

Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2012
Board of Supervisors

Chairman Obernier called the West Brandywine Township (WBT) Board of Supervisors meeting of September 6, 2012 to order at 7:35 p.m. and then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of the Board of Supervisors (BoS) by Manager Rambo noted Supervisor's Josef G. Obernier, Sr. and Thomas J. McCaffrey, Jr. in attendance. Supervisor William E. Webb was absent. Also present was Ronald A. Rambo, Jr.

Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meetings

August 16, 2012 – Chairman Obernier motioned to table the minutes until all Board members are present. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey seconded the motion. Board members Obernier and McCaffrey voted aye.

Public Notification - None

Treasurer's Report (n/a)

Special Public Presentations/Notice

The West Caln Board of Supervisors are present to talk to the Board with regard to the renewal of the current Ambulance Contract. Paul Pfitzenmeyer and Don Martz, Supervisors of West Caln were in attendance. Manager Rambo noted for the benefit of the Board that a letter was received from Mr. Pfitzenmeyer to the WBT Board.

Mr. Pfitzenmeyer noted the letter was regarding the cost of fuel for ambulance service, detailed the costs for fuel, and requested that the WBT Board support funds for the Westwood Ambulance that takes care of both Townships. Chairman Obernier noted that last year Martin's Corner Ambulance requested a \$25,000 donation from each Township for a total of \$50,000. WBT didn't have that kind of money in the budget which caused both Townships to look for alternatives. The service the Township has today with Westwood Ambulance is 24/7, they are paid employees, and located in Wagontown. Chairman Obernier stated that last year WBT was not in the position to pay fuel but may be in a position to split fuel costs with West Caln Township next year. Discussion ensued regarding gas allocation for miles traveled.

Vice-Chairman McCaffrey stated that Westwood has been a good ambulance service with no problems and asked if West Caln paid anything to ambulance service prior to the current contract. Mr. Pfitzenmeyer answered no, they were supposedly self sufficient. But they were in a crunch to provide ambulance service and feel this is the worthy thing to do. McCaffrey agreed but noted the other consideration for him is that for all the years that he has been in WBT there was no expense for ambulance service. They are collecting a significant fee that the ambulance is providing a service to and if you don't want to pay that fee you can become a member and avoid the fee if you use an ambulance.

Mr. Pfitzenmeyer expressed that maybe they were both wrong before because the past ambulance provider had to ask for \$25,000 because they couldn't make it. Now is the time to support the ambulance provider with a minimum amount rather than wait until it snowballs and the Townships don't have ambulance service again.

Chairman Obernier stated that one difference is they now have full-time service. The group before wanted way more money to continue, in that sense the Township is paying less for much better 24 hour service and better response time. Obernier expressed that McCaffrey's point is well taken that WBT has never paid for gas before. The way around this request to pay for fuel is to make an effort to encourage WBT to get ambulance memberships.

Vice-Chairman McCaffrey stated there is an absence of data for analysis and would like to see if other communities are contributing gasoline money to the ambulance service as well as the fire company and expressed that up until now there has been no fee for ambulance services, if they do become better established and more profitable, fees that have been initiated are seldom withdrawn.

Obernier said that fortunately they have three months to find out the answers to McCaffrey's questions. Martz stated there was a clause in the contract that stated you had to act by June if you wanted to rebid the contract. McCaffrey answered that is true but this contract does not exist now. This contract had no fees and no costs; the Township is not renewing the same contract, they are establishing a new contract. McCaffrey stated he would have gladly renewed the existing contract with them at any time.

Obernier requested that the Manager start assembling the information that McCaffrey is looking for regarding if other municipalities donate money for ambulance service. The two Boards will meet for discussion again at a joint meeting on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at West Caln..

William Krempa is in attendance to discuss the current investment of Pension Funds with regard to Section 3204 of the Second Class Township Code. Manager Rambo noted that Mr. Krempa spoke to individuals regarding municipal pension fund investments according to the Second Class Township Code. Mr. Krempa presented and outlined a six page document for the benefit of the Board and answered the Boards questions. Karl Ciamaichelo of Landover Rd also asked questions.

Chairman Obernier noted it was 8:55 p.m. and moved to address the proposed chicken ordinance that is noted under New Business; discussions on proposed Ordinance No. 2012-05, pertaining to chickens, prior to its forwarding to John E. Good, Esquire, the Township Planning Commission and County Planning Commission for their review and input. George Jarvis of Main-Lin Drive, Natasha Kearns of Monacy Rd, Karl Ciamaichelo of Landover Drive, Mike Canale of Reeceville Road, Sue Bowar of Connies Drive, Mark Hartnett of Baker Road, Paul Gainor of Holly Rd, and Colin Judge of North Hawthorne also spoke to the issue. Chairman Obernier and Vice-Chairman McCaffrey summarized the requested changes; keep the 100 ft from the neighbor's house, recycle or remove chicken droppings, keep the feed in a container that other animals can't get into, leg band chicken with phone number, and drop the chicken coop design.

Public Comments (*residents or representatives of taxpayers of the Township requesting to be on the agenda*). There were no Public Comments.

Correspondence/Communications *Information to act upon*

The Board of Supervisors is in receipt of 2013 MMO requirements for the Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension Plans from Thomas J. Anderson & Associates, Inc. Manager Rambo requested a motion for either the \$203,000 or \$162,000 for the 2013 Police Pension Plan MMO. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey motioned to use the low number in calculation for next year's budget, seconded by Chairman Obernier. Board members McCaffrey and Obernier voted aye.

The Township to enter into an agreement with East Brandywine Township to allow Dale Barnett, Codes Officer, to perform inspections for them when conflicts arise. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey motioned to allow Dale Barnett to act for East Brandywine Township when there is a conflict, seconded by Chairman Obernier. Board members McCaffrey and Obernier voted aye.

The Chester County Association of Township Officials has forwarded the Township registration information on the upcoming Fall Conference scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2012. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey will attend and Chairman Obernier will let the Manager know.

Correspondence/Communications *Information to note*

The Township is in receipt of correspondence from the Chester County Health Department advising that they are suspending the operations of the Chester County Septage Management Data System. Manager Rambo feels this is a step in having local municipalities do what is required by PADEP.

The Township has received a letter from Robert Kelly of Reading thanking Sergeant Kimes for his assistance when his vehicle broke down. The Board expressed their appreciation for such a nice letter.

PADEP has forwarded the Township information on upcoming educational events with regard to MS4/Stormwater. Manager Rambo might attend the two day seminar in Harrisburg.

Notification has been received from the State Workers Insurance Fund that the Township's Safety Committee members have completed their initial safety training to satisfy the annual training requirements. Manager Rambo will find out if the training that Supervisor Webb received at Valley will satisfy the annual training requirements.

Nancy Fromnick of the Chester County Solid Waste Authority has forwarded the Township information on a West Brandywine Township Illegal Dump Site. Manager Rambo explained this property, located 150 feet inside WBT, is owned by the City of Coatesville. The Manager will contact the City to have them clean up the site.

PADEP has forwarded the Township correspondence approving its Planning Module that was submitted in February 2012 allowing the WBTMA to decommission the Kimberwick Spray Irrigation System. Manager Rambo noted all of the flow is going south now through the improved Authority lines to the PAWC Sewer Plant.

Sheila Flemming of the Brandywine Conservancy has forwarded the Township various maps for review in relationship to the Brandywine Creek Greenways Project. The Manager and Planning Commission are currently reviewing the maps.

Reports of Departments, Organizations, Boards and Commissions (n/a)

Chairman Obernier closed the Township meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 9:54 p.m.

Public Hearings (Ordinances as advertised)

Ordinance No. 2012-03, Township participation in the Western Chester County Council of Governments.

Chairman Obernier noted he and Manager Rambo attended a few meetings at Caln Township. This is a good idea and doesn't require the Township to do anything, nor does it require the Township to pay for initiatives done by other Townships. There is a \$250 annual fee to participate. Manager Rambo explained that all of the municipalities within the Western part of Chester County are getting together to form a local council of governments which will work together to the best interest of all municipalities and try to do things together. Four or five local townships are currently working together to pave roads, buy equipment, etc. This Council of Governments will allow a larger group of Townships to participate together. A resident asked if the Manager thought this would be beneficial. Manager Rambo noted there could be benefits in the future for WBT to save money. Just the people that want to participate can participate, it is not mandatory. Anything that this group discusses has to be brought back to the elected board, the elected board says yes and then your representative will be allowed to go back and participate. Chairman Obernier asked for comments from the floor. There were none. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey questioned how someone withdrawals from this. It doesn't sound like there is anything intact that can force you to do anything, it only continues for so long and then it states that enough people want to withdraw the whole thing would dissolve. Chairman Obernier motioned to close the Public Hearing at 9:57 p.m. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey seconded the motion. Board members Obernier and McCaffrey voted aye.

The Township Meeting was reopened at 9:57 p.m.

Old Business

The Manager, Public Works Director and Township Engineer have met with a Structural Engineer to discuss the Icedale Road bridges to establish the most economical means to address the recent bridge inspection reports. Manager Rambo received information back from MacCombie with a detailed list of materials that could be bid out.

The Township Manager is preparing Ordinance NO. 2012-06, amendments to the Recycling Ordinance for presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Manager Rambo noted that there is a conflict on submission dates by DEP.

Budget requests for 2013, from Boards, Commissions and Department Heads are due into the Manager by September 28, 2012. There were no comments.

Final discussions on Ordinance NO. 2012-03, participation in the Western Chester County Council of Governments. Chairman Obernier asked if there were any comments regarding the Western Chester County Council of Governments. There were none.

Old Business from the Floor

Karl Ciamaichelo inquired what the open space easement on Route 322 would be used for. Manager explained there is a 102 acre conservation easement on that property. The Township has the ability to put a walking trail around it; they placed a parking area that abuts where the trail easement could start. It will be used at some point as a safe place for truck inspections. Dialog continued.

Old Business from the Board – There was no Old Business from the Board.

New Business

Discussions on proposed Ordinance NO. 2012-05, pertaining to chickens, prior to its forwarding to John E. Good, Esquire, the Township Planning Commission and County Planning Commission for their review and input. Chairman Obernier noted this item has been discussed and requested that the Manager incorporate the changes as Draft #5.

The Board of Supervisors will be meeting with the West Caln Township Supervisors on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at West Caln to discuss the Ambulance Contract. There were no comments.

The Township will be bidding for the sale of used equipment in October. Manager Rambo noted that anything that is valued over \$1,000 has to be bid out twice before it can be sold in another fashion. The dump truck is appraised at \$4,000. The bicycles will also be listed.

The Fall edition of the Township newsletter is being finalized for printing and distribution. There were no comments.

New Business from the Floor and from the Board – There was no New Business.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 2012-03: participation in the WCCCG. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey motioned for West Brandywine Township to participate in the WCCCG. Chairman Obernier seconded the motion. Board members McCaffrey and Obernier voted aye.

Public Comments

Colin Judge spoke about a rooster issue they are having in their neighborhood. Vice-Chairman McCaffrey suggested that Mr. Judge take a copy of their homeowner's association documents to Judge Cabry regarding this matter.

Developer Presentations - There were no Developer Presentations.

Open Issues before the Township

Chairman Obernier noted the following Open Issues and there were no comments.

The Township Engineer and Manager continue their work on updating the Township's Act 537 Plan.

The Manager continues his work on the Township's Agricultural Security Area update.

Updates to the Township's lighting section of its Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.

Investment of Pension Funds according to Section 3204 of the Second Class Township Code.

General Obligation Note

(Emmaus Bond Pool Adjustable Rate Bond for the Twp. and Public Works Facility/Park Construction: interest rate for the week is 1.35%). There were no comments.

Review and Payment of the Bills

Manager Rambo noted the General Fund bills total \$47,454.89 of which one is for Cedar Grove Environmental. The Manager recommended that the Cedar Grove bill be tabled until the next BoS meeting. The Fire Appropriations Fund bills total \$180,259.00, the Open Space Fund bills total \$30,000, and the Solid Waste Fund bills total \$5,323.17. Chairman Obernier motioned to pay all of the bills except the Cedar Grove bill, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCaffrey. Board members Obernier and McCaffrey voted aye.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- Parks and Recreation Board 5K Run/Walk, Sunday, September 9, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.
- Historic Commission, Monday, September 10, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Board, Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
- Municipal Authority, Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
- Board of Supervisors, Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.
- Open Space Review Board, Thursday, September 27, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission, Thursday, September 27, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Vice-Chairman McCaffrey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Chairman Obernier seconded the motion. Board Members McCaffrey and Obernier voted aye in favor of adjournment.

Ronald A. Rambo, Jr.
Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer