

EAST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MEETING
November 1, 2010
Approved minutes
6:35 PM

Attendance – Chris Amentas, Chairman; Chris Makely, Vice Chairman; George Broadbent, Member; Mark Toth, Member; and Jill Bukata, Township Manager and Treasurer. Member Gary Barach was absent.

Mr. Amentas opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

Trash Contract – Trash bids were received from J.P. Mascaro, A.J. Blosenski, and York Waste Disposal. York Waste was the lowest bid in all categories. Mrs. Bukata recommended option A with York Waste with trash pickup weekly using mobile carts 2 day collection and recycling every other week. York Waste will also be responsible for the disposal fees to the landfill and recycling center. With a 3 year contract the cost will be \$547,560.00 per year with a \$16,296.00 savings from 2010. Mrs. Bukata also stated that a notice will be sent out to all residents explaining the new procedures. Mr. Don Isabella, York Waste, stated that they may not have enough inventory of carts so it might take up to thirty days for them to get their order and it will take approximately one week to deliver to every home. Mr. Isabella also stated that the carts are the property of York Waste. Mr. Amentas asked if residents could use their own carts. Mr. Isabella replied no because their equipment will be specific to their carts. Mr. Amentas inquired about the procedure for bulk trash pickup. Mr. Isabella replied "1 time per month." Mr. Makely asked if a resident has trouble with the cart can exceptions be made. Mr. Isabella replied "exceptions can be made." Mr. Amentas made a motion to accept York Waste's bid of option A cart system 2 day collection for the 3 year contract price of \$547,560.00. Mr. Toth seconded. Bob King asked the cost per each resident. Mrs. Bukata replied "as of today no increase is anticipated." Mr. Amentas asked Mrs. Bukata how she would feel about increasing the fee to recoup the office expenses of processing the trash. Mrs. Bukata replied "possibly" and a better system would also make it more efficient. Mr. Bukata also pointed out that only A.J. Blosenski made a bid for the trash billing at \$160,000.00. Mr. Amentas asked who the township billing clerk is. Mr. Bukata replied that would be the Administrative Assistant /Billing Clerk. Mr. Amentas also asked how much administration costs goes into processing the trash invoices. Mrs. Bukata replied approximately \$200,000.00 annually. More time has also been allowed for the Public Works Superintendent as recycling coordinator. Bob King asked if residents could get an extra cart at a discount. Mrs. Bukata replied "you can buy extra bags at the township office." Mr. Isabella stated that the "extra bags" were not in the contract. Buddy Rhoades asked what landfill York Waste goes to and if they send the township a tonnage report. Mr. Isabella replied that they go to Lanchester LandFill and Mrs. Bukata replied that York Waste sends the township a monthly tonnage report. A township resident asked if exceptions will be made if you have a long driveway. Mr. Isabella replied that long driveways could have a 3 bag limit verses the cart. Mr. Amentas asked if grass clippings can go in the carts. Mr. Isabella replied he preferred that you did not do this because the landfill does not accept grass clippings. Conrad DeAbreu asked if the recycling containers are being changed. Mrs. Bukata replied "no." Mr. Amentas called for a vote. Mr. Amentas, Mr. Broadbent, and Mr. Toth voted yea. Mr. Makely voted nae. Vote carried.

Discussion on financial issues – Mr. Amentas stated that the township has a \$350,000.00 projected deficit for next year after adjusting and anticipating reduction of legal expenses. Mr. Amentas also asked how much was the real estate transfer tax and building permit revenue down compared to 2008. Mrs. Bukata replied "320,000.00." Mr. Amentas stated "with the real estate transfer tax and building permit revenue gone there are a couple of options." One is imposing a real estate tax and continue to deliver a high quality of services to township residents. Mr. Amentas also stated that he is very disappointed in the township department heads for not giving any areas where costs can be cut. Mr. Broadbent stated that the Board has to figure out where to cut where it will hurt the least and maybe a real estate tax is not the way to go or if earned income is a better solution. Mr. Pompo replied that the township is maxed out by law on the earned income tax. Mr. Broadbent asked the time frame for enacting a real estate tax. Mr. Pompo replied "with a resolution or ordinance or with the adoption of the budget."

Mr. Amentas stated that he has spoken with Chief Porter at length and if the police force is reduced from seven full time police officers to five full time police officers it will save approximately \$170,000.00 but still have a short fall of \$180,000.00 and if you go from seven full time officers to six full time officers he would realistically suggest having a part time police force. Mr. Amentas asked Chief Porter how many hours a week will he have one officer on duty as opposed to two. Chief Porter replied you will lose 84 man hours every two weeks. Mr. Amentas stated that he does not want one officer answering a call by him/herself because it is a safety issue. Mr. Amentas stated based on the meeting at South Brandywine Middle School he is not sure there is a majority of residents that would prefer a real estate tax versus laying off officers. Mr. Amentas stated that he cannot think of any way around needing tax revenue and it needs to be as little as possible but keep essentially the same service to the township. Mr. Amentas asked if you went from seven officers to six officers and keep two officers on the street at the same time is having the state police on call for a few hours an option. Chief Porter replied "yes". Mr. Amentas asked how many hours a week would the state police have to patrol. Chief Porter replied you could lose up to six hours a day depending on the rotations. Mr. Broadbent inquired on the state police response time. Chief Porter replied "45 minutes to 1 hour." Mr. Amentas asked if that breaks down to two hours a day then maybe that is the way to go. Bob King asked how many calls are from midnight to six AM when there is one officer on duty and suggested have all part time police officers. Mr. Amentas stated that if the police went from seven to six officers and fill the 2 hours with a part time officer you will still have two officers at all times except from midnight to 6 AM. Chief Porter replied "he would have to review it." Glenn Colyer stated that the police budget went up \$500,000.00 and asked what the residents are getting for that money. Mr. Amentas stated that he asked Chief Porter about the increase. Chief Porter replied most is for medical coverage and other things that increased. Mr. Colyer asked what the savings is from having the police cars not driven home. Mr. Amentas replied "that has not been calculated yet." Mr. Colyer also stated that several years ago a township police car was in Cochranville sitting idle for seven hours. Mr. Amentas replied that there have been several reports of township cars being out of the township and he has relayed this to Chief Porter. Mr. Colyer stated that this should apply to the road department also. Buddy Rhoades spoke on how the township police department compares to other police departments and the police contract. Glenn Colyer made comments on how the police and road departments should talk among themselves on how they can save money. Bob King spoke about township layoffs and other ways to save money and expecting more Supervisor involvement instead of hiring a township manager. Mr. King also asked if the police contract was finalized and if they received a raise. Mr. Amentas stated that the police contract went to arbitration because the Supervisors did not approve the police getting a raise and through arbitration they received a raise in their contract. Mrs. Bukata explained that in 2010 they received 5% starting October 1, 2010 so in reality it comes out to 1.25%, in 2011 they get zero, and in 2012 a 1% increase. Mr. Amentas asked if the Board can continue to talk about this issue. Mr. Pompo replied "no" because they have not received the actual document. Mr. Broadbent asked when the departments will have revised numbers on cuts. Mrs. Bukata will try to have the figures by the workshop.

Thanksgiving Day – Mrs. Bukata asked the Board of Supervisors if they will be in attendance at the November Board of Supervisor's meeting since it is during the week of Thanksgiving. The Board replied they will all be there.

Adjournment: Mr. Amentas made a motion to adjourn the special Board of Supervisors meeting at 8:00 PM Mr. Makely seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Miller
Township Secretary

