

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP MEETING
JUNE 1, 2021**

Township Supervisors:

Mr. Shaun Walsh, Chair
Ms. Ashley Gagné, Vice-Chair
Ms. John Hellmann, Member
Mr. Hugh J. Purnell, Member
Ms. Robin Stuntebeck, Member

Township Officials:

Mr. Casey LaLonde, Township Manager
Mr. Rick Craig, Township Engineer
Mr. Bill Webb, Zoning Officer
Ms. Kim Venzie, Township Solicitor

The Board of Supervisors Workshop Meeting of West Goshen Township was called to order by Chair Shaun Walsh, at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

Mr. Walsh opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Walsh announced the meeting was being livestreamed on YouTube.

Mr. Walsh announced that the Board met in Executive Session on May 20, 2021 to discuss personnel matters.

Quality Inn Discussion – 943 South High Street

Mr. Walsh reintroduced the continuing quality of life issues at the Quality Inn, 943 South High Street. Mr. Walsh asked Mr. LaLonde to provide an update.

Mr. LaLonde stated that the Township staff had a fruitful discussion with the prospective new owners of the Quality Inn property. Mr. LaLonde stated that several redevelopment options for the property were discussed, including by-right uses currently allowed under existing Zoning. The idea of a low-traffic impact use such as an assisted living facility was also discussed.

Mr. Craig provided the perspective of PennDOT regarding potential improvements to Rt. 202 with any development at the site. He also stated that during the discussion with the potential new owner, any thoughts of detached or attached housing was a non-starter, given the traffic situation at the site on Rt. 202.

Township staff will continue to work with the potential new owner of the property in order to facilitate a suitable redevelopment plan for the property.

Energy Transfer Boot Road Pump Station May 31, 2021 Incident

Mr. LaLonde stated that after 10:00 PM on Monday, May 31, 2021, a leak of propane occurred inside the Energy Transfer Boot Road Pump Station. Township Police, Goshen Fire Company, Energy Transfer personnel and the Chester County Hazmat team responded to the pump station. Goshen Fire Company personnel reported no propane vapor outside of the pump station building and that the leak was contained entirely within the pump station building.

Mr. LaLonde read a statement provided by Mike Murphy, Director of Chester County Emergency Services.

Mr. Murphy stated, "On Monday evening, May 31, 2021, at 10:19pm Energy Transfer Control Room called 9-1-1 stating that they were receiving a vapor detector alarm at the Boot Road pumping station, 1261 Boot Road, West Goshen Township. Energy Transfer stated that the alarm they received indicated a small release of hydrocarbons inside the pump station facility with no hydrocarbons detected on the outside of the pump station building. Energy Transfer requested to 9-1-1 that emergency responders be dispatched out of an abundance of caution.

Goshen Fire Company and West Goshen Police were dispatched as the local agencies having jurisdiction. They were assisted by other first responders and the Chester County Hazardous Materials Response Team (Hazmat Team). Goshen Fire Company and the Hazmat Team used monitoring equipment to measure air quality with no elevated readings outside

the building. Energy Transfer indicated that there was a small leak at a secondary seal and the Fire Company and HazMat Team confirmed that the station was placed into maintenance mode, the lines in the station were drained, and that there was no additional hazard before leaving the scene.

All first responder units cleared and reopened Boot Road just after midnight. Energy Transfer has a crew on site at the pump station today.”

Mr. Walker Tompkins stated that he resides in a home nearby the pump station and provided his observations of the emergency response to Monday night’s situation.

Mr. Hellmann stated that the Chester County Department of Emergency Services needs to clarify its emergency response plan.

Ms. Gagné asked if Chester County had ever responded to the Township’s letter regarding pipeline safety. Mr. Walsh read aloud the County’s February 2021 response letter, based on the Township’s original letter submitted in 2020.

Mr. Walsh stated that the Township needs to continue to ask questions about the emergency response.

Ms. Ginny Kerslake, West Whiteland Township resident, asked if this issue was with the 12” pipeline and if was currently shut down. Township staff and Supervisors responded yes.

Ms. Tina Smith asked if this was propane versus other hydrocarbons.

Mr. Walsh responded that the Township was waiting on additional information from Energy Transfer and Chester County.

Representative Danielle Otten stated that there was conflicting information provided on the night of the incident with Energy Transfer instructing residents to evacuate and Goshen Fire Company officials instructing residents to shelter in place.

Mr. Walsh stated that this incident highlighted the fallacy of emergency response.

Mr. Purnell suggested to residents that they download the “Pulsepoint” application to their smart phones. The “Pulsepoint” application lists all current emergency activities for specific geographic regions.

The Board of Supervisors requested that Mr. LaLonde invite Mike Murphy, Chester County Department of Emergency Services Director, the Goshen Fire Company Chief, the West Chester Fire Company Chief and Andrea Testa, Township Emergency Management Coordinator, to the June 15th Board meeting for a full discussion of the incident and the emergency response.

Mr. Hellmann stated that Chester County needs to update its “all hazards plan” to address pipeline emergencies specifically.

In addition to the May 31, 2021 Boot Road Pump Station emergency issue discussion, continued discussion of the on-going noise issue at the pump station will also be addressed.

Splash Pad Discussion

Ms. Gagné stated that she has been hearing from residents on the need to stay cool at Community Park. She stated that splash pad would be a great way to accomplish that and provide a nice amenity to the park.

Mr. LaLonde provide some history on previous discussions on a potential splash pad for Community Park.

Mr. Hellmann had questions regarding costs, liability insurance issues and asked that the Township’s liability insurance carrier weigh in on the installing this type of facility.

PEMA Designation of Agent

Mr. LaLonde stated that the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency requires a Resolution to appoint an “Agent” for the Township to apply for reimbursements be appointed, in this case, for the 2020-2021 COVID situation. Mr. Hellmann asked if any of the overtime paid during the early weeks of the pandemic was eligible for reimbursement. Mr. LaLonde

stated that the overtime was not reimbursable. The reimbursement will include building cleaning and personal protective equipment purchases.

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Ms. Gagné, the Board unanimously approved the Designation of Agent Resolution.

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by

Bills to be Paid

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Ms. Stuntebeck, the Board unanimously approved the bills to be paid.

Mr. Walsh inquired about the bond payment and asked Mr. LaLonde to provide a response to the Board of Supervisors via email.

Public Comment

Mr. Roger Crump, 516 Cork Circle asked why the Cork Circle handicapped parking spot request was not on the agenda.

Mr. Walsh responded that the item was tabled for now and that a residential survey was out and responses were being received by the Township.

Mr. Crump stated that there is a need for a handicapped spot for him and his neighbors.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Purnell, seconded by Ms. Gagné, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Casey LaLonde
Township Secretary