

**WEST NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisor's Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2011**

Vice Chairman Gerald Cox called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was followed by a moment of silence.

The following were in attendance: Gerald Cox, Candace Miller, Cynthia King, Carolyn Sacks, Wendy Chadwick, David Chadwick, Jean Hendrickson, Nelson Hendrickson, Betsy Longenecker, Donald Armstrong, Brian Neubauer, Duane Economos, Dorinda Economos, Nancy Cox, Dottie Freese, Glen Davis, Theresa Miller, William Miller, Rebecca Phou, Ruth Johnston, Gadeal Agosto, Debbie McDowell, Karen Cline, Julie Younce, Tom Lyness, Hazel and Harry Davis, Robert W. Smith, Dan Siegfried, Mary Helen DeAngelis, John Vail, Victoria Miller, CPL Mark D. Perloff, David Ross, Velma Buchanan, Sandra A. Buchanan, Susan DeRose, Tony Logan, and Lewis Watson.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Cox announced that the committee reports are available from the Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the Workshop held on September 13, 2011 – Mrs. Bell moved to approve the minutes from the Workshop held on September 13, 2011. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS/INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

There were no executive sessions or informational meetings held since the last meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The bridge over Octoraro Creek (SR2001/Sec 009) will be replaced in 2012. More information will be shared as it is received.

The Chester Water Authority is considering running a water main to Rising Sun, MD. The Supervisors will extend an invitation for a representative to attend a future workshop to discuss the project.

AGENDA COMMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

CPL Perloff introduced himself and gave a brief summary of the coverage area for the State Police at the Avondale Barracks. He reported that burglaries and car thefts are on the rise and he made a few suggestions to help residents avoid being victims. He also asked that motorists drive the speed limit and be careful now that school is in session.

Mr. Cox opened the floor for comments on the Beltran Land Development Plan. Residents were asked to speak once and were given 3 minutes to speak.

Debbie McDowell, 677 Fremont Road: Mrs. McDowell said she pulled other properties owned by the applicant in other townships. Some properties which are much smaller are listed as commercial. She wanted to know why this was being allowed. Mr. Twardowski stated that the State defines mushroom growing as agriculture, as does our zoning ordinance. He added that the zoning in other municipalities has no bearing on the zoning in West Nottingham. Mrs. McDowell also brought up an article about mushroom trucks driving in an unsafe manner. Mr. Twardowski stated that the township may require a traffic study. Mrs. McDowell presented aerial pictures of other properties owned by the applicant. She said they appeared to be dirty and junky. Mr. Twardowski said that he has no idea when the pictures were taken or if they are an accurate representation of how the properties are maintained. They are a moment at some point in time.

Jean Hendrickson, 665 Fremont Road: Mrs. Hendrickson stated that she did not want the noise or the smell. She said it wasn't safe and she was concerned about her property value being affected.

Nelson Hendrickson, 665 Fremont Road: Mr. Hendrickson said he received two letters from the applicant regarding water testing and screening to block the lights. The water is fine now, but what about 3 years from now?

Donald Armstrong, 145 Pleasant Drive: How much water will the farm draw? Will it collapse the wells in the area? Mr. Armstrong is concerned about the smell and air quality.

Wendy Chadwick, 316 Red Pump Road: Mrs. Chadwick shared an advertisement regarding the construction of the building which listed the project as commercial. Mr. Twardowski stated that the advertisement had nothing to do with how the land would be used. The State says that mushroom farming is agriculture and it meets the requirements of the township's zoning.

Harry Davis, 699 Fremont Road: Mr. Davis stated that his and his neighbor's way of life will be wiped out if this project is allowed. This area is unique because of the serpentine barrens and it doesn't fit the area. He suggested that the Supervisors had the political clout to stop the project.

Victoria Miller, 98 Pleasant Drive: Mrs. Miller stated that she had gone to other mushroom house locations owned by the applicant and saw stock piles of compost. Mr. Cox stated that there would be no composting at the sight. Mrs. Miller wanted to know about the provisional uses mentioned in the Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Cox said that the Planning Commission is an advisory committee and it is up to the Supervisors to make the final decision. Mrs. Miller wanted to know if the Supervisors could require the applicant to hook up to public water when/if the water line was run to Rising Sun. Mr. Twardowski said that the Board could make that a condition of the approval.

David Chadwick 316 Red Pump Road: Mr. Chadwick read the motion from the July 5, 2011 Planning Commission meeting regarding the Beltran Land Development Plan. Mr. Twardowski said that the Supervisors separated the Neighborhood Impact Study out of the waivers and sent it back to the Planning Commission for reconsideration.

Velma L. Buchanan, 502 Fremont Road: Mrs. Buchanan wanted to know if an environmental impact study had been done. Mr. Cox answered yes.

Lewis Watson, 310 Red Pump Road: Mr. Watson wanted to know what would be done with the waste water and runoff if there is a big rain. He said that the compost would be washed down the hill. You can't breathe when you go through Toughkenamon; the smell is awful. Mr. Cox stated that the Chester County Conservation District is involved and it is still an ongoing project.

Gadiel Agosto, 165 Pleasant Drive: Mr. Agosto stated that he has worked with mushrooms and manure. You can't move the compost immediately and an operation that size could take days to move. He alleged that the migrant workers drink, do drugs, and are disrespectful. He alleged that families and children would not be safe.

Nelson Hendrickson, 665 Fremont Road: Mr. Hendrickson wanted to know if he hooked up to the public water line, would the applicant pay his water bill. It won't be the same.

Mr. Cox thanked the residents for speaking respectfully and orderly. He recessed the meeting at 8:04 p.m. so attendees who wanted to leave could do so. The meeting was recalled to order at 8:10 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

McMichael Subdivision Letter of Extension – Mrs. Bell moved to accept the letter of extension for the McMichael Subdivision, extending the review period to December 20, 2011. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UFC Appointment for Truck Committee – Mr. Cox moved to make Eric Todd the representative from the Township to serve on the Union Fire Company Truck Committee. Mrs. Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Historical Commission – Mr. Smith thanked the Supervisors for supporting the Historical Marker dedication which took place on September 17. He asked the Supervisors to support their plans for a bridge dedication which has tentatively been scheduled for October 23 at 3:00 p.m. The Historical Commission is asking that the township police close Park Road at Lees Bridge Road, Lees Bridge Road at Park and Fremont Roads, and Sand Hill Road at Lees Bridge Road. Current plans involve a parade over the bridge and a ribbon cutting ceremony. The Historical Commission would like the Supervisors to spend \$300 to rent a steam calliope for the parade. Nancy Cox will play the calliope at no cost to the township. Mr. Smith also asked the Supervisors to consider commissioning a new bronze plaque for the bridge to be placed next to the old plaque which was salvaged from the old bridge. They would like to have the new plaque for the ceremony. The cost for the plaque would be \$300 to \$1900 depending on the material used to create the plaque. Mr. Cox said that he talked to Mr. Todd about the calliope and he was okay with that. Mrs. Bell asked Mr. Smith to get additional quotes for the plaque. She added that the Supervisors would need to look at the budget to see where the money would come from. Mr. Cox moved to spend \$300 to rent a steam calliope for the parade on October 23. Mrs. Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Ross suggested that permission might be needed from PennDOT before anything could be permanently affixed to the bridge.

Resolution 9-2011 Sign Fees – Mr. Cox moved to adopt Resolution 9-2011 setting the fees for signs in the township. Mrs. Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Outdoor Event waiver request – Mrs. Bell moved to waive the application fee and cash bond for the ‘Bark in the Park’ event to be held at Nottingham County Park on October 1, 2011. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pension Payment – Mr. Cox moved to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to make the pension plan payment to PSATS Trustees Insurance Group as soon as the State aid is received. Mrs. Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SR 2001 Bridge Project – Mrs. Bell moved to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to sign the Memorandum of Understanding from PennDOT regarding the replacement of the bridge over Octoraro Creek and to return it to the Engineering District 8-0 office. Mrs. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fall Newsletter – Mrs. Bell moved to authorize the Secretary to publish the newsletter on the website and mail a copy to those residents who requested to receive it in the mail. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2012 Budget Meetings – Mr. Cox moved to schedule and advertise public meetings to discuss the 2012 budget on the following dates beginning at 8:30 a.m.: October 13, October 27, and November 10. Mrs. Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Secretary noted that the budget may also be discussed during the Board of Supervisors workshops and regular monthly meetings. These meetings are already advertised as public meetings.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mrs. Bell moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for the general fund accounts for the period ending August 31, 2011 subject to audit. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bell moved to approve the General Fund Bills List for the period August 17 to September 20, 2011, subject to audit. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Cox moved to accept the Reconciliation Reports for the general fund at 1NBank and Meridian Bank for the period ending August 31, 2011, subject to audit. Mrs. Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Smith wanted to know if a motion could be made to reduce the speed on Ridge Road and other roads to 35 MPH. Mr. Cox stated that a traffic study needs to be conducted before a speed limit can be reduced on a township road. It is very costly.

Mr. Siegfried wanted to know if Red Pump Road would be included in a traffic study for the Beltran land development plan since there is an entrance on that road. Mrs. V. Miller added that there is a bus stop on Pleasant Drive. Mrs. Bell said that the zoning ordinance is specific and the solicitor and engineer would need to look at it.

Mr. Armstrong asked about the Union Fire Company Truck Committee. Mr. Cox said that the fire company wants to purchase new equipment to replace some of its aging fleet. The Supervisors want to be a part of the committee to make sure that tax dollars are spent well.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Bell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Candace Miller
Secretary/Treasurer