

Lower Oxford Township
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Lower Oxford Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Building, 220 Township Road, on Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

The following were in Attendance: Chairman Kenneth L. Hershey, Vice Chairman W. Ronald Kepler, Supervisor W. Ralph Cheek, Codes Enforcement Officer Deborah Kinney, Building Inspector Scott Moran, Roadmaster Steve Price, Secretary/Treasurer Sara Laganelli, and seven guests.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kenneth L. Hershey called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. Kenneth L. Hershey led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

PUBLIC COMMENT CONCERNING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

RECOGNITION OF THOSE ASKING TO APPEAR ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Allen Fowler, Union Fire Co. No. 1 – Mr. Fowler introduced himself and Chief Mark Vining from the Union Fire Co. No. 1. He expressed appreciation to the Township for all of their support in the past. He presented the Board with a copy of the PowerPoint presentation from a meeting that was held in April. He explained that there is a shortage in the municipal fund. The fire company needs to replace the aerial in 2014. They proposed an increase in 2011 and again in 2014. Another municipality suggested they just do one increase to cover the total needed. According to Mr. Fowler, that is not the fire company's intentions. They have proposed an increase in 2011 and are going to stick to what their letter said. He said they want to work with the municipalities and are not happy about the lack of funds that will be in 2014. Mr. Mark Vining explained the equipment they wish to replace and the costs involved. Mr. Hershey asked if there were grants available. Mr. Kepler asked how much money the current millage generates. He also noted that it's the Board of Supervisors and Borough Council that raises the millage rate, not the fire company. Mr. Kepler stated that we are in a recession and everyone needs to tighten their belt. He asked if the fire company had been doing that. Mr. Cheek wanted to encourage them and said that they do a fine job. He felt that the community is behind them and said he would support what the community wants.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Cheek moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting on April 14th. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

Presentation of Bills – Mr. Cheek moved to approve and pay the bills; totaling \$72,602.60 for General Fund and \$5,914.18 for Open Space Revenue Fund. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Fiduciary Refunds – Mr. Cheek moved to transfer \$1,116.21 from the four listed escrow sub-accounts to the Master Escrow account to reimburse for legal and engineering fees. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Budget Deviations – Mr. Cheek moved to adopt Resolution 2010-17 for General Fund Budget Deviations totaling \$1,160.00. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ✓ Memo from Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission with a new publication, entitled *Food System Planning*.
 - ✓ Union Fire Co. No. 1 incident listing for April.
 - ✓ PSATS News Bulletin for April.
 - ✓ PSATS Township Legal Defense Partnership's Spring newsletter.
 - ✓ Invitation to the Borough of Oxford's celebration and dedication ceremony for the new Police Headquarters on May 22nd.
 - ✓ Results of the Mercer National Survey of Employer-Sponsored Health Plans 2009.
 - ✓ Press Release from Governor Rendell regarding the approval of Winter Storm Disaster Assistance from FEMA.
 - ✓ The 2008-2009 Year in Review from the Chester County Department of Community Development.
 - ✓ Letter from the Oxford Area Sewer Authority regarding the USDA notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment 30 day public comment period.
- A sympathy card was sent to Mrs. Barker from the Township.

Comments: Mr. Hershey asked about the snow assistance. Mr. Kepler moved to approve the the correspondence. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mr. Scott Moran reported that he had four plan reviews, eleven regular inspections, and one consultation for the month of April. Mr. Kepler moved to approve the Building Inspector's Report. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Mrs. Kinney read the Building Permits & Zoning Violations Reports for April. She issued seven building permits, three certificates of occupancy, and one sign permit. Mrs. Kinney said she sent nineteen "friendly weed reminders" to the chronic violators. She also sent weed violation notices to 111 Crowl Toot and 128 First Ave. Mr. Hershey noted that the McDowell's only have 15 more days and suggested that Mrs. Kinney be ready in case they don't get it done.

Mrs. Kinney noted that she did several reports, including the Chester County Tax Assessment, McGraw Hill Construction, and US Census Bureau monthly reports.

Subdivisions & Land Development Plans – Mr. Kepler moved to adopt Resolution 2010-16 extending the final plan approval for Oxford Commons for an additional six (6) months. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Mrs. Kinney said that she met with Craig Williams from Strausser Engineering regarding the Elmer Beiler SFPM. Mr. Strausser had questions regarding the OASA spray field land development plan that was recorded. Mrs. Kinney explained that according to the Health Department's review, they need to do additional testing.

Mrs. Kinney said she left a message for Mr. Frost to please set-up a meeting with the Township Engineer regarding Evans Court. Mr. Kepler said that he spoke with Ed Fisher this evening and there will be a meeting on Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. at Evans Court.

Mr. Cheek moved to approve the Codes Enforcement Officer's reports. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

ENGINEER

No report.

REGIONAL ACT 537 PLAN

Mr. Bob Yeatman gave his report for the month of April. He said that he received the draft of the 537 Plan on Friday and was supposed to be done reviewing it today and get back to Ed Lennex. He said he found a few minor changes but the basic concept is good. They are finally getting close. Approvals are needed by August 16th. There will be time for the municipalities and public to review it and make comments.

Mr. Cheek asked about the USDA loan. Mr. Yeatman said that two weeks ago it was advertised in the newspaper for a thirty (30) day public comment period specifically on the environmental review. Depending on the comments, the USDA should be issuing the letter of condition.

Mr. Cheek moved to approve Mr. Yeatman's report. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

ROADMASTER

Mr. Steve Price read the Roadmaster's Report for April. Mr. Cheek moved to approve the Roadmaster's Report. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

REGIONAL RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY

Mr. Tony derKinderen gave the report for April. He said there is a lot of movement; on the soccer and baseball fields grass is growing. He said that the Chester County Conservation district had issued a stop moving dirt order until the sight was stabilized. As of the inspection on May 7th, there was only one issue left on the soccer field. They have come across the issue of not enough dirt for the baseball field and there are discussions about different scenarios as to where to get the dirt. YSM had mentioned the driveways to be done by the municipalities. Mr. derKinderen said that completion should be in two months. They need to start thinking about security, maintenance, and insurance. He looked around at a few other townships in the area that have fields. Colerain Township bought the equipment to maintain their fields. Little Britain is in the same situation; they've experienced vandalism. The Board thanked Mr. der Kinderen for all of his hard work. Mr. Kepler moved to approve the Rec. report. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Open Space Preservation – Aaron Beiler's settlement will be soon. Mr. Kepler suggested the Secretary attend to present the Township's check.

Comprehensive Plan – Mr. Joel Brown reported that they worked for the second time on the Land Use Map. It is on the County's website. They will review the final version at a future meeting. A "Fair share" discussion regarding the Township's requirements to provide a share of land uses. The next meeting is May 26th. Mr. Kepler moved to approve the Comp Plan report. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Lincoln Village Sewer – No changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Solar Energy – Mr. Hershey said he is interested in learning more about solar energy and how it could help the Township. He requested that the Secretary get information.

Speed limit on Elkview Rd. – Mr. Kepler said he had a request to lower the speed limit on Elkview Road to 25mph. Mr. Kepler said it would require an Engineer study because there are not enough houses for it to qualify automatically. An Engineer study could cost \$1,200-1,400.00. He didn't feel like he could justify that amount of cost for one person's request. The Board agreed.

2009 Audit – Mr. Kepler said that the Auditor's contacted him regarding the Tax Collector's audit for 2009. There is a discrepancy between \$26 and \$118.00. The Auditor's felt it would cost the Township more than that for them to find the errors. Mr. Kepler moved to have the Secretary write a letter from the Supervisor's to the Board of Auditors stating that they accept the 2009 Audit with the discrepancy in the Tax Collector's report. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Alternate Building Inspector – Mr. Cheek moved to appoint Charles Shock and Light-Heigel Associates as alternate building inspectors in the event that Scott Moran (Accurate Building Inspections) is not available to do the inspection. Mr. Kepler seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

2010 Snow Assistance – Mr. Hershey moved to adopt Resolution 2010-18 designating Ron Kepler as the Township’s agent for the snow assistance. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Oxford Bicycle Road Race – Mr. Kepler moved to approve the request and send a letter to “All That is Good” director, Richard Ruoff for the Oxford Bicycle Road Race to be held on July 17th.

OTHER BUSINESS

Benard Park – Mr. Kepler explained that the LCA (Lincoln Community Association) had requested electricity be run to the pavilion in the park. They want to do movies in the park on Friday nights. Mr. Kepler explained that when the park was first started one of the rules was that it be open from dusk until dawn so that it didn’t interfere with the neighbors. The Supervisors all agreed that rule should stay and that putting electricity in the pavilion would possibly encourage night life in the park.

Hyponex – Mr. Kepler said that they had received complaints about the roads around Hyponex. He met with PennDOT and Hyponex. PennDOT gave Hyponex permission to sweep the road. There was some discussion. Mr. Kepler said he would sit down with the Township Engineer, Jim Gleason, and possibly DEP to come up with a solution to the ongoing problem.

Open Bids – Mr. Kepler opened the sealed bids for road materials and read all of the results. Mr. Kepler moved to award the Blacktop bid to Pennsy Supply dba McMinn’s. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. Mr. Kepler moved to award the Seal Coat-in-Place bid to Asphalt Industries. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. Mr. Kepler moved to award the diesel and heating fuel bid to Alger Oil. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. Mr. Kepler moved to award the Paving Equipment bid to Long’s Asphalt. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Tony derKinderen – Commented on the solar panels: find the break even point, check out lifespan and warranty information, look into rebates, certified installation. In regards to the Fire Company’s request: how much are the trucks used? If they are only 25 years old and well maintained they may not need replaced. He is a pilot and has flown 40 year old airplanes. Also noted that the Fire Chief was wearing a “Pierce” hat and Pierce is the most expensive brand of fire equipment. He suggested the Board give is some thought and check into it.

Mrs. Teri Dignazio – Asked if there was coordination of the Act 537 Plan with the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Kepler moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending. Mr. Cheek seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Note: Copies of all reports mentioned are available at the Lower Oxford Township Building, 220 Township Road, Oxford, PA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara B. Laganelli
Secretary/Treasurer