cost could possibly be reduced by advertisements. He volunteered to work on this effort and the Board agreed to his request to move forward with this effort.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION(S) HELD OR SCHEDULED

Chairman Gordon announced there will be an executive session this evening to discuss various legal, personnel and real estate matters.

The Board recessed at 9:40 p.m. and reconvened at 11:09 p.m.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Little and second by Ms. Gordon to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 p.m. The vote was unanimous to adopt the motion as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis J. Gay
Secretary