

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

WORKSHOP MEETING

May 1, 2008

The Workshop Meeting of the Township Committee was held this date at the Municipal/Police Building located on Little Philadelphia Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor David Dempski.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE - The Mayor noted that this meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975 in as much as a notice had been published in the Star Gazette, transmitted to the Express Times and posted at the municipal building.

SALUTE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL: Dempski, present; Horensky, present; Mueller, present; Strunk, present. Mary Ann O'Neil, Township Clerk and Peter de Boer, Public Works Manager were also present Elbassiouny was absent, but would be coming to meeting later. Elbassiouny came into the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

Strunk said he would be stepping down for Resolution 08-74, because one of the employees of the bar has rented a place from him. Elbassiouny stepped down from this resolution. Mueller made a motion to approve Resolution 08-74, 2007-2008 Liquor License Renewal for Y-3, with conditions, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes; Dempski, yes. (Strunk and Elbassiouny came back into meeting.)

Strunk made a motion to approve Resolution 08-75, Acceptance of Performance Bond, Nottingham, LLC (Block 28, Lot 5), Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Strunk, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Dempski, yes.

Strunk made a motion to approve Resolution 08-76, Resolution to apply for Count Grant, Elbassiouny seconded. The Mayor said that the Warren-Morris Council of Governments and several municipalities have agreed to apply for a COUNT Grant through the State of New Jersey Local SHARE Programs in the amount of \$300,000. This grant would be available to assist local units study, develop and implement new shared and regional services.

ROLL CALL: Strunk, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Dempski, yes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Karen Williamson, Heritage Conservancy was present with Debra Hirt, John Micikas and Laine Rankin from DOT. Williamson reviewed her comments made at the March meeting on Scenic By-Ways. Elbassiouny felt it was just another layer the Township would have to go through to do anything in the Township. Williamson said she does not see it as another layer. She said, after the By-Way is in place, the DOT isn't making any improvements, they are just facilitating funding for the projects the Township likes to do.

Hirt, DOT, asked if there were any benefits in terms of grant monies or anything of that nature that would be helpful to the Township or help them do any projects as a result of this designation. Williamson said this was all in the flyer that she had distributed a few months earlier to the Committee. The Federal By Way Funds can be used for safety improvements, resource protection, including park and recreational facilities and access to recreation. It can be used for sidewalks, bike lines, parallel bike trails, interpretive information and marketing and any sort of By Way amenities that would help the visitor. The representatives from DOT had comments on this program. The only thing with this conservancy, if one of the towns involved does not go along with this program, then none of the others are eligible.

Strunk asked if this was going to cost the Township anything at all. Williamson said it will if they decide on their own they want to implement some of the recommendations that come out of the Corridor Management Plan. Strunk asked, during the study that they will be asked to have the Planner or Engineer review something in the process to be able to get the study done, because this is a cost. Williamson did not know the answer to the question. It would depend on what issues the Township wants addressed and whether the Township wants their input. Elbassiouny said you obviously would have to use your professionals. Elbassiouny said he agreed with Strunk on the additional costs that might happen.

John Micikas, DOT, said he would do some research on the Scenic By Way Program and try to send the Committee answers to many of the questions raised at this meeting.

The issue of joining the Heritage Conservancy will be discussed further at the May 20, 2008 meeting.

2. de Boer said he had distributed the change orders to the Committee prior to the meeting. de Boer said the construction on the building is on schedule and in three months it should be done.

de Boer said, on the architect agreement, he wanted clarification on what was done at the last meeting. They never really took a vote on the agreement. They discussed the architect and about renewing his contract for another three months. de Boer said, in last months packet, he provided copies of the agreement. He also made him commit to numbers on Items (F), (G) (H) to prepare a preliminary punch list prior to substantial completion, perform a substantial completion meeting, prepare a project punch list, perform a project close out meeting review, process all project close out documentation and review final payment. There was discussion on close out costs. de Boer proposed that the architect not receive any payments until some of the major concerns are resolved. Elbassiouny said he would like a conference call for Monday with himself, de Boer and the architect

de Boer asked the Committee to approve the architect's proposal, not to exceed \$10,000. There was discussion on whether the \$5,000 close out was included in this amount. Elbassiouny said the amount should not exceed \$5,000 and de Boer agreed with this amount.

Elbassiouny made a motion to approve the architect's proposal, not to exceed \$5,000, at the hourly rate, on availability of funds, through the direction of Peter de Boer, excluding close out, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

Mueller made a motion to approve the close out costs documentation, not to exceed \$4,000, as per ASA quote, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

There was lengthy discussion on change orders 42 through 46, which had a total of \$6,164.00. Elbassiouny asked de Boer to provide a list at the next meeting of all the changes that had to be made because the architect missed things. Elbassiouny told de Boer that he wants the architect at the next meeting to do some explanation on various items. de Boer said there are no penalties for the mistakes the architect makes.

Dempski made a motion to approve change orders 42-46 for a total of \$6164.00, based on the availability of funds, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Dempski, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no.

There was discussion on change order 47, the security system. Mueller made a motion to approve change order 47 for a total of \$15,600, based on the availability of funds, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

There was discussion on change order 48, sidewalks and curbing. Dempski made a motion to approve change order 48 for a total of \$16,700, based on the availability of funds, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Dempski, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, no.

There was discussion on change order 49, lighting. Dempski made a motion to approve change order 49, for a total of \$24,780, based on the availability of funds, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Dempski, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no.

de Boer said, after last meeting, he sent requests on the security and telephones. The ceiling grids are open and a decision must be made on this tonight.

Horensky made a motion to award the data and telecom wiring only in the amount of \$16,390, as per proposal and PA System in the amount of \$1,245, to Apex, based on availability of funds, Strunk seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Strunk, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Dempski, yes.

3. The Mayor said the Castle Street Sidewalk is going very well. They had one snag, Studer & Mc Eldowney did not do any grading analysis. There is a resident on the corner of Castle Street and Brass Castle, whose lot is higher than the sidewalk. She has asked for a solution, but she did not want it graded. It would have taken most of her side lot away and made it hard to mow. de Boer has worked out a high curb to complete the project. Quinn, from Medina, said it would not exceed \$3,000 to fix the problem and this would be proposed to her. Strunk made a motion to repair the curbing along resident's grounds on Castle Street, not to exceed \$3,000 from existing grant, pending availability of funds, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Strunk, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Dempski, yes.

4. The Mayor said the Township had the auction and it was successful. They will not have sufficient time to apply the money to the May BAN payments. They have asked Rogut to put a plan in place. He is going to refinance the notes coming due in May at a reduced rate. Should the closing happen before the next payment in

August, they will take it and apply the auction payment proceeds to that and reduce that debt.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing to come before the Committee, Horensky made a motion to adjourn at 10:30 p.m., Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann O'Neil RMC/CMC/MMC
Township Clerk