

PUBLIC HEARING: None scheduled at this time.

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING:

The November 2014 regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) of East Bradford Township (Township), Chester County, PA was held on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 in the McCardle Meeting Room in the Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, and County of Chester, PA 19380-1822. *Public Notice of the 2014 East Bradford Township public meeting schedule was published in the Daily Local News 12-31-13.*

Supervisors present:

Vincent M. Pompo, Esq., Chair
Dr. Thomas A. Egan, Vice-Chair
John D. Snook, Supervisor

Supervisors not present: All present.

Staff / professionals present:

Township Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Michael P. Lynch
Township Engineer Mark J. Lucas, P.E
Township CEO Brenden L. Beaumont
John P. Carroll, Public Works Director

Not in attendance:

Assistant Manager Amanda M. Cantlin
Administrative Assistant Nancy F. Holland
Administrative Assistant Tenley F. Adams
Township Solicitor Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees - Ross A. Unruh, Esq.

Others / Citizens / Residents in attendance: *(with those noted below in the body of the Minutes):*

__11__ citizens were in attendance (see Agenda Item 9.B. - Ravine Road - below).

The regular meeting was called to order at approximately 07:02 P.M. by Chair Pompo.

The Pledge of Allegiance before the Flag of the United States of America was recited at the commencement of the above referenced Public Hearing

PUBLIC COMMENT: *Sunshine Law, Act 93, as amended, requires public comment prior to official action.*
None received / offered at this time.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS: (Emergency Services, Public Works, Codes, A.B.C.'s)

None scheduled.

MINUTES: The Board of Supervisors, on motion of Mr. Snook and seconded by Dr. Egan, approved the following minutes: 11-03-14 regular work session, 10-14-14 pre-regular mtg work session and 10-14-14 regular meeting.

The minutes (and copies) are available for review at the Township Building or at www.eastbradford.org.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chair Pompo reported the following Executive Session(s) occurred during the period since the last Regular Meeting:

11-03-14 during the Pre-Regular Mtg WS to discuss real estate matters; all Supervisors were in attendance together with Twp Staff.

TREASURER FINANCIAL REPORT:

A. Monthly Financial Statement – October 2014

The Board of Supervisors, on motion of Mr. Snook and seconded by Dr. Egan, unanimously accepted the October 2014 Financial Reports prepared by the Township Treasurer.

B. 2015 Budget – Preliminary Budget – authorize Public Notice for 20 day comment period

Chair Pompo introduced the Preliminary 2015 Budget stating that the process commenced early in June 2014 and has been discussed at most BOS public work sessions and meetings during the past six months. The BOS has focused on funding the Capital Reserve for 2015 and its future sustainability. No

Page 2, Board of Supervisors Minutes, November 11, 2014

tax increase is proposed for 2015. However, long term capital funding needs have been identified with recent studies completed in 2012 and 2013 and need to be addressed in the next 2-3 years. Currently the Township is experiencing a capital funding shortfall in excess of \$1.5M and the will consider action to address commencing with the 2016 Budget.

Vice Chair Egan commented on the capital funding situation suggesting several options including no action (reactive crisis funding), incremental tax receipt increases over perhaps a 3 year period or a singular property tax increase in the vicinity of \$100.

Supervisor Snook stated the combined tax rate in the Township is one of the lowest in Chester County. The per capita cost is about \$400 annually compared with neighboring municipalities that are as much as \$1,200 per capita. The maintenance of Township roads, over 700 acres of open space, 30 miles of trails and public services including police and fire translate to a need for a funding (tax) increase.

Twp Mgr / Treasurer Lynch offered a summary of the 2015 Budget.

General Fund receipts (particularly Earned Income Tax and Real Estate Transfer Tax) have performed to budget during 2014. Overall, the total budget for 2015 maintains existing services and programs compared with 2014.

The 2015 General Fund Budget includes provision for a new Public Works laborer / equipment operator position. Also a new position (Open Space Coordinator) is included in the General Fund Budget and to be funded by the Open Space Fund.

The 2015 Preliminary General Fund Budget of \$3,900,943 is balanced as required under the Second Class Township Code; there is no property tax increase planned for 2015. Both earned income tax and real estate transfer tax are projected to increase in 2015 as building permit receipts and reimbursables are projected to decrease. On the expense side, contractual increases for police services, increased costs of insurance and pension (Township pension plan 100% funded), health insurance, comprehensive plan update and new positions are offset by the estimated increase on the revenue side. The budget percentage increase from 2014 is 5.5% (netting out the Open Space Coordinator position funded through the General Fund from the Open Space Fund).

The Capital Reserve Fund continues as an area of scrutiny by the Township in 2015 with regard to its long term funding and sustainability.

Capital Budget funded items for 2015 include the Brandywine Farm Dog Park, administration technology and campus improvements, stormwater improvement projects, road reconstruction and contractual (financing) obligations for Public Works' equipment and building.

The 2015 Sewer Fund Budget will maintain the same sewer fee rates to Township residents served by public sewer (no rate increase from the Borough of West Chester) but overall customer rates will increase between 4.5% to 5.8% to address necessary capital funding and annual conveyance system repairs indicated by a 2013 Sewer Capital Reserve Study prepared by Carroll Engineers for the Township..

The State Liquid Fuels Fund 2015 Budget, used to support the Township road maintenance program, reflects a -6.0% increase in state funding from 2014. The Liquid Fuels annual allocation from the Commonwealth appears to be on an upward trend in the upcoming years based upon the Act 89 of 2013 – the PA Transportation Funding Act.

On motion of Mr. Snook, seconded by Dr. Egan, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to authorize the advertisement of public notice for the 20 day public review period for the 2015 East Bradford Township Preliminary Budget.

Twp Mgr Lynch indicated the 2015 Preliminary Budget will be available at the Township Building and on the Township web site by Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

There was no public comment offered on the 2015 Budget at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: www.eastbradford.org

A. Public Hearings –

1. Amending Chapter 115- Zoning (Riparian Buffer) – hearing date pending (January 2015)

- A. ZHB –
 - 1. Latta, Conner Road – variance relief (farm pond /floodplain); Hearing (date pending); BOS position: support
 - 2. ZHB- - Bradford Plaza (REEP-RTL Bradford PA LLC) – sign variance relief; Hearing (date pending); BOS position pending

- B. Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule 2013 – (All meetings are public unless Executive Session)
 - Regular Work Session – Thursday (prior to 2nd Tuesday), 06:00 P.M.
 - Pre-regular Mtg Work Session – 2nd Tuesday, 06:00 P.M.
 - Regular Business Meetings – 2nd Tuesday, 07:00 P.M.

2015 Budget - authorize advertisement Public Notice (20 day comment period), 11-11-14

- C. Organization Meeting – January 05, 2015 – volunteers seeking appointment to Township Advisory Boards and Commissions – submit a letter (email) of interest by 12-17-14
Supervisor Snook encouraged interested residents to participate in the future of the Township by volunteering for appointment to one of the Advisory Boards or Commissions. Vice Chair Egan indicated the Township volunteers are an exceptional asset to all the residents in the Township and are needed.

SUBDIVISIONS/LAND DEVELOPMENT:

None this period.

ESCROW RELEASES:

None this period.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Approve Bills to Pay Lists for November as appropriated in 2014 Budget
On motion of Mr. Snook, seconded by Dr. Egan, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve the Bills to Pay Lists for November 2014 as appropriated in the 2014 Budget, recommended for payment by the Treasurer and signed by at least two members of the Board of Supervisors and/or Township Treasurer.

- B. Ravine Road
The BOS discussed the (deteriorating) condition of Ravine Road. Ravine Road is a low traffic volume Township road (3,300' length Township portion) located in the north of the Township connecting Valley Creek Road and through West Whiteland Township to Copeland Road. Ravine Road is characterized as a two-lane, paved surface with a steep grade, limited drainage, steep embankments on both sides, and no pedestrian improvements. The Township portion of Ravine Road serves 7 property owners and the CCWA (Paradise Farm Camps).
The Board of Supervisors invited property owners with frontage along Ravine Road to attend this meeting to be briefed on the situation and obtain their comments.

Chair Pompo provided introductory comments and welcomed the residents indicating the once gravel road (just prior to his role as a Township Supervisor) paved early in early 2000 is experiencing significant deterioration and to date options conceptually identified to improve the situation all appear to be excessively expensive; a full restoration of the roadway is not financially feasible by the Township.

Vice Chair Egan indicated some preliminary cost estimates for identified options are in the vicinity of \$2M.

Supervisor Snook indicated this conversation this evening is just the start of an expected long discussion and review toward a balanced resolution.

Township Engineer Lucas and Public Works Director Carroll presented (PowerPoint) information on the road history, current conditions and (6) initially identified options for modification of the physical roadway and use / ownership alternatives. Mr. Lucas indicated a return to a gravel surface is not a practical option (environmental, safety, maintenance). The option to change the two-way traffic patterns to one-way also was not presented at this time. Options presented included status quo maintenance and variations of widening, full restoration, partial abandonment (to private road) and use of cul de sacs.

At this time the BOS opened the floor to Public Comment on the matter.

Below is a summary of the comments received.

M/M Al & Sharon Ciccinelli – do not support one-way traffic pattern

Steve Simcox – return to gravel; repair existing road surface from prior year winter maintenance

Ellen Wroton – does not favor return to gravel road surface; address existing stormwater runoff problems

Andy Schaum, President / CEO CCWA – thank the BOS for opportunity to discuss; current educational outreach / camp activity 6-7K children annually by school bus; consider wider regional traffic conditions / implications; need a public solution; road should be stabilized / geo-tech study suggested; opposed to one-way traffic pattern; two-way traffic at least from CCWA 'farm house' to Valley Creek Road intersection may be acceptable option; improved stormwater management needed; safety improvements (signage (larger) and pavement marking requested at intersection of Valley Creek, Ravine Road and CCWA entrance (this item to Traffic Committee for review)

M/M John Crothers – one-way up hill not acceptable due to winter road conditions

Gary Krapf – need more information including possible analysis, real costs and implications of each option (+ & -); stormwater management needed (erosion to driveway from Ravine Road runoff)

Secretary's Note: Supervisor Snook exited the meeting at the close of this business item at approximately 07:50 P.M.

Chair Pompo thanked the residents for their attendance and for the Board of Supervisors, indicated no decisions will be made anytime soon (no funding in 2015 Budget) and pending additional information gathering and further discussion with the residents.

OTHER MATTERS:

None discussed at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None received / offered at this time.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

The Board of Supervisors, on motion of Chair Pompo and seconded by Dr. Egan, adjourned the Regular Meeting at approximately 08:12 P.M.

At this time the BOS reconvened the Pre-regular mtg Work Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (at discretion of Chair):

None scheduled at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING:

None scheduled at this time.

Next scheduled Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, December 09, 2014, 07:00 P.M.

Michael P. Lynch
Township Secretary