

**WEST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 5, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Public Services Commission regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. The meeting was open to the public, and a link to join the meeting via Zoom was listed on the agenda posted on the Township's website.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brian Dakin
Kevin Moore
Janice Gottesfeld
Lee Ann Embrey
Rob Hall
Liz Alakszay
Joe Roscioli
Virginia Kerslake
John Ceschan, Jr.
Tim Hubbard

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Pam Gural-Bear, Assistant Township Manager
Ed Culp, Assistant Director of Public Works

Brian Dunn, Board of Supervisors Liaison

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

MINUTES:

Mr. Culp made an amendment to the September 7, 2022, minutes.

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Ms. Alakszay, to approve the September 7, 2022, minutes as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Commission welcomed new member Virginia Kerslake. Ms. Kerslake was appointed by the Board of Supervisors on September 28, 2022.

The Trash/Recycle survey is open until October 15. Mr. Dakin encouraged everyone to respond to the survey if they have not already done so. Results will be announced at the Board of Supervisors' October 26 meeting and will be available at the PSC November meeting. There was then brief discussion about issues with the haulers (missed pickups and taking bags without the WWT logo) and the cost of trash bags in general.

Mr. Dakin invited members to attend the upcoming EAC/SAC Summit scheduled for October 11, 2022, at the East Goshen Township building from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

On November 2, the Township will be hosting an Open House in the Township Main Meeting Room from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. providing residents and visitors with information on Township parks, development, traffic and crime watch, sustainability, and other issues. The Public Services Commission meeting that evening will be held in the Community Room. Mr. Dakin suggested changing the start time from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. so as not to conflict with the Open House. This will be discussed further with Staff.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

1. Retrievr

Bob Anderson from Retrievr was in attendance and provided an overview of the company and some statistics regarding the amount of electronics and clothing that end up in landfills. Retrievr offers pickup of unwanted electronics and clothing for a nominal fee and then resells or reuses the items. This keeps the items out of landfills and helps toward creating a “circular” economy. A small portion of the fee charged is returned to the Township.

In the 6 months that Retrievr has been operating in the Township, 45 residents have participated in the service. Mr. Anderson said this was a reasonable response. Ms. Kerlake asked how best to increase the response. Mr. Anderson said word of mouth is most effective and also Staff recommending the service when residents call with questions. Ms. Gottesfeld asked about privacy on electronic devices. Mr. Anderson said they encourage everyone to wipe their devices clean and provide instructions on the website how to do this. In addition, Retrievr is an e-Stewards Enterprise which means that all of the electronic devices they receive follow a secure chain of custody before they are recycled by trusted e-Stewards or R2-certified electronics recycling partners. These certifications mean that their data removal processes comply with NIST data destruction guidelines.

Mr. Hall asked about appliances, CRTs, and circuit boards. No large appliances are accepted because of their size and weight (only one man is on the pickup truck). They do accept window A/C units, dehumidifiers, and apartment-sized refrigerators. Mr. Roscioli asked about a price list. Pickup is arranged online, and as you enter your items, a running total is shown of what the cost will be. The customer can choose to accept or reject it.

Items are picked up from the porch or garage, not curbside, and online payment is preferred, but the driver can take cash.

2. Total Recycle Field Trip

Members provided feedback on the tour of the Total Recycle facility in Birdsboro. There was a consensus that the tour was great and provided a lot of good information on the recycling process, how the machines work, and recycling in general. All were surprised to learn that 90% of the material brought to the facility ends up being recycled. It was also interesting to see the bales of material sorted by clear and colored plastics. Lithium batteries can cause fires and explosions. It was suggested that residents may not be aware of this. Ms. Gottesfeld suggested educating at the elementary school level. Ms. Gural-Bear encouraged everyone to be good ambassadors in spreading the word.

3. Budget Update

Mr. Culp provided an update on Parks projects proposed for 2023. Included are:

- Sealcoat the parking lots at Banbury, Waltz, and Roscioli Parks
- Rehabilitate the basketball courts
- Reseal and line the tennis courts – Ed is checking restrictions on the USTA grant received previously to see if the courts can be lined for pickle ball play. A suggestion was made to use the basketball courts for pickle ball play.
- Boot Road Park South picnic pavilion and shade structures for playground
- Reestablish the trail at Burke Road Park and increase parking
- Replace the swing set at Grove Park

Ms. Gural-Bear said Mainline Health is considering sponsoring the fitness court at Exton Park, and Staff is investigating places to locate tennis courts at Exton Park.

Ms. Alakszay advised that the trails at Roscioli Park have been affected by PECO's clear cutting activity and suggested that if the trail configuration needs to be changed, now is the time to do so. Mr. Culp said he will check into the matter.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Gottesfeld made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roscioli, to adjourn the meeting; the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Moore
Recording Secretary