

UPPER MILFORD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TOWNSHIP BUILDING, OLD ZIONSVILLE, PA 18068
APRIL 16, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Supervisors; George DeVault, Daniel Mohr, Robert Sentner; Township Manager, Daniel DeLong; Asst. Township Manager, Timothy Haas; Solicitor, Marc Fisher

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This meeting is being recorded principally to aid in the preparation of Minutes and for such other purposes as the Board sees fit. For that reason, will each person wanting to give any comments during this meeting, please state your name for the record and address the Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1.) PennDOT meeting follow-up

Supervisor Sentner began by summarizing the special meeting that was held by the Township with PennDOT on April 8, 2015. He specifically summarized the following topics:

a. Route 29 and Beck Road intersection

Supervisor Sentner is dissatisfied with the answers received from PennDOT regarding the intersection and requested that Township staff prepare correspondence to PennDOT requesting answers as to why PennDOT believes that the intersection is safe.

b. Route 29 and Route 100 installation underdrains, drainage gutter and road improvements

Supervisor Sentner believes the current repairs are not satisfactory and add to the dangerous driving conditions of the corridor. He requested that PennDOT provide the Township with a timeline of permanent repair. This request is to be included in the aforementioned correspondence.

c. Route 29 ruts and other surface problems

Supervisor Sentner summarized that the portion of Route 29 within the Township was last paved in 1999 and the average lifecycle for pavement is ten (10) years. Currently, PennDOT has scheduled to repave this portion of Route 29 between the

years 2021 and 2025. He believes that allowing pavement to remain on a road for two (2) times the operative lifespan is unacceptable.

d. Winter maintenance on Route 100 and Route 29

Supervisor Sentner is dissatisfied with the winter maintenance by PennDOT. PennDOT has offered to pay the Township to maintain the state Roads within the Township. He is not interested in taking over the winter maintenance of the State roads at the current cost reimbursement offer from PennDOT.

e. Vera Cruz Road in the area of Quarry Road lack of sunshine and poor drainage

Chairman DeVault is not satisfied with the plowing efforts of PennDOT. Given the current tree growth around the section of road, he believes that better plowing efforts from PennDOT would be a great start.

f. Short and long term solution for Indian Creek Road intersection with Cedar Crest Boulevard; grades and flooding problems on Indian Creek Road

Supervisor Sentner summarized PennDOT's solution of not allowing trucks on Indian Creek Road. He would like to know what truck counts PennDOT has for Indian Creek Road. He additionally would like to receive a copy of the study executed by PennDOT, along with the cost of the study. He requested these items be included in the aforementioned correspondence.

g. Plans for Route 29 railroad bridge replacement project

Supervisor Sentner summarized that there is a replacement plan in preliminary planning stages, according to PennDOT. He stressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of communication from PennDOT to any affected municipality.

h. Emergency contact phone number for contacting PennDOT during an emergency

Supervisor Sentner called an emergency number three (3) times but only received a recorded answering menu. He requested PennDOT provide the Township with a different emergency number.

i. General increase in traffic along Route 29, Route 100, Chestnut Street, Cedar Crest Boulevard, and Buckeye Road

Supervisor Sentner summarized that PennDOT currently does not have the funds available to perform any major traffic improvements to aid in lessening the traffic burden on the Township's current infrastructure. He believes this is unacceptable. He wrote correspondence to State Representatives and elected officials requesting assistance in the matter. He believes that PennDOT's traffic counts are

not accurate and requests a copy of the traffic counts so that the Township can cross-reference with numbers gathered by the Township traffic counting device.

Supervisor Mohr agreed with Supervisor Sentner.

Chairman DeVault asked if the Township had begun gathering traffic counts with the recently purchased traffic counting device. Brian Miller, Township Planning Coordinator & SEO, responded that the device has been installed and gathering traffic counts for a couple days.

Chairman DeVault summarized that the current infrastructure of the entire southwestern corner of Lehigh County is being overloaded.

At the next Southwestern Comprehensive Plan meeting Sentner is going to request surrounding municipalities and boroughs join the Township as a united front to approach PennDOT regarding the traffic issues within the area.

Resident, Frank Caputo, addressed his concerns surrounding the lack of care and concern from the Township residents regarding the traffic/roadway issues within the Township. He tries to remain as vocal as he can to elected officials, but wishes more residents would do the same.

Chairman DeVault asked if a moratorium has been discussed at the Southwest Comprehensive Plan meetings. Sentner answered that a moratorium has been mentioned but not ever seriously considered due to Lehigh County being a major contributor to the economic growth of Pennsylvania.

Mike Siegel, resident of Lower Macungie, expressed his own concerns regarding PennDOT. He recommended that the Supervisors contact Senator, John Rafferty, to aid in their efforts to address the traffic issues within the area. Siegel also informed the Supervisors that he is the President of the Little Lehigh Watershed Coalition, and any additional sewage spills into the Little Lehigh creek will warrant a lawsuit against every municipality that is serviced by the Lehigh County Authority (LCA). LCA presently receives sewage deliveries to the treatment plant from outside haulers. He believes that a sewage moratorium may be looming.

2.) Fields at Indian Creek

a. BOS Request to see plan showing open space/recreation area required

Manager DeLong summarized that the developer has provided the Township with a plan showing a layout of additional open space, as requested by the Board of Supervisors. The plan will be available for the Supervisors to view in the following days in preparation for discussion at the next regularly scheduled BOS meeting. Additionally, the Board has received a copy of the 'completeness of submission' packet from the Lehigh County Conservation District regarding the development.

Final decisions on open space, recreation, and fees-in-lieu of are still outstanding. These decisions must be resolved prior to the plan's progression through the approval process.

Supervisor Sentner asked if the HOA agreement must be complete prior to final approval of phase one (1). Solicitor Fisher answered that an HOA agreement does not have to be complete prior to preliminary approval. However, HOA agreements will have to be complete prior to the final sign off of approval for the plan.

- b. Lehigh County Conservation District; Letter acknowledging completeness of submission and beginning of review process

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board of Supervisors held an executive session for land lease negotiations from 7:21 P.M. to 7:28 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:28 P.M.

George D. DeVault, Chairman

Date

Timothy Haas, Asst. Twp. Manager/Secretary