

Upper Milford Township
Board of Supervisors
Township Building, Old Zionsville, PA 18068
February 1st, 2024, 7pm
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Supervisors; Daniel Mohr, Angela Ashbrook, John Zgura; Manager Edward Carter; Planning Coordinator Brian Miller, Solicitor Marc Fisher, Secretary/treasurer Jessi O'Donald

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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:

Sherry Meck – 4854 Jasper Rd – Sherry's concern was the WB Homes development behind her house pumping water from the basin and letting it flow everywhere to the point of standing water in her yard. She brought a piece written by Timothy Knox on Stormwater runoff. Manager Carter stated the HOA will be responsible to maintain the basins once the development is complete, right now they are sedimentation basins to control the sediment run off from the construction and will be different once they are completed after the construction is complete. Manager Carter offered to meet with her and the Township Engineer at her home to see if there were corrections WB Homes needed to make. He believes that the developer needed to pump out the pond to make a repair.

Randy Kraft – of Linda Lane asked about the pedestrian bridge that was supposed to be installed by WB Homes on the walking trail. Manager Carter stated that there was a bit of discussion on the bridge and possibly changing it to a pipe. As of now, there is no updated plan so until the developer brings in updated engineering and plan for review the developer is required to place a bridge.

Sherry Ortiz – 4477 Benjamin Court – She asked for an update regarding the stormwater concerns for her block of Townhomes on Benjamin Court. Manager Carter stated he has not seen an updated plan yet and will reach out to the developer for an update.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Approval of January 18th, 2024, regular meeting minutes.

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to accept the January 18th, 2024, minutes as presented. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS:

GENERAL FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7096 - Check No's. **22791 to 22827** in the amount of **\$118,586.56**

FIRE HYDRANT FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7154 - Check No. **1016** in the amount of **\$2,818.79**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BANK TRANSFERS:

Transfer No's. 2024-005 to 2024-009

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to pay the bills as read and acknowledge the bank transfers. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: No Report

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1.) Parking in Jasper Ridge Development

– There was a discussion in the room with the Board and representatives of the HOA and residents along with the engineer for the HOA. There were concerns expressed about neighbor arguments and enforcement. Residents are concerned about appearances, parking ability and how roads are cleared, and trash picked up while parking on the street. Others are concerned about having guests walk uphill to their homes from the parking lot if there is no parking on the street at all. The development went through the planning process with no parking on the streets except for designated bump outs and the overflow parking lot. According to the Ordinance the streets are wide enough for parking on one side. The thought is to have them place signage and as it would be on the one side and see if the HOA can handle parking concerns as well as the possibility of having homeowners on the side of the road with the possible allowed parking to sign off that they understand and agree with parking in front of their homes. This discussion was tabled until the next meeting to allow for the Solicitor to draft a resolution.

2.) Fire Company Funding Discussion – Supervisor Zgura started the conversation. He went over a few things that were discussed at the Emergency Services Committee Meeting. Supervisor Ashbrook said to start they truly need a number which has been asked for during discussions over the last year or more. Joe Terrible has gotten the Fire Companies closer to that number. Station #19 said they should have a number in the next two weeks and Station #28 needs a bit more time as they are waiting on a cost number for a truck they need to purchase. Lauren Haponski stated she was just part of a million-dollar fundraising campaign for a parish in California and they used an old school method of a visual so people could see how much had been raised and what was still needed. She commented that she would like to see them raise these funds instead of a tax increase. Supervisor Ashbrook said wanted Lauren to be the head of fundraising. Lucas Andrews recounted the fundraising efforts they do now and how much everything has increased. Supervisor Mohr stated is understands this will mean a tax increase and spoke a bit about a Fire Tax versus a general Fund tax increase. Secretary/Treasurer O'Donald explained that Upper Milford Real Estate taxes are the only taxes that the Township can control. Currently the milage rate is .45 mills. This equates to an average Real Estate Tax in Upper Milford Township of \$104.00 with an average parcel assessment of \$225,000.00. She reminded everyone that the Upper Milford Real Estate Tax was not the School District Tax or the County Tax.

3.) Discussion on Pipe Replacements

a. Letter from Township Engineer Jeffery Ott

Letter from Township Engineer Jeffery Ott dated January 31st, 2024, outlined a budget for permitting and engineering for the German Road Culvert replacement. The top end of this budget is \$30,000, with public works installing the culvert at a materials cost of \$15,000 - \$20,000.00. This project could possibly cost less if less time is required to do some of the steps.

There was discussion on the bog turtle study and other permitting. Staff was directed to draft a resolution for the next meeting to adjust the budget to add this project from the revenue held in the money market savings account.

- 4.) Millbrook Farms VI Closeout
 - a. letter from township Engineer Jeffery Ott

In accordance with the request for release of secured funds dated January 16, 2024, we the undersigned hereby certify that the improvements required in connection with Millbrook Farms VI, have been completed and that the security deposit can be reduced by the amount of Three Thousand, Four Hundred Ninety Dollars and Eighty-Five Cents (\$3,490.85), in accordance with the Subdivision Improvements Agreement dated August 15, 2019. This certificate authorizes Upper Milford Township to reduce said amount, namely Three Thousand, Four Hundred Ninety Dollars and Eighty-Five Cents (\$3,490.85) to owner or such other person as said owner shall designate. This authorization shall indicate final acceptance of the public improvements by the Township and reduce the security deposit to \$0.00.

MOTION: Supervisor Zgura made a motion to approve the release of the Maintenance Period and related funding for Tuskes Homes, Millbrook Farms VI according to Engineer Ott's letter dated January 29th, 2024, in the amount of \$3,490.85. Supervisor Mohr seconded the motion. Hearing no questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

DEP MODULES / SEWAGE PLANNING: - None

PLANNING COMMISSION – OLD BUSINESS: - None

PLANNING COMMISSION – NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Time extension for Dunkin Donuts Land Development – extension through 06/30/2024
 - a. Letter from Planning Coordinator Brian Miller

At their meeting January 29th the Planning Commission recommended time extensions through 6/30/24 for the Dunkin Donuts 4054 Chestnut St. Land Development. The timeframe is due to expire on 3/3/24 and the applicants are working with Penn DOT to address items with the proposed widening of Rt. 29.

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to approve the time extension for the 4054 Chestnut Street Land Development for Dunkin Donuts until June 30th, 2024, as recommended by the Planning Commission at their January 29th meeting. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

SUBDIVISIONS – IMPROVEMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OTHER ISSUES: - None

REPORTS:

Emergency Services Committee Report: No Report

Township Emergency Management Coordinator: N/A

Emergency Services Call Report: No Report

Fire Companies: Station #28 reported that they have met with a truck manufacturer and should have numbers in a few weeks. They will continue to meet with truck manufactures to see if they can do better on the prices.

Emmaus Library: the 4th annual Tee Time at the Library will begin on March 8th with adults only night and March 9th with family day. Tee Time décor has been completed by Eyer's 5th Grade Art Club and LMMS's Builders Club.

Recreation Commission: No Report

Township Manager:

Bud Carter – There was a PennDOT bridge inspection, and the recommendation has come in from the PennDOT inspector that we need to lower the weight limit on the Tollgate Road Bridge to 10 tons. Solicitor Fisher stated there needed to be an ordinance for that. He will draft one.

Supervisors:

Daniel J. Mohr – He asked how to change the name of Main Rd E. to Water Street. He said PennDOT will be out next week to look at the issues causing water on the road.

Angela Ashbrook – No Report

John D. Zgura – No Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION: - Not needed.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Chairman John D. Zgura

02/15/2024
Date

Secretary Jessi O'Donald