

**WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
688 SUGARTOWN ROAD, MALVERN, PA
MONDAY OCTOBER 1, 2018 AT 7:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Willistown Township Board of Supervisors came to order at 7:00 PM. Supervisors Robert T. Lange and Barbara L. Handelin were present. Also present were Township Manager David R. Burman, Lieutenant Robert P. Klinger of the Willistown Police Department, and Steve Jameison of the Road Crew.

Mr. Lange led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence for military personnel and those impacted by the tsunami and earthquakes in Indonesia.

Announcements

None.

New Business

Ms. Handelin moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2018. Mr. Lange seconded the motion in Mr. Shoemaker's absence. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 2-0.

Ms. Handelin moved to table consideration of the minutes of September 17, 2018. Mr. Lange seconded the motion in Mr. Shoemaker's absence. There were no comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 2-0.

Ms. Handelin moved to approve the list of expenditures and interfund transfers dated October 1, 2018. Mr. Lange seconded the motion in Mr. Shoemaker's absence. Ms. Handelin commented that she would like the Board to provide a printed copy of the list at each meeting. There were no further comments from the Board or the public, and the motion carried by a vote of 2-0.

Mr. Lange introduced consideration of Agreements with J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., Paymentech, LLC, and Xpress Solutions, Inc., for the acceptance of Credit Card and Electronic Payments. Mr. Burman reported that the Agreements are presented for the Board's consideration so that the Township can begin accepting credit card payments both online and in person, as requested by many residents over the years. The Agreements have been reviewed by the Township Solicitor and no legal problems have been identified. Ms. Handelin moved to authorize the Township Manager to execute the Agreements. Mr. Lange seconded the motion. Mike Kerr of Stonehenge Lane inquired about the cost structure. Mr. Burman reported that the costs would be charged to the Township, but seamless to the individual using the system to pay a bill.

Public Hearing

Mr. Lange introduced Conditional Use Application No. C-2-18 - Application of Dotti Katz for conditional use approval pursuant to §139-73 of the Willistown Township Code in order to operate an adult day care center for persons with memory loss, dementia, Alzheimer's or similar conditions. The property consists of one parcel known as tax parcel 54-1-2.2, with an address of 15 Industrial Blvd, Paoli, PA 19301. The property is located in the I Restricted Industrial Zoning District.

Bill Christman of the Township Solicitor's Office, Lamb McErlane PC, guided the public hearing. A court reporter was present and a transcript of the proceedings will be on file in the Township offices. Michael Imms represented the Applicant, Dotti Katz of Matthews Journey. Ms. Katz testified in support of the

Application. Nobody requested party status. There were no questions or comments from the public during the hearing. Mr. Christman asked the Applicant if she would object to Mr. Shoemaker reading the transcript and participating in the Decision on this matter. Mr. Imms had no objection. The Board took this matter under advisement and Mr. Christman advised that the Board will render a Decision within 45-days.

Police Report

Lieutenant Klinger reported on recent activities of the Police Department, including the investigation into a fatal hit & run accident on West Chester Pike in which a pedestrian was killed. This is an active investigation in which the Police Department has identified the operator of the striking vehicle. The Lieutenant reported that a maintenance person has been arrested in conjunction with a burglary on Woodview Way. Lieutenant Klinger also reported that the Police Department is growing beards for cancer awareness. Each participating officer will donate \$100, to be matched by the Willistown Police Association. Proceeds will go to "Unite For Her", an organization that helps women who are affected by breast cancer, and the "Sambucca Education Fund", an organization established to assist the children of a Caln Township Police Officer who died suddenly as the result of a heart attack. The Willistown Police Association has challenged both the West Goshen Police Department and the Caln Township Police Department to participate in the fundraiser.

Citizens' Comments

Mike Kerr of Stonehenge Lane expressed his concern with Supervisor Handelin participating in the Township's Group Health Insurance.

Supervisor Handelin reminded Mr. Kerr that Township Supervisors and their Dependents are allowed to participate in the Township's group health plan under State Law. Supervisor Handelin was stunned to learn that employee premiums are paid 100% by the Township, indicating that she had never encountered such a situation in private industry, although it is not very unusual in the government sector. She believes the benefit is significant and the cost to the Township is significant. She reminded Mr. Kerr that she did not choose the plan and she believes that had she chosen the plan, it would have been a conflict of interest to participate in the plan. Supervisor Handelin indicated her belief that any Supervisor should accept benefits they need if they are lawfully available. And she has maintained transparency so that the entire community can be aware of how we spend tax dollars. She reported that she is a single entrepreneur operating as a self-employed individual who relies on billable hours to make a living. In her role as Supervisor, she has committed one day per week to Willistown. She commented that she knows what it takes to effect change; she has been a change agent her entire career. Supervisor Handelin feels that it is common sense to accept a benefit that is declared by the Commonwealth to be suitable for public service and that it is important to do so, as it might attract a wider range of people to run for office and serve their community. She stated that serving as an elected official should not be limited to the wealthy, although she noted that does not apply to her colleagues here in Willistown. She remarked that it is important to have no taxation without representation, especially at the local level. Supervisor Handelin also stated that we should be looking at the benefits and all choices during our budget process.

Mr. Kerr commented that one need not run for office to participate in local government. He stated that the Township has always been good with transparency, and that we have a competent Township

Manager. Supervisor Handelin remarked that the Township Manager is more than competent. Mr. Kerr said he still has a problem with the cost of the benefits for an elected official, that the money could be better spent on pressing needs like the Long Lane sewer repair.

Supervisor Handelin commented that Willistown is a reasonably large Township, and the Board of Supervisors are the equivalent of a Board of Directors. But that doesn't mean serving as a Supervisor is not real work and real effort.

Supervisor Handelin closed by stating that although she cannot contribute directly to Independence Blue Cross, she intends to make arrangements with the Township Treasurer to contribute directly to the Township. She further commented that she intends to waive her compensation for balance of 2018 and all of 2019.

Mr. Kerr asked Mr. Lange if he or Mr. Shoemaker take compensation. Mr. Lange stated that they have waived their compensation for several years.

Supervisor Handelin asked Mr. Lange if he ever accepted the compensation.

Supervisor Lange acknowledged that he had taken compensation in the past, stating that he has been a Supervisor since the 1990's. He stated that the Supervisors began to waive their compensation during a downturn in the economy when employees were being asked to make sacrifices.

Denise Campbell of Tulip Drive asked rhetorically whether the voters knew that Supervisor Handelin would accept the compensation and benefits when they voted for her.

Jack McGinley of Second Avenue asked whether the State provides funding to the Township to assist with the cost of these benefits, since they are authorized by State Law. Mr. Burman indicated that the State does not contribute to these costs.

Victor Guglielmi of Wildwood Drive asked if there are other benefits to which the Supervisors have access. Supervisor Handelin reported that the Supervisors may participate in group life insurance other similar plans.

Fred Haack of East King Road indicated that his review of the "supervisor's handbook" indicated that a Supervisor must wait a term before accepting benefits. Mr. Burman reported that he had reviewed this matter with the Township Solicitor and there is no such language in the statute.

Ally Barchi of Laurel Cirled expressed her opinion that Supervisor Handelin was elected under false pretenses. She mentioned some issues on which she felt Supervisor Handline campaigned. She

suggested that Supervisor Handelin should rescind her letter concerning participation in the Township's group health plan.

Sandi Richards of Old Covered Bridge Road expressed her feeling that public shaming is unnecessary. She expressed a desire for a certain level of respect. Character assassinations not necessary. It is disconcerting that this is the way the discourse happens in Willistown. She commented that she does not know whether the Supervisors or Township Manager should be allowing such rancorous discourse. Supervisor Lange responded that the Citizens Comments section of the meeting exists for this purpose and that he will allow residents to speak until they use threatening or inappropriate language.

Elizabeth Jekot of Applewood Road commented that she had attended a previous Board meeting and requested signage for the 25 MPH on her street. She wanted to know if the Supervisors had considered it. Mr. Burman reminded the Supervisors that Chief Narcise had asked Ms. Jekot to obtain a petition from her neighbors for the signage. Ms. Jekot reported that she had not obtained a petition, but feels this is a safety issue and would like to install a sign of her own in front of her house. Mr. Burman advised that signage regulations are in the Township's Zoning Ordinance, and he would assist Ms. Jekot in determining what is necessary.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2018 at 7:00 PM at 688 Sugartown Road.

Adjournment

Seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,



David R. Burman, Secretary