

OCTOBER 1, 2009 MINUTES
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Inscho at 7:04 p.m.
SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE read by Mayor Inscho.
FLAG SALUTE

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PRAYER for Committeeman John Fisher who is hospitalized.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Tibak, Mr. Petersen, Mr. Grover, Mr. Inscho, Mr. Skoog, and Ms. Reilly.

COMCAST PUBLIC HEARING

Comcast employees Molly Adams, Government Affairs Manager and Jim Humphries, Senior Technical Manager attended the hearing this evening

Ms. Adams explained that the public hearing allows the opportunity for the Government Body and the public to ask questions and state their concerns.

She also explained that the former maps given to the Committee by Comcast were incorrect and she handed out newly drawn maps for all to review.

At this time, Mayor Inscho opened it for Public Discussion.

Ken Pandorf, Jenny Jump Avenue, explained that he informed Mr. Smith at the last meeting that he has been trying for ten years to obtain Comcast services, but unable to do so. Mr. Smith took his name and number and said he would call him, but he never did. Ms. Adams explained that they are currently researching these areas not covered.

Bob Mischka, Marble Hill, asked if they are looking into service if the power goes out and she said this is being researched.

No one else from the public. Closed to public.

Mayor Inscho then noted that our existing contract with Comcast states they will service all residents on public roads but this has not been done. Also the fire house was to be included for free service but they are not getting it. Ms. Adams said the service was for cable only not for the internet or telephones. Mayor Inscho asked that they consider giving the fire company all three because they are a volunteer fire company and work hard to serve the public.

Mr. Grover again noted that our Ordinance states that all residents on public roads are to be serviced by Comcast.

Discussion ensued as to areas covered and not covered. Ms. Adams stated that Comcast will arrange another meeting with the Committee to enter into negotiations. At this time, Mayor Inscho suggested that Mr. Smith be invited to our October 22, 2009 Workshop session. Ms. Adams said she will inform Mr. Smith of this and have him get back to Ms. Reilly. Mayor Inscho thanked Ms. Adams and Mr. Humphries for coming this evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to approve the Minutes of 8/27/09 and 9/3/09.

REPORTS: The following individuals had reports for this evening:

Committeeman Tibak – reported that soccer is in full swing and the concession stand is going very well. Basketball sign ups are being done and he is working with Eileen and Roger on documentation needed for background checks.

Committeeman Petersen – He reported that the DPW did a great job in taking down the building on the old soap factory location.

DPW Supervisor Mr. Romanowitch – He noted the following:

1. Mr. Cerny's last day was September 25, 2009 and noted a thank you to him. He contacted Vinyl Final about snow guards.
2. He also noted that the DPW will be working next week around Mt. Lake in preparation for the cancer walk.
3. Noted that the County Bridge Department did a great job on the bridge on Lakeside Drive!
4. Reported that they begun cleaning out the Lisbon Capri. They are taking out junk, etc.

At this time Mr. Petersen reported that the air conditions at the Lisbon have been discharged. Mr. Inscho asked if they are usable because if so, the fire company may be interested in them. Steve will look into this and let the Committee know.

Committeeman Grover reported that he is researching a company called Liberty Power and will report his findings once complete. He noted that he is spending time looking over the Lisbon Capri property area and there are some good concepts in mind, a lot of which came from the Open Space Committee. He then reported his visit with Mr. Petersen to Sworthswood Lake which gave them ideas. He said that they are not going to remove any of the Lisbon Capri structure until they have a plan to move forward. They are, however, looking to make it as safe now as they can.

Eileen Greason reported that basketball sign ups will be held tomorrow, October 2, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Inscho reported that the Clean Up will be held at the Land Fill this year instead of here. He explained the procedure. He also thanked John Cerny for a terrific job done this summer.

He then read a thank you note from Pastor Jim of the Free Union Church thanking the Committee for the donation of the exhaust fan which was taken out of the Lisbon Capri.

Proclamation read by Mayor Inscho honoring Vivian Lobb who recently celebrated her 100th Birthday. He will personally go to her home and make this presentation to her.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Mr. Brady, Hillcrest Drive, asked what Liberty Energy does. Mr. Grover explained that they are one of several companies who offer reduced rates and the public is free to go to any generating source you wish and this is why he is researching this particular company.

Lisa Thomas – Lakeside Drive, stated that the county did a terrific job on repairing the bridge. She said the barn roof at the old Lisbon Capri looks good also. She asked about the status of the Lodge and was informed that the closing is set for October 8, 2009.

She then noted that Mamma's Restaurant in Hackettstown is giving a percentage of their customer sales from October 5th thru the 18th to the Joan Kneckle Memorial Foundation.

Robert Mischka asked the status of the Bennett property. Mayor Inscho said he will confer with Ralph.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mt. Lake Fire Company – Chief Lunden was present and asked permission to put a 2 ½ inch stand pipe on the pump house located by the fire department. This would enable the firemen to access water for the trucks. He asked if the DPW could assist in this project. Motion made by Mr. Tibak, seconded by Mr. Petersen with roll call as follows to allow this to be done with the assistance of our DPW.

ROLL CALL	Tibak	yes
	Petersen	yes
	Grover	yes
	Inscho	abstained

Mr. Lunden also asked permission to continue to use the old Lisbon Capri for fire drills. They will not use the back deck or steps. No one had a problem with them using the building for this purpose.

Letter from Land Use Board – Request to waive \$214.00 in Grub escrow. Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to allow this waiver. Ms. Reilly will notify Ms. Dossena.

Letter from Domestic Abuse Center – They would like to attend a meeting and make a presentation. They will be invited to attend our November 5, 2009 meeting.

RESOLUTION:

09-42 – Green Acres, Water Supply and Floodplain Protection and Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2009 – It was unanimously decided not to adopt this resolution at this time.

09-43 – Refund Tax Duplicate Payment – Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to adopt said resolution.

ORDINANCE 09-04 Dog License Fees – Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Tibak –open for public discussion – no public discussion – roll call unanimous to adopt said Ordinance on second reading.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion made by Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Petersen with roll call unanimous to pay all bills on Bills List.

PERSONNEL ISSUE: Mr. Skoog announced that Mr. Lunden was served a Rice Notice and was here this evening. He stated that in this Rice Notice Mr. Lunden was given the choice of having this session in Executive Closed Session or Open Session. He responded by writing in his response that he wanted it in Open Session. Mr. Skoog noted that Mr. Lunden was present this evening and again asked him if he wanted to waive his right to have this in Executive Session to which Mr. Lunden said yes. Therefore this issue will be discussed in Open Session.

Mr. Petersen who is the liaison for the Department of Pubic Works stated the following concerns the Committee has with Mr. Lunden:

He noted that Mr. Lunden was requested three times not to go onto private property even with the owner's permission. Guide rails had to be placed on the Naccaratto property costing the township \$26,000 which was not in the budget. He had the following recommendations for Mr. Lunden:

Mr. Lunden needs to go to his supervisor to get a grip on it. He stated that Steve has a form allowing us to go on private property.

Your supervisor is trying to find a course for you to take to get you educated in respect to chain of command. He also said he is proposing a motion to attach this notice to your personnel records.

Mr. Inscho noted to Mr. Lunden that we had to serve you this way. It is a corrective measure thing.

He said that Mr. Lunden should review the personnel policy.

Steve then asked about mowing with the Bomford and should it be continued. Mr. Petersen said yes as long as all who use it do so with common sense.

Mr. Lunden then asked if he could give his rebuttal and he was told yes.

He stated that when he did this on the Naccaratto property he received permission from the owner Gene who was on the Township Committee at the time. He noted that if he needs to go back to his supervisor to get permission he will. He noted that he did not set out to knock over the fence. He then showed pictures of the area. He noted that he will go to Steve from now on but he feels the snow plowing caused this damage.

Mr. Inscho noted that nobody is blaming Mr. Lunden. He noted that four things have come in front of the Committee. The Engineer said we had to do something up at the Naccaratto property. He stated that it was not Mr. Lunden's fault it cost this much but he must follow chain of command.

Mr. Lunden stated that it was unfair to say that he caused the township all this money. He stated that the fence was damaged over the years before he hit it.

Mr. Skoog then noted that there was a previous discussion with Mr. Lunden about going on private property. He was told he had to get approval from his supervisor. He stated that Mr. Lunden did not first get permission from his supervisor and there is no reason for this.

Mr. Petersen then stated that this is a serious matter. Get permission from supervisor. He also stated that Mr. Lunden needs to go to class. Stay off private property and if there is any question about it, go to supervisor.

Mr. Grover stated that twenty years ago we could do things we cannot do today. He said Mr. Lunden must follow the proper process. You need to go to Steve.

Mr. Lunden stated that he did get permission to mow from supervisor. He will go to supervisor for all.

Mr. Inscho stated that he was plowing snow near trees with the new dump truck and Mr. Petersen told him not to. He must follow chain of command.

Mr. Lunden responded by stating that incident was last October in the early snow storm. He stated that he ran into Mr. Inscho who told him to push back small branches. Mr. Petersen saw him doing this and he told him that Mr. Inscho told him to do this. Mr. Petersen told him to stop. He stopped and said that he was not pushing snow. Mr. Petersen said he saw what he saw and he feels Mr. Lunden should take responsibility for his actions.

Motion made by Mr. Petersen, seconded by Mr. Inscho with roll call unanimous to prepare a reprimand to place in his personnel file, research a class for Mr. Lunden to take, and review and be aware of issues in the personnel policy

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Mr. Inscho, seconded by Mr. Grover with roll call unanimous to adjourn said meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Willa L. Reilly, RMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator