

UPPER MILFORD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TOWNSHIP BUILDING, OLD ZIONSVILLE, PA 18068
FEBRUARY 4, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This meeting is being recorded 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

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

January 21, 2016 Workshop & Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to accept the January 21, 2016 Workshop & Regular meeting minutes. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS:

GENERAL FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7096 – Check No's. **15330** to **15365** in the amount of **\$33,909.69**

PAYROLL FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7015 – Check No. **7327** in the amount of **\$160.28**

MOTION:

Supervisor Mohr made the motion to pay the bills as read. Supervisor Sentner seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1.) Upper Milford Township/Michael Crossley – Fulmer Tract Lease Renewal.

a. Memo from Treasurer, Jessi O'Donald.

Resident, Phil Casey suggested the Board consider giving Mr. Crossley a lesser rate on his lease agreement since farming is very competitive. It would be good for him and the community.

Manager DeLong reminded the Board that Mr. Crossley is very satisfied with the current lease. It was Mr. Crossley that raised the rate of the lease last year.

Supervisor DeVault thanked Phil Casey for his comments.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to enter into a lease renewal with Mr. Michael Crossley for 2016. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

2.) Resolution No. 2016-019.

a. Ratification and Confirmation of Snow Emergency Declaration.

Manager, DeLong briefly summarized the snow emergency declaration, and possible reimbursement funds that may be available.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to approve Resolution 2016-019. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

3.) Reauthorize Act 4 of 2006 "Tax Freeze on Preserved Property" (Discussion).

a. Memo from Assistant Manager, Tim Haas.

Manager, DeLong briefly summarized Act 4 of 2006 for the Board. He further asked the Township Solicitor if it would be a benefit to the Township to reauthorize Act 4 of 2006 without a sunset provision.

Solicitor Fisher answered that unless the County and School District also reauthorize the Act without a sunset provision that it wouldn't necessarily provide a benefit to the Township to do so.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to reauthorize Act 4 of 2006. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, Supervisor DeVault abstained, and the motion carried.

- 4.) Emmaus Ambulance Corps operation of new wheelchair transport van.
 - a. Memo from Assistant Manager, Tim Haas.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to send a letter in support of Emmaus Ambulance Corps purchasing of a 2015 transit wheelchair van for servicing of the Upper Milford Township residents. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

- 5.) Wildlands Conservancy Letter of Support.
 - a. Approval of draft letter of support, prepared by Manager, Dan DeLong.

Manager, DeLong summarized for the Board that the Wildlands Conservancy is looking for a letter of support from the Township as they pursue grants towards their various improvement projects, including but not limited to: purchasing and installing new trail markers on the trail systems of South Mountain Preserve, Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, and Burkhart Preserve.

- 6.) Authorization to Advertise Ordinance No. 144.
 - a. Memo from Treasurer, Jessi O'Donald.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to advertise Ordinance No. 144. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Fisher indicated no report.

DEP MODULES / SEWAGE PLANNING: None

PLANNING COMMISSION – OLD BUSINESS: None

PLANNING COMMISSION – NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Fields at Indian Creek items for Comment/Approval.
 - a. Letter from Planning Coordinator, Brian Miller.

The Board is in agreement that the proposed emergency access connection to Chestnut Street is preferred compared to the previously proposed emergency access connection to Green Drive.

b. Memo from Manager, Dan DeLong.

Resident, Phil Casey asked if the Board knew why the Wildlands Conservancy no longer wants to take responsibility of the grounds in question.

Supervisor Sentner answered that money was the reason.

Resident and Citizen's Fire Company Chief, Joseph Sherman asked how long the walking path is and if it has access to a road. He also raised concerns over the accessibility of emergency equipment along the walking path.

Manager, DeLong answered that the walking path is 6/10 of a mile and it has access from Cedar Crest Boulevard and North Street to Indian Creek Road. There will be a 20 foot wide public access easement for the walking path. However, the developer is only proposing pedestrian access only, no bicycles.

The Board is in agreement that it is acceptable for the ownership and maintenance of the open space area to be the responsibility of the HOA.

Manager, DeLong noted that the homeowners association (HOA) does have a well written and protective covenant on maintaining the open space area and preserving it as open space.

Supervisor Sentner summarized what the developer is proposing for a pedestrian path.

The Board requests a six (6) foot wide paved pedestrian and bicycle path that would match up with the surrounding paths connecting to it.

Resident, Phil Casey mentioned that it wouldn't matter how wide the walking path is in relation to an emergency vehicle access because the path crosses over pedestrian bridges at multiple locations.

2.) Recommendation for Time Extension for the Fields at Indian Creek Subdivision.

a. Letter from Planning Coordinator, Brian Miller.

MOTION:

Supervisor Sentner made the motion to grant the sixty (60) day time extension for all of the items listed within Brian's letter, dated February 4, 2016. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

3.) Recommendation on Upper Saucon Township's Official Map.

a. Letter from Planning Coordinator, Brian Miller.

MOTION:

Supervisor DeVault made the motion to authorize Brian to send his proposed response letter to Upper Saucon Township. Supervisor Sentner seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

SUBDIVISIONS – IMPROVEMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

OTHER ISSUES: None

REPORTS:

Emmaus Library: Lisa Marten shared that there are a number of online research tools available on their website as well as numerous programs including a film discussion evening led by a local film maker, Stephanie Gardner.

Township Emergency Management Coordinator, Bill Stahler: None

Fire Departments: Citizen's Fire Company Chief, Joseph Sherman thanked the Public Works Department for their assistance in their rescues during the recent snow storms.

Citizen's Fire Company Assistant Chief, Jason Tapler announced that the Western District Fire Company's monthly breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 7.

Fire Company Steering Committee:

1.) January Call Report.

a. Report from Assistant Manager, Tim Haas.

Western District Fire Company had 13 calls. Citizen's Fire Company had 24 calls.

Recreation Commission: President, Philip Vanim announced their upcoming meeting will be on Monday, February 15.

Supervisors:

Robert Sentner – Both fire companies applied for very large grants for much needed equipment and he hopes and prays that they will be awarded.

Daniel Mohr – Indicated no report.

George DeVault – Complimented the Public Works Department and both fire companies for their hard work during the recent snowstorm. Following the storm the roads in Upper Milford Township were in a lot better shape than they were in neighboring townships.

Resident, Francis Caputo, on behalf of Mink Estates, thanked the Public Works Department, Manager DeLong, and Brian Miller for all of their hard work done during the recent snowstorm.

Resident, Phil Casey thanked the retired Public Works Employees for their efforts during the snowstorm as well.

Township Manager:

Dan DeLong – Pointed out that Brian Miller was out in the backhoe during the heart of the storm assisting the Public Works Department. He thanked him for his efforts.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:19 P.M.

George D. DeVault, Chairman

Date

Timothy A. Haas, Asst. Twp. Manager/Secretary