

South Coventry Township

Board of Supervisors Minutes

Monday, December 7, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of South Coventry Township, Chester County, PA, was held on Monday, December 7, 2009 at 7:30 PM in the South Coventry Township Building with Chairperson Timothy Blevins presiding. Millie Donnell, David Prizer and Wendy McClain were also in attendance. Mr. Blevins called the meeting to order.

Minutes – Mr. Prizer made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 2, 2009 regular evening meeting, the October 30, 2009 morning meeting and the November 2, 2009 special meeting as presented. Mrs. Donnell seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

1. James Fitch questioned if a log was kept of all trips the road crew made during the day. Roger Ciebien, the Township's Roadmaster, said that a log of daily activity is kept but a log of every time a truck is taken out is not. Mr. Fitch expressed concern over the number of road crew South Coventry has for the number of road miles maintained in the Township and questioned how the road crew's time is spent.
2. Richard Whitlock was present and suggested that the Board investigate a new solicitor and engineer for the Township. Mr. Blevins said that the Board would take Mr. Whitlock's suggestion under consideration. Mr. Whitlock questioned the inspection that was done by Castle Valley Consultants for a stormwater pipe as part of the Whitlock Subdivision improvements. Mr. Whitlock stated that his understanding was that the inspection was not necessary. Mrs. Donnell stated that she believed the inspection was a routine site inspection which is part of new home construction and is done by Castle Valley Consultants as requested by Ms. Cantrell-Edwards. Mrs. Donnell said she would contact Castle Valley Consultants to clarify the situation.
3. Chris Cox asked if the solicitor and engineer were put out to bid. Mrs. Donnell stated that the process is to request proposals for these services at the Board's discretion.
4. Mark Lewis asked about the plan for Woody's Woods. Mr. Blevins stated that the status of the Woody's Woods Master Site Plan is later in the agenda. Mr. Lewis also asked who was contracted to mow the sides of the roads. Mr. Ciebien stated that the road crew mows with Township equipment.

Public Works/Roadmaster's Report

1. Roger Ciebien summarized the November 2009 Public Works Report. The report is available for review at the Township Office.

Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer's Report

1. Copies of the November 2009 reports, including correspondence, from the Residential Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer and the Commercial Code Enforcement Officer are available for review in the Township Office.

2. The Zoning Hearing for Equine Exchange for property at 1251 Ridge Road was held on December 1, 2009. The decision is scheduled to be rendered on December 8, 2009 at 7:30PM.
3. A conditional use application was received for Our Place to Grow, Inc. to allow a day-care to be run at Pughtown Baptist Church located at 780 Pughtown Road. The hearing is scheduled for January 7, 2010.

Planning Commission Report

1. Mrs. Donnell summarized the November 16, 2009 meeting of the Planning Commission. Minutes of the meeting are available for review at the Township Office.

Federation of Northern Chester County Communities Report

1. A meeting of the Federation of Northern Chester County Communities was held on October 13, 2009. The meeting minutes are available for review at the Township Office.
2. A public information session and open house will be held for the Regional Park and Recreation Plan on November 10, 2009 at the Owen J. Roberts High School at 6:30PM.

Historic Commission/Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB)

1. Mrs. Donnell summarized the November 18, 2009 joint education meeting of the Historic Commission and HARB. The meeting minutes are available for review at the Township Office.

Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Oversight Board (OREO)

1. Cathie Whitlock summarized the November 23, 2009 public meeting held for the Woody's Woods Master Site Plan. Mr. Whitlock questioned why old signs were still posted in Woody's Woods. He felt the old hunting season dates could confuse people entering Woody's Woods. He also stated that the north side of Woody's Woods is not properly marked. Mrs. Donnell stated that the Board has already authorized the surveyor to remark areas that the road crew was unable to accurately sign because of missing boundary markers.
2. Mrs. Whitlock also summarized the November 30, 2009 meeting held with Ann Toole regarding the Federation's Regional Parks and Recreation Plan.

Discussion or Business from the Floor – None

Old Business

1. The Board considered for adoption an ordinance amending the South Coventry Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Blevins reviewed the advertisement requirements and noted that comment letters were received from Chester County Planning Commission and the South Coventry Planning Commission. Mr. Blevins then opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, Mrs. McClain reviewed letter "m" of Section 1713.C.3 of the proposed zoning ordinance amendment in regards to the prohibition of white strobe lights. She recommended that letter "m" in the proposed amendment not be included and that the existing letter "n" under Section 1713.C.3 in the current Zoning Ordinance be re-lettered letter "m." Mrs. Donnell made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2009-04 excluding letter "m"

- in the proposed ordinance to be replaced by letter “n” in the existing Zoning Ordinance and renaming it letter “m”. Mr. Blevins seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.
2. The Board reviewed 2009 contributions to Ridge Fire Company, Norchester Wrestling, Wildcat Football. Mr. Blevins stated that no information had been received from Norchester Red Knights after repeated requests were sent for financial information and the number of South Coventry children participants. After discussion, Mr. Blevins made a motion to approve a \$4,000 additional contribution to Ridge Fire Company, \$300 contribution to Norchester Wrestling, \$300 contribution of Wildcat Football and to allow Norchester Red Knights field usage in lieu of a financial contribution. Mrs. Donnell seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.
 3. Amanda Shaner summarized the first meeting of the Countywide Tax Collection Committee Meeting will be held on November 12, 2009.
 4. The proposed 2010 Budget is available for review and will be advertised and formally adopted at a special meeting to be held at the end of December. Mr. Whitlock questioned the amount of money spent on Parks and Recreation. Mrs. Donnell stated that she did not know the exact amount but that there are parks and recreation line items and maintenance listed in the budget. Mr. Whitlock also questioned the percentage of money spent on Connie Batdorf Park as opposed to Woody’s Woods. Mrs. Donnell stated that more money was spent at Connie Batdorf Park this year due to the realignment and paving of the entrance and the installation of the berm and fence. Next year more money will be designated to Woody’s Woods for completion of the Master Site Plan. Mr. Whitlock stated that there should be separate line items for each park.

New Business

1. The Board considered the contact options for the 2010 SPCA agreement. After discussion, Mrs. Donnell made a motion to approve Contract Option #2. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blevins and was unanimously passed.
2. A news release was received from PECO concerning energy saving programs adopted by PECO.
3. A letter was received from the Chester County Department of Aging concerning health insurance scams targeting senior citizens. Information is available concerning warning signs of these insurance scams and options available to seniors who were on the discontinued Keystone 65 policies.
4. The Township is in receipt of the proposed amendments to the Pottstown Metropolitan Area Regional Plan.
5. An escrow release request was received from Short Brothers for Bucktown Crossing. After reviewing the Township Engineer’s letter, Mrs. Donnell made a motion to approve the release of \$2,760.00. Mr. Prizer seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.

Correspondence – The Township is in receipt of the following correspondence:

1. November 2009 log from the Ridge Fire Company
2. PSATS NewsBulletin

Financial Business – Mr. Blevins announced that there was \$71,245.75 in Receipts and \$60,012.71 in Disbursements for the General Fund. Mr. Blevins made a motion to pay the bills which was seconded by Mr. Prizer. The motion was unanimously approved.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday, January 4, 2010, at 7:30 PM in the South Coventry Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Shaner, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer