

APPROVED MINUTES

**Upper Milford Township
Board of Supervisors
Township Building, Old Zionsville, PA 18068
April 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE: Supervisors George DeVault, Daniel Mohr, Robert Sentner; Manager, Daniel DeLong; Assistant Manager, Bud Carter; Planning Coordinator, Brian Miller; Secretary/Treasurer, Jessi O'Donald; Solicitor Marc Fisher

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

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:

Phil Casey- Mr. Casey talked about Lehigh County Authority cleaning out the water of the Man heads onto the side of the road and into the stream. He also stated that the man heads were not re-sealed. Mr. Casey was concerned due to problems in the system before.

Manager DeLong- LCA was cleaning out the system. There was not a leak in the system. They were just cleaning out the manholes. He didn't think LCA saw it as a problem if the holes fill up with water. The check schedule is every two or three years. The water in the manholes is stagnate.

OLD BUSINESS:

1.) Emergency Services Steering Committee-Discussion

Supervisor DeVault read a letter from the State Fire Commissioner.

Jim Krippe stated that the group was looking for direction. The talk was to create a five year plan, an example was the turnpike expansion. He came up with 16 talking points, to which the committee asked when the Township would get water service to the whole Township. Jim thinks the Committee is a good idea and would like to move forward even if it's not regular monthly meetings. He feels times are changing and he would like everyone to get answers to their questions. He would just like some direction on how this should proceed. He has spoken to Bill Stahler and Bill has said he will support whatever direction the Township takes with the committee.

Joe Sherman asked for a five year plan from the Township. He stated the Fire Companies need to know if they will require ladder trucks for high-rises and Townhouses. He said the Townhouses on the Kohler Tract were a surprise. He thought it would be all single homes.

Supervisor Sentner stated he wants to see this committee as a regular committee for the Township with all of emergency services on board so that everyone is aware of development and needs within the Township. He stated that what was in the past is past and would like to move forward for the good of everyone. He would like everyone to have an opportunity to have

communication between Departments and keep the Supervisors out of it. He would like this as an avenue to bring everyone around the table to provide services for the residents.

Supervisor DeVault stated that the Township can only provide the Fire Companies with what is known along with zoning and planning maps that show what densities are allowed where, along with allowable uses within those zoning areas. A good example is the Townhouses off Allen Street have an industrial park zoning right next to them.

Jeff Hoffman, he introduced himself as a Township resident and the Chief for Emmaus Ambulance Corp. He stated that everyone has been facing problems with man power and feels that working closely and sharing what training is going on, and what development is going on would be valuable. He has been very glad to work together with Joe Sherman and Jim Krippe and would like to see the committee proceed. It was stated that both Ambulance Corps combined run approximately 6000 calls a year.

There was a brief conversation about mandates and standards and how that would possibly effect the Volunteer Fire Companies if those standards would be put in place.

Supervisor DeVault questioned Solicitor Fisher how to proceed.

Solicitor Fisher stated that the committee would have to be created with an Ordinance including bylaws and meetings would be public.

Supervisor Sentner stated it was critical for everyone that should be involved to buy into this concept.

Francis Caputo spoke a few minutes about the lack of communication and that everyone needs to sit down and communicate to be on the same page.

Phil Casey asked why the Fire Companies don't come up with their own standards to move the community forward together.

Supervisor Sentner would like to direct staff to come up with a draft proposal for a committee. All agreed.

Joe Sherman stated that it had been agreed that the two companies would continue to meet over the next few months but at this point he didn't want to be a part of the committee. He stated he will wait to see a draft proposal and then take it back to his company for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1.) Old Zionsville Area Sewage Planning (discussion)

Manager DeLong gave a presentation to the Board asking for approval to proceed to budget for an engineering study to explore the options for a sewer disposal system for the village of Zionsville. This is required for the Township to make progress on our Act 537 plan that was approved 12 years ago. He would like approval now for study because of the length of time it takes to draft a plan to implement a project. This area is in a different drainage basin than the Vera Cruz sewer project. It would be part of the study to explore the running of pipes from the Vera Cruz area, however with current regulation it would be better to keep everything in the current drainage basin. The Township has granted several well isolation waivers to repair current sewer systems and some haven't be able to do any repairs. This is a study Brian Miller cannot do. Brian Miller and Dan DeLong have already met with DEP. DEP will honor the

current 537 plan. DEP does want the Township to do some minimal testing on a few sites for different types of systems. The areas required would be approximately 5 to 7 acres unless a stream discharge system would be installed, that would require a different area with holding ponds and discharge.

Supervisor Mohr questioned if stream discharge could be done into a dry stream?

Supervisor Sentner questioned if the system could be put on an ASA or preserved property and if it would be owned by LCA, and how much development would open up once this system is put in place. He also expressed that he wanted to make sure everyone was aware well in advance.

Manager DeLong said LCA had not been asked yet but they would be since they are our agent already. He stated the way to control development along the system would be to implement the Act 537 Plan that is in place and limit the connection to existing lots. A low pressure system would be the most economical to install and maintain. There is a possibility to ask LCA to share some of the cost but we need to have a plan first. We need a project prior to creating an ordinance. Time line would be six months for next year to do the study. Permits would be another nine months plus grant writing time. Manager DeLong said until there is a viable project would be around five years.

Supervisors were all in favor of planning for the study and proceeding with coming up with options and a plan.

- 2.) Letter from Lehigh County requesting support of DCNR Grant for South Mountain Property.

Wildlands Conservancy is applying for a DCNR grant to help the Lehigh County preserve the Emmaus Borough Property on South 2nd Street.

MOTION: Supervisor DeVault made a motion to send the letter of support for the DCNR grant application on the preservation of the South 2nd Street property in Emmaus Borough. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Any questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried unanimously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: -

EXECUTIVE SESSION: - None

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

Chairman George DeVault

April 20, 2017
Date

Secretary/Treasurer Jessi O'Donald