

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 22, 2010

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, April 22, 2010, in Freedom Hall, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Greg Waks, Bill Jenaway, Joseph Bartlett, Edward McBride, and Erika Spott. Also present were: Ron Wagenmann, Township Manager; Joseph Pizonka, Esq., Township Solicitor, Rob Loeper, Township Planner, Russ Benner, Township Engineer, Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager, and Angela Caramenico, Assistant to the Township Manager.

MEETING MINUTES:

It was moved by Mr. McBride, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, to approve the March 25, 2010 Business Meeting Minutes as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Bartlett commented on Earth Day and urged residents to attend this Saturday's Earth Day celebration at 1 p.m. There will also be a Meet the Farmers event. Some of the vendors from the Farmers Market will be in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATION RE: WINNERS OF THE E-NEWSLETTER PROMOTION

Mr. H. David Rassbach, Chair, Media Communications Advisory Board, provided background on the E-Newsletter promotion sponsored by this advisory board and reported the success in doubling the subscribers. Subscribers were significantly increased by the Connect Ed email that was dispatched with the cooperation of the Upper Merion Area School District. Mr. Rassbach also acknowledged Mr. McBride's direction and guidance as the advisory board's Board liaison. The three prize winners for the raffle that promoted subscriptions were awarded their prizes. The first, second and third prize winners are Barbara Popek, Bob Bartsch, and Craig Ingram.

SWEARING IN OF DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL – WILLIAM DAYWALT, JR. BY DISTRICT JUSTICE JAMES GALLAGHER

Chief Fire Marshal John Waters stated that this ceremony is cause for celebration and represents Bill Daywalt's next step in his career in public safety. He provided biographical information on Mr. Daywalt, a lifelong resident of Upper Merion Township, and outlined his involvement in public safety, community activities and the numerous honors he has received from fire and civic organizations. William Daywalt, Jr. was then sworn in as Deputy Fire Marshal by District Justice James Gallagher.

PROCLAMATION RE: NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. McBride read the Proclamation for National Police Week designating May 15, 2010 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week of May 9 through 15, 2010 as National Police Week. Police Chief Ron Fonock, on behalf of all the men and women of the Upper Merion Police Department, expressed his appreciation to the Board of Supervisors for this recognition.

COMMENDATION RE: DETECTIVE LES GLAUNER – INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION AND OFFICERS SUSAN BEDNAR AND MARTIN MENAGO

Chief Fonock presented Police Department Commendations to the following:

A Commendation to Detective Les Glauner, Investigations Division: On December 21, 2009, the Cheltenham Township Police Department called to report a young woman who had been sexually assaulted in King of Prussia. Upper Merion Township Police responded to Abington Hospital and interviewed the victim who reported that the assault had occurred in the 700 block of West DeKalb Pike earlier in the evening. Detective Leslie Glauner was assigned the case and as a result of an aggressive and thorough investigation, he was able to identify the suspect, a 36 year old male, the next day. An arrest warrant was issued charging the suspect with Rape, Burglary and related offenses. On December 26, 2009, the suspect was arrested by Philadelphia police on the Upper Merion warrant. After a preliminary hearing on January 6, 2010 all criminal charges were held against the suspect and he was held for trial. In addition, Detective Glauner's continuing investigation revealed four more women who had been sexually assaulted by the suspect.

A Unit Commendation to Officers Susan Bednar and Martin Menago: On March 7, 2010, the Upper Merion Township Police Department received a phone call reporting a burglary in progress at an office building in the 300 block of South Gulph Road. The caller was a security officer who witnessed a male exit a white truck and kick in the door of a maintenance shed.

Officer Martin Menago responded and observed a white truck exiting the driveway to the office building and heading north on South Gulph Road. Officer Menago advised other responding units and attempted to stop the suspect's vehicle.

Officer Susan Bednar arrived in the area and joined Officer Menago in attempting to apprehend the burglary suspects. The white truck made a sudden turn onto Glen Arbor Court and several occupants jumped out and fled on foot. Officer Menago and Officer Bednar separately pursued two of the suspects and were able to take them into custody. Officers then searched the area and arrested a third suspect who was found hiding behind a fence. Officers checked the suspect's vehicle and recovered \$3,300 worth of stolen property from inside.

Citizen Commendation re: Mr. John Marx – Youth Aid Panel Member: In September of 2000, the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office invited all municipalities to join a Youth Aid Panel program as a means of raising community awareness and responsibility for their juveniles under the age of 18. The program links law enforcement agencies, community resources and trained community panelists in a joint effort to prevent future offenses by juveniles.

John Marx, a Township resident, volunteered to complete the 15 hour program training course along with other citizen volunteers to create four Upper Merion Township Youth Aid Panels. John also volunteered to become the Executive Chairperson of all four panels, working as the liaison between the panels, the police departments and Montgomery County District Attorney's

Office. Juveniles charged with offenses who are eligible for the Youth Aid Panel Program are referred by the police department's juvenile division. These juveniles and their families meet with panel members to determine an appropriate resolution for the youth's delinquent behavior. The panel and the juvenile sign a contract to complete educational activities, community service or restitution. Juveniles who successfully complete the contract will not have a court record, thereby giving them a "second chance."

Chief Fonock pointed out that John Marx has served as the Executive Chair for the past seven years and has managed over 700 referrals to the Youth Aid Panel.

CITIZEN APPRECIATION AWARD – MARK NOVITSKI

John Waters, Chief Fire Marshal, introduced Chief Mark Ross, King of Prussia Fire Company, who served as the incident commander of a rescue that occurred on April 1, 2010 in the Valley Forge National Historical Park. Chief Ross provided an overview of the unusual high-angle rescue scene after a pilot of an ultralight plane crashed into a tree top and the invaluable assistance rendered by Mark Novitski of MJN Tree Service.

Mr. Waters presented the Fire and Rescue Services Division Appreciation Award to Mark Novitski to gratefully recognize the assistance he rendered to our volunteer fire and emergency medical services personnel, at the high-angle rescue scene previously described.

Mr. Bartlett made special note of the fact that our well trained volunteer firefighters are often called upon to respond to various types of emergencies including but not limited to fires.

PROCLAMATION RE: RELAY FOR LIFE (MAY 21ST AND MAY 22ND)

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Mrs. Spott read and presented a proclamation to Barbara Choc in support of the 9th annual Relay for Life of Upper Merion to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of PA Auto Theft Task Force Agreement – (July 2010 to June 2011).
2. Resolution 2010-7 re: Arbor Day. *Mr. Bartlett read the resolution that proclaims April 30, 2010 as "Arbor Day" in the township.*
3. Residential Lease re: 670 North Henderson Road
4. Equipment Replacement Request re:
 - a. Replace Printers/PC's - \$10,000
 - b. Replace Major Components - \$33,000
 - c. Police – Phone/Radio Recorder - \$12,000
5. Supplemental Budget Appropriation for 2010 Budget re: Farmers Market - \$1,600. *Mrs. Spott commented that this item calls for an account to be set up for the Farmers Market, but wanted to clarify that because of the market fees and donations received to date, no loan from the township is required for startup.*
6. Resolution 2010-8 re: Adoption of Revised By-Laws by Montgomery County Consortium of Communities

7. Approval re: Change Order #1 – Business Improvement District

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. McBride, seconded by Mr. Waks, all voting “Aye” to approve the Consent Agenda, as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

FOUR LEAF ENERGY, INC. – COMMERCIAL PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Mr. Ron Wagenmann, Township Manager, stated that this is an agreement with Four Leaf Energy, Inc. to install capacitors that work in conjunction with the motors at the wastewater treatment plants. As a result of their technical capacity it saves anywhere from 2 ½ to 5 percent of the energy. This purchase has been reviewed by the engineer for the Authority as well as the Township Solicitor. The staff is recommending purchase of the units from this particular company and it is estimated it would be about a four to five year pay back as a result of the savings.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. McBride, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting “Aye” to approve the commercial purchase agreement as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

COMVERGE, INC. – ENERGY AGREEMENT

Mr. Wagenmann explained that the township would take part in a controlled energy program for the sewer plants. This is no cost to the township. He noted that if the tests are successful the township would realize certain rewards for being in the program.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Spott, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting “Aye” to approve the energy agreement as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

CONSTELLATION ENERGY SUPPLY AGREEMENT

Mr. Wagenmann stated that as of next year PECO will no longer be in the energy generation business. It will be open to a competitive market and the township must find a provider. Mr. Wagenmann explained that through the Municipal Utility Alliance of the Pennsylvania League of Cities of which the township is a member, Constellation Electric was selected as a company in their program that would bid the electricity. Constellation was asked to provide a bid for Upper Merion Township’s energy needs. Mr. Wagenmann noted that the street lights are not included in the proposal, but it does cover all of the accounts with meters that the township has including the wastewater plants. This electrical source will be competitive and Constellation’s bid ranges from 12 months to 48 months. Mr. Wagenmann pointed out that this is a very good time to go out to bid for some of the lowest prices.

Mr. Bartlett commented that this is a way to save money and energy and after consulting with the other supervisors it was agreed to go with the four year rate.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting “Aye” to approve the energy supply agreement with the four year rate. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

DVIT HEALTHCARE PROPOSAL

Mr. Fred Santoro, Human Resources Director, stated that the proposal is to switch from self-insurance administered by Amerihealth to health care from the Delaware Valley Investment Trust. There will be no change in benefits and the costs will be lower than the current plan.

Mr. Steve Fallon, Benefit Consultant for the Delaware Valley Health Insurance Trust was accompanied by Trust Administrator, Anna Linn. He explained that the Trust was formed 12 years ago by municipalities in Southeastern Pennsylvania as a way to control the rising cost of health care by forming a self insured municipal pool. It started with 16 municipalities covering a little over 1,000 employees to where there are now 64 municipalities covering over 4,000 employees under the plan.

Mr. Bartlett asked if the township was getting same or better health coverage for less money. Mr. Fallon responded in the affirmative. He said it was primarily through administrative efficiencies by economies of scale. By bringing the collective memberships of 64 municipalities, pooling that risk and spreading the administrative expenses over 4,000 lives, it is significantly cheaper than trying to do it for 250 employees.

Mr. McBride asked for clarification about DVIT’s wellness program. Mr. Fallon responded that it is critical to not only take care of someone after they have become ill, but also to prevent them from becoming ill and developing serious medical conditions. He noted that the township has a comprehensive wellness program that will be integrated with DVIT’s offering. Mr. Fallon described several benefits such as paying \$100 for employees and spouses to get a routine physical once a year. He noted it is voluntary. If there is a diagnosis with any of the five conditions being targeted: obesity, smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes, DVIT will pay for educational programs. Their women’s health program pays \$100 for taking care of being proactive with mammography and cervical screening. The colonoscopy program pays members \$150 to be proactive.

Mrs. Spott commented that as long as township employees receive the same or better coverage it would be a good thing.

Mr. Jenaway asked if there was only one proposal under consideration. Mr. Santoro responded in the affirmative. He said that after trying numerous times with various independent health agencies in the almost 12 years that he has been administering the township’s health care program this is the first time that anyone has provided a proposal that would match current benefit levels.

Mr. Jenaway asked if any other pools were tried. Mr. Fallon stated there are other pools that operate in the state of Pennsylvania, but there are no other pools that are in Montgomery and Bucks County. He indicated that there are some pools in Southeastern Pennsylvania that operate on the very fringes of Chester County, but there is no other program that would provide guaranteed fixed cost to the township with a network that will deliver a 94% network overlap with the existing provider network. Mr. Fallon stated that while there are competing pools, they are using inferior networks such as United Health Care and DVIT does not have any competition in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Jenaway asked if there is a reason the one primary carrier [Aetna] was chosen over others that might provide similar networks. Mr. Fallon responded that there are two primary health insurance providers in Southeastern Pennsylvania – Independence Blue Cross and Aetna. He explained that when DVIT was first started it was envisioned to offer both networks; however, Independence Blue Cross is not interested in offering or participating in a program where the municipalities own and control the delivery of health care. They much prefer keeping each individual municipality on their own where they can set the rates, terms and conditions. While United Health Care is trying to break into the market they are not as competitive as Independence Blue Cross or Aetna consequently there are only three. Cigna does not have a significant middle market presence in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Jenaway asked if claims management is DVIT or township responsibility. Mr. Fallon responded that Aetna is contracted for claims administration and network access, but given the fact that the Trust is a self-funded municipal pool ultimate authority rests with the municipal member and the Trust. Aetna does not have ultimate authority over claim decisions. Mr. Fallon noted that DVIT has a 95% member retention rate with member municipalities that have very demanding employee memberships. He said if DVIT had a pattern of denying claims they would not be able to retain and grow the membership to the extent that it has. Mr. Fallon stated that DVIT has custom designed benefits for every municipal member; employees are not only going to experience no disruption in their benefits, but they are actually going to experience improved customer service by having localized representatives in the DVIT office in Willow Grove as an interface between themselves and the much larger insurance company.

Mr. Jenaway asked how preexisting condition issues are handled, particularly with police officers, fire department personnel, EMS personnel and public works crews. Mr. Fallon responded that there are no preexisting condition exclusions. He said that anyone who is covered today will be covered as of whatever effective date the township decides. With regard to serious ongoing medical conditions, Mr. Fallon indicated that DVIT has members who have joined while in the middle of serious medical treatments, transplants, etc. and DVIT works with those members on a one on one basis. He said that Anna Linn and her staff make sure there are not any problems.

Mr. Jenaway said he will hold Mr. Fallon to that should there be a preexisting condition issue that develops.

Mr. Jenaway asked for clarification about some of the figures that the Board was provided on the high end on the potential cost of this program. If those maximum ends are reached it is his assumption then that the municipality is going to have to provide that type of funding back. He asked at what time frames and at what thresholds do those types of expectations enter into play. Mr. Fallon said the township would be leaving the type of arrangement where those types of upside risks exist and joining a program where costs are fixed.

Mr. Jenaway followed up by saying that is not the explanation he received last week. Mr. Fallon said while he was not present last week, he would be pleased to address the issue. He explained that the Trust provides a fixed rate that is guaranteed for a year. In this case it would be guaranteed for the period July 1 through December 31 [2010]. The expiring self insured program was one where there was no cost certainty. There were expected claim levels and an aggregate attachment point with a 25% corridor between expected and maximum claims. Mr. Fallon said one of the advantages to joining this program is that cost will be fixed.

Mr. Jenaway asked for confirmation that there is no aggregate. Mr. Fallon responded in the affirmative. He said that when you join the pool the economies of scale leverage the efficiencies.

Mr. Jenaway commented that if a pool loses money on some significant high claims somewhere on the line that comes back to us. Mr. Fallon responded that after 12 years DVIT has established reserve levels comparable to those of Independence Blue Cross and carries reserves of six months worth of claims. He noted that fairly conservative surplus levels have also been established and offered to provide a copy of the auditors reports. Mr. Fallon stated that given the current membership size and the credibility of claims based on the work of DVIT's actuaries it is unlikely to foresee where one or two or even a handful of claims would have an impact that would cause them to have to come back to the members and ask for more money.

Mr. Wagenmann commented that the township's Health and Welfare Appeals Committee will stay in place and if there is any dissatisfaction an appeal may still be made.

Mr. Jenaway asked for clarification of the term of the policy. Mr. Wagenmann responded that the term is from July 1 to the end of the year and then it would be on an annual basis thereafter so that it coincides with the township's budget.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. McBride, seconded by Mr. Waks, all voting "Aye" to approve the DVIT Healthcare proposal as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

DISCUSS THE RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE COMMUNITY CENTER RFP

Mr. Wagenmann stated that the township has a commitment from State Senator Leach for a \$15,000 grant to assist in funding the hiring of a consultant. The \$15,000 would be combined with the already received \$10,000 to provide \$25,000 for this particular study.

Mr. Dan Russell, Director, Park and Recreation, stated that subsequent to Board approval to move forward with the request for the RFP his department received two quotes for consultants. The community center subcommittee reviewed both proposals and it is proposed to hire Ballard King and Associates for the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Russell pointed out that Ballard King completed studies in several townships in Pennsylvania. He noted that the study will consist of five major bullet points:

- public participation
- usage of the facility (what the facility consists of)
- utilization analysis of the facility
- site selection
- business plan and financial feasibility including capital costs, operations costs, project debt service and revenues needed to generate the facility.

Mr. Russell indicated that the Board is being requested tonight for a vote to move forward to hire Ballard King & Associates to complete the study and work hand in hand with the subcommittee toward completion.

Board Comment:

Mrs. Spott commented that she recalled a few years ago the Board told many residents that before they would consider having a community center in Upper Merion they would want to determine if it was feasible. She said that many people have worked hard to figure out what the next step should be. Preliminary information was obtained from residents and the subcommittee was formed and more work was done. Mrs. Spott and a very informed and involved resident worked to obtain the \$10,000 grant that the township already has that is set to expire in June if it is not used. Additional efforts have been made primarily by volunteers in the community to secure the additional \$15,000 from Senator Leach. Mrs. Spott said that this issue has been advanced to the point as requested by the prior Board and it should now move forward.

Mr. Jenaway stated that both he and Mr. Waks served on the committee that was responsible for evaluating the community center and its potential operations. As they worked through the preliminary analytical process a point was reached where additional expertise was needed by those consultants in this field. Mr. Jenaway pointed out that this is required as the next step to validate that we are on the right path in the best interests of Upper Merion Township.

Mr. Waks commented that he wanted to make it perfectly clear that no township funds will be required for this study. He noted that the \$10,000 grant which the township already received was facilitated by Senator Williams and the next \$15,000 comes from a grant being facilitated by Senator Leach.

Mr. McBride stated that he has previously indicated that he did not want any township dollars used for the feasibility study. He said he is prepared to vote in favor of this study since it will not involve taxpayer dollars from Upper Merion Township.

Mr. Bartlett stated that he had previously expressed concerns about the need to obtain enough information to determine what the residents want. After receiving input from his colleagues it is his understanding that will be part of the RFP responsibility.

Public Comment:

Ms. Joan Kellet, King of Prussia, expressed appreciation for the unanimous Board support for the study. She asked questions about the time constraints and site selections, and these issues were addressed by Mrs. Spott and Mr. Russell.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting "Aye" to spend up to \$25,000 on the feasibility study [by Ballard King and Associates] for a Community Center. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

MINOR PLAN RE: JOHN MIDDLETON, CO. DEVELOPMENT PLAN. 418 WEST CHURCH ROAD. CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING ADDITION (3,196 SQ. FT.) AND SEVERAL ACCESSORY STRUCTURES, INCLUDING AN ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMER PAD, A SECURITY BOOTH BUILDING (48 SQ. FT.). A 96 SQ. FT. PORTION OF THE EXISTING PRINCIPAL BUILDING WILL BE REMOVED SO THAT THE NET INCREASE IN BUILDING COVERAGE AT THE SITE WILL BE 4,998 SQ. FT. NO NET INCREASE IN IMPERVIOUS. 7.45 ACRES, LI. *Plan expiration: June 8, 2010*

Utilizing the aerial, Mr. Rob Loeper, Township Planner, pointed out the location of the John Middleton Company located at 418 West Church Road adjacent to the Valley Forge Memorial Gardens. He stated that this was one of the first industrial sites developed in the township in 1959. The facility is occupied by an 89,000 square foot main building, a smaller water storage building, a fuel oil storage building and has impervious coverage of about 42.9 percent of the site.

Mr. Loeper explained that the plan that Middleton is proposing includes several components. Because of the location of the site, Middleton appeared before the Zoning Hearing Board and received various forms of relief including a minimum front yard setback (40 feet required, 29 feet proposed for the small 48 foot guard house). The applicant also received a variance for the required parking (188 required, 134 proposed). Mr. Loeper explained that with certain types of equipment the applicant can justify having fewer spaces than would normally be required by code. Mr. Loeper pointed out that if the applicant required additional parking that could be provided. The applicant also obtained a special exception to permit improvements within 150 feet of a residential district.

The main improvements include a 3,196 square foot building addition, an 1,800 square foot boiler house, a transformer pad and a small security structure. They will also be relocating some loading docks and other storage areas on the site. There will be no increase in impervious coverage. A small portion of an existing building will be removed and some impervious area will be eliminated in order to stay within the current 42.9% impervious coverage. Other improvements include the installation of security fencing around the entire site.

The one site issue that has not been resolved relates to the existing drainage swale that flows across the adjacent property and then onto the Middleton site. Mr. Loeper noted that this is an older area of the township where some of the older development does not have stormwater management in the modern sense. He pointed out that West Church Road is a state road and there are stormwater improvements on portions of that road. Utilizing the aerial, Mr. Loeper indicated the location and direction of where much of the water gets discharged. The adjacent owner has expressed concern that the installation of the security fencing could result in the accumulation of debris resulting in drainage and flooding problems. Mr. Loeper indicated that he has discussed this issue with the attorney for Middleton and they have indicated that they are willing to work with the township to resolve this issue.

Staff has reviewed the plans, found them to comply with township codes, and will provide formal approval pending comment from the Board of Supervisors with the following condition:

The applicant will devise a stormwater plan to allow the safe flow of stormwater across the property line without causing harm to the upstream neighbor and the Township Engineer must approve the solution.

Ross Weiss, representing John Middleton Company, accepted the condition.

With no objection from the Board of Supervisors the minor plan may proceed with the stated condition.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL:

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Jenaway, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting “Aye” to approve the Accounts Payable [for invoices processed from March 15, 2010 to April 10, 2010, in the amount of \$1,141,689.81] and the Payroll [for March 5 and March 19, 2010 in the amount of \$1,182,305.13 for a total of \$2,323,994.94]. None opposed. Motion passed 5-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

SEWER LIENS

Mr. McBride remarked on the move to lien the properties of residents and businesses who have not paid their sewer fees. He noted that some have paid but the next step will be to seek a judgment. Mr. Wagenmann indicated that if there is a significant hardship contact should be made with the township so that a payment plan can be worked out with a set interest rate.

PSATS CONVENTION

Mr. Jenaway reported on the recent PSATS annual conference for elected officials also attended by Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Wagenmann. Mr. Jenaway and Mr. Wagenmann were both presenters at that conference on different topics. He indicated that it was important to note that communities throughout the Commonwealth looked to Upper Merion for speakers to present approaches to solving problems.

Another important aspect of the conference was the opportunity to listen to the issues other officials face throughout the Commonwealth. Such items as insurance coverages related to employees, workers compensation programs, and land development programs are pertinent to issues faced every day in municipalities throughout the Commonwealth. Mr. Jenaway pointed out that the information exchange was extremely beneficial and will be shared with other Upper Merion Township officials in order to better serve the township.

From the Public:

Steve Mullen, South Gulph Road, asked about plans to open up Renaissance Boulevard to go through Crooked Lane. *Mr. Wagenmann informed him that the township is awaiting a traffic report on the situation. Mr. Jenaway also reported that subsequent to the last Board of Supervisors meeting a meeting was held among emergency responders relative to the construction site. He noted that they are looking at establishing an interactive communications system, similar to the one that was provided during the Route 309 project, so that residents could have regular access to construction project updates.*

Armand Pace, South Gulph Road, asked about any change in status of the project along that road. *Mr. Wagenmann told him that there is no change in status. A meeting was currently being organized to look at the entire stretch of road.*

Mr. Roland Urbano, King of Prussia, asked if the township would provide a tax exempt status for veterans. *He was told that the township cannot arbitrarily decide to give credits toward real estate taxes and can only do what the state law allows when it comes to taxation.*

Anne Pace, South Gulph Road, expressed concern about the water company work at night. *Mr. Wagenmann responded that PennDOT is being requested to notify the township when scheduling nighttime work and send out letters to residents in such situations.*

Kevin Katarnynick, Vice President, King of Prussia Volunteer Fire Company, read a letter in response to a charge that the company operated a catering business on township property. The property belongs to the fire company, not the township and the facility is fully sanctioned by the state and the county. The funds from the service go towards supporting fire company operations. *Following Mr. Katarynick's reading of the letter, Mr. Waks said it is very important for the Board, and more importantly for members of the community, to hear his perspective on this matter.*

Board Comment:

Mrs. Spott offered heartfelt words of remembrance about Ida Micucci, her beloved neighbor, longtime King of Prussia resident and former Upper Merion Township receptionist who passed away this week. It was also noted that the Township honored the memory of Ida by lowering the flag half-staff. Donations in her honor may be made to Spay and Save, Inc., an animal welfare organization.

Following Mrs. Spott's tribute, everyone observed a moment of silence for Ida Micucci.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

RONALD G. WAGENMANN
SECRETARY-TREASURER
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered:

The entire proceedings of the business transacted by the Board at this Business Meeting were fully recorded on audio tape, and all documents submitted in connection thereto are on file and available for public inspection. This is not a verbatim account of the minutes, as the tape is the official record and is available for that purpose.