

Benner Township Supervisors
April 4, 2005

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman, John Elnitski, Jr. with members James Swartzell and David Breon present. Also in attendance were Mike Joseph, Tom Eby, Todd Smith, Katie Ombalski, Renee Swancer and Tom Kulakowski.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Katie Ombalski: Ms. Ombalski was present to discuss with the Board the ClearWater Conservancy's desired outcomes of the Spring Creek Canyon property. She noted that their first and utmost outcome would be to protect the natural resources of the canyon. Secondly, would be to increase public awareness of the sensitive nature of the canyon and its natural resources. Lastly, would be public recreational opportunities that are structured and located in areas that do not interfere with Rockview State Penitentiary activities or threaten the natural resources of the Canyon area. Ms. Ombalski noted that an additional study should be conducted to see what kind of activities would be permissible without impacting the natural resources. Ms. Ombalski also noted that the Conservancy feels that the Pennsylvania Game Commission would be the best agency to manage the property for a variety of reasons including:

- a. lands are maintained with sportman's dollars.
- b. the Game Commission has the responsibility to manage its lands consistent with their mission
- c. State Game Lands are available not only to hunters but also the general public for a variety of outdoor recreational uses.
- d. The Game Commission makes "in lieu of" tax payments
- e. No municipal services would be required
- f. State Game Lands are appreciated and valued.
- g. The Game Commission has extensive Land Management Program
- h. The Game Commission would likely assign a three-person land management crew to the Spring Creek Canyon Area
- i. Land management activities in the canyon would include little or no land disturbance to protect the natural resources.

Ms. Ombalski noted that she would try to arrange a meeting with the Board of Supervisors and representatives from the Game Commission.

Tom Kulakowski/Todd Smith: Mr. Kulakowski was present to discuss with the Board the letter that he received from the Centre County Planning Commission regarding the Opequon Hill Subdivision. As a condition for plan approval, the Commission wants Mr. Kulakowski to reconsider and place the water line along Crestview Drive to the new Opequon Hill Development. Mr. Breon noted that he was at the Centre County Planning Commission meeting when this plan was discussed and that he told the rest of the members that the Board of Supervisors was fine with the way the waterlines were being brought into the development. Mr. Elnitski moved to draft a letter to the Centre County Planning Commission stating that the Board does not wish the waterlines to be brought into the Opequon Hill Development along Crestview Drive. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Swartzell - yes Mr. Breon - yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

MINUTES

The minutes of March 21, 2005, were presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review and comments. Mr. Swartzell moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Swartzell - yes Mr. Breon - yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

BILLS

The bills of April 4, 2005, were presented to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Swartzell moved to approve the bill list as amended. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Swartzell - yes Mr. Breon - yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mrs. Swancer went over with the Board her written report.

Mr. Elnitski noted that he would like to modify the sample of the Jake Brake Ordinance before it is sent for advertising.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Township Agreement/Boundary Change: This item continues to be tabled.

Patton Township/Benner Township Boundary: This item continues to be tabled.

Beezer Hill Road Closure: This item continues to be tabled.

Parking Lot Paving: This item continues to be tabled.

Adelphia Franchise Fee Agreement Renewal: This item remains tabled until a renewal agreement is reached.

Harmon Farm Rezoning Request: This item is tabled until the May 2, 2005 hearing date.

NVJPC Zoning and Implementation agreement: It was noted that the Implementation Ordinance was forwarded on to the Solicitor for advertising.

DeMaire Complaint Letter: Table until the May 2, 2005 meeting.

Gruendler Planning Module: Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Road Bonding for Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.: It was noted that Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. would like to bond Fox Hill and Fillmore Roads. All of the paperwork is in place and the bonding documents are ready for approval. Mr. Swartzell moved to approve Glenn O. Hawbaker's road bonding request. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Swartzell - yes Mr. Breon - yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

Principal Financial Contract Amendment: This item is tabled until the documents can be reviewed in more detail.

Copier/Scanner: This item is tabled until other quotes are obtained.

Joint Recreational Meeting with Bellefonte Area School Board: Mr. Elnitski noted that he will try to attend this meeting and also asked that Mr. Shamalla attend the meeting as well.

Spring Creek Watershed Commission Appointment: Mr. Breon noted that he already has informed Mr. Hameister that he and Genny Robine would continue to serve on this Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. HRG comment letter Re: Minshock Driveway
2. Shiloh Road/Nolin Soil study - grant awarded for study
3. Notice that Graymont is requesting a Title V Operating renewal permit
4. Notice from Penn Dot
5. Notice of Robinson Lane RR crossing change
6. Centre County Planning Commission Letters
 - a. Howard Grove Lot addition replot
 - b. Opequon Hill, Phase I
 - c. Opequon Hill
 - d. Amberleigh Development comments
7. Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority Minutes of March 14, 2005

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned the time being 9:05 p.m.

Sharon Royer, Sec.