

East Norriton Township – Regular Meeting
February 23, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Norriton Township was called to order by the Chairwoman, Karen “Kandy” Heckman, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at the Township Municipal Building. Supervisors present were Karen “Kandy” Heckman, Donald J. Gracia, Harris A. Dainoff, James J. Serratore, and John A. Zurzola.

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

The Chairwoman asked for a moment of silence in memory of John Durante.

The Chairwoman read a Certificate that was presented to Anthony Taormina in recognition of Facenda Whitaker’s 50th Anniversary.

The Chairwoman read a Proclamation that will be presented to Joe Sorgini for his 36 years of dedicated service to East Norriton Township.

The Chairwoman introduced the next item on the agenda, Certificate of Commendation – Public Works Department. Township Manager, Donald Delamater read the Commendation that will be presented to the Public Works Department on Thursday, February 25, 2010 for their exemplary work performed during the two snow storms which blanketed East Norriton Township with a cumulative depth of over 4 feet of snow creating what will forever be known as the Blizzard of 2010.

Nick Viglianese of 3105 Whitehall Road commented that no one had roads as clean as East Norriton Township’s.

The Chairwoman announced that the Board of Supervisors met earlier this evening in Executive Session to discuss matters of litigation and personnel.

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The Chairwoman introduced the next item on the agenda, Approval of Meeting Minutes. Mr. Gracia made a motion to approve the minutes of the Re-Organization Meeting and the Regular Meeting of January 4, 2010. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

The Chairwoman introduced the next item on the agenda, Finance Reports for December, 2009 and January, 2010. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve the Finance Reports and Receipts and Warrants for December, 2009 and January 2010. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

The Chairwoman requested that the reading of the Committee Reports for December, 2009 and January, 2010 be deferred and also commented that the Committee Reports were available on the table in the back of the meeting room.

The Chairwoman asked if there were any Citizens to be Heard; there were none.

Mr. Serratore introduced the first item under “Old Business”, Gill Quarries. Code Enforcement Director, Bryan Bortnichak reported that the Township has yet to receive comments from the DEP regarding the reclamation plan amendment. Mr. Gill has indicated in addition to the reclamation plan that would involve the right half of the property, he is interested in subdividing and selling off the western half of the property that is zoned Residential for development.

Mr. Dainoff introduced the next item on the agenda, Fire Company Apparatus Lease Agreement. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reported that the Township received notice today from the leasing company to refinance the Fire Company loan the Township will get a rate of 3.27% and the documentation should be received by March 1,

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2010. Mr. Serratore made a motion to authorize the Chairwoman and/or Secretary to execute the lease agreement. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

Mr. Serratore introduced the next item on the agenda, Jefferson Crossing Developer's Agreement. Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio reviewed that the developer is refinancing the loan and the developer's agreement will be replaced with the new escrow agent. Mr. Serratore made a motion to authorize the Chairwoman to execute the agreement. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Zurzola and approved unanimously.

Mr. Dainoff introduced the next item on the agenda, Deed of Easement – Silvestrini. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed the Deed of Easement and that two trees would have to be removed to run the gravity line through the easement. Mr. Serratore made a motion to authorize the Chairwoman and Secretary to execute the document. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

Mr. Serratore introduced the next item on the agenda, Permit Fee Waiver for Barrington House Demolition. Code Enforcement Director, Bryan Bortnichak reviewed the request from Ram Construction for the waiver of fees for the demolition permit less the state fee for the work performed at the Barrington property. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve the waiver of \$266.00 for the demolition permit fee that was issued on January 12, 2010. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

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Mr. Dainoff introduced the next item on the agenda, Resolution No. 2494 – Bocce Courts Land Development Waiver Request. Code Enforcement Director, Bryan Bortnichak reviewed Resolution No. 2494 granting a waiver of the requirement for a land development application for East Norriton Township for the construction of two bocce ball courts and associated parking and restroom facilities with the condition of stormwater management methods, facilities and improvements shall be approved by and installed to the satisfaction of the Township Engineer. Mr. Dainoff read Resolution No. 2494 into record. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2494. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Zurzola and approved unanimously.

Mr. Serratore introduced the next item on the agenda, Development and Construction Updates. Code Enforcement Director, Bryan Bortnichak reviewed: the Village of Caralea development model homes are nearing completion; Enclave at Williamstadt has installed signage; Pimlico Farms has not had a lot of activity in the past six to eight months but, construction of housing has started again; and Heatherwood development has submitted for seven new homes.

Mr. Dainoff introduced the next item on the agenda, Storm Drainage Issues/Projects. Township Engineer, Tim Woodrow reported: A. Comprehensive Storm Water Survey – the list has been compiled and will be provided at next month's meeting; B. Small Projects Storm Water Regulations ordinance is being worked on with Township staff; and C. Mr. Owens' letter regarding Storm Water on Hazelton/Rahway Area is included on the Comprehensive Storm Water Survey.

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Mr. Serratore introduced the next item on the agenda, Traffic Issues. Staff Engineer, Doug Jones provided an update on the Montgomery County Signals Upgrade project; during the review process of the plans it was discovered that painted mast arms, pedestrian poles and controller cabinets were left out of the contract specifications. Mr. Jones is working with the contractor and PADOT to get the painted mast arms, pedestrian poles and controller cabinets incorporated into the specifications. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed a meeting that he attended in Norristown regarding the DeKalb Street two-way study.

Mr. Dainoff introduced the next item on the agenda, Sanitary Sewer Issues. Stuart Rosenthal of Gilmore & Associates, Inc. reported that he did meet with DEP to discuss the issues associated with the Germantown Pike force main and a plan of action. Mr. Rosenthal reported that they are continuing to close out the Birchwood Drive sanitary sewer rehab project. After reviewing the DVD of the point repairs, Mr. Rosenthal stated that regrettably the repairs were not to his satisfaction and the contractor was requested to do additional repair work before the final payment is released. Staff Engineer, Doug Jones reported on the January 25, 2010 overflow that occurred from an abandoned manhole located On Germantown Pike. Apparently, tree roots were blocking the flows in the active line which backed up the flows into the abandoned line. The backup flows had enough pressure to exit the line through cracks/breaks and come through the road surface. DEP was notified. As soon as the weather conditions improve the abandoned line will be permanently capped.

Mr. Gracia introduced the first item under “New Business”, Appointment to Planning Commission. Mr. Serratore made a motion to appoint Frank Brouse to the

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Planning Commission. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda, Resolution No. 2491 – Adoption of 5 Year Smoothing Method for Non-Uniformed Pension Plan. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed Resolution No. 2491 adopting a five year smoothing method to determine the actuarial value of assets as part of the actuarial valuation for the East Norriton Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plan, according to Act 44 of 2009. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2491. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Zurzola and approved unanimously.

Mr. Gracia introduced the next item on the agenda, Resolution No. 2492 – Adoption of 5 Year Smoothing Method for Police Pension Plan. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed Resolution No. 2492 adopting a five year smoothing method to determine the actuarial value of assets as part of the actuarial valuation for the East Norriton Police Pension Plan, according to Act 44 of 2009. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2492. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda, Hillcrest Plaza – Exemption of Planning Module Process. Code Enforcement Director, Bryan Bortnichak reviewed the construction of a proposed three story office building and the applicant is seeking an exemption of the Sanitary Sewer Planning Module process from the DEP. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve the submission of the Sewer Planning Module exemption

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request. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Zurzola and approved unanimously.

Mr. Garcia introduced the next item on the agenda, 2009 Survey of Financial Condition. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed the 2009 Survey of Financial Condition for DCED which is filed annually. Mr. Gracia made a motion to execute the Survey of Financial Condition. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Serratore and approved unanimously.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda, Medical Office Parking. Code Enforcement Director, Bryan Bortnichak reviewed the proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance specifically the parking. Mr. Bortnichak will circulate a draft ordinance at next month's meeting.

Mr. Gracia introduced the next item on the agenda, Assessment Appeal of New Tees – Stipulation to Settle. Township Solicitor, Christen Pionzio reviewed the assessment appeal involving New Tees Co. decreasing their property value. Mr. Zurzola made a motion to authorize the Township Solicitor to execute the Stipulation to Settle. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Serratore and approved 4 to 0 with Mr. Dainoff abstaining from the vote because of a professional conflict.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda, Police Uniforms and Emergency Equipment – Bid Authorization. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed this item. Mr. Serratore made a motion to authorize the bidding for police uniforms and emergency equipment for the police vehicles for opening at the March

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regular meeting. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

Mr. Gracia introduced the next item on the agenda, Authorize Grant Application to Coca-Cola Co. – Recycling Containers. Assistant Township Manager, Larry Brown reviewed the grant application for eighteen recycling containers from Coca-Cola Co. Mr. Serratore made a motion to authorize the submission of the grant application. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda, Authorize Public Works Truck Order. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed the request from Public Works Director, Joseph Sorgini dated February 19, 2010 to purchase a 2010 International Dump Truck for \$163,359.49 and a 2010 Ford Truck with arm lift for \$63,316.75 through the State of Pennsylvania COSTARS contract. Mr. Gracia made a motion to authorize the order of the Public Works trucks subject to financing/lease approval. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Serratore and approved unanimously.

Mr. Gracia introduced the next item on the agenda, MUA Electric Bid. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed how the Municipal Utility Alliance has bided and awarded the State contract for the purchase of electricity effective January, 2011. Mr. Delamater reviewed the positive impact on the Township with the purchase of the electricity. Mr. Gracia made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to execute the agreement with the MUA in a form that is satisfactory with the Solicitor's office and contingent upon a savings for the Township. After requesting any comments, the motion

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was seconded by Mr. Serratore and approved unanimously. Kevin Dyson of 2996 Brambling Lane questioned what PECO's rates would be versus the MUA rates.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda, Municipal Wide Contract for Residential Waste and Recycling Services. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed single trash hauler options. The Board of Supervisors and Township staff had discussions regarding trash hauler services in the Township. The Board of Supervisors asked the Township Manager to continue to gather data.

Mr. Gracia introduced the next item on the agenda, Expenditure Authorization. A. Norriton Fire Dept. Deferred Benefit Plan - \$19,000.00; B. Sponsorship Ad for "Once Upon A Time In Montgomery County" – ½ page ad \$50.00; C. DeSage Park Ecological Area Development – Woodrow & Associates - \$6,700.00; D. Upgrade of 4 Intersection Poles – Lenni Electric - \$19,089.00; E. Barrington Property Master Plan - \$1,560.00; F. Code Inspections Einstein Project Payment Plan (per 2/17/2010 letter); G. Compost Equipment Repairs - \$1,302.97 and H. Pension payment - \$1,246.00/month. Mr. Gracia made a motion to approve items A through H. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Zurzola and approved unanimously.

Mr. Zurzola introduced the next item on the agenda Attendance Authorization. A. PELRAS Convention – Larry Brown, Assistant Township Manager; B. Police Dept. – Motorcycle Certification – Officer Cover; C. Police Dept. – Motorcycle Recertification – Officers Pickford and Warner; D. Police Dept. – Bicycle Certification – Officer Carfrey; E. Police Dept. – Municipal Police Civil Services Training – Chief McGowan and Lt. Kates; F. Police Dept. – FBI – Inter-county Detective – Officer Carfrey; and G. Police Dept. – SUV EVOC – Officers Brennan, Brannen, Walters and Pasquale. Mr. Serratore

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made a motion to approve items A through G. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.

Mr. Gracia reviewed the meeting schedule for February 25, 2010 through April 2, 2010.

The Chairwoman introduced the next item on the agenda, Legislation. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed the proposed Pension Study Bill SB 1227; Bidding Limits SB 319; Electronic Legal Notices SB 419; and State Police fees HB 1500.

The Chairwoman asked if there was any “Other Business”. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed a letter from the Norristown Area School District dated February 23, 2010 requesting waiver of permit fees for a roof replacement project at Cole Manor Elementary School. The permit fess is \$1,530.00. Mr. Dainoff made a motion to waive a one-third (1/3) of the \$1,530.00 permit fee. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Serratore and approved unanimously.

Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed a meeting with the Township’s Bond Counsel and reported that the Township could refinance the 2004 Bond Issue and experience a savings of \$112,000.00. The first step would be to obtain the Township’s updated bond rating. Mr. Serratore made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to proceed with getting the Township’s bond rating and begin the refinancing process. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Zurzola and approved unanimously.

Township Manager, Donald Delamater reviewed the Norriton Fire Engine Company Deferred Benefit Plan account that has been held by the Township. The Township has been advised by the auditors that the account should be moved to the Fire

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Company. Mr. Serratore made a motion to approve the amended plan document dated February, 2010. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gracia and approved unanimously.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Chairman asked if there were any residents who wished to speak, Nick Viglianese of 3105 Whitehall Road asked about the possible savings the Township Manager had discussed and Mr. Viglianese asked what the savings does for the budget. Mr. Delamater explained that the funds will be used to set up a reserve for increased pension costs in 2011. Mr. Viglianese also commented about the school tax increase and asked if the Township could do anything about the increase. Steve Simonetti of 3011 Brambling Lane asked if there have been any further discussion about the installation of cell towers. Township Manager, Donald Delamater reported that there has been no more discussions. Mr. Simonetti asked about the line of credit for emergency purposes that were also previously discussed. Mr. Delamater responded that a line of credit has to be for a specific purpose.

Mr. Serratore made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. After requesting any comments and there being none, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dainoff and approved unanimously.



Donald D. Delamater
Secretary

