

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BUSINESS MEETING  
APRIL 16, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Business Meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2020, in Freedom Hall, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Bill Jenaway, Carole Kenney, Tina Garzillo, Greg Waks and Greg Philips. Also present were: Anthony Hamaday, Township Manager; Joe McGrory, Township Solicitor (via telephone).

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Jenaway stated an executive session was held to discuss personnel and litigation matters prior to this meeting. Mr. Jenaway reviewed the process of how the meeting will run. The matters will be listed item by item and during that time, the public will have the opportunity to submit their questions or comments. The public can submit questions or comments to the MYUMT location on the Township's website or call 484-636-3930. This meeting will also be live streaming on the Township's website and on Comcast channel 22 and Verizon channel 33.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO.2020-16 RE: EARTH DAY

Mrs. Kenney read Resolution No. 2020-16 regarding Earth Day. The Upper Merion Township Board of Supervisors proclaimed April 22, 2020 as Earth Day in Upper Merion Township.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-17 RE: ARBOR DAY

Mrs. Garzillo read Resolution No. 2020-17 regarding Arbor Day. The Upper Merion Township Board of Supervisors proclaimed Friday, April 24, 2020 as Arbor Day in Upper Merion Township.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mrs. Garzillo, all voting "Aye" to accept both Resolution 2020-16 and Resolution 2020-17 as presented with an amendment to include "indoor and outdoor air" in Resolution 2020-16. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-18 RE: AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN PENNDOT TRAFFIC SIGNAL PERMIT APPLICATION (TE-160) FOR THE MODIFICATION OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF CHURCH ROAD & HORIZON DRIVE TO PERMIT THE INSTALLATION OF TWO LEFT TURN YIELD ON GREEN BALL SIGNS FOR THE LEFT TURNING LANE FROM HORIZON DRIVE ONTO E. CHURCH ROAD

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to adopt Resolution 2020-18 as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-19 RE: AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN PENNDOT TRAFFIC SIGNAL PERMIT APPLICATION (TE-160) FOR THE MODIFICATION OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF S. GULPH ROAD, UPPER GULPH ROAD & NEW GULPH ROAD TO PERMIT THE INSTALLATION OF NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS, PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS, PRE-EMPTION DETECTION, CAMERAS AND TURN LANE INSTALLATIONS

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mr. Philips, all voting "Aye" to adopt Resolution 2020-19 as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

COOPERATIVE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH PENNDOT FOR THE SR 422 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT – INSTALLATION OF CCTV CAMERAS AT THE INTERSECTION OF VALLEY FORGE ROAD (SR 23) AND VALLEY CREEK ROAD (SR 252)

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting "Aye" to approve the Cooperative Memorandum of Agreement with PennDOT for the SR 422 Construction Project as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE – 2020 TOWNSHIP ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAM BID

Mr. Jenaway stated this is for two years' worth of liquid fuels tax funds. This list of roads was ready by Mrs. Kenny. Mr. Jenaway stated this list of roads that will be worked on is available to the public by going onto the website [publicnoticesbidscontractsproposal.com](http://publicnoticesbidscontractsproposal.com). The Township did not use the liquid fuel tax fund last year because of an advertisement conflict. These funds cannot be spent on anything but road repairs and road maintenance and it rolled over to this year's funds. These road repairs will be done this year but next year this will be driven by the amount of liquid fuel tax money the Township receives. Given the current status of staying at home and the fact it will continue for a while, a liquid fuel tax income will not be seen next year like this year.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Philips, all voting "Aye" to approve the Authorization to Advertise the 2020 Township Road Resurfacing Program Bid as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT – VIDEOCONFERENCING EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION FOR TOWNSHIP/POLIC CONFERENCE ROOMS AND SUPERVISORS BOARD ROOM - \$31,996.66

Board Action:

It was moved by Mrs. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Philips, all voting "Aye" to approve the Cooperative Memorandum of Agreement with PennDOT for the SR 422 Construction Project as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

BID AWARD – WATER POLLUTION CONTROL CENTER PAINTING MAINTENANCE PROJECT CONTRACT FOR BUILDINGS AND PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AT TROUT RUN AND MATSUNK WASTEWATER PLANTS TO G.C. ZARNAS OF BETHLEHEM, PA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,104,540.00 AS FOLLOWS:

- TROUT RUN WASTEWATER PLANT – Bid Items 1 & 2 in the amount of \$712,424.00.

- MATSUNK WASTEWATER PLANT – Bid Items 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21 in the amount of \$429,381.00.
- BID ALTERNATE A – Deduct for the Trout Run Clarifier Tank, Stilling Well & Agitator in the amount of \$37,265.00.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Waks, seconded by Mrs. Garzillo, all voting “Aye” to approve the Bid Award to G.C. Zarnas as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

KING OF PRUSSIA MALL REQUEST – REDUCTION OF REQUIRED IMPACT FEE PAYMENT IN 2020 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR POLICE COVERAGE DUE TO STATE MANDATE CLOSURE OF ALL-NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Mr. Hamaday noted this is not for the entire year, it is only as long as the King of Prussia Mall is closed.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mr. Waks, all voting “Aye” to accept the King of Prussia Mall Request as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

RESOLUTION 2020-20, EXTENSION OF TIMING TOWNSHIP REAL ESTATE TAX DISCOUNT RATE

Mr. Jenaway stated as late as yesterday, there was passage of the same bill by both the House and the Senate, that included language that will allow to effectively allow the discount rate to carry forward until August 31, 2020. The resolution being presented essentially states this. Mr. Jenaway stated it is important to understand the Township had to wait until the State gave the ability to do something like this. Mr. Jenaway read from Property Tax Relief Section 5713 Under A General Rule.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mr. Waks, all voting “Aye” to approve Resolution 2020-20 as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

TOWNSHIP COVID-19 RESPONSE POLICY – ADOPTION OF TOWNSHIP POLICY TO COMPLY WITH THE FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY PAID SICK LEAVE AND EMERGENCY FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

Mr. Hamaday stated there are two components to this. One is Emergency Sick Leave as part of an individual who is eighty hours, having to leave due to having Coronavirus or having to care for a family member that has it. There is also an extension to FMLA which is an additional 12 weeks an employee can have as part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. First responders and essential employees are excluded. This policy will be for nonessential and nonuniform employees. It was noted most municipalities and cities are doing the same thing.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mrs. Kenney, all voting “Aye” to approve the Township Covid-19 Response Policy as presented. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

COMMUNICATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION AND UPDATES ON TOWNSHIP OPERATIONS

Mr. Jenaway announced that effective Monday, there will be changes to the Rambler. He encouraged the public to wear a mask as it will be mandatory in order to ride the Rambler. This is consistent with the order to wear a mask when out in public. Starting Monday, the Township crews will out in the streets for spring cleaning.

Chief Nolan reported the Police Department continues to be fully staffed and operational at all levels. A sufficient amount of personal protective equipment is being maintained. Chief Nolan expressed gratitude to all residents who are still donating N95 masks and have made face coverings. The second decontamination fogging machine was received this week. This is a bigger machine and is able to do rooms much quicker. A number of rooms have been cleaned and sanitized in the Police Department this week.

Chief Nolan also expressed gratitude to the Township's Police Dispatchers as part of celebrating National Safety Telecommunicator's Week. Chief Nolan reported the Fire Department is fully staffed and operational as well. Operations between all four firehouses have been segregated. This was done in an effort to reduce any possibility for cross contamination, should anyone else become infected with the virus. All of the Township's fire apparatus has been fogged and sanitized this week. EMS has continued to face a tremendous workload under very difficult conditions. To date, EMS has transported thirty patients to area hospitals that had Covid-19 symptoms. After each patient transport, decontamination and fogging the ambulance is done and it is almost averaging one a day. Chief Nolan mentioned the tremendous amount of work our Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Corporal Blane Leis continues to do during this crisis.

Chief Nolan reported 59 confirmed positive cases for Covid-19 as of today. Sadly, there have been 4 deaths resulting from the virus. Numbers do remain low in comparison to townships with similar populations. Chief Nolan encouraged the public to continue social distancing to keep numbers low. Governor Wolf has added a requirement that people wear masks or face coverings when entering life sustaining businesses that have been able to remain open. Chief Nolan stated instead of viewing this as a mandate, he encouraged the public to view this as a way to support these establishments.

Mr. Jenaway mentioned Upper Merion Township would be the first community in the United States to have the opportunity to use the Third Eye Glasses, military technology transfer product in EMS. Chief Nolan stated this is a way to keep the First Responders safer, especially EMS due to the Covid-19 crisis. However, as seen today at demonstration, this will have an effect on Law Enforcement, Fire Department, and SWAT Teams. There will be an opportunity to test this equipment in all four arenas in the weeks to come as well as to receive feedback.

Mr. Waks urged residents to take Covid-19 very seriously and read off the Montgomery County website ([montcopa.org](http://montcopa.org)) the new Covid-19 testing site information.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL:

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mrs. Garzillo, all voting "Aye" to approve the Accounts Payable and Payroll. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

2020 Census

Mr. Jenaway stated that it appears that fifty percent of Upper Merion Township resident have submitted census information. Mr. Jenaway urged the public of the 2020 Census (2020census.gov) and stated it is extremely important. The census is used not only to determine your representation at state and local level but it is also used to determine funding.

Face Masks

Mrs. Garzillo encouraged the public to wear masks not only for protection but to show appreciation to workers in establishments, especially since these workers are putting their lives at risk. It will be required to wear masks in all public places and this directive will take place at 8 p.m. this coming Sunday.

PA Voting

Mr. Philips reminded the public that there are different ways to vote. One way is through the absentee ballot, mail voting and in-person voting.

Social Distancing

Mr. Philips encouraged the public to continue social distancing but to keep in touch with loved ones virtually or by phone. He also urged residents not to hoard items but instead to grow a garden.

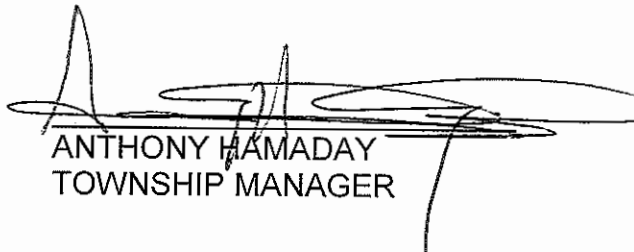
Board Comments:

Mrs. Garzillo expressed great gratitude to Mr. Jenaway for his part in being a major reason Upper Merion Township is the first community to have the opportunity to utilize the Third Eye Glasses and also thanked Chief Nolan for all his hard work.

Mr. Jenaway, on behalf of the Board, expressed immense gratitude to all the essential workers in all fields that are putting their lives at risk.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

  
ANTHONY HAMADAY  
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered:

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