

WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 4, 2010

The Wrightstown Township Board of Supervisors met on Monday, October 4, 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. Members present were Vice Chair Jane B. Magne, Treasurer Robert S. Lloyd, Solicitor Terry W. Clemons, Engineer Mario Canales and Township Manager Joseph F. Pantano.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion of Member Lloyd, seconded by Vice Chair Magne, minutes of the meeting held on September 20, 2010 were approved as presented. All voted in favor.

On motion of Member Lloyd, seconded by Vice Chair Magne, minutes of the meeting held on September 27, 2010 were approved as presented. Member Pogonowski abstained due to absence.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

On motion of Vice Chair Magne, seconded by Member Lloyd, General Fund bills in the amount of \$75,299.54, Building Loan payment in the amount of \$2753.65, Open Space loan payment in the amount of \$18,104.95, Cable Access bills in the amount of \$559.95, Special Reserve Fund bills in the amount of \$3,000.00 and EMS Fund bills in the amount of \$47,233.22 for a total of \$146,951.31 were approved for payment. All voted in favor.

On a motion of Vice Chair Magne, seconded by Member Lloyd, Escrow Funds bills in the amount of \$8,108.86 were approved for payment. All voted in favor.

On a motion of Vice Chair Magne, seconded by Member Lloyd, transfers from the General Fund account to Payroll Fund in the amount of \$12,000.00 and from the EMS account to the Fire Relief Association Funds in the amount of \$47,233.22 were approved. All voted in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vice Chair Magne announced the Village Library is going to hold an educational and informational series of seminars for those 60+ years young. The initial topic is Social Security: Facts, Myths and Strategies. The sessions will be held Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 1:30 PM and Saturday, October 23, 2010 at 10:00 AM in the Community Room of the Village Library. November's presentation will be Planning for the Cost of Long Term Care. These are free public service presentations by Solicitor Susan Piette, Esq.

The Village Library's Fall Book Sale is scheduled to commence on November 6, 2010. The annual Wrightstown Harvest Festival will be held on October 30, 2010 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM at the Middletown Grange property on Penns Park Road.

Shallow wells in the Township have been experiencing low water levels. Over usage of water can affect neighbors, so judicious use of water use is recommended. In the spring the EAC will present information and videos regarding water conservation. This should be educational for those not accustomed to having their own wells.

The Historic Commission will be holding its last open house for the year of the Octagonal School on Sunday, October 17, 2010 from 1-5 PM.

Lingohocken Fire Company will be holding its annual fire prevention open house on October 8, 2010 from 6 – 9 PM at the fire house in Wycombe. In addition to Fire Company volunteers, medics from Central Bucks Ambulance Squad and the Newtown Police will be there to meet residents.

The stained glass window of the Township seal will be installed behind the dais soon. Donations will continue to be accepted at the Township Office.

Chair Pogonowski commented that despite the recent rain, water should still be conserved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

John Fowler, 1146 Wrightstown Road, provided a sample share of produce from the Anchor Run Farm CSA. Shares are available for Wrightstown residents at a preferred rate. He noted how well the program works and that he appreciates the support of Wrightstown Township.

Lily Roth, 102 Warner Way, whose family is a share member at the Farm, said that her experience makes her appreciate where our food is coming from and more aware of what others do not have.

Jennifer Daniels, 315 Ridge Road, stated she is a newcomer who truly appreciates the heritage of Wrightstown Township, coming from Atlanta. She is grateful for the program and thankful for the life lessons of hard work which it teaches children.

Lisa Smith, 871 Park Avenue, commented how she appreciates the farmers. She thanked them for their hard work, composting and recycling efforts.

Chester Pogonowski remarked that since the CSA began, it has been placing first in the market basket division at the Grange Fair with products from Anchor Run Farm. This year the CSA also received “Best in Show.”

Cheryl Slopey, 510 Durham Road, a 7 year member of the CSA shared her experience on how eating their share of the produce has improved the quality of her and her family’s life. She also addressed the seasonality of food and long term storage such as freezing.

Mindy Bence, 510 Durham Road, said that she and her husband work 45 hours every year at the farm and supervise members' work schedules, as well as being Board members of the CSA. They appreciate seeing the positive benefits of organic farming.

Annabel Roth, 102 Warner Way, recently went on a class trip to the Anchor Run Farm CSA and really enjoyed it. She commented "I learned things I did not know" and enjoyed picking the food and eating it.

Vice Chair Magne commented that the Bucks County Foodshed Alliance provided a grant to Wrightstown Elementary School for the educational instruction and the field trips.

Glen Kirker, 65 Wrenwood Way, has been a member of the CSA for five years and feels it is very important to be involved for reasons of community life, health and exposure to this way of living.

John Rasiej, 1092 Cedar Lane, said that when he first heard of the CSA project he rushed to join. He thanked the Township for using the preserved open space this way.

Jeff Troy, 183 Robin Road, said that he, his wife and four children love going to the farm and really appreciate it. He used to belong to a CSA in New Jersey and was pleased that they now reside in this Township.

Member Magne noted that she had the advantage of growing up on a farm and is delighted that young people are being exposed to a farm experience.

Dana Hunting, 2578 Second Street Pike, is one of the farmers at Anchor Run Farm. She provided an update on the farm happenings. Present CSA membership includes 268 families of which 160 are half shares and 100 are full shares. Fourteen percent of the members are Wrightstown residents. Currently, there is a 175 person wait list.

Dana commented on the school field trips where 55 students from Wrightstown Elementary School participated. Monthly potluck dinners are held as well as workshops and herbshops. A newsletter has been created to update and educate people. Council Rock High School is getting involved with learning the benefits of composting, including cafeteria composting possibilities. The website is [www.anchorrunfarm.com](http://www.anchorrunfarm.com).

Derrick McGheehan, 2578 Second Street Pike, the other farmer at Anchor Run Farm said that they are cultivating about ten acres of fruits and vegetables. Three additional acres will have cover crops for the next three years to replenish the soil. Crop rotation is used but no chemicals, both essential to sustainable agriculture. They emphasize diverse habitats with wildflower growth to encourage butterflies and other species. Likewise, amphibians are returning to the pond and the fields. Surplus food is going to a foodbank. In addition, two full CSA shares are going to the Bucks County Housing Group, donated by members of the farm.

John Fowler acknowledged Robin Hoy who was instrumental in founding the CSA.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Clemons commented on Solicitor Piette's 60+ seminars to be held at the Village Library. This is a free service to the community.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Resolution 2010-018. Manager Pantano provided a resolution approving joining the Municipal Utility Alliance which provides service to municipalities in bidding electrical utilities. To proceed in obtaining consortium rate quotes, the Township must join the MUA.

Chair Chester Pogonowski confirmed that this would not bind the Township to the suppliers. Solicitor Clemons noted that if the Township formally requests a proposal, it cannot say no at that point. This is not the same as requesting a rate request. Inquiring about service would not mean a commitment. Member Lloyd made a motion to approve Resolution 2010-18. Vice Chair Magne seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

John Rasiej commented that CRSD is examining where to purchase electric. Perhaps the Township could piggybank on the school agreement for possible reduced rates.

Traffic Signal Maintenance. Armour and Sons are reviewing permit drawings to get the necessary information, i.e. quantities and measurements, for intersection marking quotes. A decision was tabled until the next meeting.

Pineville Tavern Escrow Release. Manager Pantano requested a reduction in the Pineville Tavern Escrow Fund which was approved by the Township Engineer. A motion was made by Member Lloyd, seconded by Vice Chair Magne to approve escrow Release #7 in the amount of \$17,518.22. All voted in favor. The balance in the Letter of Credit is \$88,199.23.

Discussion of Audit Services. The Township currently has elected auditors. There was discussion concerning hiring an auditing firm to conduct the audit to relieve the burden on the elected auditors as the complexity of our bookkeeping process increases. The Township would need to solicit bids from auditing companies if it decides to use independent auditors. Auditor David Delbianco expressed his concerns with the auditing process. Solicitor Clemons advised the board on legal matters regarding the selection of auditors.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Chair Pogonowski stated that an Executive Session would be held following adjournment for matters of personnel. The Board would not be re-convening.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph F. Pantano  
Township Manager