

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AUGUST 16, 2018

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, August 16, 2018, in Freedom Hall, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:42 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Bill Jenaway, Greg Waks, Greg Philips, Carole Kenney and Tina Garzillo. Also present were: Sally Slook, Acting Township Manager; Robert M. Sebia, Solicitor's Office; Tom Beach, Township Engineer and Angela Caramenico, Assistant to Township Manager.

MEETING MINUTES:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the July 12, 2018 Workshop Meeting Minutes; July 19, 2018 Business Meeting Minutes; August 2, 2018 Zoning Workshop Meeting Minutes and August 2, Workshop Meeting Minutes as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Philips stated an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel matters and that discussion will resume in Executive Session after the business meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

SWEARING IN OF POICE OFFICER ANDREW SCAVICCHIO

Police Chief Tom Nolan stated in February 2018 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. This recruitment effort took place at college campuses throughout the tri-state area and resulted in over 200 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. It was noted currently there is one opening for the department due to the retirement of Lt. Michael Martin which will be filled by the new hire from the current eligibility list.

Chief Nolan introduced and provided background information for Officer Andrew Scavicchio who was sworn in by District Judge Edward Levine. He said this new hire will bring the police force to its full complement as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

As a member of the police officer interview panel, Mrs. Garzillo welcomed Officer Scavicchio to the Upper Merion Police Department and congratulated him on his new law enforcement assignment.

CONSENT AGENDA RE:

1. Resignation of Jonathan Eyer – Park & Recreation Student Position
2. Resignation of Kate Vaccaro from the Environmental Advisory Council

3. Authorize Engineering Design Services Proposal for the Demolition of the Mullin Property: 270-280 Allendale Road to Remington & Vernick Engineers in the amount of \$10,300.00
4. Equipment Replacement Requests re:
  - a. Police Department Office Furniture - \$2,900
  - b. Trout Run – Replace Trickling Filter - \$50,000
  - c. Trout Run – Replace Pump Rotating Assemblies - \$15,000
5. Resolution 2018-44 re: Adopt the Montgomery County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
6. Accept Extension Letters re:
  - a. Wright Partners Development Plan: 243 S. Henderson Road until September 21, 2018
  - b. Rapine Subdivision Plan: 510 W. Beidler Road Until October 31, 2018
7. Bid Recommendation re: 2018 Montgomery County Fuel Consortium Contract to Riggins, Inc. for a one year period commencing on September 2, 2018 in the amount of \$4,344,991.21
8. Resolution 2018-46 re: Authorize the Acting Township Manager to sign Traffic Signal Approvals for the following five locations:
  - a. Swedesford Road & South Warner Road
  - b. North Gulph Road & Mall Boulevard
  - c. North Gulph Road & North Warner Road
  - d. North Gulph Road & Goddard Boulevard
  - e. North Gulph Road & Village Drive/I-76 Ramps
9. Bid Recommendation re: Upper Merion Township 2018 Road Program Resurface of Wills Blvd; Dehaven St; Hillside Ave; Continental Rd; Renaissance Blvd; Mall Blvd. right turn lane onto Conrad Dr; and Conrad Dr at intersection of Mall Blvd.
- 10.2019 Budget Guidelines

Board Comment:

As former Board Liaison for the Park and Recreation Board, Mrs. Kenney said she had the opportunity to work with Jonathan Eyer who was a senior this past year and served so well as a student member of the Park and Recreation Board. He is resigning since he is entering college in the fall. Mrs. Kenney noted there is now a vacancy for another junior or senior student and urged interested students who reside in Upper Merion Township to apply.

As current Board Liaison for the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), Mrs. Kenney expressed appreciation to Kate Vaccaro for her service on the EAC. Mrs. Kenney indicated there are now three vacancies on the EAC and urged interested residents to consider applying.

Mr. Waks indicated until recently he was Board Liaison to the Environmental Advisory Council for many years. He said Ms. Vaccaro is an environmental attorney by trade and previously served as Chair of the EAC. Mr. Waks commented Ms. Vaccaro's departure from the EAC is a major loss.

With regard to consent agenda item #8, Mr. Jenaway asked if Resolution 2018-46 regarding traffic signals is in response to traffic studies that have been done in and around the Village at Valley Forge for improvements to those locations. Ms. Slook responded in the affirmative. Mr. Jenaway mentioned when

traffic studies are done during construction modifications are made to the signaling systems.

With regard to consent agenda item #9, Mr. Jenaway indicated road resurfacings are funded by Liquid Fuels money. He said these are for 2019 resurfacings and the design will be done in 2018.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, 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. Garzillo, all voting "Aye" to approve the Accounts Payable for invoices processed from July 12 to August 8, 2018 in the amount of \$1,511,959.35 and the Payroll for July 27, 2018 and August 10, 2018 in the amount of \$1,695,801.20 for a total of \$3,207,760.55. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

VAN GOGH POP-UP ART EXHIBIT AT KING OF PRUSSIA MALL

Mr. Waks provided details about the Van Gogh art exhibit at the King of Prussia Mall which he and Mr. Philips had an opportunity to view. Mr. Waks commended Simon Properties for promoting art and culture in our area.

KITTENS FOR ADOPTION

Mrs. Kenney indicated there are 10-12 feral cats at NorView Farm and provided details on how people can either adopt or provide foster care.

FARMERS MARKET

Mrs. Garzillo reported the Farmers Market continues to grow and noted the July 14<sup>th</sup> Zucchini 500 event drew 1,800 residents and patrons. Mrs. Garzillo said the market for the upcoming weekend continues the food drive supporting the Community Cupboard.

PROPER USE OF SUMP PUMPS

Because of the recent extreme rain events, Mrs. Garzillo informed the viewing audience about the proper use of sump pumps which should direct the water to the back or side of the property and not into the street stormwater system.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO EXTREME RAIN EVENT

Mr. Philips commended the Upper Merion Police Department, EMS and Fire Department for their efforts in responding to two recent extreme rain events. He stated Monday's event involved over 20 water rescues by our first responders.

Mr. Philips stated on September 24<sup>th</sup> between 6-9 p.m. the Upper Merion Township Sanitary and Stormwater Authority is holding another public open house in Freedom Hall to review the results of the updated stormwater study. This forum will provide residents, particularly those who have experienced flooding firsthand during recent rain storms, with an opportunity to offer their

thoughts, comments, concerns and questions about stormwater management in Upper Merion.

Mr. Philips cautioned citizens about the dangers of driving through flooded intersections.

#### MOSQUITO SPRAYING

Mr. Philips announced mosquito spraying in selected areas of Upper Merion Township will take place on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. The Montgomery County Health Department and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection will be treating areas where sampling has shown mosquitoes carrying the West Nile Virus.

#### READY MONTCO

Mr. Philips encouraged citizens to sign up for ReadyMontco which provides notifications on emergencies and extreme weather. He commended the Township's Public Information Office for the great job in disseminating information with periodic updates during Monday's storm.

#### NATIONAL CAR SEAT CHECK DAY

Mr. Philips provided details on National Car Seat Check Day to be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10-4 p.m. at the Upper Merion Township Building.

#### LIBRARY BABY BOOMER RETIREMENT WORKSHOPS

Mr. Philips noted Baby Boomer Retirement Workshops will be held at the Upper Merion Township Library in September and indicated further details are on the website. It was noted there are also some job opportunities available at the library.

#### CITIZEN BOARD VACANCIES

Mr. Philips noted there are vacancies on a number of citizen boards and encouraged those who have a special interest in any of the citizen board vacancies listed on the township website to apply and become involved in the community.

#### ROAD BARRICADES DURING STORMS

Mr. Jenaway stated during the recent rain events barricades were placed in certain roadways and cautioned citizens about the dangers of driving around barricades since they are there for a specific reason.

#### 9/11 MEMORIAL RUN

Mr. Jenaway provided details on the annual 9/11 Memorial Run to be held at the King of Prussia Fire Company on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### From the Public:

Mr. Herbert Baiersdorfer, Gypsy Lane, reiterated his stormwater runoff issues with his neighbor and distributed a letter from his engineer to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Joe Rapine, Beidler Road, expressed concern over the tree debris remaining as a result of the emerald ash borer (EAB) tree deforestation. Mr. Dan Russell, Park and Recreation Director, explained that the project has been delayed because of weather and is about 60% complete. He indicated Jacob Schultz, with Schultz Forest Management and Consulting, will make sure the bid

specifications on the EAB project are carried out and the project is cleaned up.

Mr. Waks said it is his understanding that the project has been delayed, including the opening of the trail, because of the unseasonable weather we have had in spring and now increased rains over the last few weeks. Mr. Russell responded the project has been severely delayed due to rain. It is anticipated the project would be completed by the end of October.

Mr. Philips asked if a silt fence has been installed because of the catastrophic rains. Mr. Russell responded he believes some silt fencing was placed along the creek.

Mr. Rapine asked if it was possible to get a copy of the spec for the EAB project, and it was suggested that he submit a right to know request.

Mike Beck, DeHaven Street, expressed concern over the traffic issues on DeHaven Street as a result of the closure of Balligomingo Road. He suggested Aqua put in new water line while Balligomingo is closed.

Mr. Waks commented the township has communicated with Aqua in the past about their water main replacement on township roads and this is another opportunity to reach out to Aqua to suggest they advance their plans to replace pipes on Balligomingo Road prior to the reopening of that road.

Mr. Bob Stevens, DeHaven Street, commented on traffic issues and said more traffic calming measures are needed in the area.

Mr. Philips asked Chief Nolan if a "no right turn" can be done in that area. Chief Nolan responded when he met with residents of DeHaven Street a couple of years ago that request was made and presented to PennDOT. PennDOT rejected the "no right turn" because it lacked the accident or traffic data to limit a turning movement. Chief Nolan noted limiting the left turn onto DeHaven was also rejected by PennDOT.

Mr. Stevens commented on tractor trailers in the area, and a "no truck" sign obstructed by overgrowth. Chief Nolan indicated his department would look into the placement of "no truck" signs and the sign being obstructed by overgrowth. He mentioned some signs were taken down by PennDOT when Balligomingo closed since trucks needed to use one of the roads to get back to the industrial park.

Walter Kontra, 378 DeHaven Street, expressed concern about the overgrowth along DeHaven Street, Jones Road, and Balligomingo Road and a dirt pile PennDOT created after a washout underneath the bridge about two years ago. Ms. Slook indicated contact will be made with PennDOT about these issues.

#### 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 8:35 p.m.



SALLY SLOOK  
ACTING TOWNSHIP MANAGER

rap  
Minutes Entered 9-20-18  
Minutes Approved:

