

EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2019

The June 17, 2019 Regular Meeting took place in the Township meeting room at 566 Beaumont Road, Devon. Supervisors present included: Betsy Fadem, Chair; James W. Oram, Jr.; Karl A. Romberger, Jr., and Marc Heppe. Also attending were Dan Fox, Township Manager; Eugene C. Briggs, Jr., AICP, CZO, Assistant Township Manager and Director of Planning and Zoning; Dave Obzud, Police Chief; Bill DeFeo, Finance Director; and Andrew D. H. Rau, Esquire, Township Solicitor.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Fadem called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance. She announced that the Board met in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss a litigation matter.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation to Retiring Community Volunteer

Mrs. Fadem presented a certificate of recognition to Kevin Melich, who is retiring after 10 years of dedication and service as a member of the Easttown Citizens Advisory Committee (ECAC). She stated that his commitment as a volunteer with countless contributions to the community are greatly appreciated by the Township and he will be missed.

BOARD MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 440-19 to Change the 30 Minute Parking Restriction to Two Hour Parking on 600 Block of Lancaster Avenue

Chief Obzud updated the Board on this item. The amendment was first proposed as part of the Berwyn Parking Study process by the Berwyn Devon Business Association. The draft ordinance proposes installing signage to change parking limits on the south side of the 600 block of Lancaster Avenue from 30 minutes to two hours during business hours, Monday through Saturday, from 8 am-6 pm. The two parking spaces in front of the Berwyn Post Office located at 662 Lancaster Avenue, would remain restricted to 30 minutes during the Berwyn Post Office business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8 am - 4 pm, and Saturdays, from 8 am -1 pm, as requested by the United States Postage Service.

Before discussion, Mrs. Fadem asked the Board for a motion. Mr. Oram made a motion to adopt Ordinance 440-19 to Change the 30 Minute Parking Restriction to Two Hour Parking on 600 Block of Lancaster Avenue. Mr. Heppe seconded the motion. The Board questioned Chief Obzud regarding the proposal.

After discussion, Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the public.

Matthew DiDiminico, owner of properties fronting Lancaster Avenue on the 600 block of Lancaster Avenue, and his son, Michael DiDiminico, were in attendance to support two hour parking restrictions for all relevant spaces, including the ones in from the Berwyn Post Office.

Janet Hoffman, of the United States Postal Service and employee of the Berwyn Post Office, expressed concern over providing for longer parking times due to limited parking and high turnover for patrons of the Post Office. Avis Yuni, of 231 Waterloo Road, and Amanda Wollick, of 102 Bartholomew Road, spoke in agreement with Ms. Hoffman.

Wyley Franks, of Eadah Enterprises, noted that these spots are for all of the businesses in Berwyn and that business owners have expressed the need for longer allowable parking times and that these spots serve all of downtown Berwyn.

After public comment, the Board discussed amending the proposed ordinance to better accommodate the needs of patrons of the Berwyn Post Office. The motion was tabled and Mr. Rau stated that he would work with Chief Obzud on an updated draft that reflected designated 30 minute parking front the post office and amended restriction times on weekdays and weekends. This new draft will be considered at a future meeting.

Consideration of Adoption of Resolution 2019-17 Pension Procedures

Mr. DeFeo introduced this item to the Board. Based on the passage of Act 44 of 2009, municipalities are now required to prepare written procedures to select the most qualified provider to enter into a professional contract with in respect to its pension plans. Before the Board for consideration is a draft resolution enacting written procedures to comply with Act 44. Mr. Fox added that this is a housekeeping item and that the Township complies with Act 44.

Before discussion, Mrs. Fadem asked the Board for a motion. Mr. Oram made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-17 Pension Procedures. Mr. Romberger seconded the motion. Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the Board and then the public and there were no comments. Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Finance: Mr. DeFeo outlined the contents of his memo, dated June 17, 2019.

Planning and Zoning: Mr. Briggs outlined the contents of his memo, June 13, 2019. Mrs. Fadem added that she is meeting with U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan regarding the Township's Devon Train Station project.

Police: Chief Obzud asked the Board if there were any questions on his monthly report. Mr. Oram also provided an update as the supervisor liaison to the Police Department, including thanking township staff

for organizing the Berwyn Veterans Run event, including Officer Boyd and the Police Department and the Fire Companies.

Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the public. Ms. Wollick stated that there are property maintenance issues at the Berwyn Village land development site on Francis Avenue and Mr. Briggs responded that he would address with the project manager.

REGULAR TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

Minutes

Before discussion, Mrs. Fadem asked the Board for a motion. Mr. Heppe made a motion to approve the Board of Supervisors meeting minutes of June 03, 2019. Mr. Romberger seconded the motion. Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the Board and there were no comments. Mrs. Fadem then opened the floor to the public and there were no comments. Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Authorize Payment of Bills

Before discussion, Mrs. Fadem asked the Board for a motion. Mr. Oram made a motion to authorize payment of the bills totaling \$614,748.91; date ending June 13, 2019. Mr. Heppe seconded the motion. Mrs. Fadem opened the floor to the Board and it questioned the staff on miscellaneous aspects of the bills. Mrs. Fadem then opened the floor to the public, there were no questions. Mrs. Fadem called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Neighborhood Watch (Marc Heppe): Mr. Heppe stated that this group has not met since his last update and will reconvene in September.

Park & Recreation Board (Christopher Polites and Alt James Oram): Mr. Oram stated that the Parks and Recreation Board will hold its annual July 4th Picnic and Parade in downtown Berwyn on Thursday, July 04 and that the Board will next meet on July 16.

Planning Commission (Marc Heppe and Betsy Fadem): Mrs. Fadem stated that the Commission met on June 04 and that she had nothing to add to Mr. Brigg's departmental report. The Commission next meets on July 02.

Policy Committee (James Oram and Betsy Fadem): Mrs. Fadem stated that the Committee met on June 10 and reviewed the templates for agendas and minutes for the Township Authorities, Boards, and Commissions (ABCs). It also discussed the timing for posting ABC materials on the Township website relative to meeting dates. The related policies will be ready for Board consideration at its July 15, 2019 meeting and the next draft

policy will focus on a Board Orientation Plan with a target of possible adoption by the Board in September 2019.

Easttown Citizens Advisory Committee (James Oram and Betsy Fadem): Mr. Oram reported that the Committee met on June 10 to continue discussing its charter process and meet with the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator, Rob Schnorr. The Township has created a working group, which includes Mr. Schnorr, to review its Emergency Operations Plan. In addition, members honored Kevin Melich, who is retiring from the Board. The Committee next meets on September 09.

Fire/EMS (Betsy Fadem and Marc Heppe): Mrs. Fadem stated that she, Mr. Heppe, and Township staff attended the Chester County Emergency Responders Strategic Plan kick-off meeting on June 05. She also reported that the ESP Task Force has met with the Berwyn and Paoli Fire Companies since the last Board meeting.

Historical Commission (Karl Romberger and Alt Jim Oram): Mr. Romberger reported that the Committee met on June 12 and heard from a resident who is concerned about the impact a historical designation has had on one of his properties.

Library Board (Marc Heppe and Alt Chris Polites): Mr. Heppe reported that the Board will next meet on June 18.

Municipal Authority (Karl Romberger and Alt Betsy Fadem): Mr. Romberger reported that the Authority met on June 11 and continued to discuss the sewer forcemain break that occurred in Spring 2019. The Authority next meets on July 09.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Fadem noted that she understood that the public attending tonight's meeting were there to discuss what they have been hearing at the Berwyn Fire Company town hall meetings and that it is important for her to state some facts. She began by saying that Easttown Township residents are safe for fire and emergency medical service (EMS) coverage. Since 2016, Township Supervisors and Staff have been working with the fire companies on understanding their challenges, determining the delivery of service, and analyzing township donations. Since 2016, overall net calls have increased by only two annually, while Township contributions have increased by 33 percent. Response times have met the suburban standards and continue to meet them now. The Township has paid attention to and collaborated with the Fire Companies and commits to continuing its ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of its residents.

There was no other business was raised by Board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Baskin spoke on behalf of the Berwyn Fire Company as its Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Captain and began by thanking Supervisors Fadem and Hepe for their ongoing collaboration with the Fire Companies. He stated that the Fire Company faces ongoing long-term, financial challenges and he would like to take this opportunity to discuss standard-of-cover goals, including response times, number of responders and apparatus and requested that the discussion focus on long term, forward thinking solutions. In regards to seeing additional tax revenue, the Fire Company provides annual audits and welcomes an oversight board to exist with representatives of the Townships, residents, and the Fire Company.

Members in attendance from the public who spoke included: Al DiGinto, of 106 Atlee Circle, Lottie Brown, of 511 Kent Place, Kira Sterling, of 342 Sugartown Road, Arlene Riddle, of 31 Central Avenue, David Williams, of 429 Lantern Lane, Michelle Iaia, of 313 Church Road, Kevin Melich, former member of the Easttown Citizens Advisory Committee, Chris Debbas, of 680 Clovelly Lane and Easttown Township business owner, Kevin Marks, of 537 Midland Avenue, Amanda Wollick, of 102 Bartholomew Road, Larry DeYoung, of 54 N. Waterloo Road, Mike Brenner, of 1230 Pilgrim Lane, and Wayne Riddle, of 209 Waterloo Avenue.

Discussion included residents voicing support for the Fire Company and concern over long-term funding and response times, various streams of revenue available to Fire Companies and complications associated with funding and health insurance reimbursements for EMS services, and steps that the Townships have taken to address future funding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Thursday, July 04 in observance of Independence Day.

The Parks and Recreation Board will host the Annual Fourth of July Bike Parade and Picnic at Johnson Park on Thursday, July 04. The parade will begin at 11 am and parade registration will begin at 10:15 am.

The Board of Supervisors will only meet on the third Monday of the month in July, August, and September.

The following public meetings will be held at the Township Building unless otherwise stated:

- Devon Center Task Force on Tuesday, June 18, 7 pm at Hilltop House
- Library Board on Wednesday, June 19, 7 pm at Easttown Library
- Planning Commission on Tuesday, July 02, 7 pm
- Policy Committee on Monday, July 08 is cancelled
- Citizens Advisory Committee on Monday, July 08 is cancelled
- Municipal Authority on Tuesday, July 09, 7 pm
- Devon Center Task Force on Tuesday, July 09, 7 pm at Hilltop House
- Historical Commission on Wednesday, July 10, 7 pm at Easttown Library
- Next Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, July 15, 7 pm

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Jones

Recording Secretary