

East Norriton Township – Special Meeting
May 15, 2008

The Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Norriton Township was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Lewis McQuirns, at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2008, at the Township Municipal Building. Supervisors present were Donald J. Gracia, Lewis K. McQuirns, James K. Staufenberg, James J. Serratore and Karen “Kandy” Heckman.

Following roll call, Mr. Gracia offered a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was then recited by all in attendance.

The Chairman then reviewed the items on the agenda to be considered at tonight’s meeting: Resolutions No. 2407 ad 2408 – Schedule Public Hearings on Ordinance Nos. 505 and 506; Resolution No. 2409 Schedule Public Hearing Comprehensive Plan; Schedule Public Meeting for the Liberty Bell Trail; Township Road Improvement Program; Storm Drainage Issue – Evergreen Terrace; Authorize Expenditure – GIS System; and any other business to come before the Board of Supervisors.

The Chairman introduced the first item, Resolution No. 2407 and 2408 – Schedule Public Hearings on Ordinance Nos. 505 and 506. Mr. Serratore made a motion to schedule the Public Hearing for Ordinance Nos. 505 and 506 for Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Norristown Area High School with a public meeting to immediately follow the conclusion of the public hearing. After requesting any comments, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio explained Resolution Nos. 2407 and 2408. Resolution No. 2407 is to set a time and place to consider an ordinance which would change the zoning of the parcels of Wood’s Golf Center that were considered previously.

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Resolution No. 2408 references the text changes to the Institutional District and setting the hearing followed by a Public Meeting to be scheduled for July 12, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Nick Viglianese of 3105 Whitehall Road questioned why the Board is scheduling another hearing and meeting when the ordinances have already been passed. Township staff reported that there were claims that the process was not done properly and complaints were made that people who wished to speak were not given the opportunity to be heard.

Gheorghe Craciun of 3102 Whitehall Road questioned why the Board is performing the process over again. Township staff addressed this question previously.

Virginia Craciun of 3102 Whitehall Road questioned will Einstein give another presentation at the next Public Hearing and commented on the perception that the decision was already made before the item was voted on at the last hearing. The Township Solicitor replied what may be presented at the public meeting is what could be developed on the property without any zoning changes versus a plan as to what could be constructed with the ordinance changes.

Ellen Dorazio of 902 Baker Drive questioned is a certificate of need from the State Department of Health required to build or expand a hospital. Ms. Dorazio was advised that the certificate was not required.

Michael Price of 2918 Whitehall Road believes there is an appearance of arrogance and secrecy and there is a need for an explanation by the Board of their decisions. He said this is creating the lack of trust from the residents.

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Diana Viglianese of 3105 Whitehall Road expressed she does not understand the purpose of the July 12, 2008 meeting. Township officials responded that it is an opportunity to hear more people and to vote again on the ordinances.

Lorraine Lee of 2011 Birchwood Drive questioned what consideration was given by the Township to purchase Wood's as open space. Township officials reviewed what consideration was given by the Township unfortunately the Township is not in the financial position to acquire the property.

Rick Rojas of 2930 Whitehall Road questioned why there was so much police presence at the public meeting and who paid for the police. Township officials responded that the police are paid through Township funds.

The Chairman introduced the next item on the agenda, Resolution No. 2409 – Schedule Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Heckman made a motion to schedule the Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan for Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at East Norriton Middle School. After requesting any comments, the motion was seconded by Mr. Staufenberg and approved unanimously.

Deb Knawby of 3100 North Wales Road questioned why the Township needs a hearing for the Comprehensive Plan. Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio replied that the hearing is required by law.

Virginia Fitzpatrick of 6 Embassy Circle asked how to acquire a copy of the draft plan. Township Manager, Helmuth Baerwald asked that anyone wanting to review the draft Comprehensive Plan to please contact him at the Township building.

The Chairman introduced the next item on the agenda, Schedule Public Meeting - Liberty Bell Trail. Mr. Staufenberg made a motion to schedule the Public Hearing for the

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Liberty Bell Trail for Wednesday, July 16th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

The Chairman introduced the next item on the agenda, Township Road Improvement Program. Township Manager, Helmuth Baerwald reviewed a letter from the Township Engineer dated May 14, 2008 to include Hayes Road, Taft Road, Pierce Road and Polk Road at a cost of \$306,303.12. Mr. Gracia made a motion to approve the revised 2008 Road Improvement Program as outlined in Mr. Blue's letter. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mrs. Heckman and approved unanimously.

The Chairman introduced the next item on the agenda, Storm Drainage Issue, Evergreen Terrace. Township Manager, Helmuth Baerwald reviewed a new storm water drainage issue that has been identified on Evergreen Drive. Mr. Craciun commented that Whitehall Road needs storm drainage work and curbs.

The Chairman introduced the next item on the agenda, Authorize Expenditure GIS System. Mr. Staufenberg made a motion to upgrade the GIS system and move it to another server at a cost of \$9,810.00. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

The Chairman asked if there was any Other Business. Township Manager, Helmuth Baerwald reviewed that the Township has been contacted by a developer for a staff meeting regarding the potential development of the Handy and Harmon property. The Township has also been contacted by the owner of the Power House property at the corner of Township Line Road and DeKalb Blvd for a staff meeting. Code Enforcement

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Director, Bryan Bortnichak reviewed discussions he had with the owner of Gill Quarries and the DEP requirements. A staff meeting with the owner of Gill Quarries will be arranged.

Nick Viglianese of 3105 Whitehall Road said he wanted to be sure the Township is aware of the zoning restrictions with the Handy and Harmon property.

Helen Gardocki of 2918 Dermond Drive questioned if Wood's Golf Center is sold. Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio reported that there is probably an agreement of sale. Ms. Pionzio said she does not know for sure.

Frank Riccardelli of 2934 Whitehall Road asked if there is adequate security controls in place for Gill Quarries and the water level reaching forty feet. Township staff reported that there is a six foot fence to restrict access as when it was a quarry.

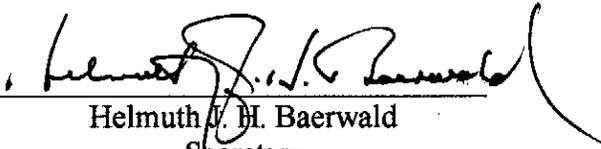
Helen Brady of 2916 Dermond Road questioned if the Wood's property sale is pending and contingent on the passing of the two ordinances? Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio responded to Ms. Brady that the sale may be contingent on the adoption of these ordinances.

Janet Denick of 2912 Whitehall Road stated that she is opposed to the eighty-five foot height requirement and the possibility of multiple buildings being placed on the property.

Frank Riccardelli of 2934 Whitehall Road asked if Ordinance 506 has to get approved in total or can it be amended during the meeting? Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio responded no amendments can be made without the process starting over.

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Mr. Gracia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Staufenberg and approved unanimously.



Helmut H. Baerwald
Secretary

