

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
JUNE 21, 2018

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2018, in Freedom Hall, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Bill Jenaway, Greg Waks, Greg Philips, and Carole Kenney. Also present were: Sally Slook, Acting Township Manager; Joe McGrory, Township Solicitor; and Angela Caramenico, Assistant to Township Manager.

MEETING MINUTES:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting "Aye" to approve the May 10, 2018 Joint Meeting Minutes, May 17, 2018 Business Meeting Minutes and June 7, 2018 Workshop Meeting 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 issues.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION, APPOINTMENT AND POTENTIAL SWEARING IN OF NEW SUPERVISOR TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BY JUDGE JAMES GALLAGHER

Mr. Philips stated there was a special public meeting on Wednesday, June 13, 2018 in Freedom Hall during which the Board of Supervisors interviewed seven candidates for appointment to the position of Upper Merion Township Supervisor to fill the unexpired term of former Supervisor Erika Spott. Mr. Philips said he personally narrowed the field down to three qualified candidates and opened the floor for further discussion.

Mr. Waks commented the vast majority of applicants met or exceeded expectations with their preparation for the interview which he deemed very important.

Mr. Jenaway commented all candidates were asked the same set of questions in order to gain an understanding of their qualifications, background and perspectives they would bring to the Board as well as what they thought were the issues of the day. He was also impressed everyone came prepared with notes which reflected well on their interest in this position.

Mrs. Kenney agreed the top three candidates were the most able to fulfill the duties and obligations of the position of Supervisor. She noted two of the candidates currently serve on citizen boards and encouraged those who will not be selected to consider applying to a citizen board for which they are qualified and most interested.

A discussion followed during which the supervisors came to a consensus to nominate Tina Garzillo for the position of Supervisor.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting "Aye" to nominate Tina Garzillo as Supervisor to fill the unexpired term of Supervisor Erika Spott. Hearing no further nominations from the floor, Mr. Philips closed the nominations, and all voted "Aye" to appoint Tina Garzillo to the position of Supervisor. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

Ms. Tina Garzillo was sworn into office as Supervisor by District Judge James P. Gallagher.

PROMOTIONAL SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICERS BY JUDGE JAMES GALLAGHER

Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Tom Nolan stated in November 2016 the Police Department conducted promotional testing in order to fill anticipated openings in 2017 and 2018. Last month Lt. Michael Martin retired from the department to become the Chief of Police in Franconia Township which created a need for additional positions and promotions.

After Chief Nolan provided biographical information for each officer to be promoted, District Justice James P. Gallagher officiated at the swearing-in ceremony for Officer Aaron Barkmeyer, promoted to the rank of Corporal; Corporal Mike Bruner, promoted to the rank of Sergeant; and Sergeant Allan Elverson, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

After wishing continued success to the recently promoted officers, Mr. Philips recognized the important supportive role families have in the lives of those working in law enforcement. He emphasized having such a supportive network for police officers is an asset as they provide for the safety and well-being of our community.

RESOLUTION 2018-40 RE: RECOGNIZING JULY AS PARK & RECREATION MONTH

After reading the resolution recognizing July as Park & Recreation month, Mr. Philips presented the proclamation to Dan Russell, Director of Park and Recreation. Mr. Russell expressed appreciation to the Board of Supervisors for recognizing that Park and Recreation is an essential service provided in Upper Merion Township. He also thanked the entire staff, members of the Park and Recreation Board and Community Center Advisory Board who work tirelessly to plan the events and exciting opportunities in our recreation facilities and in our parks.

CONSENT AGENDA RE:

1. Equipment Replacement Requests re:
  - a. Public Works – Replace failing HVAC unit in the Township Building - \$45,000.00
  - b. Public Works – Replace two storage tanks used for salt brine and magnesium chloride - \$7,500.00
  - c. Public Works – Purchase a 2019 Diesel Mack Heavy Duty Truck outfitted with a snow plow package and J&J aluminum dump body - \$203,150.00
2. Ratification of 2018-2022 Police Collective Bargaining Agreement
3. Citizen Board Resignation re: Alanna Strohecker from the Economic & Community Development Committee

4. Motion to ratify the designation of \$2,000,000.00 in the Revenue Stabilization Fund as committed fund balance in the 2017 Upper Merion Township Financial Statements.
5. Resolution 2018-41 re: Authorizing Township Administration to Pursue a Grant under the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development's PA Local Share Account for the Remediation of Hazardous Materials within the Moore-Irwin House in the amount of \$103,000.00 with a \$16,500.00 match from the Township.

Board Comment:

With regard to Consent Agenda item #4, Mr. Jenaway stated this is a routine annual movement of funds for reserve purposes.

With regard to Consent Agenda item #5, Mrs. Kenney asked if the grant money will fully cover the interior remediation of the Moore-Irwin House. Ms. Slook responded in the affirmative. She said this is the first step so that further renovations can occur.

Ms. Garzillo asked for clarification about some of the prior environmental issues. Mr. Philips commented on some previous remediation that was done.

As a new Supervisor appointee, Ms. Garzillo recused herself from a vote on the Consent Agenda since she did not have sufficient information on which to base her vote.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Garzillo recused herself. Motion approved 4-0-1.

APPOINTMENT TO PENSION ADVISORY BOARD

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Waks, to appoint Joan Jenaway to the Pension Advisory Board. Mr. Jenaway recused himself. Motion approved 4-0-1.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL:

Board Comment:

Ms. Garzillo recused herself from the vote because of unfamiliarity with the information.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Jenaway, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the Accounts Payable for invoices processed from May 10, 2018 to June 14, 2018 in the amount of \$1,877,171.86 and the Payroll for May 18, 2018, June 1, 2018 and June 15, 2018 in the amount of \$2,504,152.79 for a total of \$4,381,324.65. Ms. Garzillo recused herself. Motion passed 4-0-1.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

VACANCIES ON PARK AND RECREATION BOARD AND ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Kenney stated with the appointment of Tina Garzillo to the position of

Supervisor, there is now an opening on the Park and Recreation Board. Mrs. Kenney also noted the resignation of Alanna Strohecker from the Economic and Community Development Committee creates a vacancy on that board as well. She encouraged interested citizens to apply.

#### ADDITIONAL CITIZEN BOARD VACANCIES

Mr. Waks noted additional vacancies on the Environmental Advisory Council, Media Communications Advisory Board, Historical Commission, and UCC Board of Appeals. It was noted the UCC position involves special qualifications per state law.

#### FOURTH OF JULY SAFETY

Mr. Jenaway cautioned residents about fireworks safety for the Fourth of July as it is a challenging time for many individuals who are improperly using fireworks.

#### FOURTH OF JULY EVENTS

Mr. Dan Russell, Director, Park and Recreation Department, stated the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration will be held at Heuser Park. The kickoff carnival will begin at 3 p.m. sponsored by Tons of Fun Entertainment. There will be various food vendors and a brand new beer garden sponsored this year by Workhorse Brewery who will soon be opening in Upper Merion Township. The concert will begin at 5 p.m. featuring the Mango Men and fireworks start at dusk. It was noted last year's crowd was estimated close to 10,000 people.

#### EMERALD ASH BORER

Mr. Jenaway said he has received a number of inquiries about what is happening on Beidler Road as you approach Valley Forge Road coming down the hill. He explained as a result of the emerald ash borer infestation the ash trees in that area are being removed and the trail is temporarily closed.

#### SPOTTED LANTERN FLY

Mr. Jenaway reported last Friday at the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials he was briefed on the spotted lantern fly. He asked citizens to remain alert to this most recent invasive insect to make an appearance in our area which will have an adverse effect on grapes, fruit trees and pines.

#### FARMERS MARKET

Mrs. Kenney reminded everyone about the Farmers Market to be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. which will feature the popular *Zucchini 500*.

#### GATEWAY CAFÉ

Mr. Waks mentioned the good publicity for a local business provided on Fox 29 which featured the King of Prussia's Gateway Café. Some very prominent residents were featured in the segment which can be found on the Fox 29 website.

#### CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS

Mr. Philips reminded everyone that Concerts Under the Stars begin on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> which will feature a Workhouse Brewery beer tent.

YARD WASTE PICKUP

Mr. Philips reminded residents they can schedule a curb side pickup of yard waste. Information for pick up can be found on the township website.

LIBRARY SUMMER EVENTS

Mr. Philips noted some of the exciting summer events available at the Library including the Summer Reading Program, Ran D' Shine Magic Show, Author Alex London and Science of Sound.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA – MAJOR EXPANSION IN KOP

Mr. Waks announced that Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) will be opening a new inpatient children's hospital in King of Prussia. He said having this major expansion in King of Prussia off its Main Campus will be a significant benefit to the children in our region and adds prestige to our community. On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Waks expressed appreciation to CHOP for their willingness to invest their funds, time and faith in our community.

WHAT TO DO WITH GRASS CLIPPINGS

Mrs. Kenney received an inquiry regarding the disposal of grass clippings and provided reasons why grass clippings should be left on the lawn. She explained grass clippings turn into natural fertilizer and release water and nutrients back into the lawn's soil.

SCHUYLKILL EXPRESSWAY RESURFACING

Mr. Jenaway alerted residents that PennDOT has announced the resurfacing of the Schuylkill Expressway starting Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. He suggested drivers should take an alternate route if traveling during evening hours.

Mr. Philips announced the Board of Supervisors will go back into Executive Session after this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the meeting. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0. Adjournment occurred at 8:20 p.m.

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SALLY SLOOK  
ACTING TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Entered  
Minutes Approved: