

Sandyston Township Committee

MINUTES

February 10, 2009

This meeting was opened and called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Harper who stated this meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, having been duly advertised.

Roll Call

The clerk was asked to call the roll. Present were: Committeeman Fred MacDonald, Deputy Mayor William Leppert, and Mayor George Harper. Also in attendance were CFO Jessica Caruso, Tax Assessor Robert Pastor, Deputy Municipal Clerk Amy Lobban, Road Foreman Alan Delea, Thomas Brackney and Bob Mack of the STVFD and Historian Patte Frato.

The Mayor invited all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes The minutes of the January 2, 2009 Re-organization Meeting and the Regular Meeting and a correction to the Minutes of December 4, 2008 were presented and moved for approval by Mayor Harper, seconded by Deputy Mayor Leppert and unanimously carried.

Tax Collector Report: The Tax Collector's report for the Month of January 2009 was presented with total receipts Month-to-Date of \$166,630.90 and Year-to-Date of \$166,630.90. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Deputy Mayor Leppert and unanimously carried.

Treasurer's Report The Treasurer's report for the Month of January 2009 was presented with a beginning balance of \$691,133.97, total receipts of \$178,585.62, total disbursements of \$391,440.16 and an ending balance of \$478,279.43. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Deputy Mayor Leppert and unanimously carried.

Payment of Vouchers The Bill List was submitted for approval in the amount of \$718,372.13. Deputy Mayor Leppert made a motion to approve payment of the vouchers, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously carried.

Departmental Reports The departmental reports were reviewed by the committee. Mayor Harper commended the Road Foreman Delea and crew for their work this winter. Discussion took place on the "shrinkage" of salt and grits from the DPW garage site. Suggestions to restrict access to the area ranged from the posting of signs to erecting poles and a gate on both driveways and/or the installation of a motion sensor and floodlight on the DPW garage. The Committee made a recommendation to the Road Foreman to put up signage.

A motion to adopt Resolution R-14-09 was made by Mayor Harper, seconded by Committeeman MacDonald and unanimously carried.

**R-15-09 A RESOLUTION TO CREATE THE PLAN ENDORSEMENT
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee of Sandyston Township, Sussex County, desire to obtain Plan Endorsement from the State Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Plan Endorsement is a voluntary review process developed by the State Planning Commission to provide the technical assistance and coordination of the State for municipalities, counties, and regional agencies to meet the goals of the State Planning Act and State Development and Redevelopment Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Act recognizes that coordination of State action is necessary to help municipalities develop New Jersey's economy while protecting the natural, historic and recreational resources, providing adequate and diverse housing, and redeveloping our cities and older suburban areas; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Plan Endorsement process is to increase the degree of consistency among municipal, county, regional and state agency plans with each other and with the State Plan and to facilitate the implementation of these plans with the primary focus on where and how development and redevelopment can be accommodated in accordance with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines establish a comprehensive and coordinated planning process in order for a municipality to consider and update as necessary, master plans, functional plans, development regulations and capital plans to be consistent with the State Plan and achieve plan endorsement; and

WHEREAS, through plan endorsement, master plans, functional plans, development regulations and capital plans should be coordinated and supportive of each other; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines incorporate and expand upon the principles of the Municipal Land Use Law in order to help towns plan for a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-27, the Mayor may appoint one or more persons as a citizens' advisory committee to assist or collaborate with the planning board in its duties, including adoption of, and amendment to, the master plan to guide the use of lands within the municipality in a manner which protects the public health and safety and promotes the general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Endorsement Guidelines and State Planning Rules require the appointment of a Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee to guide the municipality through the Plan Endorsement process; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee shall consist of between 5 and 10 members, including one representative of the governing body, a Class IV member of the planning board; one representative of a local board, commission or committee who is not a member of the planning board; and two representatives of the

public that do not hold a position, employment or office with the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston, County of Sussex, hereby approves and adopts the following:

Sandyston Township establishes a Plan Endorsement Citizens' Advisory Committee consisting of between 5 and 10 members as follows:

1. George B. Harper, Jr., Mayor
2. Keith Utter, Class IV Member of the Planning Board
3. Marc Cunico, Representative of local board
4. Lou Cherepy, Member of the Public
5. Rajesh Sinha, Member of the Public

The members of the Citizens' Advisory Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor; and

The Citizens' Advisory Committee shall report findings and conclusions of its actions performed pursuant to the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines, and make recommendations to the Planning Board on next steps, but shall have no power to vote or take other action required of the Planning Board; and

The Citizens' Advisory Committee shall also report to the Governing Body at least once a month prior to the second Tuesday of the Month on the status of plan endorsement; and

The Citizen Advisory Committee shall be entitled to call to its assistance any personnel in any municipal department or consultant thereto as it may require in order to perform its duties; and

The Citizens' Advisory Committee is established for the purpose of:

Guiding the plan endorsement process for the municipality;

Increasing public awareness of, and participation in, the plan endorsement process for the community;

Serving as the liaison with the state, county, regional agencies and local officials throughout the plan endorsement process;

Assisting the municipality in meeting the deadlines of plan endorsement;

Take the lead on completing the municipal self-assessment and submitting the required planning documents to the Office of Smart Growth;

Helping to facilitate community visioning as described in the Plan Endorsement Guidelines and community visioning standards;

Reporting the findings and conclusions of the self-assessment and community visioning to the local planning board for its review; and

Negotiating a draft Action Plan with the Office of Smart Growth, in collaboration with the planning board and governing body, to consist of actions that should be taken to adopt and/or update plans, ordinances and regulations in order to meet the plan endorsement requirements;

Facilitating completion of the Action Plan items in order to achieve endorsement by the State Planning Commission and enjoy the benefits available to the municipality as a result of the endorsed plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of Sandyston Township shall transmit a copy of this resolution and the notice as required in the State Planning Rules to the State Planning Commission.

A motion to adopt Resolution R-15-09 was made by Mayor Harper, seconded by Committeeman MacDonald and unanimously carried.

R-16-09 A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE REDUCTION OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE BY THE AMOUNT OF \$29,600.00 POSTED BY ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

WHEREAS, St. Thomas the Apostle Church posted a \$115,000.00 cash performance guarantee in January of 2006 in favor of the Township of Sandyston for the improvements to the Msgr. Gacquin Religious Education Center, Block 1102, Lots 1 & 2, Sandyston Township, and

WHEREAS, in a letter received January 29, 2009 from the Township Engineer David B. Simmons, Jr., P.E. of the engineering firm of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc. a recommendation has been made, based on a site inspection conducted January 27, 2009, that the performance guarantee be further reduced by \$29,600.00, and

WHEREAS, a performance guarantee of \$40,000.00 will remain in effect for Item #13 - Retention Basin, noted in the December 12, 2006 Engineer's Estimate prepared by Kenneth A. Wentink & Associates, until final acceptance by the County of Sussex, Division of Engineering.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee, Township of Sandyston that it hereby authorizes the reduction of the performance guarantee posted by St. Thomas the Apostle Church by the amount of \$29,600.00 based on the Township Engineer's recommendation.

A motion to adopt Resolution R-16-09 was made by Mayor Harper, seconded by Committeeman MacDonald and unanimously carried.