

West Earl Township Board of Supervisors, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508

In Attendance:

Chairman: Harold Keppley, Jr.  
Vice Chairman: John Ford  
Member: Dale Wissler  
Member: Richard Stover  
Member: Russell Ressler, Jr  
Secretary/Manager: Patrick Barrett

Call to Order

Chairman Keppley called the March 8, 2010, Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment/Guests

No public comment

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chairman Ford noted 2 changes on the February 22, 2010 meeting minutes. On the motion for the Disaster Declaration it should be recorded that the reason for re-wording the document was to ratify and confirm the actions taken during the previous winter storm. Also, on the 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point under the Manager's Report the last sentence should say that Mr. Barrett called the Farmland trust office but has **not** received a call back from them yet. Member Stover noted that on page 3, in the second sentence under the Public Works Director's Report that the underground dog fence was **damaged** by one of the loaders while trying to plow the snow. Moved by Member Stover, second by Vice Chairman Ford to approve the February 22, 2010 meeting minutes as corrected. Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business

**Snow Emergency Ordinance** – to establish snow emergency routes in Eagleview Estates. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Wissler to adopt Ordinance No. 210. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business

**Time extension request from Scott & Janelle Martin, 330 S. State Street** – Mr. & Mrs. Martin received a notice from the Township which gave them until February 28, 2010 to fix the balcony and porch railings at 330 S. State Street. Mr. & Mrs. Martin have requested a time extension. The Board reviewed the request. Chairman Keppley said that rather than giving them an open-ended extension that an extension of 30 day might be more appropriate. The Board agreed. Vice Chairman Ford suggested making the deadline April 12, 2010 which will be the first Supervisors' meeting in April. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Chairman Keppley to extend the deadline for the repairs to 330 S. State Street to April 12, 2010. Motion approved unanimously.

**Resolution No. 2010-13** – establishing a policy for the determination of the existence of a winter weather emergency and providing authorization for the declaration of winter weather, disaster and other emergencies. Mr. Barrett explained that this Resolution would allow the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to also make decisions relating to weather, disaster or other emergencies. Moved by Member Ressler, second by Vice Chairman Ford to adopt Resolution No. 2010-13. Motion approved unanimously.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the notification from ARRO concerning the Water Authority's Water Allocation permit application which was completed by Dale Kopp. The Board did not have any comments.

Public Works Director's Report

The Board reviewed the report provided by Jim Houser. Vice Chairman Ford asked how severe the sinkholes in the Township are. Mr. Houser explained that there about 20 sinkholes that need to be taken care of. They will be excavated, shored up and filled in with concrete and cost between \$60 and \$80 for each one.

Manager's Report

- **Road closure** request from the West Earl Fire Company. They would like to close School Lane Avenue from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 20, 2010 for their annual sale. Moved by Chairman Keppley, second by Member Stover to approve the requested road closure for the West Earl Fire Company. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Email from Ed Hinkle, Upper Leacock Township** – Upper Leacock Township is ready to start their joint official map with East Lampeter Township. Mr. Barrett said that the County will also be involved and asked the Board members if West Earl should participate. Chairman Keppley said that it sounds like a good idea but is concerned about the cost. The Board agreed that they would like a cost estimate before making a decision.
- **Trash and recycling** regulations for a farm. Mr. Barrett checked to see if a farm of 10 acres or more would automatically be exempt from using a trash hauler. He said that through his research a farm is not automatically exempt and **is** required by Ordinance to have a trash hauler.
- **Eagleview Estates park facilities** – Mr. Barrett received a call from an Eagleview resident. They wanted to know if the park at Eagleview Estates would be built this year. Chairman Keppley said that he thought that was one of the projects that the Park and Recreation Board was working on. Mr. Barrett will ask the Park and Recreation Board to re-convene and work on the park project for Eagleview Estates.
- **EIT payment** – The Township received its first EIT payment and it was lower than was expected. Mr. Barrett said that he will keep an eye on it.
- **Employee retirement** – Mr. Barrett reminded the Board that Jonas Reiff will be retiring from the Township at the end of March after 22 years of service. Mr. Barrett asked the Board if they would like to do anything special for him. Mr. Barrett suggested that in addition to the Resolution that he will prepare for Jonas that some sort of gift card would be a nice idea and asked the Board if they had any suggestions for the amount of the card. The Board decided on a \$1,000.00 gift card.
- **Executive session** – Mr. Barrett requested an executive session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

Payment of Bills

Moved by Member Stover, second by Member Ressler to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Compost Site

- **Upper Leacock Township & East Lampeter Township** – The Board discussed options for the other Townships including possibly charging them by weight and issuing cards to the Townships but not the Township's individual residents. Chairman Keppley said that he believes the Township could generate more revenue by issuing cards to the residents and not just the Townships. He also feels that the Township will get less yard waste at the compost site if cards are issued. Mr. Houser said that the compost site is getting about 80% to 90% of Upper Leacock's yard waste now. The Board would like to accommodate Upper Leacock and East Lampeter Townships.
- **Cameras at facility** – Member Wissler said there could be 3 cameras at the facility. One on the license plate, one focused on truck beds and one camera on the brush pile. Mr. Houser pointed out that a dvr camera would be more expensive than just a snapshot camera. Vice Chairman Ford said a dvr would not be crucial, a snapshot would be fine. Mr. Houser asked if the Board would like a camera focused on the exit. He would like to install conduit so the provision for a camera would be there if needed. The Board directed him to install the conduit.
- **Value cards** – The Board discussed the proposed value card system. No credit cards or cash will be accepted. Only pre-paid or pre-loaded value cards. 5,000 cards will be ordered which the Board agreed would be plenty to get started. The initial cards to West Earl residents will be free, replacements for lost cards will cost \$5.00. Replacements for non-working cards will be free as long as the old card is turned in to the Township office. The Board discussed limiting trips for West Earl residents to 52 trips per year and after they are used up, charge a fee of \$2 or \$5 per trip. Non-township residents will be strictly pre-paid cards. Member Wissler suggested charging \$10 per trip for non-township residents.
- **Gaiting system, entrance and exit** – The entrance to the facility would be an arm that would open after the value card is inserted and there would be spikes at the exit. Sylvan Fisher showed the board plans for the compost site and gaiting system. Mr. Houser asked the Board where they would like the exit. The Board decided to install the exit wherever Mr. Fisher recommends. Mr. Houser and Mr. Fisher will work on the details of the entrance and

exit. The Board asked Mr. Houser what would happen if someone's card didn't work, how would they get out of the gate area? Mr. Houser will look into that situation and get back to the Board.

**Sylvan Fisher** mentioned the entrance and exit at the park in Talmage. He said that the exit has been opened up recently for Bulldog Construction during the installation of sewer. He asked the Board if the exit should be left open or closed back up. Chairman Keppley said that he thought removing the barrier at the exit was just temporary. The Board directed Mr. Fisher barricade the exit once Bulldog is finished using it.

#### Police Chief's Report

- **Resolution No. 2010-14, bicycles for the Fire Co. Auction** – The Chief reported that the Police Department has 10 bicycles that he would like to put in the West Earl Fire Company auction. Moved by Chairman Keppley, second by Member Stover to adopt Resolution No. 2010-14 and allow the Police Department to put excess bicycles into the West Earl Fire Company auction. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Fire Police** – Request from the Lions' Club for help at the annual Easter egg hunt on April 3, 2010 and a request for help with traffic control for the annual Make-A-Wish event on May 9, 2010. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Wissler to allow the West Earl Fire Police to help with the Easter egg hunt and Make-A-Wish events. Motion approved unanimously.
- **2009 year end report** – The Chief distributed copies of the 2009 year end Police report. The Chief noted that the crime numbers went down drastically in 2009. The Board reviewed the report.
- **Auto Electronic Defibrillator (AED)** – The Chief reported that the Police Dept. is still borrowing the AED from the Fire Company and needs to return it to them. He believes that the Police Dept. no longer needs to have an AED because there will be multiple responders to emergencies with this device. The Chief pointed out that the yearly maintenance cost for an AED is \$300 and would cost approximately \$3,000 to buy a new one. The Board agreed to suspend the AED program.
- **Volunteer program** – The Chief distributed some documents relating to the proposed Police Dept. volunteer program. He said he would like to implement the program on a trial basis. The Board reviewed the documents. Moved by Member Wissler, second by Member Ressler to allow the Police Department to implement the volunteer program. Motion approved unanimously.

#### Supervisors' Comments

**John Ford** – Vice Chairman Ford mentioned the Locust Street parking issue that was tabled at a previous meeting. He asked when the decision would be re-scheduled. Vice Chairman Ford said that after reviewing Warwick Township Police Department's year end report he feels that West Earl Police should include mileage in their year end reports. The Board agreed that would be a good idea.

**Harold Keppley** – Chairman Keppley asked if the Board reviewed the letter from L & I. He said that Craig is going to meet with Randy Maurer to discuss items in the letter and that the Board members are welcome to sit in as well. Member Stover said that the letter should be shown to Senator Boyd. Member Stover and Member Ressler will sit in with Craig and Randy.

#### Adjournment

Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Wissler to adjourn the March 8, 2010 regular meeting at 10:22 p.m. Motion approved unanimously. 