

WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 2, 2010

The Wrightstown Township Board of Supervisors met on Monday August 2, 2010 in the Meeting Room of the Wrightstown Township Municipal Building, 2203 Second Street Pike, Wrightstown, Pa. Chair Chester S. Pogonowski called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Members present were Vice Chair Jane B. Magne, Treasurer Robert S. Lloyd, Solicitor Susan Piette and Township Manager Joseph F. Pantano.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On motion of Member Magne, seconded by Member Lloyd, minutes of the meetings held on July 19, 2010 and July 26, 2010 were approved. All voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: On motion of Member Magne, seconded by Member Lloyd, General Fund bills in the amount of \$65,360.41, Loan payments in the amount of \$20,858.60, Cable Access Fund in the amount of \$119.90, Open Space Bond Fund in the amount of \$363.71, Highway Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$2,029.00, Escrow Fund bills in the amount of \$15,000.00 and transfers from General Fund to Payroll Fund in the amount of \$10,000, were approved for payment. All voted in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Member Magne highlighted programs at The Village Library which include the Scrabble Club, the hand-weight exercise program and the Travel Club. She encouraged residents to complete the Comprehensive Plan Survey being conducted by the Bucks County Planning Commission, noting that forms are available on line and at the Township Municipal Office.

Ms. Magne stated that funds are being received at the Township office for the support of the stained glass window which will be installed behind the dais in the Municipal building.

Member Magne announced the Historic Commission members hold an open house at the Octagonal School on the third Sunday of the month from May through October from 1 – 5 P.M. at the Swamp Road location.

Member Magne urged residents to be aware of the serious drought which is being experienced in the entire region. Some residents have reported wells going dry or a limited water supply due to water table inadequacies.

Attorney Piette distributed a chart of residents who have experienced diminishing water supplies during the past month and her contacts to resolve the situations. After a lengthy discussion about the process and the protections the Township has provided for residents in an effort to protect water supplies, a determination was made to define responsibility for corrections by hiring a hydrogeologist. On motion of Member Magne, seconded by Member Lloyd, Solicitor Piette was authorized to engage the services of a hydrogeologist at an estimated cost of \$15,000.-\$20,000, should she determine that the services would be necessary. All voted in favor.

Township resident David Dutko spoke with Board members about the solidity of the agreements with quarry owners &/or developers.

Chair Pogonowski reminded everyone that the Middletown Grange Fair is scheduled for a 5-day event from August 18 – 22, 2010. Program books are available throughout the area in public places and at the Township building.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment at this time.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Piette requested approval to advertise for adoption an Ordinance adopting the 2009 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code, Regulating and Governing the Conditions and Maintenance of All Property, Buildings and Structures; by Providing the Standards for Supplied Utilities and Facilities and Other Physical Things and Conditions Essential to Ensure that Structures are Safe, Sanitary and Fit for Occupation and Use; and the Condemnation of Buildings and Structures Unfit for Human Occupancy and Use, and the Demolition of Such Existing Structures in Wrightstown Township; Providing for the Issuance of Permits and Collection of Fees Therefore; Repealing Any and All Other Ordinances and Parts of Ordinances in Conflict Herewith. On motion of Member Lloyd, seconded by Member Magne, authorization to advertise the ordinance was approved. All voted in favor.

Solicitor Piette requested approval to advertise for adoption an Ordinance adopting the 2009 Edition of the International Fire Code and Repealing all Ordinances and Parts of the Ordinances in Conflict Therewith, Other than Wrightstown Township Ordinance No. 143 Concerning Fire Suppression Systems. On motion of Member Lloyd, seconded by Member Magne, authorization to advertise the ordinance was approved. All voted in favor.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: There was no report from the Engineer.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: Member Magne reported having received an e-mail from Lingohocken Fire Chief Jakubowski who stated that the Fire Company would be receiving an award following the recent ISO Mutual Aid Drill in Wrightstown Hunt, Durham Road, Wrightstown Township. With the cooperation of nearby fire associations they demonstrated skill, equipment and water sufficiently to allow for an ISO rating to be reduced from an earlier 9 to the present 6. The rating assures homeowners a savings which might be upwards of \$150 on a homeowner's fire insurance policy as a direct result of the activity. Volunteers of the supporting fire companies were applauded for this endeavor.

Chair Pogonowski announced having attended a recent meeting of the Bucks County Tax Collection Committee who has awarded the collection of the Earned Income Tax to Keystone Insurance Company. Keystone submitted a proposal whereby they would charge a 1.39% commission saving Wrightstown Township approximately \$4,000 a year. Collections are to begin January 1, 2011.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Manager Pantano reported that recent advertisements for two clerical positions in the office have resulted in approximately 150 applications which are being reviewed. The earlier deadline for submission has been extended to Wednesday August 11, 2010.

The Public Works Department submitted three proposals for a light-bar for the newly-purchased pick-up truck. By consensus, the purchase will be made from Havis-Shields for a Whelen Liberty LED light-bar at a cost of \$1,861.24. The cost will be deducted from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund.

Manager Pantano reported that the Township web site has been transferred to the new host server.

Manager Pantano distributed copies of a letter received from Pa. Department of Environmental Protection, Southeast Regional Office dated July 12, 2010. The letter approves the extension of the Chapman Corners (a.k.a. Hibbs Tract Subdivision) Wastewater Treatment Plant Pump & Haul Agreement which will expire on March 1, 2011. All other prior terms and conditions remain in accordance with the Department's approval on August 13, 2009.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business to discuss at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of Member Lloyd, seconded by Member Magne, the Meeting was adjourned. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph F. Pantano
Township Manager