

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, September 11, 2017 – 6:30 P.M.
Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Stephen Wagner, Chairman
Patrick M. Leonard, Vice Chairman
Dennis E. Benner
Brian J. Farrell

Members Absent: Philip W. Spaeth

Staff Attending: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager
Robert E. Kassel, Jr., Assistant Township Manager
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor
Charles Unangst, P.E., Township Engineer

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., in the Public Meeting Room of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Building, 5500 Camp Meeting Road, Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, PA.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Wagner asked all in attendance to stand and recite the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

NOTIFICATION

Mr. Wagner announced that all public sessions of the Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors are electronically recorded. The recordings are maintained as part of the record of the meeting until the minutes are transcribed and approved by the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

**APPOINTMENT OF DETECTIVE DANE CARROLL TO POSITION OF
DETECTIVE SERGEANT IN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Benner to appoint Dane Carroll to the position of Detective Sergeant in the Police Department.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

Dane Carroll received his Sergeant badge from Police Chief, Thomas Nicoletti. Chief Nicoletti spoke of Mr. Carroll's exemplary service to the community and of his excellent leadership skills. He said it is an honor to promote Officer Carroll to Detective Sergeant.

MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR SUSTAINABLE NATURE PARKS

Valarie Liggett and Judith Stern-Goldstein of Boucher & James were present to discuss the Master Site Development Plans for two proposed sustainable nature parks on Township-owned properties at 7486 Passer Road (former Haring tract) and 5653 Old Bethlehem Pike and 3361 Preston Lane (former Benckini tract).

Ms. Stern-Goldstein summarized the various features and facilities that are shown on the Master Site Development Plans for both the Benckini and Haring tracts. Connector trails, parking areas, educational signage, various environmental management areas and an outdoor classroom are proposed on the Benckini tract. A dog park, parking areas, trail network with access to the Rail Trail and various environmental management areas are proposed on the Haring tract.

Ms. Stern-Goldstein said the Master Site Development Plans represent a "wish list" and the Board is under no obligation to construct the elements shown on the Plans.

A discussion ensued as to whether or not the Haring tract was the best location for a dog park.

Ms. Stern-Goldstein responded to questions from the Board.

Chairman Wagner asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on the Master Site Development Plans.

Mr. John Zalina, 5650 Old Bethlehem Pike – Mr. Zalina said he lives across the street from the Benckini tract and is concerned about the large parking lot proposed along the western edge of the tract. Ms. Stern Goldstein said a parking lot for fourteen cars is planned and parking will be prohibited from dusk to dawn. She said it is not meant to be an intensive use parking lot. Mr. Zalina asked the Board to consider moving the parking area so it's farther away from residential properties.

Chairman Wagner said the Board will consider adopting the Master Site Development Plans at a future meeting.

PRESENTATION BY THOMAS O’ROURKE OF 4876 VERA CRUZ ROAD – CONCERNS REGARDING VEHICLES SPEEDING ON VERA CRUZ ROAD

Mr. O’Rourke expressed concerns about speeding vehicles and increased truck traffic on Vera Cruz Road. He said the speeding problem presents a serious safety hazard and the Township needs to do something about it. He asked the Township to pursue the following measures:

1. Implement a systematic and focused speed enforcement campaign targeted at the 7:00 am to 9:00 am and 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm time slots.
2. More frequent deployment of the speed awareness monitor.
3. Institute a focused campaign to address the problem of speeding motorcycles.

Police Chief Nicoletti responded to Mr. O’Rourke’s concerns, noting that 193 traffic citations have been issued to drivers on Vera Cruz Road over the past 2 years. He said the Police Department has been and will continue to be engaged in speed enforcement activities on Vera Cruz Road.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of July 24, 2017

Motion made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Benner to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 24, 2017.

The motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0. Mr. Wagner abstained from voting because he was not present at the Board meeting on July 24, 2017.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 141-O – ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Proposed Ordinance No. 141-O amends the Township Zoning Ordinance to rezone the rear portion of the property at 6581 N. Main Street from Suburban Residential (R-2) to Commercial (C).

Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance No. 141-O

Chairman Wagner opened the hearing and asked Solicitor Dinkelacker to handle the proceedings.

Solicitor Dinkelacker introduced the proposed Ordinance and summarized its relevant provisions.

Solicitor Dinkelacker said the purpose of the hearing is to accept public input on proposed Ordinance No. 141-O.

Solicitor Dinkelacker introduced the following exhibits into the record:

- Exhibit T-1 - Complete copy of proposed Ordinance 141-O.
- Exhibit T-2 - Letter dated June 27, 2017 from Trisha Lang, Director of Community Development, transmitting proposed Ordinance 141-O to Upper the Saucon Township Planning Commission.
- Exhibit T-3 - Letter dated June 27, 2017 from Trisha Lang, Director of Community Development, transmitting proposed Ordinance 141-O to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission.
- Exhibit T-4 - Review comments received from the Upper Saucon Township Planning Commission.
- Exhibit T-5 - Review comments received from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission.
- Exhibit T-6 – Copy of notice posted on property being rezoned.
- Exhibit T-7 – Photographs of property postings and map showing locations of postings.
- Exhibit T-8 – Copy of Public Notice for proposed Ordinance 141-O which was mailed to interested parties.
- Exhibit T-9 - Copy of public notice for proposed Ordinance 141-O which was submitted to The Morning Call newspaper for publication on August 24, 2017, and August 31, 2017.
- Exhibit T-10 - Copy of actual public notice printed in The Morning Call on August 24, 2017, and August 31, 2017.

The exhibits will become part of the official file which is available for public inspection at the Township Building.

Chairman Wagner asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on the proposed Ordinance. There was no response.

Chairman Wagner closed the hearing.

Adoption of Proposed Ordinance No. 141-O

Motion made by Mr. Benner and seconded by Mr. Farrell to adopt Ordinance No. 141-O which rezones the rear portion of the property at 6581 N. Main Street from Suburban Residential (R-2) to Commercial.

Chairman Wagner asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on the proposed Ordinance. There was no response.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4-0.

RESOLUTIONS

None

MOTIONS

Adopt Pollutant Reduction Plan for Saucon Creek and Laurel Run

Motion made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Benner to adopt the Pollutant Reduction Plan for Saucon Creek and Laurel Run dated June, 2017 as prepared by ARRO Consulting.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

Memo Dated September 11, 2017 from Thomas Young, Director of Finance – 2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation For Township Pension Plans and Firefighters Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP)

Mr. Beil reviewed the memo dated September 11, 2017 from Thomas Young, Director of Finance, concerning the 2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Township Pension Plans and the Firefighters Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP). Mr. Beil said the memo is for the Board's information only and no action is required at this time.

DIRECTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Cancellation of Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for September 25, 2017 due to lack of agenda items

It was the consensus of the Board to cancel the meeting scheduled for September 25, 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Benner to authorize payment of the Prepaid Invoice List and Warrant List #09112017 dated 09/08/2017.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Donald Bassler, 6581 Main Street – Mr. Bassler said there seems to be a discrepancy between the portion of his property he is selling to the developer of the proposed Wawa project and the portion of his property that was rezoned from Residential to Commercial earlier in the meeting. He said the area that was rezoned seems to be smaller than the area he is selling to the developer. Attorney Dinkelacker said it's up to Mr. Bassler and the developer to resolve this matter.

Mr. Bassler also expressed concerns about stormwater runoff from the proposed Wawa development negatively impacting his property. Attorney Dinkelacker encouraged Mr. Bassler to attend the Planning Commission meetings when the Wawa project is discussed to learn more about how the stormwater issues will be addressed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Benner and seconded by Mr. Farrell to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:36 p.m.

Secretary