

**ATTENDANCE:**

BOARD	Elliot Abrams, Chair Bryce Boyer, Vice-Chair Jeff Luck, Supervisor Josh Troxell, Supervisor
STAFF	Doug Erickson, Township Manager Brent Brubaker, Township Engineer Pat Hubert, Assistant Township Engineer Kim Wyatt, Finance Director Kimberly Fragola, Township Secretary Joe Price, CRPA Senior Planner Betsy Dupuis, Solicitor
ABSENT	Walt Wise, Supervisor John Petrick, Chief of Police
AUDIENCE	3 CNET Volunteers Jeff Hermann – Patton Township Planning Commission

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The February 10, 2010 Patton Township Board of Supervisors meeting held at the Patton Township Municipal Building, 100 Patton Plaza, State College, PA, was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chair Elliot Abrams.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 27, 2010 meeting were approved 4-0 on a motion by Mr. Luck, seconded by Mr. Boyer.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this point in the meeting.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING: RIPARIAN BUFFER REGULATIONS – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 153**

The Planning Commission has recommended adopting Riparian Buffer regulations under the Township's Subdivision and Land Development regulations, which are found at Chapter 153 of the Patton Township Code, Mr. Erickson reviewed. These proposed regulations are an outgrowth of a model ordinance developed by the Centre Region Council of Governments, he explained, and the proposed regulations would require that stream buffers be established as part of any new subdivision or land development or as a part of any re-development process across all zoning districts in the Township. The proposed regulations would also require that vegetation be preserved or established in the stream buffer area, he added.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING: RIPARIAN BUFFER REGULATIONS – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 153 (CONT'D)**

Because most (78%) of the streams are in the A-1 (Rural) Zoning District, the planting requirements are very similar to those of an existing federal Department of Agriculture incentive program, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), which provides payments to land owners to establish stream buffers, Mr. Erickson noted.

**a. Public Hearing**

The Public Hearing for the proposed Riparian Buffer regulations has been advertised for this meeting. The Public Hearing convened at 7:03 PM.

Mr. Erickson drew attention to memos from the Centre Regional Planning Agency and Centre County Planning Office noting support for the proposed regulations.

There being no public comments, Mr. Luck moved to close the Public Hearing. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-0. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:04 PM.

**b. Action Consideration**

Mr. Luck moved to approve Ordinance No. 2010-517 as advertised to establish Riparian Buffer regulations. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-0.

**5. PLANNING & ZONING**

**a. Planning Commission Report**

Planning Commission member Jeff Hermann reported that the Commission worked on prioritizing bike and pedestrian path links.

**6. ADMINISTRATION**

**a. Regional Parks Funding**

The Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) Parks Capital Committee and Regional Park Planning Committee met on February 1 regarding the proposed parks at Oak Hall and Whitehall Road, as well as the proposed purchase of the Hess Field Softball Complex in Harris Township, Mr. Erickson stated. Copies of the February 1 meeting agenda and attachments were distributed with the agenda for this meeting. At the meeting, Mr. Erickson reported, the Master Plan consultant presented cost estimates for the Whitehall Road Park and financing scenarios for the three projects.

## 6. ADMINISTRATION (CONT'D)

### a. Regional Parks Funding (Cont'd)

Patton Township's representative to the Committees, Supervisor Luck, updated the Board on the Regional Parks program and the discussions at the most recent meeting. Mr. Luck went on to outline four possible development scenarios and their funding implications. Board discussion was held regarding each of the options.

Ms. Wyatt explained the Township's debt capacity calculation, current debt levels, and planned future debt. She also reviewed the unseen costs of total borrowings as they approach the calculated limit. Mr. Erickson cautioned against making any commitment at this stage of the budget cycle, and Mr. Luck stated the counterpoint of urgency due to the late stage of the park planning process

Major points from the discussion that ensued included the ongoing maintenance expenses associated with pools; the high level of investment in parks, woods, and open space already made independently by Patton Township; and the possibility of deciding participation level via ballot referendum.

Consensus among the Supervisors was for Mr. Luck to return to the Committees with the following feedback:

- The parks should not be developed in total all at once.
- Hess Field should be included.
- The tourism industry should contribute to the development costs.
- Patton Township intends to contribute at a level at least equal to the percentage contributed toward Park Forest Pool.
- A funding formula agreed upon by all parties should be developed before moving forward.

## 7. MANAGER'S REPORT

Copies of the Development Update were distributed with the agenda. Mr. Erickson discussed thinning harvest and regeneration activities taking place in Stand 10 on the Haugh Family Farm Open Space, as well as noting plans for deer exclusion fencing. Mr. Luck commented that the prevalence of ticks in the Open Space is a disincentive to users.

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Finance Committee

Mr. Erickson reported that the Committee received a briefing on the CATA 2010-11 Budget.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Boyer commented that the PA Prescribed Fire Standards include no requirement for local notification. Consensus among the Board Members was for staff to contact Senator Corman and Representative Conklin regarding this issue.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, by Mr. Luck's motion and Mr. Troxell's second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

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Kimberly Fragola, Township Secretary