



August 26, 2008

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: TIMOTHY J. TIEPERMAN

SUBJECT: MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) ATV Ordinance: In light of renewed residential complaints about noise and nuisance issues from the operation of all terrain vehicles (ATVs), staff is researching and will soon be preparing a targeted ordinance to address this problem.
- b) 2008 Bond Investment Proceeds: The 2008 bond proceeds successfully closed on July 28. With the assistance of our underwriter, Janney Montgomery Scott, we solicited competitive proposals from area financial institutions for the investment of these proceeds. Citizens Bank submitted the most competitive rate of 3.691%. (Attachment A)
- c) Compressed Work Week: Staff is currently investigating the merits of a compressed work week in light rising energy costs. While the standard approach in many organizations is to physically close a facility for one day, we are researching the viability of modifying existing work schedules to offer expanded business hours at the Township administration building.
- d) Ad-hoc Building Committee: The ad-hoc building committee has met twice regarding the planned expansion to the police and administration building. A consensus is building around a preferred layout for the integrated offices. Attached is the preliminary sketch plan that will be discussed further at the September work session. (Attachment B)
- e) Document Management Project: MetaSource representatives have installed the document management software and hardware configuration on the main server. They also installed a sample database for training purposes, which they demonstrated at a special staff meeting. Each department has now assigned a designated liaison to work with MetaSource officials and to identify relevant index tags that will be applied to the system during the implementation process. Separate department meetings are scheduled through September.
- f) Car Wash Specification: In response to some inquiries regarding car washing services for the Township fleet, I asked Chief Miller to work with Michael Mrozinski to prepare some bid specifications to receive the best pricing for this service.

- g) Pending ZHB Issues: Attached is the latest ZHB activities report from Michael Mrozinski. We expect an appeal to the ZHB's denial of a changeable copy sign variance submitted by the Doylestown Hospital Wellness Center. The zoning review with respect to the Pleasantville Church was continued until September 15. This has been removed from the August 26 BOS action agenda. (Attachment C)
- h) New Energy Funding: I have been following, with great interest, the energy funding initiatives that were part of the newly adopted state budget. Attached is the press release from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) outlining the various programs included in the \$650 million Alternative Energy Investment Fund along with correspondence from Rep. Kathy Watson. Guidelines and applications are presently being finalized. (Attachment D)
- i) Permanent Finance Committee (PFC) Vacancy: Regretfully, Gerry Grant has resigned his position with the Permanent Finance Committee. We are hoping to fill this vacancy soon, as we will be entering the budget season shortly.
- j) Bucks County Open Space Program: The County presented the new open space funding initiative at a series of public workshops in June. Under the 2008 initiative, \$26 million has been allocated to the Municipal Open Space Program (MOSP) to provide municipalities with financial assistance for open space planning and acquisition. In addition to a base allotment of \$200,000, each municipality received an adjusted share based on its percentage of overall county land area and population. Warrington Township's allocation is \$650,000. The MOSP is designed to offer municipalities flexibility in the use of funds, allowing community officials and residents to identify and prioritize projects within local open space plans. The stated goal of the MOSP is the permanent preservation of lands for natural resource conservation, agriculture, parks and recreation. Emphasis of the MOSP will be placed on land acquisition, with additional consideration given to planning and improvements.

Up to \$10,000 of a municipality's allocation may be applied toward the update of its local open space plan. Municipal open space plans must meet the new requirements outlined in the 2008 Municipal Open Space Plan Guidelines including 2000 census data. Township staff has met with representatives from the Heritage Conservancy regarding this mandated update to our Open Space Plan. The deadline for the MOSP Planning Grants is December 31, 2010.

Staff has asked the Park and Rec Board, Bike and Hike Trails Committee and the Planning Commission to develop a prioritized listing of projects and potential acquisitions by the end of 2008 for funding through this program. Kristine Kern, Open Space Coordinator, will be attending the September 25 meeting of the Park and Recreation Board to review the program and answer any questions. The Bike and Hike and Planning Commission have also been invited to attend the September 25 meeting.

- k) 2008 Community Development Block Grant: The Township received a \$35,000 CDBG grant this year for Phase II Drainage Improvements in Neshaminy Gardens. Following the submission of several compliance documents, we received a Notice to Proceed on July 29, 2008.

- l) Tree Removal at Heritage Center (JOMAC): The developer has requested permission from the Township to remove four (4) trees from the area along the Easton Rd frontage of their development site to increase the “visibility” for one of their proposed tenants (a bank). The trees in question were to be protected and remain in place per the approved development plans. Tom Zarko advised Heritage NOT to remove these trees. They are appealing his direction. The bank has offered \$3500 as a fee for removing the 4 trees. This was discussed at staff on August 20 with the consensus that Warrington could establish a “tree bank” for similar instances and draw on that bank for landscape improvements on Township properties. Staff will meet with Heritage Building Corp. on Monday morning.
- m) Wetlands Transition Area: Attached is an 8/21 email from Tom Zarko providing background information on BOS Agenda Item #12 regarding a wetland transition area modification for the Sulimay Subdivision. Enclosed is an enlarged map delineating the referenced area. Staff is recommending approval of this transition area. (Attachment E)
- n) Folly Road Schoolhouse: Attached is an inspection report on the old schoolhouse on Folly Road. Staff contacted Bucks County this month to determine if there was any grant money available to upgrade this property. They were directed to the Historic Properties Program offered through the County Parks component of the Open Space Program. Bill Mitchell, Executive Director of County Parks and Recreation was contacted for the details of this funding option, but has not responded. (Attachment F)
- o) Other Business:
- Verizon FIOS TV Channel Realignment – Stephanie Beavers of Verizon advised the Township on July 25 via email regarding new television channels to be offered to Verizon Cable subscribers effective September 11, 2008. A copy of the letter sent to subscribers and the new channel line-up is attached. (Attachment G)
 - Report on Resident Inquiries on Website: Attached is a summary of resident concerns and inquiries posted on the Township website through June 30, 2008. (Attachment H)
- p) Correspondence: (Attachment I)
- 2008 Budget Expenditures – July 30 memo to all department heads regarding 2008 budget issues.
 - Route 202 Detour -- July 30, 2008 correspondence from PA DOT District Executive Lester Toaso seeking concurrence on proposed detour during Parkway construction.
 - Kelly Road Dedication – August 18, 2008 letter from Doylestown Township Manager Stephanie Mason supporting Warrington Township’s decision to move forward with formal dedication of Kelly Road.

- Warrington Community Ambulance Corps Emergency Response Information – August 13, 2008 Correspondence from Richard Lesniak on requested statistical information about emergency responses made by the Warrington Community Ambulance Corps (WCAC).
- Doylestown Township Comprehensive Plan – July 28, 2008 letter from Doylestown Township Manager Stephanie Mason regarding September 16, 2008 proposed amendments to Doylestown’s Comprehensive Plan. (*Copies available for review in Warrington Township Manager’s Office*)
- LCB – August 2008 letter from Penna. Liquor Control Board (LCB) re Project Spirit
- PECO – June 30, 2008 letter re natural gas lines
- Murphy Grant Workshop – August 15, 2008 email correspondence from Madeleine Wille, Grants Coordinator for Congressman Patrick J. Murphy. (*Grant resource copies available in Warrington Township Manager’s Office*)

Any supplementary updates to this report will be distributed Tuesday evening.