

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AUGUST 11, 2011

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2011, in Freedom Hall, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Greg Waks, Edward McBride, Bill Jenaway, and Erika Spott. Also present were: Ron Wagenmann, Township Manager; Joseph Pizonka, Township Solicitor; Monica Wall, Township Engineer; Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager; and Angela Caramenico, Assistant to the Township Manager. Supervisor Bartlett was absent.

MEETING MINUTES:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting "Aye" to approve the July 14, 2011 and July 21, 2011 Business Meeting Minutes as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman McBride reported on an executive session dealing with litigation matters.

NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATION RE: BID LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS – REPLACE  
VEGETATION IN MEDIAN ISLANDS

Mr. Eric Goldstein, Executive Director, King of Prussia Business Improvement District (BID), discussed the median beautification plan on DeKalb Pike between Allendale Road and Henderson Road and First Avenue between North Gulph Road and Moore Road. He noted that the BID is a private non-profit organization funded by 262 commercial property owners in the district and the proposed improvements are funded entirely through corporate dollars.

Ms. Emma Johnson, architect with Lager Raabe Skafte Landscape Architects discussed the project in greater detail, including the planned plant pallet, during a PowerPoint presentation. She pointed out that plants were chosen for seasonal interest and would tolerate a tough, non-irrigated environment and exposure to salt and carbon dioxide.

Mr. McBride commended the Business Improvement District for their commitment and contribution to the township.

Because of previous demands on the public safety system, Mr. Jenaway asked for clarification about the use of mulch in the medians. Mr. Goldstein responded that while the beds will be mulched the density of the plant material will be such that by the third year the mulch will start to disappear as the plants grow and fill in the space. He pointed out that while none of the mulch products are non-flammable there are products that can be used that are less flammable and they will remain conscious of that and be as careful as possible.

Mr. Wagenmann asked about the tentative schedule. Mr. Goldstein responded that they are awaiting permit approvals, including Montgomery County Soil Conservation District. Assuming that permits are received within the next couple of weeks, it is planned to go out for bid by the end of August. Landscape

contractors will have two weeks to respond to the RFP's; and by mid to late September, the project should be able to go to immediate construction with plants going in the ground by late September through October and at the latest by the end of November the project should be completed.

#### CULTURAL FAIR COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Mr. Dan Russell, Park and Recreation Director, discussed the Upper Merion Cultural Fair which will be held along with the Community Fair and Farmers Market on Saturday, September 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. A PowerPoint presentation indicated that the fair will feature giveaways, cultural foods, cultural education pieces, games and entertainment. Various members of the Cultural Fair Committee were introduced including Chet Patel who first introduced the idea of a cultural event and he thanked the Board of Supervisors for their support. Residents interested in the Fair can get more information by calling the Park and Recreation Department.

Mr. McBride expressed appreciation to all the volunteers for their involvement and work in planning the cultural fair.

For the benefit of those watching the presentation at home, Mr. Waks asked how would those who would like to honor their particular heritage get involved and who would they contact. Chet Patel responded the best way to communicate is to send an email to [umcfc@googlegroups.com](mailto:umcfc@googlegroups.com) or call the Park and Recreation Department.

Mr. Jenaway asked when the next meeting of the Cultural Committee will be held. Chet Patel responded that the committee generally tries to meet every week or every other week usually on a Wednesday or Thursday. The google group website is used for scheduling and information purposes for the volunteers.

Mrs. Spott asked that the Cultural Fair be featured in the E-Newsletter along with the committee's email address as well as a link on the Park and Recreation website for those who may not be watching this presentation.

In closing, Mr. Russell thanked all the volunteers and reiterated the schedule for Saturday, September 10 and added that the "Big Red Run" to benefit the Mothers Club will also be held that day starting at 8 a.m.

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Equipment Replacement Request re: Replacement of Nine AED's - \$12,000
2. Resolution 2011-20 re: Automated Red Light Enforcement Grant – *Mr. Wagenmann explained that this grant is to add an automatic signal monitoring system for intersections starting with the entrance to the Court to the intersection where DeKalb cuts off into the Borough of Bridgeport. He noted currently there are two of these systems in place at the Gulph Road intersection and Mall Boulevard. TV cameras monitor the density of the traffic, the length of the queues and then independently act as part of an interconnected system to determine phasing of traffic signals. This will help improve throughput capacity down through the corridor. A study done at peak hours by the Traffic Engineer at the Gulph Road intersection indicated a 40% improvement in throughput.*

3. Waiver of Fees Request – Mother of Divine Providence - \$69.00

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Jenaway, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting “Aye” to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE BANK LOAN RE: ALLENDALE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Mr. Wagenmann stated that this loan would facilitate a project to replace and do immediate repairs to the Allendale Road Bridge in the area of the entrance to the Court. The Township will be eligible for federal and state bridge money and staff are working with state legislators to have this included in the “bridge bill.” Until then this Infrastructure Bank loan will expedite the bridge replacement project until state and federal grants can be pursued.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting “Aye” to approve the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank Loan. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

DIRT RECYCLER ON VALLEY FORGE ROAD

Mr. McBride commented on a dirt recycler on Valley Forge Road. The Township will be drafting a letter to residents in the area with an update explaining what has been done about the situation and what will be done in the future.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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RONALD G. WAGENMANN  
SECRETARY-TREASURER  
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: