

**WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 15, 2004**

The Wrightstown Township Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order at 8:01 p.m. by Chair Chester S. Pogonowski. In attendance were Vice-Chair Jane B. Magne, and Member/Treasurer Allen G. Masenheimer. Also in attendance were Township Solicitor Susan Piette of Terry W. Clemons & Associates and Township Administrator Eileen M. Bradley.

The Minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meeting of March 1, 2004 and the Work Session of March 8, 2004, were accepted as presented.

Ms. Magne made a motion, seconded by Mr. Masenheimer, to approve for payment Bills dated March 15, 2004 in the amount of \$74,907.84. All were in favor.

Ms. Magne made a motion, second by Mr. Masenheimer, to approve for payment Escrow Bills dated March 15, 2004 in the amount of \$4,403.84. All were in favor.

REPORTS: The following Reports for the month of February were accepted as presented: the Treasurer's Report; the Building Permit Reports for January and February 2004; the Lingohocken Fire Company Report.

Ms. Magne announced that the Wrightstown Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) had been selected by the Southeastern Pennsylvania EAC Network to receive a \$500.00 2004 Environmental Achievement Award for the development of the CSA at Anchor Run Farm Project. Anchor Run Farm is the first CSA in Pennsylvania initiated by a municipality and the second in the nation. A plaque was presented to Members of the EAC at a seminar on March 6, 2004.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS: Eureka Stone Quarry: Ms. Piette reported that a settlement agreement had been executed by Eureka Stone Quarry. The stipulation would now be presented to the Court of Common Pleas for their approval.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS: Ms. Magne made a motion, seconded by Mr. Masenheimer, to appoint Mr. Tony Hentz to a non-voting vacancy on the Environmental Advisory Council, for a term ending December 31, 2005. All were in favor.

Ms. Magne made a motion, seconded by Mr. Masenheimer, to appoint Mr. Norman Sommer to an alternate vacancy on the Wrightstown

Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2004. All were in favor.

ADMINISTRATORS COMMENTS: Ms. Bradley introduced Eagle Scout Candidate Michael Dutko. Mr. Dutko said he had a community service project that he wanted to implement at the Anchor Run Farm. He wished to construct picnic tables for use at the Farm. Mr. Masenheimer asked if the Scouts would be using recycled materials. Mr. Dutko said that he was researching the cost of a material called TREX. He had raised funds and was looking for additional funding for more tables. All contributions were to be made to Troop 74 and were tax deductible.

Traffic Signal Update: Ms. Bradley said that pre-emptors at the Swamp Road and Route 232 intersection and at Durham and Township Line Road had been tested and were fully functioning. Upgrade work at the Five Points Intersection (Routes 232 and 413) was underway, which included: new LED lights; new controller; new pavement markings; new masts and poles; reused signal heads from the Pineville intersection; existing traffic loops.

Mr. Pogonowski called for Public Comment. Mrs. Erin Coyne of Worthington Mill Road spoke about road conditions on Worthington Mill Road. She presented pictures of recent near accidents involving a school bus and a quarry truck. Mrs. Coyne recommended that the Board speak to the Quarries about limiting truck traffic during school bus hours and to have a greater police presence on the road.

Mrs. Eileen Hips of Worthington Mill Road brought truck parts that had fallen off quarry trucks onto her property.

Mrs. Liz Garruto of Estates Court was a new resident and each month she saw an increase in truck traffic. Mrs. Garruto asked what the Board could do for residents' safety. Mr. Pogonowski said that the Board was still gathering information, but the roads were under state control.

Suzanne Giuffrida of Swamp Road also presented pictures of traffic on Swamp Road and asked that the speed limit be reduced. Ms. Magne said that the Township had repeatedly asked PADOT to do a safety study of Swamp and Worthington Mill Roads, with a refusal from PADOT.

Mr. George Van der Horne of Newtown Township asked Wrightstown residents from Swamp and Worthington Mill Roads to join forces with Newtown Township residents to take PADOT to court to fix the roads.

Mr. Tim Ireland of Swamp Road asked what residents could do. Mr. Pogonowski said to pressure state legislators to insist on improvements. Ms. Magne noted that Lower Makefield and the Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions don't seem to agree that Swamp Road needed improving.

Mr. Mark Shablin of Swamp Road cited a 1993 letter to PADOT expressing safety concerns related to Swamp Road. He also cited a 1971 newspaper article expressing the same concerns. Mr. Shablin asked the Board to reconsider a "Jake Brake" ordinance.

Mr. Pogonowski said that PADOT considered engine retarders as a safety feature, with Newtown Police concurring. Mr. Shablin asked if the Newtown Police could use a decimal meter to measure the noise that these breaks make.

Mr. William Peterson of Swamp Road said that there were no School Bus signs on Swamp Road would someone please look into this matter.

Mrs. Marcy Conti of Worthington Mill Road said that last Thursday, a fully loaded truck had an accident in front of her house.

Mr. Jamie Conti of Worthington Mill Road told of an incident on December 8, 2003 when his school bus driver avoided a near accident when a quarry truck could not stop for a school bus with flashing lights.

Ms. Pat Festenmacher of Worthington Mill Road announced a federal hearing scheduled in Trenton, NJ on April 2, 2004 to discuss traffic issues.

Mr. Michael Hoy of Worthington Mill Road said that Worthington Mill Road was badly deteriorated because the roadway did not meet PADOT specifications.

ROADMASTER/ROAD FOREMAN: Mr. Masenheimer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Magne, to approve the installation of a street

light at the intersection of Durham and Stoopville Roads at the request of a resident. All were in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Deacon/Popper Minor Subdivision Sketch

Plan: Appearing for the Applicant were Mr. Marc Jonas, Esquire of Eastburn and Gray; Mr. Patrick Deacon, owner/developer; Mr. George Popper, owner/developer; and Mr. Ted Koven of Urwiler and Walter, Engineer.

Mr. Jonas noted that the original three-lot Preliminary Plan submission had been modified to this two-lot sketch, which reduced natural resource disturbance by use of a shared driveway. Minor regrading would alleviate some of the severity of the driveway. Additional stormwater best management practices were added for groundwater recharge.

Ms. Piette questioned the status of the "paper road" ownership of Williams Lane. Mr. Jonas said that the issues would be resolved legally to the Township's satisfaction.

Mr. Jonas said that the Applicant would proceed to a preliminary submission of the two-lot plan.

Szarko Subdivision Planning Modules: Mr. Masenheimer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Magne, to approve Resolution #882, Szarko Subdivision Planning Module approval. All were in favor.

Mr. Masenheimer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Magne, to approve administrative changes to the McCaffrey Subdivision Planning Modules. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: Letters of Extension: Mr. Masenheimer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Magne, to approve Letters of Extension for the following: Gorski Minor Subdivision Preliminary Plan to May 31, 2004; Deacon/Popper Minor Subdivision Preliminary Plan to June 30, 2004. All were in favor.

Mrs. Robin Hoy asked that the Board send a letter to PADOT asking that Worthington Mill Road be closed until after Swamp Road is reopened. It was agreed that the Board would authorize a letter asking PADOT to close Worthington Mill Road until such time as the road could be repaired to handle truck traffic.

Mr. Ed Garabed of Mud Road said that repairing the road was not the solution, as Worthington Mill Road had no shoulders.

Mr. David Dutko of Worthington Mill Road said that the method of repairing potholes on Worthington Mill Road was highly dangerous, as there was no signage indicating that entire lanes were closed to traffic.

Mr. Shablin suggested that the Township pave the PECO access lot on Worthington Mill.

Mrs. Coyne asked if the Township would consider installing a parking area near the Octagonal School so that trucks could be pulled over.

There being no further business or comment, Mr. Masenheimer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Magne, to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen M. Bradley
Township Administrator

Res. #882