

Upper Milford Township
Board of Supervisors
Township Building, Old Zionsville, PA 18068
February 15th, 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

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:

Chamber of Commerce – Hayden Rinde and Sarah Yost introduced themselves and explained a bit about how the Chamber works and what they can help do within the Township. They thanked Bud for attending the Chamber meetings and the Board for having them here tonight.

Dan Mohr asked about a stage rental for the Vera Cruz Homecoming. The Chamber Reps said they are in the same spot and will let us know if they find a resource.

Phil Casey: Phil's comments this evening were about the Fire Companies and how they should be in the room each night if they are asking for millions of dollars. He has been to meetings for over 40 years and the Fire Companies have been self-sufficient with hoagie sales and Breakfast Fundraisers. He asked if they have given the Township budget information in the past. Phil then explained his thoughts on LST, EIT and Real Estate Taxes. Jessi was asked about the Budget information. Her response was that she has received two budgets from Station #28 through her years at the Township.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Approval of February 1st, 2024, Reorganizational and regular meeting minutes.

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to accept the February 1st, 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. **22828 to 22856** in the amount of **\$105,468.45**

STREET LIGHT FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7125 - Check No. **1401** in the amount of **\$3,085.84**

ESCROW FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7109 - Check No. **182** in the amount of **\$3,490.50**

OPEN SPACE REFERENDUM FUND:

PLGIT XXXX7146 - Check No. **1026** in the amount of **\$4,000.00**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BANK TRANSFERS:

Transfer No's. 2024-010 to 2024-015

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:

1.) Fire Company Funding Discussion

Supervisor Zgura stated he on February 3rd he asked the Fire Chiefs about getting hose information to the Township for the Local Shares Grant application. As of today, we do not have that information. He also had asked for numbers on the building that Station #19 is looking to build by February 9th and the Board hasn't seen those yet. The next ESC meeting is Wednesday February 21st at 7pm.

Secretary/Treasurer O'Donald explained the different tax streams. Local Services Tax (LST) is only paid to Upper Milford Township if you work within Upper Milford Township. It had been raised several years ago to the maximum allowed by law of \$52.00 per year. These funds can only be used for EMS, Fire and Roads. Upper Milford Funds EMS and Fire more than the revenue for the LST paid to Upper Milford Township. The Earned Income Tax (EIT) rate before the Open Space Referendum money is 1%. That 1% paid for EIT is split evenly between the Municipality and the School District. For every \$100,000.00 in earned income there is \$1000.00 paid in EIT taxes. \$500 comes to the Township. The average Real Estate Tax in Upper Milford is \$104.00. Real Estate Taxes are the only taxes a Municipality can increase.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Approval to Advertise for Seal Coat and Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course - Road Bids.
 - a. Memo from manager Carter

In preparation for the 2024 road work, I would like to ask the board's approval to advertise for the following: Sealcoat, approximately 39,600 sq. yards of signal application and 52,927 sq. yards of double application, below is the list of roads. Corning, Scout, Carl's Hill, Geissinger, Crown Lane, Williams, Woodlawn, Buhman, Lagler, Ridge, Ridge Extension, Batman Sell, and Martin Dr. Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course (Nova Chip) approximately 11,476 sq. yards with crack sealing, below is the list. Linda Ln, and Far View Court.

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to advertise for the 2024 road bids in accordance with Manager Carter's memo dated February 14th, 2024, as listed above. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 2.) ~~Resolution 2024-019 — Fields at Jasper Ridge Parking concerns~~
- 3.) Resolution 2024-020 – Budget Adjustment for German Road Culvert

Resolution 2024-020 makes the adjustment to the 2024 budget to add funds from the Money Market Saving to the General Fund to cover the projected cost for the German Road Culvert replacement per Jeff Ott's cost estimate from the February 1st meeting.

Supervisor Ashbrook asked what would happen if the cost would overrun. Treasurer O'Donald stated staff would have to ask for another adjustment if the line items would go over.

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-020 for the adjustment to the 2024 Budget to allow for the replacement of the German Rd Culvert. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no further questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

4.) Resolution 2024-021 – Updated Township Engineer Fee Schedule

Ott Consulting Inc added two new fee lines to their Fee Schedule for 2024. Resolution 2024-021 updates the Township's Engineers Resolution for 2024 with these two items.

MOTION: Supervisor Mohr made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-021 with the Updated fees for Ott Consulting Inc. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing now further

5.) House Bill 1976 – Discussion

Section 603 - In a municipality with a population over 5,000 as of the most recent census, the municipality shall allow as a permitted use multiple-unit dwellings and mixed-use developments that include multiple-unit dwellings on a parcel or lot that: (1) has a will-serve letter from both a municipal water system and a municipal sewer system; and (2) is located in a commercial zone. (n) Zoning regulations in municipalities meeting the requirements of subsection (m) may not include a requirement to provide more than: (1) one off-street parking space for each unit and accessible parking spaces as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336, 104 Stat. 327); or (2) an equivalent number of spaces required under paragraph (1) provided through a shared parking agreement.

Brian Miller discussed section 603 of House Bill 1976 and what it may mean for the Township. It was mentioned that the sponsors of this bill were from more heavily populated areas such as Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Solicitor Fisher stated he didn't think this legislation would pass in this state. There was a brief discussion, and it was noted that the Board of Supervisors directed staff to send a letter outlining the concerns about the requirement of less parking spaces per unit in an area such as our Township.

DEP MODULES / SEWAGE PLANNING: - None

PLANNING COMMISSION – OLD BUSINESS: - None

PLANNING COMMISSION – NEW BUSINESS: None

SUBDIVISIONS – IMPROVEMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1.) Request for Letter of Grant Support for Hival Und Dahl
 - a. Letter from Isabell Miller of Hival Und Dahl

There was a brief discussion about the cabin and Hival Und Dahl. Supervisor Zgura had attended the Preservation Society's meeting on February 5th where they asked if the Board of Supervisors would write a letter of Support for their grant application. The Society sent in a letter of request for the US Governments FY2024 Funding through the Appropriations Committee. They will be applying through Senator, Fetterman, Senator Casey and Rep. Wild's Offices.

MOTION: Supervisor Zgura made a motion to direct Staff to draft a letter of Support for the Hival Und Dahl Preservation Society's grant application. Supervisor Ashbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no further questions or comments, all were in favor, motion carried.

OTHER ISSUES: - None

REPORTS:

Emergency Services Committee Report: No Report

Township Emergency Management Coordinator: N/A

Emergency Services Call Report: Report on website

Fire Companies: No Report

Emmaus Library: No Report

Recreation Commission: Meeting Monday Feb. 19th at 7 pm.

Township Manager:

Bud Carter – The Engelman Development Traffic Study showed concern with the intersection at Indian Creek Road and Brookside. Since this is out of the Township, it would be beneficial for the Township to send a letter to PennDOT expressing that PennDOT take another look at the intersection along with the Traffic Study before the issuance of the Highway Occupancy Permit. The Board of Supervisors agreed.

Supervisors:

Daniel J. Mohr – 1.) Supervisor Mohr had someone report a near miss accident at the Vera Cruz/Main Rd intersection again. 2.) Chanel 69 rebroadcast a bit on the Vera Cruz Community Association. 3.) He reported that PennDOT was out to look at the problems along Main Road East. They did not move the trees out of the ditch.

Angela Ashbrook – Angela asked about the website as it is hard to navigate. Secretary O'Donald stated that website redesign is on the radar but has been talked about when the Zoning and SALDO update is complete to bring things up to the standard at that time.

John D. Zgura – No Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION: - Not needed.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Chairman John D Zgura

03/07/2024
Date

Secretary Jessi ODonald