

## WORK SESSION

February 3, 2015

A work session of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda of the February 3, 2015 Supervisors' meeting. Chairman Frederick R. Conner was present with Supervisors Adam D. Zucker, Anthony F. Greco, Melissa M. Weber, and Kenneth F. Wollman. Also present were Township Solicitor James J. Garrity, Esq., Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, Township Engineer James E. Blanch, P.E., Assistant Township Manager David J. Mrochko, Director of Public Works Ronald J. Cione, Police Chief Mark A. Smith, Parks and Recreation Director Kurt W. Baker, Director of Code Enforcement Michael McAndrew, Director of Finance John Nagel, and Fire Marshal David M. Camarda. Two members of the public were also present.

The Supervisors reviewed the agenda discussing approval of the minutes of the January 20, 2015 Board meeting, the final Voucher List for December 2014, the December 2014 Treasurer's Report, acceptance of a proposal from Urban Partners, release of escrow funds for Red Fox Farm, disposition of public records, sale of surplus equipment and the February Zoning Hearing Board case.

After reviewing the agenda, Mr. Pronczak mentioned that the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials (MCATO) will hold their annual Spring Convention on February 27 at 8:00 a.m. The convention will take place at Presidential Caterers in East Norriton. Supervisor Weber, who serves on MCATO's Executive Committee, encouraged her fellow supervisors to attend the convention.

The meeting continued with Mr. Pronczak providing a brief overview of the Township's snow removal ordinance. The ordinance requires property owners to remove snow from sidewalks within 24 hours after snow has stopped falling. If the Township receives complaints related to this ordinance, a police officer will speak with the property owner or leave a notice informing the property owner of their responsibilities under the ordinance. If the property owner refuses to comply with the ordinance after receiving the notice, the police can issue a citation.

The last topic discussed at the work session meeting concerned the speed of vehicles on Penllyn Blue Bell Pike. Mr. Blanch sent a letter to PennDOT requesting that the posted speed limit on this roadway be reduced. Since Penllyn Blue Bell Pike is a state roadway, PennDOT is the agency solely responsible for determining its posted speed. Mr. Pronczak mentioned that the Township was successful with a similar request on Skippack Pike, so he is hopeful PennDOT will reduce the speed limit in this instance.

At 8:42 p.m., the Supervisors adjourned the work session and met in executive session to discuss legal matters. At 8:00 p.m., the Supervisors adjourned the executive session and left for the public meeting. When the public meeting ended, the Supervisors reconvened the executive session at 8:17 p.m.

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David J. Mrochko  
Whitpain Township Assistant Manager

#03-2015  
February 3, 2015

The regular meeting of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA. Chairman Frederick R. Conner, Jr., along with Supervisors Adam D. Zucker, Anthony F. Greco, Melissa M. Weber and Kenneth F. Wollman were present. Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, P.E., Assistant Township Manager, David J. Mrochko, Solicitor James J. Garrity, Esq., Police Chief Mark A. Smith, Township Engineer James E. Blanch, P.E., Finance Director John B. Nagel, Code Enforcement Officer Michael E. McAndrew, Public Works Director Ronald J. Cione, Parks and Recreation Director Kurt W. Baker, Fire Marshal David M. Camarda and Recording Secretary Virginia Papale were also present. There were four members of the public at the meeting.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was held in honor of Shade Tree Commission Chairman Joseph T. Steuer, followed by a statement from Chairman Conner:

*On Wednesday night, the Whitpain Community will gather in a Town Hall forum for the important civic purpose of planning our future development. Sadly, a strong and steady voice in many similar discussions over the past two decades will not be with us.*

*Whitpain resident and longtime Chairman of our Shade Tree Commission, Mr. Joseph T. Steuer passed away Saturday after a long and heroic battle with cancer. Anyone who lives in, works in, or enjoys Whitpain Township owes Joe their thanks for his decades of dedication to improving our natural environment through the planting of thousands of trees and shrubs.*

*Since 1996, Joe has led his colleagues on the Commission in planting, removing, maintaining, and protecting trees located throughout Whitpain. He personally planned and conducted countless programs that increased awareness of the value of trees including our annual tree give away event. Joe was also responsible for maintaining a detailed registry of the many Township trees of magnificent size, significant age, and unusual species.*

*Because of Joe's dedication, Whitpain has been designated as a Tree City USA community by the National Arbor Day Foundation since 1994. Beginning in 1999, the Township has annually received the Foundation's Growth Award, which is the next level of recognition that Tree City USA communities can achieve. And since 2009, after earning the Growth Award for ten consecutive years, Whitpain was recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Sterling Community, its highest level of recognition. Only six other Pennsylvania communities have ever earned this distinction.*

*Whitpain's Annual Earth Day celebration for the area's elementary school students was easily the most popular and wildly successful of Joe's program contributions. Each year he and his colleagues would judge hundreds of poems and works of art promoting the principals of environmental protection and sustainability. Over the past nineteen years, many thousands of young people and their parents have experienced this very special event.*

*Unfortunately, this Earth Day, Joe will not be with us "to speak for the trees" and so much more about what makes Whitpain the community we are. He will be profoundly missed, but his legacy will quite literally live on here for generations.*

*On behalf of the Board of Supervisors and the entire Whitpain Community, our thoughts, prayers, and sincere thanks are with the Steuer Family.*

The meeting was then called to order by Chairman Conner who welcomed everyone to the third meeting of 2015. Chairman Conner made several announcements: the first Town Hall meeting regarding the Comprehensive Plan will be held Wednesday, February 4 at 7 p.m. in Montgomery County Community College, College Hall, Rooms 144/148/152 to which all are welcome. The Board met in executive session to discuss a legal matter on Saturday, January 24. Chairman Conner noted that the Board met in executive session prior to tonight's meeting, and will return to executive session at the end of the public meeting to discuss legal matters.

As has become tradition, Mission Moment this evening will be presented by Supervisors Ken Wollman, who will recognize excellence. After reading the Mission, Vision, Values statement, Mr. Wollman highlighted the Parks and Recreation Department, headed by Kurt Baker and includes Mike Richino and Courtney Fox. They seek excellence in all they do. Kurt serves as the president of the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society (PRPS). PRPS is the state organization founded in 1935 that promotes quality recreation, training and networking, including leadership opportunities. In Kurt's 20-years of service with the Township he has overseen the development of the Stony Creek Sports Park, Prophecy Creek Park, the Manor House Partnership and Centre Square Park. Kurt has been the recipient of several excellence in programming awards by PRPS. Mr. Wollman highlighted the many activities Kurt has brought to the Township. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Wollman thanked Mr. Baker for a great job and the value of services he brings to all residents of the Township. Mr. Baker expressed appreciation of the acknowledgement.

A motion was made by Mrs. Weber, duly seconded by Mr. Zucker to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2015 Board of Supervisors' meeting. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to approve the final Voucher List for December 2014 in the amount of \$1,169,070.05, check sequence #53738 through #53741, #53861-54093, #54095-54191, #54231-54232. Checks #53742-53860 were voided due to a printer error. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to approve the December 2014 Treasurer's Report. Chairman Conner noted that we reached year-end, well within the projections. As audits begin and the year closes out, he looks to continued fine work by the Finance Department. Chairman Conner called for any additional discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made Mrs. Weber, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to accept the proposal from Urban Partners for a market assessment study related to the Comprehensive Plan in accordance with their proposal dated November 5, 2014, in an

amount not to exceed \$9,800. Chairman Conner said this matter was discussed within the Comprehensive Plan Committee and the Committee recommended Urban Partners' proposal. They were effective and helpful with the work they did with the West Ambler Revitalization Plan. Chairman Conner called for any additional discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A confirming motion was made by Mr. Greco, duly seconded by Mr. Wollman to release \$84,398.40 (Release #4) from the escrow fund for the Red Fox Farm Subdivision. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Weber, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to authorize the disposition of public records in accordance with Resolution No. 1004, adopted March 19, 2013 as follows: Sewer Cash Receipts (2007), Sewer Customer Listing (2007), Accounts Payable Files (2009) and Chron Files (1985-2007). Chairman Conner called for any discussion. There was none and the motion carried.

A confirming motion was made by Mr. Wollman, duly seconded by Mr. Greco to sell the following surplus equipment through Municibid: Nissen Balance Beam, Uneven Bars, Spring Boards and Pommel Horse; Jacobsen 20" Snow Jet snow blower Model 321: Alitec Model CP224AWD Cold Planer Skidsteer Attachment (relisted as previous high bidder did not show up); Ford F-350 Truck Bed and Bumper; (40) Grey Upholstered Metal frame Chairs (4 lots of 10); (3) Double Swivel Lever Load Binders 9,200 lb. working load limit. Chairman Conner called for any discussion. Vice-Chairman Zucker asked if the Public Works Department had a gymnastics team. Mr. Cione responded that the items were donated many years ago by the school district, and they have been stored in the barn for quite some time. There was no further discussion and the motion carried.

The Board of Supervisors took no action on the following case scheduled for February 19, 2015:

#2032-15      Pet Supplies Plus

The Planning Commission will review this application at its February 10 meeting.

Chairman Conner turned the meeting over the Vice-Chairman Zucker for public comment. Vice-Chairman Zucker asked if anyone wished to make a comment. There was none.

Vice-Chairman Zucker asked if the Board had any old or new business to discuss. Chairman Conner said he is looking forward to the first Town Hall meeting the next evening. Author Thomas Hylton will be the keynote presenter. A good turnout is expected for the event to be held at Montgomery County Community College. There was no further discussion.

There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Zucker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony F. Greco  
Secretary