

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, September 23, in Freedom Hall, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Bill Jenaway, Carole Kenney, Greg Waks, Greg Philips, and Tina Garzillo. Also present were: Anthony Hamaday, Township Manager; Bernadette Kearney, Esq., Solicitor's Office and Leanna Colubriale, Township Engineer.

MEETING MINUTES: None

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Jenaway complimented the township's staff – particularly Public Works and the Public Safety Departments for the amazing job they did during and after Hurricane Ida. These men and women spent hour after hour assisting residents in need, particularly in the Borough of Bridgeport, which got hit much harder than Upper Merion Township. Chairman Jenaway spoke about the many water rescues during the storm and even into the next day. He reiterated his point about not driving through standing water. The danger of trying to drive through water is not worth the risk. Chairman Waks also commented on the storm and the impact it had on Upper Merion Township and the entire region. He thanked the township residents who donated to the relief efforts and particularly to the Upper Merion Community Cupboard helping out those in need. The Upper Merion Township Foundation just made a \$6,000.00 donation to the Cupboard which will help them continue their quest to help the needy and all who suffered during this latest storm.

NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF \$5000 CHECK FROM UGI CORPORATION TO THE UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP FOUNDATION

Former Supervisor and UGI Executive Erika Spott presented a \$5000 check to the Upper Merion Township Foundation. She explained that UGI has been a corporate citizen in Upper Merion since 1974. UGI has a reputation for helping communities. For more than 100 years they have delivered heating and energy to homes, making sure residents have heat and hot water. When the Township's donation request came to UGI Ms. Spott stated that it was a very easy decision. She noted that the Foundation has done a wonderful job helping with the relief efforts and we hope that this donation will replenish some of the funds so they can continue to help others in need. Ms. Spott appealed to the other corporate citizens of Upper Merion to follow UGI's lead and to be good corporate citizens, contribute to the Township Foundation, and serve the communities that enable them to have economic success here in Upper Merion.

PRESENTATION OF THE SHADE TREE BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

Supervisor Tina Garzillo, Staff Liason and Barley Van Clief, Vice Chairman of the Shade Tree & Beautification Commission were on hand to announce this year winners. The 2021 Shade Tree Awards were presented to the following:

Residential Front Yard:

Robert & Janet Smith	636 Brookwood Road
Noel & Charles Sofia	378 S. Warner Road
John & Loretta Widmaier	760 Hilltop Circle
Robert Daniels	188 Ross Road
Steve Geckle/Tricia Klusman	161 Cambridge Road
Angelo Deluca	104 Hawthorn Road
Ralph & Joan Palumbo	143 Crossfield Road
Michael & Annette Andre	726 Hidden Valley Road
David & Sandra Hamburg	222 Westfall Avenue
Stephen & Jennifer Moore	1130 Lafayette Road
Robert & Elizabeth Dilella	627 Crestwyck Drive

Backyard Winner:

Mark Delowery & Jack Dembow 147 Hughes Road

Distinguished Tree:

James Dietz Peace Lutheran Church

Commercial:

First Quality	601 Allendale Road
Wegman's	1 Village Drive

Barley explained the process of the how these awards work. A video produced by Jeff Vernitsky, Public Information Office was showed to all. Beautiful landscapes benefit the entire community. Congratulations to all the winners.

BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE – ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2ND ROUND GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Brett Montich, Chairman of the Board of Community Assistance announced the 2nd round of grant recommendations. Tonight, on behalf of the BCA, he made the recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Montich explained that the BCA was established in 2013 and it is a partnership between Valley Forge Casino and Upper Merion Township. The Board of Community Assistance gives grants to non-profits and scholarships for Upper Merion High School Seniors. At the end of the first round of grants the BCA had roughly \$50,314.00. They decided to open up a second round of applications for non-profits. He praised the Valley Forge Casino for stepping up to the plate and providing the BCA with additional funds to distribute. They, along with many businesses in the Township were hit hard by the pandemic and we offer a heartfelt thank you to them for their generosity.

Mr. Montich stated they had 29 applications and they are recommending 17 grants be awarded for \$50,314.00. Grants were awarded to the following organizations: UM Girl Scout Troop 7940, UM Tree Tenders, UMT MLK Committee, Wayne Woods Garden Club, Literacy Council, UM Spring, UMT Library, West End Civic Association, Mitzvah Circle Foundation, Nor-View Farm, Quest Therapeutic Services, UM Music Boosters, Victim Services of Montco, UM Senior Service Center, UM Shade Tree Commission, McKaig Nature Center, and the UM Area Cupboard. The grant to the Cupboard (\$18,000) is the largest grant ever given by the BCA. The BCA felt that this large grant was more than appropriate due to the flooding in Bridgeport from Hurricane Ida. This grant helps in the lodging, transportation, fuel, and personal support for the residents impacted by this hurricane.

Board Actions:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the BCA 2nd Round Grant Applications as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Motion to approve the Budget Guidelines for the 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets.
2. Presentation and acceptance of the Township's 2022 Financial Requirements and Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) in the amount of \$1,305,460 for the Police and \$696,000 for the Non-Uniform Pension Plans.
3. Resignation of Brittany Grala from the Environmental Advisory Council
4. Resignation of Ben Eyer from the student position of the Community Center Advisory Board
5. Resignation of Michael Cusack from the Media Communications Advisory Board
6. Authorize Two Citizen Board Appointments to the Park & Recreation Board – Michael Cusack and Holly Meade
7. Financial Escrow Security Release No. 8, 900 River Road LLC, 900 River Road – Approval of Escrow Release No. 8 to 900 River Road LLC in the amount of \$96,480.10 for the completion of required site improvements to date as part of the warehouse development project as recommended by the Township Engineer.
8. Financial Escrow Security Release No.1, Horizon Drive Group, LP, 3700 Horizon Drive – Approval of Escrow Release No.1 to Horizon Drive Group, LP in the amount of \$579,103.63 for the completion of required site improvements to date as part of the building expansion project as recommended by the Township Engineer.
9. Crow Creek Trail Project Contract Payment # 10 in the amount of \$159,850.00 to Kenney Excavating for work to date on the Crow Creek Trail Project.
10. Resolution 2021-25 – PECO Green Region Grant Application – Crow Creek Trail Plantings and Scenic Overlooks. Authorization to submit a PECO Green Region Grant application for the installation of Trail plantings and the creation of scenic overlooks along the Crow Creek Trail.
11. Approve Land Development Review Extension Letter for JP Morgan Chase Bank. 677 W. DeKalb Pike until October 14, 2021.

Board Actions:

Motion was made by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Waks, all voting "Aye" to add the appointment of Theresa Landewe to the Environmental Advisory Council. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

It was moved by Ms. Kenney, seconded by Mrs. Garzillo, all voting "Aye" to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL:

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the Accounts Payables for invoices processed from August 12, 2021 through September 15, 2021 and Payrolls dated August 6, 2021 and August 20, 2021 for a total of \$3,462,692.42. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

Chairman Jenaway announced the 2021 Police National Night Out. This event will take place on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. at the Sweetbriar Shopping Center on West Beidler Road. This is a rain or shine event. The Upper Merion Police Officers will be joined by the Public Service Partners from Upper Merion Township Fire & EMS and several vendors will also be present with food, ice cream, and other treats.

Chairman Jenaway also announced the Sound the Alarm Campaign. On a Saturday each month in August, September, and October the members of the Fire & EMS crews will walk sections of the township and distribute and install smoke detectors in residences at no charge.

Vice Chair Kenney acknowledged Brittany Grala, former member of the Environmental Advisory Council. Brittany has been on that board for several years and has done a tremendous job. She will be missed.

Ms. Kenney asked residents to check their stormwater grates in front of their properties and make sure they are free of leaves and debris.

Supervisor Garzillo reported on the following items: October events are the Community Fall and Festival on Saturday, October 2nd at Heuser Park. The event will begin at 3:00 pm followed by fireworks at dusk. The Halloween and Harvest Decorating Contest that Park & Recreation is doing again this year. The deadline to register your home is October 2nd. Winners will be recognized by a yard sign that will be placed before Halloween and will also be on the township website and social media. The Farmers' Market will be holding their annual Spootacular and Barktober Fest on October 30th at the Township Building. Supervisor Garzillo also mentioned the Farmers' Market Chili Cookoff between 10:00 to 12:00 pm. on November 6th.

Chairman Jenaway announced that the Board would be going into an Executive Session at the end of this meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0. Adjournment occurred.


ANTHONY HAMADAY
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

cd
Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: