

Record of Proceedings: **February 12, 2013**
West Chester Township Board of Trustees - Regular Meeting

Convene: President Wong convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m..

Roll Call: Mr. Wong, Mrs. Stoker, and Mr. Lang responded.

Pledge of Allegiance: Repeated by those present.

Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

Presentations

There were no presentations

Action Items – For Approval by Motion

MOTION to approve the January 15, 2013 Operational Budget Workshop minutes was made by Mrs. Stoker, seconded by Mr. Lang. Discussion: Mr. Lang said there was an email delivery problem such that he did not receive these minutes until today. He asked that these minutes not be addressed until their next meeting. Regarding the next agenda item, the January 22, 2013 meeting minutes, Mr. Lang said he did not receive Mrs. Stoker's proposed changes to the January 22nd meeting until the day before, and asked that they, too, not be addressed until the next meeting. There was concurrence that these two meeting minutes – the January 15, 2013 Operational Budget Workshop and the January 22, 2013 regular meeting minutes - be postponed until the next meeting.

Mr. Wong said he wanted to comment on the minutes from the January 22nd meeting: He misunderstood Mr. Jones's request at that meeting that he, Mr. Jones, be permitted as a matter of routine to speak about his minutes when the minutes are addressed on the agenda. Mr. Wong said "there was not a consensus" and he'd "like to keep it the way it was" – "you contribute your input as requested by the trustee". Mr. Jones asked Mr. Wong, "You're changing your mind?..." Mrs. Stoker responded for Mr. Wong saying, "he said he was misunderstood. I don't think he's changing his mind". Mrs. Boyko interjected, "That's not what he said." Mr. Jones responded, "No, it was pretty well understood. The hazard is, when there's the assumption you already know what I have to contribute. And if that's not the case, then you'll never know unless I'm given the opportunity to contribute . . . of my own volition." Mr. Jones said it was Mr. Wong's prerogative to renege.

MOTION to approve payment of bills: Mrs. Stoker motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Lang. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Boyko submitted the following requisitions greater than \$2,500:

Requisitions – Greater than \$2,500.00

1. Adm \$4,000.00 Peck Shaffer & Williams LLP – Calculate arbitrage rebate and file required reports pursuant to IRS regulations
2. Services \$3,750.00 Univar USA Inc. – Purchase calcium chloride to replenish supply

MOTION for approval of requisitions 1 and 2 made by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mrs. Stoker. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Personnel Items

MOTION made by Mr. Lang to hire two (2) on-call snow plow operators on an as needed basis for the 2012-2013 winter season: Michael Amshoff and Robert Gerton effective January 28, 2013 at the hourly rate of \$15.00. Motion seconded by Mrs. Stoker. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously**

Business Items

MOTION made by Mr. Lang to approve license agreement between West Chester Township and the Union Centre Boulevard Merchant Association for the use of a portion of Township property, 9285 Centre Pointe Drive, for the production and presentation of the Shamrock Shuffle 5K/10K – Walk/Run and Block Party (Saturday, March 9, 7-11 a.m.) and authorize the Township Administrator to execute said agreement. Motion seconded by Mr. Stoker. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mrs. Stoker, to apply for the 2013-2014 Ohio EMS and Trauma Grant and if awarded authorize the Township Administrator to accept said grant. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mrs. Stoker, seconded by Mr. Lang, to appoint Larry Whited to the West Chester Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) for the term March 1, 2013 through February 28, 2018. Discussion: Mr. Wong said they had great applicants for the position, but Larry has been on the Board for a while and did a good job. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION made by Mrs. Stoker, seconded by Mr. Lang, to appoint Dick Lenz for the unexpired term March 1, 2013 through February 28, 2016 as an alternate on the West Chester Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Discussion: Mrs. Boyko clarified that this opening was the result of someone resigning from the Board, and the term was for the balance of a 5 year term. **Motion carried unanimously.** (Fiscal Officer note: Following Board approval of these minutes it was noted by staff that, subsequent approval of the aforementioned motion, Mrs. Boyko said the term for the alternate member is a 3 year term. Thereupon Mrs. Stoker asked to “amend (her) motion to refer to a 3 year term”, and asked if Mr. Lang would amend his second. Mr. Lang amended his second. Mr. Wong asked for discussion. There was none. **Motion carried unanimously.** This account is supported by the meeting videotape from the 10:40 to 11:10 timeframe.)

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MOTION made by Mr. Lang not to object to a liquor permit transfer from Willie's Wings LLC to Willie's North LLC DBA Willie's Sport's Café, 8188 Princeton Glendale Road. Motion seconded by Mrs. Stoker. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**

First Reading of Resolutions & Reading of Emergency Resolutions

There were no first readings of resolutions or readings of emergency resolutions.

Citizen's Comments

Carl Rullmann, 8285 Ventle Drive, asked who has the authority to spend or commit West Chester Township funds outside formal West Chester Trustee meetings.

Second Reading & Vote on Pending Resolutions & Vote on Emergency Resolutions

There were no second readings & vote on pending resolutions, or vote on emergency resolutions.

Discussion Items & Trustees Comments

Mrs. Boyko responded to Mr. Rullmann's question by saying the Township Administrator has an expenditure limit of \$2,500.00 or less, and anything costing \$750.00 or less can be expended by the department heads. Mrs. Stoker said there are also regular expenditures such as payroll, utilities, etc. based on the terms of contracts we have with these different entities. Mr. Lang said, and confirmed by Mrs. Boyko, that the West Chester Trustees authorize any expenditure greater than \$2,500.00.

Mrs. Boyko commented on the Governor Kasich's FY 2014 – 15 budget and it's potential implications on West Chester Township, noting it remains subject to changes by the Ohio legislature. She said her comments were only a preliminary assessment and still needed to be evaluated against an approved budget.

She said the Governor's Ohio's Jobs Budget 2.0 addresses many other funding mechanisms and programs, but she would only focus on the tax reform portion. She noted Ohio has transformed from a manufacturing to a service based economy, and the Governor's budget identifies and capitalizes on that transition. Regardless of one's position on the sustainability of a service based economy, the Governor proposes to reform Ohio's tax structure to reduce taxes on small businesses, income, and state sales tax to stimulate Ohio's economy and create jobs.

Although the Governor's budget decreases taxes on sources of revenue not directly affecting West Chester as a local government - noting that West Chester does not have an income tax as a township, nor collect a state sales tax - those two taxes are sources for the State's general revenue fund which funds the distribution of the Local Government Fund to counties, municipalities and townships. Consequently, they will be monitored for their net implications.

She said it's difficult to determine just based on the Governor's summary release if the proposed tax reform to the state sales tax - a reduction from 5.5% to 5.0% and its application to previously non-sales taxed service related transactions - would impact local government funds distributed to counties, cities, and townships.

Mrs. Boyko also said staff will monitor the implications of a new state sales tax on services and transactions not currently taxed. She said the Township may experience a

decrease in its cable franchise fee collection because (1) a state sales tax is proposed to be applied to cable service, and demand may decrease as a result, and (2) consumers may pursue alternatives to cable TV that are not currently subject to franchise fees and not subject to the Governor's proposed sales tax. Staff will monitor this potentiality if the budget is passed as proposed.

Mr. Lang said happy birthday to President Lincoln and, observing that the Chinese New Year was two days earlier, expressed Happy New Year to Mr. Wong. He also expressed his displeasure with the Governor's proposed budget, saying the last budget was balanced at the expense of the Local Government Fund (LGF), it didn't reduce the cost or complexity of the General Revenue Fund, and the currently proposed budget will increase the General Revenue Fund by 26.4% over the next 4 years – well over the rate of inflation. He also said that, since the cost of government is being shifted from the state to the local level, there'll be more local levies and there'll be more failed levies, resulting in reduced local services. He expressed regret that he previously supported a reduction in the LGF, but only did so while supporting a commensurate reduction in the cost of state government, the latter of which, he said, has not happened. He said a shell game is being played at the state level.

Mrs. Stoker said she was concerned with the unintended consequences, takes a long term view of these matters, saying we can make small adjustments along the way, but said the budget entails sweeping changes with no thought about how they would be implemented and what effect they would have. She predicted that special interests would voice opposition to having their services taxed. She said we can only hunker down and preserve our resources, and let the big boys fight it out in Columbus.

Mr. Wong had no comment.

Adjournment

At 6:23 p.m., Mr. Wong motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Stoker so moved, and Mr. Wong seconded. Discussion: none. **Motion carried unanimously.**



12-3-2013

Bruce Jones, Fiscal Officer



Lee Wong, President