

CHESTNUTHILL TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
ROUTE 715, BRODHEADSVILLE, PA 18322
MINUTES OF MEETING – JULY 6TH, 2004

A regular meeting of the Chestnuthill Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:03p.m. on Tuesday, July 6th, 2004, at the Municipal Building, Rte 715, Brodheads-ville. Those present were Chuck Gould (Chairman), Maureen Tatu (Vice-Chair), Super-visor Leigh Kane, and Atty. Joseph P. McDonald Jr.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** to the flag was led by Bill Hopkins.

Executive Session. Was held on 06/16/04 for pending litigation.

Unit Care Agreement. None.

Public Comment.

Bob Baker suggested renaming the five and a half mile stretch of Rt 209 that runs through our Township the Ronald Reagan Expressway.

Neal Boyce asked how long is a yard sale permit good for. Assistant Zoning Officer, Sharon Sterlacci was present to respond that a yard sale permit is good for two days and a resident can apply for 4 permits per year.

Al Bourke made the Township aware of severe overgrowth of rosebushes that is obstruct- ing drivers' view on the corner of Evergreen Hollow Rd. and Spring Ln. and asked if the Township could get in there and cut the bushes back.

Sherwood Gower wanted to voice his opinion on several “cleanup” ordinance issues. He is of the opinion that no unregistered vehicles should be allowed to be kept on private property. The Ordinance states that two unregistered vehicles are permitted. He also thinks the Township should set a “mowing” ordinance for residents to cut their lawns. He stated that tall grass, garbage and junk vehicles attract rats, snakes and other vermin that may be dangerous and carry disease.

Minutes. On motion made by Leigh, seconded by Maureen it was voted to approve the minutes of the June 15th, 2004 and the June 21st, 2004 meeting, as distributed. (3-0).

Correspondence.

Joan Bumbulsky's letter. Supervisor Leigh Kane received a letter from Ms. Bumbulsky expressing her interest in purchasing Lot#306 Roberts Rd. in Sun Valley, Chestnuthill Township, from the Monroe County Tax Claim Repository. The lot is adjacent to Ms. Bumbulsky's property at #308 Roberts Rd. Ms. Bumbulsky is requesting that the Board of Supervisors release the property to Repository sale, so she may purchase the property, which will expand her property enough to place a garage on it. On motion made by

Leigh, seconded by Chuck it was voted to release the aforementioned parcel to Repository, so Ms. Bumbulsky can make her purchase. (3-0).

Litter Control & Beautification Program letter. Vice Chair Maureen Tatu read a letter written to the Board of Supervisors from Jacqui Hakim, Monroe County Vector Control about the Monroe County Litter Control & Beautification Program and its benefits to this community. Allocations to the program include deer pick up services, summer litter crews, and the DA's Office and PA Attorney General's Office prosecution of tire dumpers and illegal tire and waste haulers. The Board unanimously agreed that this program is definitely worthy of a donation. Chairman Chuck Gould requested information on prior year donation amounts and that the matter be placed on the next Board of Supervisor's meeting agenda.

Country Terrace Acres, Woods Lane, Frank & Carol Staats letter. Township Solicitor Joseph McDonald received a letter from one of the two property owners on Woods Lane; a Mr. Frank Staats, represented by Atty. Edward Flynn in this matter. The letter states that in the 1980 dedication of roads Resolution of Country Terrace Acres to Chestnuthill Township, there is no mention of the 200ft. tract of Woods Lane. The letter is requesting that the Township look into this matter for the Staats.

Roadmaster.

Christopher Lane. Roadmaster Joe Weston was on hand to give an update on the project: The roadway has been "x"ed from the cul-de-sac out to Rt. 715; 90% of the sub base is down and more is being made; a request from PENNDOT for a speed limit sign to be placed on Rt. 715 has been made; and sight-distance and sight/slope easement agreements are in Atty. McDonald's office for review.

Planning Director.

DCNR Grant/Master site plan/Romascavage Park property. Planning Director Dave Albright was on hand to announce that the Planning Department has received notice of a \$30,000 Grant from the Department of Conservation of Natural Resources to be awarded to the Romascavage Regional Park for future park planning.

Old Business.

Whispering Woods/Dedication of roads. Mr. Bill Hopkins from LTS Builders was present. Roadmaster Joe Weston said everything looks in order. Atty. McDonald said the Board of Supervisors need to sign a third addendum and then the issue can be put to rest. On motion made by Chuck, seconded by Maureen it was voted to accept the 2+ miles of roads of the Whispering Woods Development, Chestnuthill Township for dedication, Resolution #2004-14. (3-0).

Union Agreement/Local 542/IUOE. Joe Weston presented the Board with a contract for a yearly agreement of understanding with the International Union of Operating Engi-

neers/Local 542 C-Branch to pay wages when we hire subcontractors from their union. The only difference between last years' and this years' agreement is a \$.92 cent wage increase in the hourly rate. On motion made by Maureen, seconded by Leigh it was voted to sign this years' agreement. (3-0).

Atty.McDonald/UCC Building Code-Ordinance updates. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry is requesting the Board of Supervisors send a letter and/or set a motion to "opt in" or reaffirm the acceptance of the 2003 Building Codes Ordinance. On motion made by Maureen, seconded by Leigh it was voted to reenact Ordinance #2003-05 to satisfy the administrative requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry. (3-0).

New Business.

***Line of credit/Transfer Station. On August 31st of this year, the contract between Chestnuthill Township and Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority to run the Recycling Center at the Chestnuthill Township Transfer Station site on Hill Crest Dr. in Effort is expiring. Some of the equipment at the Transfer Station is owned by MCMWMA and the Township has applied to DEP for Grant monies to replace their equipment. In the interim, to keep the Recycling Center running smoothly and efficiently, the Township has applied for a \$200,000.00 dollar line of credit to buffer the changes in the transition period. On motion made by Chuck, seconded by Maureen it was voted to proceed with a line of credit from East Stroudsburg Savings & Loan at an interest rate of 2.92% not exceeding \$200,000.00 dollars. (3-0).

Western Pocono Lioness Club/donation request. Western Pocono Lioness Tena Dabour is asking the Board of Supervisors to donate \$75.00 for a full page ad in the Pocono Record for the Western Pocono Lioness Fashion Show Luncheon Program fundraiser. On motion made by Leigh, seconded by Chuck it was voted to support a full page ad for the fundraiser. (2-0). Maureen Tatu abstained from the vote as she is a Lioness.

Christopher Lane/Ronald Reagan Way. Supervisor Maureen Tatu wants to honor our late President, Ronald Reagan, by renaming the almost completed Rt.715/Rt.115 bypass, now called Christopher Lane. She wants to call it Ronald Reagan Way. The new bypass would be the second road in the State of Pennsylvania named for the late President. On motion made by Leigh, seconded by Chuck it was voted to rename Christopher Lane, Ronald Reagan Way. (3-0).

Blue Ridge Cable Co./Franchise Tax. Supervisor Leigh Kane says the Township has the ability under Federal law to assess a Franchise fee with the cable company on their gross revenue for cable services. It is called a Franchise Tax Agreement and will allow the Township to attach a fee to the cable bills. The Township would be asking the cable company for as much as 5% of their gross revenue. Leigh says the revenue from these fees could then in turn be used in Parks & Recreation for example. Also, Leigh explained,

***Correction made on the July 20th, 2004 record of minutes.

the Township could get other benefits from the cable company like “good service” reports, state-of-the-art equipment, and free local cable access. Mrs. Kane has been in contact with a company that negotiates cable fees for municipalities called Cohen Telecommunications. Stroud Township has the fee in place and recommended Cohen to us. On motion made by Chuck, seconded by Maureen it was voted to have Leigh gather more information on the Franchise Tax Agreement. (3-0).

Bills. On motion made by Maureen, seconded by Leigh it was voted to approve the General Fund bills. (3-0).

Plan.

ESSA Bank & Trust/Estate of Kenneth Barthold(Minor Subdivision). Len Tusar/Niclaus Engineering representing. Mr. Tusar requested the plan be tabled because he cannot get statements and signatures from the four owners until they come back from summer vacations. On motion made by Chuck, seconded by Maureen it was voted to table the plan until the July 20th, 2004 Board of Supervisors meeting. (3-0).

Adjournment. There being no further business, on motion made by Chuck, seconded by Maureen it was voted to adjourn at 8:50p.m. (3-0). A second motion, made by Maureen and seconded by Leigh, was put on the floor to adjourn to executive session concerning a pending litigation matter. (3-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Fisher
Acting Recording Secretary