

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
APRIL 19, 2018

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2018, 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, Greg Philips, Carole Kenney and Erika Spott. Also present were: David Kraynik, Township Manager; Sally Slook, Assistant Township Manager; Joe McGrory, Township Solicitor, Rob Loeper, Township Planner; Tom Beach, Township Engineer; and Angela Caramenico, Assistant to the Township Manager. Supervisor Bill Jenaway was absent.

MEETING MINUTES:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the March 22, 2018 Business Meeting Minutes and the April 5, 2018 Zoning Workshop Minutes as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Philips stated an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and potential litigation.

NEW BUSINESS

SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER, SEAN BRYSON, BY DISTRICT JUDGE GREGORY SCOTT

Police Chief Tom Nolan stated in February 2017 the Upper Merion Township Police Department began a recruitment campaign in order to fill a number of expected vacancies in the department due to retirements and restructuring. This recruitment effort took place at college campuses throughout the tri-state area and resulted in 232 applicants for the position of police officer in Upper Merion Township. Chief Nolan stated the Upper Merion Police Department has set very high standards for candidates to meet before they are considered for hire with the department. The Board of Supervisors approved the addition of two officers to the police force in the 2018 police department budget.

Chief Nolan introduced and provided background information for the newest police officer from this eligibility list, Sean Bryson, who was sworn in by District Judge Gregory Scott. This new hire will bring the police force to its full complement as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Philips expressed best wishes to Officer Bryson for a successful career in law enforcement.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Equipment Replacement Requests:
  - a. Public Works Highway Department – Replace Vehicle, Unit 423 – Small Pickup Truck; \$33,100
  - b. Public Works Highway Department – Replace Unit 454 Leaf Vacuum - \$57,595
  - c. Police Department – Replace Police Vehicles #13, #14; Addition of Vehicles #7 and #8 - \$131,674

- d. Police Department – Replace In-Car Camera System (Watchguard) - \$125,690
  - e. Administration TV Services – Replace UMGA TV Equipment - \$10,500
  - f. Administration PIO Office – Addition of three unit cubicle system - \$5,000
2. Professional Services Contract – Township Building Park Pond Dredging & Restoration Project, Design and Construction Management Engineering Services; ATC Services Group, Inc.; \$19,600.00
  3. Professional Services Contract – 2018 Road Resurfacing Program – DAWOOD Engineers; - \$46,300.00
  4. Professional Services Contract – 2018-20 HVAC Service Contract – A.Q.M. Inc. \$39,772.50
  5. Resolution No. 2018-27 – Disposition of Township Personal Property at Auction (Ford Dump Truck w/Spreader - \$7,500)
  6. Resolution No. 2018-28 – Disposition of Township Property (computer equipment)
  7. PA DCNR Grant Application Resolution re: Upper Merion Parks Rehabilitation; (Bob White Park, Swedeland Park and UMT Township Building Park) \$300,000
  8. Resolution No. 2018-29 – Bartaco KOP, Liquor License Transfer; Amended Address – 160 N. Gulph Road, Suite C110, King of Prussia, PA
  9. Authorization for Solicitor to Sign Settlement Stipulation re: Devon Park Assessment Appeal
  10. 2017 Road Program Change Order #1 – Deduct \$111,491.88 for First Avenue Road Diet; General Asphalt Paving Company
  11. Request for Homestead Exemption - \$156.00
  12. Bid Recommendation re: 2018-2019 Montgomery County Consortium Vehicle Fuel Contract to Riggins, Inc.

Board Action:

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

SUBDIVISION PLAN 2017-06 – AMENDED PLAN: 504 WOOD STREET, ALSO KNOWN AS 500 COATES LANE; 8 UNIT TOWNHOUSES. APPROVED 12/10/2009. Plan Expiration 4/30/18, Resolution 2018-22

Mr. Rob Loeper, Township Planner, stated Wood Street is a paper street and is also known as 500 Coates Lane. The 1.29 acre property, zoned R-3, is currently occupied by a single family dwelling and a two-family dwelling. The subdivision was originally approved in 2009 (the Eugene Battisto plan) for 8 single family attached residences with rear entry garages, a common driveway to the rear of the property, additional parking and underground stormwater provisions.

Mr. Loeper indicated this is the same plan with a few exceptions. Utilizing the aerial, he pointed out the 8 townhomes with basement level garages in the rear with access on a side driveway. One of the plan changes is that the

garages are all two-car garages with two-car driveways and additional parking in the rear. The original plan had single garages and single driveways.

The other change on the plan is the buildings have a varied front yard setback to provide some architectural design and common walkways up to two units while the other plan had walkways up to four units.

Since the plan was approved in 2009, significant changes were made to stormwater management.

Mr. Philips asked if the stormwater management has been updated to the current code. Mr. Loeper responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Philips asked for more details about the stormwater system previously proposed in 2008. Mr. Loeper responded it was basically a similar system, but the standards have all changed including more standards for clean water and the use of Best Management Practices (BMP's) to comply with the new DEP regulations.

Mr. Philips asked for further clarification about the BMP's being utilized. Mr. Loeper responded the underground storage is located under the parking area in the rear of the parcel. There are manholes for clean outs which discharge into Frog Run. Nick Vastardis, Vastardis Consulting Engineers, discussed the BMP's. He said jellyfish water quality technology will filter out sediment and trash and the stormwater will flow into the regular basin. There are also some raingarden elements up front to clean the water there.

Mr. Philips asked if there were any drawings of the jellyfish system; it was pointed out on the aerial.

Mr. Waks asked for an explanation of the jellyfish technology. Mr. Vastardis responded it is a \$25,000 manhole that purifies the water to today's standards.

Mr. Philips asked who would provide maintenance for the filters in the jellyfish unit. Mr. Vastardis responded the homeowners association would be responsible for maintenance.

Mrs. Kenney asked if changing the design from a one-car to a two-car garage changes the percentage of pervious versus impervious in the project. Mr. Loeper responded in the negative. He said it is the same basic building. Mr. Tom Beach, Township Engineer, noted the driveway probably expanded slightly on the impervious coverage, but was compensated by the design of the stormwater management, including the jellyfish system. Mr. Beach indicated Operation & Maintenance (O&M) agreements are required to be submitted to the township as part of the land development.

Mr. Philips asked for additional clarification about the O&M agreements. Mr. Loeper responded DEP is now requiring O&M agreements which provide the township with more "teeth" to ensure stormwater management facilities are maintained.

Mr. McGrory commented the O&M is recorded against the property, runs with the land and obligates all future owners. He explained this would be a lien and the HOA would do a special assessment to pay for it.

Mr. Waks asked about the construction timeline and the potential price point for these units. Response: construction will start in the September/October time frame with expected delivery summer 2019. The units will have a price point of \$399,000 to start.

Mr. McGrory asked if the applicant is in agreement with the resolution. Mr. Ed Hughes, representing the applicant, responded in the affirmative.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting "Aye" to approve Resolution 2018-22. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

CONDITIONAL USE HEARING: MAO ZHU ZENG; 155 HUGHES ROAD. RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION 2-LOTS, 1 EXISTING DWELLING, 3.15 ACRES, R-1A.

Mr. Joseph McGrory, Township Solicitor, opened the hearing and introduced into the Record the following exhibits: Board Exhibit #1, the application itself received by the Township on November 18, 2017; Board Exhibit #2, the legal notice of conditional use hearing; Board Exhibit #3, the Proof of Publication in the *Times Herald* dated April 6 and April 12, 2018; Board Exhibit #4, Proof of Township Planning Commission review on January 10, 2018; Board Exhibit #5, Proof of Submission and Review by the County Planning Commission on December 18, 2017; Board Exhibit #6, affidavit of Posting of the Parcel subject to hearing from the Township Associate Planner attesting parcel was posted on April 6, 2018; Board Exhibit #7, letters to the property owners regarding the hearing.

Mr. McGrory called upon the applicant to present her case.

Landon Woodward, land surveyor, and Mao Zhu Zeng, property owner, were sworn in as witnesses.

Mr. Woodward stated in this zone a flag lot is allowed as a conditional use for approval by the Board of Supervisors and Mao Zhu Zeng is planning a flag lot. The existing home will be the flag lot and the new lot will be in the front. Both lots will utilize the same driveway. Mr. Landon said it is very common in this neighborhood to have a flag lot rather than a regular lot.

Mr. McGrory stated under § 165-219.6 it calls for flag lots to be approved by conditional use and lists sections A thru H associated with the conditions necessary to prove conditional use for a flag lot.

Mr. McGrory asked if the flag lot has an access to a public street having a width of not less than 15 feet and no more than 25 feet. Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory asked if the lot area of the flag lot is 1 ½ times the minimum lot area required for the zoning district in which it is located and shall not include the area located in the access strip. Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory asked if the flag lot contains an access strip which extends through or beyond more than one tier of lots. It is required to only go through one tier of lots. Mr. Woodward responded, "it is just one."

Mr. McGrory stated a maximum of 2 lots may be stacked provided at least one lot shall have frontage to a public street equal to the minimum required lot width for the district. The remaining lot may share a common driveway, provided there are reciprocal cross easements and maintenance agreements. Mr. McGrory asked if that is the case. Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory asked if the lots share a common driveway. Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory asked if it is correct that the front yard of the flag lot shall be the rear lot line of the front lot. Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory asked if it can be satisfied that the front yard of the flag lot shall be increased 10 feet from the minimum front yard in the underlying district. Mr. Woodward responded, "I believe so...I believe it is 60 instead of the 50."

Mr. McGrory asked if it can be demonstrated that the proposed driveway meets the requirements for a minimum use driveway as established by PennDOT. Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory referred to the more general standards of the conditional use in Section 165-219.1, subsection B, items (1) thru (8) and asked if Mr. Woodward has reviewed those items (1) thru (8). Mr. Woodward responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory asked if items (1) thru (8) have been satisfied. Mr. Woodward responded, "I believe so."

Mr. McGrory asked Mao Zhu Zeng if she is the legal owner of the subject property. Mao Zhu Zeng responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Philips asked how long the property owner has under the code to develop the severed lot – the one creating the flag lot and closest to the street. Mr. McGrory asked if there is an expiration for conditional uses. Mr. Loeper responded in the affirmative. He said there is a time limitation indicating the building permit must be obtained within a year and it is possible to obtain an extension for another year.

Mr. Philips asked Mao Zhu Zeng if she is aware and will accept the fact that if approval is granted she has two years to do something with the property otherwise she would have to come back and ask for another conditional use approval. Mao Zhu Zeng responded in the affirmative.

Mr. McGrory commented he would encourage the Board of Supervisors to consider changing the code for conditional uses, special exceptions and variances. He said he would equate it to the Municipalities Planning Code which provides five years from the date of preliminary to make it a five-year time period so it matches up with land development approval.

Hearing and seeing no further comment from the Board and public Mr. McGrory adjourned the conditional use hearing and reconvened into the public meeting portion of the agenda. Mr. McGrory stated the Board of Supervisors has up to 45 days to render a decision. If the Board approves the conditional use tonight it is not the final decision. The final decision is when the Board of Supervisors signs a written decision, the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law that will be sent to the property owner. Anything that is done until the property owner has the written decision and the 30-day appeal period has expired would be done at the property owner's own risk. Mr. McGrory emphasized it is 30 days from the written decision that the appeal period will expire.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the Conditional Use. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

SUBDIVISION PLAN 2018-01 NDR BUILDERS, LLC; 179 REBEL HILL ROAD; 2 LOT SUBDIVISION WITH ONE EXISTING DWELLING; 0.63 ACRES, R2 RESIDENTIAL; *Plan Expiration: 4/28/18, Resolution No: 2018-31*

Mr. Loeper stated Rebel Hill is one of the older neighborhoods in the township with several non-conforming structures which were built prior to zoning.

Utilizing the aerial, Mr. Loeper pointed out the location of the 0.63 acre parcel on Rebel Hill Road with an existing single family dwelling on the left portion of the property and the area of the lot for the new dwelling. The proposal is to create a second lot and a new dwelling. Lot #1 with the existing dwelling would be 10,565 square feet; Lot #2 (new lot) would be 15,113 square feet.

The applicant is proposing a single family dwelling with an underground detention system in the front that is designed so the stormwater is collected and carried into an existing inlet. This property will be connected to sanitary sewer.

A structure on the rear of the property will be demolished.

The applicant applied to the Zoning Hearing Board for zoning relief and was granted variances for dimensional, aerial width, front yard setbacks, and steep-slope regulations. The first part of the zoning relief was to permit a lot of 10,565 square feet as opposed to 15,000 square feet. The reason for the relief was this property contains steep slopes and has an average slope in excess of 15%. Under the steep slope ordinance the underlying minimum lot size of 10,000 square feet is increased by 50% to 15,000 square feet; however, the second lot, is 15,565 and does comply. Lot #2 has zoning relief to permit a reduced front yard setback of 11.75 feet as opposed to 30 feet. Many of the older properties are built close to the road.

The relief was also granted for Lot #2 to permit construction of the dwelling within areas of steep slope.

Mr. Loeper noted conditions that gutter caps are to be installed on all gutters and the development shall conform to the testimony and exhibits presented to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Utilizing the aerial, Mr. Loeper pointed out the plan shows two offset parking spaces which will be an easement for parking spaces for Lot #1 which will actually be located on Lot #2. Because of steep slopes and most of the other conditions in this area there is not a lot of parking. Lot #2 will have the required parking with the driveway and garage as per code.

Mr. McGrory asked if the applicant is in agreement with the conditions of the resolution. Mr. Bradford R. Grauel, representing the applicant, responded he has reviewed the resolution with the applicant and they are both in agreement.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting "Aye" to approve Resolution 2018-31. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-04 REALEN/TOLL/VR-6; 575 S. GODDARD BOULEVARD, 60 UNIT RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM, 2.13 ACRES, VILLAGE AT VALLEY FORGE, Plan Expiration: 5/23/18, Resolution 2018-32

Mr. Loeper stated 575 S. Goddard Boulevard is currently a vacant 2.13 acre lot in the Village at Valley Forge. Toll Brothers is proposing a 60 unit, 5-level residential condominium with parking as well as some parking under the building. There will be one, two and three bedroom condos.

Utilizing the aerial, Mr. Loeper pointed out the location of the new development and various features of the surrounding area including the CHOP facility and retail. The units will have all the amenities that have been shown for the Village at Valley Forge. A rendering of the architecture of the building from various angles was shown. The plan has been reviewed by the Township Engineer in accordance with provisions of the settlement agreement.

Mr. Philips asked about the price points for the condominiums. John Dean, Vice President for Land Acquisition, Toll Brothers, responded pricing has yet to be established, but will probably be from the low \$300,000 to \$600,000 depending upon size and bedroom.

Mrs. Kenney asked how many parking spaces would come with each condo and if any of the parking spaces are optional. Paul Fry, Manager, Realen Properties, responded this project is based on the old settlement agreement bedroom count. It was noted Toll Brothers will build 117 parking spaces for 60 units providing almost two spaces per unit. Thirty-six (36) of these spaces are underneath the building for the more expensive units and will be part of the sale of the units. In response to Mrs. Spott's request at the previous workshop meeting, Mr. Fry indicated he had a conference call with Police Chief Tom Nolan as to how parking would be managed. Mr. Fry indicated there will be a manager on site full-time. There will also be placards placed on the windshield that will help with parking control.

Mrs. Kenney followed up and said her question was not so much about the number of spaces, but if the spaces would come with the condo rather than on an optional basis. Mr. Dean responded each unit will get a minimum of one space and some units will have an option to purchase additional spaces.

Mrs. Kenney said her point was if two people have two cars it is still optional to get the second space. She asked why it is not possible to automatically give people with two bedrooms two spaces and adjust the price accordingly.

Mr. Philips commented the ordinance calls for the number of parking spaces per bedroom. He said the real issue is a two bedroom condo requires two spaces and should be part of the sale price for the condo. Mr. Fry responded the developer is presenting a 60-unit condo that complies with the settlement agreement in building the required parking and this is how they want to market the property.

Mr. Philips pointed out while the settlement agreement is being met in terms of the amount of spaces provided, from a practical standpoint the intent of the code is not being met which is every bedroom has one space.

Mrs. Spott asked Chief Nolan to provide his comments based on his discussion with Mr. Fry on the parking matter. Chief Nolan responded his discussion was specifically about the front open parking lot and how it was going to be regulated. He said he was told they had a plan in place so that police would not be regulating who is in what parking space and it would be done by management through the placard system.

Mrs. Spott said one space is provided with the unit and the second parking space would require the purchase of a placard. Mr. Fry commented a placard would be also be provided for the first parking space.

Mrs. Spott pointed out if someone does not want to buy the placard for a second car they will park where the retail is and the available spaces at the condo would go unused.

Mr. Fry stated the private community will be properly posted with "no parking" signs within the retail town center as well as on the streets. Mrs. Spott asked if management will be policing that area every day. Mr. Fry responded in the affirmative. He said there is an entire system in place where apartment residents are notified there is no parking on the private streets and/or in the retail center from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m.

Mrs. Spott asked how a car would be identified as being for the retail at 10 a.m. Mr. Fry responded he would not be able to tell if it was a resident or retail.

Mrs. Spott said, "that's my point." Mr. Fry indicated if anyone is parked there between certain hours overnight they would be towed.

Mrs. Spott asked if Mr. Fry would be able to provide a report on how much towing is done. Mr. Fry responded he would be able to provide that information regularly by email to the Township Manager and supervisors.

Mrs. Kenney asked if there is an estimate of how many times vehicles have been towed between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. Mr. Fry responded there are a few cars a night and sometimes as many as 20. He said all of the bartenders know if someone is inebriated there are placards to place on their cars.

Chief Nolan mentioned the police department is notified when cars are towed in case someone reports a stolen car and this information is reflected on every dispatch report. He noted the numbers have come down from what they were initially.

Mr. Waks summarized much of the issue would be alleviated if various building owners provided parking spaces with their units and it was not a separate add on.

Mr. Philips commented Toll Brothers may want to think about their business model because they are building a parking facility and will somehow have to recoup those dollars from unsold spaces.

Mr. McGrory asked if the applicant is in agreement with the resolution. Mr. Fry responded in the affirmative.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting "Aye" to approve Resolution 2018-32.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-17 BRANDYWINE PROPERTIES; 500 N. GULPH. BUILDING MODIFICATIONS RESULTING IN APPROXIMATELY 2,000 SF OF ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE, ONE LEVEL PARKING DECK, SM DISTRICT, 4.5 ACRES, *Plan Expiration 4/20/18, Resolution 2018-33*

Utilizing the aerial, Mr. Loeper pointed out various aspects of the site for the building located at 500 North Gulph Road which was built in the late 1960's or early 1970's. The applicant is proposing building modifications which will result in approximately 3,000 additional square feet of leasable area. New building entrances as well as façade improvements are planned.

Mr. Loeper noted when the building was built the parking requirements were different and parking can be difficult at times. The applicant is proposing to build a two-level parking deck in the rear of the building.

Mr. Loeper stated as a result of discussions he has had with the township engineer, planning commission and supervisors the applicant will be constructing stormwater on the site in compliance with the regulations dealing with reductions in impervious for redevelopment sites. Many similar buildings were built at a time prior to stormwater management.

The main issue that came up was a waiver request concerning pedestrian access along North Gulph Road. Mr. Loeper pointed out because of the topography with the building to the south or east it would be very difficult to create a sidewalk on that side of N. Gulph Road. In addition, the area under the turnpike is very narrow. The Village at Valley Forge is putting in sidewalks and has indicated sidewalks will be installed along North Gulph Road up to Guthrie Road and they will be bringing their trail up to that location. The Valley Forge

Park Alliance is currently undergoing a study to extend the trail up to the Valley Forge National Historical Park.

Mr. Loeper pointed out this intersection is currently not meant for pedestrians. It does not have any pedestrian cycles or crossings. It was noted there are pedestrian crossings between the Sheraton and UGI.

After much discussion as well as several design options by Bohler Engineering on behalf of Brandywine and McMahon and Associates on behalf of the Township it was determined what would be needed to install this crossing in the future.

The proposal is for Brandywine to make a payment of \$58,000 and then install the pedestrian crossing over North Gulph Road and Guthrie Road. One of the issues with an improvement such as this is a question about the final configuration.

Mr. Loeper indicated there are several waivers associated with this plan. One waiver would allow a reduction in parking stall size to 9 feet as opposed to 9 ½ feet. There are three waivers regarding landscape islands on the site since it is not possible to put landscape islands on a parking deck. The last waiver is to not provide a sidewalk along North Gulph Road.

Mr. Loeper indicated the applicant will be providing stormwater management on the site.

Mr. Philips asked for classification about the crossing. Mr. Loeper responded location will be determined once the path of the trail is known and when developers for remaining parcels at the Village come in with final plans.

Mrs. Spott asked if there is going to be a connection between the Sheraton and the applicant's building. Response: There is no logical connection. In order to make it ADA compliant there are a number of switchbacks that would have to occur and it would place people in the parking lot at the Sheraton.

Mr. Philips asked for an explanation of the graphics on the screen. Michele Flowers, Development Manager, Brandywine, pointed out the parking lot for the hotel and the Brandywine parking lot. She said the applicant explored putting in a connection but it has to be ADA compliant. The grade difference from the applicant's site up to the Sheraton is about 15 feet and several switchbacks would be needed to get there. When the connection was explored it was determined they would be building an ADA compliant walkway and placing people into the non-ADA compliant parking lot at the Sheraton.

Mrs. Spott expressed disappointment a way could not be found to get from one property to another.

Mr. McGrory brought up the subject of the previously mentioned concept of an escrow, inflation clauses and money that may be refundable for the crosswalk. He indicated he had a series of conversations with the applicant's attorney today and said they are in agreement with just providing nonrefundable money and allocating it toward the crosswalk at this intersection. Mr. McGrory stated there is already a 12% contingency which should cover the cost of construction increases that may occur in the next few years.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Waks, all voting "Aye" to approve Resolution 2018-33. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

SUBDIVISION PLAN 2017-05: MAO ZHU ZENG; 155 HUGHES ROAD.  
RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION 2-LOTS, 1 EXISTING DWELLING. 3.15 ACRES,  
R-1A, Resolution 2018-30 Plan Expiration 4/30/18

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Spott, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve Resolution 2018-30. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL:

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting "Aye" to approve the Accounts Payable for invoices processed from March 15, 2018 to April 11, 2018 in the amount of \$1,114,369.38 and the Payroll for March 23, 2018 and April 9, 2018 in the amount of \$1,532,184.53 for a total of \$2,646,553.91. None opposed. Motion passed 4-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

SUPERVISOR ERIKA SPOTT ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Spott announced her resignation from the Upper Merion Township Board of Supervisors effective May 31, 2018. She described the life altering event that occurred on January 4<sup>th</sup> when her husband, Bernd, suffered a life threatening cardiac arrest that left him on life support and in a precarious position between life and death for many days. Mrs. Spott expressed her heartfelt appreciation to Upper Merion's first responders, specifically the police department and Lafayette Ambulance and everyone who demonstrated their care, unique skills and extraordinary actions that made all the difference in ensuring and achieving her husband's survival. She touched on how this experience brought about the stark realization about the fragility of life and the lack of guarantees of the time we have to share with those we love. It is this epiphany which formed the backdrop of her decision to step down at this time.

Mrs. Spott stated the decade she spent on the Upper Merion Township Board of Supervisors has been an exciting and fulfilling part of her life and expressed praise for her remarkable colleagues and all those she has worked with on behalf of a better community.

In closing, Mrs. Spott assured everyone she will certainly stay involved in what is going on in Upper Merion Township – just from a different vantage point.

Mr. Waks stated Mrs. Spott's announcement came as quite a surprise this evening and he will be saying more at the May 17<sup>th</sup> business meeting. Mr. Waks expressed the view that Mrs. Spott was a case study example of what an effective supervisor can do with a combination of passion, effort, intelligence and creativity.

As a friend and witness to the life shaking events described by Mrs. Spott, Mrs. Kenney supports and understands Mrs. Spott's decision to offer her resignation. Since becoming Mrs. Spott's colleague in 2012, Mrs. Kenney said she has learned how to listen, how to challenge, how the system works and how to execute which was one of Mrs. Spott's favorite words. Mrs. Kenney provided examples of Mrs. Spott's vision and effectiveness in execution which helped realize the Farmers Market, Upper Merion Community Center, the settling of the 30-year gold course litigation in 2012, the discussion of ethics and recusals, and fostering changes in the organization of the township's administration and staff which is still ongoing.

Mr. Philips stated the Board of Supervisors is going to miss Mrs. Spott's counsel, wisdom, experience and ability to cut through to and understand core issues at hand. Mr. Philips credits Mrs. Spott in forging a change in transparency and how the Board of Supervisors operates.

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE RECIPIENT OF MULTIPLE COMMUNICATION AWARDS

Mr. Waks announced that Upper Merion Township's Public Information Office is once again the recipient of multiple communication awards from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS). He indicated he will be accepting the awards at the upcoming PSATS Convention. Mr. Waks expressed appreciation to Public Information Officer, Allison Pimm and her team and Don Herbert and his team at UMGA-TV, the Media Advisory Board and everyone who has led the effort to ensure the best communication outreach in the Commonwealth.

#### FARMERS MARKET

Mrs. Spott reminded everyone about the Winter Farmers Market to be held on Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and stated the regular season kicks off on May 19<sup>th</sup> with the joint chicken bar-be-que with the Swedesburg Fire Company.

#### EARTH DAY

Mr. Philips noted Upper Merion's Earth Day Festival will be held on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 11 a.m.

#### YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Mr. Philips indicated the Upper Merion Yard Waste Program begins Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and will run through October 26<sup>th</sup>. Residents can schedule a pickup online or by calling 610-265-8465. For a pickup during a particular week notify the township no later than noon Tuesday of the desired pickup week.

#### ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Mr. Philips stated an electronic recycling and shredding event will be held on May 19<sup>th</sup> beginning 9 a.m. to noon at the Candlebrook Elementary School, 310 Prince Frederick Street. There is a \$30 disposal fee for each TV and/or monitor, but all other electronic items to recycle will be free of charge.

#### SMART MONEY SEMINAR

Mr. Philips said April is Smart Money Month and the Library is hosting the last money seminar on April 25<sup>th</sup> titled, "Preparing for Financial Emergencies."

#### MOTHER GOOSE VISITS LIBRARY

Mr. Philips noted Mother Goose will be visiting the Library on Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Henderson Room.

#### TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR VACANCY

Mr. Philips stated residents interested in serving on the Board of Supervisors should send a cover letter and resume to Dave Kraynik, Township Manager. Interviews will be held once resumes have been reviewed and evaluated.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mrs. Spott, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the meeting. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0. Adjournment occurred at 9:16 p.m.

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DAVID G. KRAYNIK  
SECRETARY-TREASURER  
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved:  
Minutes Entered