

MINUTES

AGENDA MEETING OF HAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010

President Son called to order the Agenda Meeting of Hampton Township Council immediately following the Public Hearing in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 3101 McCully Road, Allison Park, Pennsylvania.

All members present with the exception of Mr. O'Rorke.

DISCUSSION REGARDING COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO THE ROUTE 8-DUNCAN AVENUE ENGINEER SELECTION COMMITTEE

Mr. Son recommended that Mr. O'Rorke be appointed as the Council liaison to the Route 8-Duncan Avenue Engineer Selection Committee. The other two members of the committee are Mr. Lochner and Ms. Bernet.

DISCUSSION REGARDING PSATS RESOLUTION OPPOSING FORCED LOCAL GOVERNMENT MERGERS AND CONSOLIDATIONS

Mr. Lochner advised Council that periodically, the PA State Association of Township Supervisors sends out a request for municipalities to take a position regarding certain pieces of proposed legislation. There currently is legislation in front of both the House and Senate that would dissolve local governments and make county governments throughout the Commonwealth the lowest level of government. PSATS forwarded a proposed resolution for the Township's consideration opposing this legislation. If adopted, copies of the resolution would be sent to Representative Vulakovich and Senator Orie as well as to PSATS. Mr. Montgomery asked why the legislation was originally proposed. Mr. Lochner commented it was thought that less governmental entities would mean a reduction in costs.

DISCUSSION REGARDING FAMILY CIRCLE MAGAZINE RECOGNITION

Mr. Son commented that the article in the August *Family Circle* magazine is a recognition that is well deserved. The article lists Hampton Township as the No. 2 out of 10 best towns for families to live in the entire country. That is a tremendous honor and a demonstration regarding the residents, professional staff, all of the departments, the fire departments, and the school district.

Mr. Son indicated that there was also a filming recently of a movie in Hampton that will actually use the Hampton High School name, its band and the Hampton Talbot, and the Township should be proud it was selected.

DISCUSSION REGARDING SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION UPDATE

Mr. Lochner commented that 2011 will be the Township's 150th anniversary. February 16, 2011 will be the official start date of a year's worth of activities. Currently, work is moving forward with regard to the creation of documents, pamphlets and sponsorship booklets. Also, contracts have been locked down for the concert on July 4th. A resident in the audience suggested that the Township contact the History Department at the High School to possibly have a student do a history of Hampton where the kids would actually do research along with those residents who have been in the Township for a long time and build a generation comradery. Mr. Lochner indicated that there currently is a booklet regarding the history of Hampton, however, as part of the process for the activities, there is a proposed program to include the School District along with the Depreciation Lands Museum.

DISCUSSION REGARDING STOP SIGN PETITION REQUEST – TWELVE OAKS PLAN OF LOTS

A petition was received from the residents in the Twelve Oaks Plan requesting that two stop signs be erected on Willow Oak Court at the eastbound and westbound sides of Scarlet Oak Place.

Mr. Son commented that Chief Connolly provided a narrative regarding this matter, and the most important thing that he cited was the U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines state that stop signs cannot be used as a method of enforcement of speed control. A traffic engineering study was completed for the approval of the development and it was determined that stop signs were not required at that location. Also, there is a stop sign within 200 ft. of that intersection. At this point, members of Council requested that Mr. Lochner respond to the residents of the Twelve Oaks Plan their intent to not pursue this request further because of the State guidelines for stop signs as well as the study that was previously conducted.

DISCUSSION REGARDING ORDINANCE AMENDING TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 395 (TRAFFIC AND CONTROL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP)

Mr. Lochner commented that there was a snow emergency over the winter and during that emergency, the Township had to take some extraordinary steps to prohibit parking on Township streets. Mr. Lochner stated that when that was done, a number of conversations occurred between Legal Counsel, Chief Connolly and himself and one of the things that came from those discussions was that the ordinance needed to be updated to be more in line with today's standards as well as the desires of the Township regarding similar situations. Proposed changes were provided to Council for their review. This item will be on the regular meeting agenda for authorization to advertise the proposed ordinance.

DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY CENTER FALL OPERATING HOURS PROPOSAL

Mr. Zarenko presented a memorandum to Council proposing fall operating hours for the Community Center. The proposal is for September 31 through December 31, 2010. For 2009, the facility was opened for a total of 92 hours per week; for 2010, it was being recommended to open the facility for 88 hours per week with the building being closed on Sundays. The reason for the proposed change in hours is due to the change in the Steelers schedule with most games starting at 1 p.m. on Sundays, and the low attendance last year during the Steelers games. This proposed change would have no affect on private rentals for the facility. Mr. Lochner briefly commented on a large contract that was currently being worked out for use of the facility on Sundays from 7 a.m. to noon for an extended period of time. A brief discussion was further held regarding this matter.

Mr. Son commended the entire staff of the Township for their hard work and success for this year's July 3rd celebration.

DISCUSSION REGARDING STEEL CITY BOUNCE CONDITIONAL USE (10-09)

The applicant is seeking approval to locate a commercial recreation facility in two of the Miller commercial condominium units located on Mt. Royal Blvd. The proposed "JumpZone" business will include a child oriented private party center with dining area. Commercial recreation is a conditional use in a Light Industrial zoning district and must be approved by Township Council.

DISCUSSION REGARDING WILDWOOD ACRES EARTH DISTURBANCE PERMIT REQUEST

The applicant is requesting approval from Council for the use of slope averaging on their site located at the corner of Route 8 and Wildwood Road (former Kunkel site). Modifications for slope averaging requests must be granted by Council under the requirements of the Township's Grading Ordinance.

Mr. Orban commented that the owner of the property at the corner of Wildwood Road and Route 8 recently submitted an earth disturbance permit asking to re-contour the property. The Township's engineer has reviewed the request and there were several issues regarding steep slope disturbance. The owner has submitted revised plans with slope averaging, which has been reviewed by staff and engineering and agreed that slope averaging would work in this situation. The Township's Grading Ordinance does not allow for administration to make that decision; it would have to be granted by Council.

Mr. Ralph Nicholson, engineer for the applicant, was present to discuss this request with Council. Mr. Nicholas showed to Council on a plan the area that was being proposed to re-grade the slopes. Based on the ordinance of steep slopes, if the one area was left alone would basically sever the two pieces and rendered unusable. With the slope averaging, it was being proposed to re-grade a section at a two-to-one slope and bring it up to a properly looking piece of property, and make it more marketable.

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DISCUSSION REGARDING WILDWOOD GOLF CLUB AMUSEMENT PERMIT REQUEST

The Club is requesting an amusement permit from the Township for a member's only 50th anniversary function to be held on August 14, 2010 that would include a fireworks display.

Mr. Orban commented that the Police Chief reviewed this application to make sure there were no safety concerns or traffic impact. Since it is a member's only event, the Chief determined that there would be no public impact. Staff recommended approval of the permit. Mr. Steve Gonzales was present representing Wildwood Golf Club. Mr. Gonzales indicated that there would be approximately 200 people in attendance at the event.

DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 627

Mr. Orban commented that since the public hearing held earlier in the meeting has been tabled, this item will be removed from the regular meeting agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Lochner advised Council that the preliminary audit report information has been forwarded and will provide to Mr. Speakman in the near future. A representative from Maher Duessel will be present at the August 11, 2010 meeting to give a brief presentation regarding the audit.

There being no further items for discussion, Mr. Son adjourned the agenda meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Susan A. Bernet,
Clerk of Council

Victor D. Son,
President of Council