

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 19, 2018 – 6:30 P.M.
Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Dennis E. Benner, Chairman
Brian J. Farrell, Vice Chairman
Philip W. Spaeth
Kimberly Stehlik

Members Absent: Stephen Wagner

Staff Attending: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager
Joseph Geib, Assistant Township Manager
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor
Kevin Chimics, P.E., Township Engineer
Patricia Lang, Director of Community Development

CALL TO ORDER

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

NOTIFICATION

Mr. Benner 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

Michael McDonald, 6351 Oakwood Circle, had concerns about the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road and Beverly Hills Road. Mr. McDonald said it is a dangerous intersection due to the speeds vehicles are traveling and the geometry of the intersection. Many times, when approaching the intersection from the north on Chestnut Hill Road, a blind spot is often created by the vehicle’s B-pillar and a PPL utility pole obstructing a driver’s line of sight. He said there have been many accidents at this location over the years. Mr. McDonald believes the best solution would be the installation of a four-way stop at this intersection. As

currently configured, Chestnut Hill Road is the stop-controlled approach and Beverly Hills Road is free flowing.

Mr. Beil explained that PennDOT has jurisdiction over this intersection as Beverly Hills Road is a State Highway (State Route 2040). The Township has contacted PennDOT on numerous occasions to request the installation of a four-way stop at this intersection. In each instance, PennDOT has denied the Township's request citing engineering studies do not justify a four-way stop at this location. Mr. Beil said the most recent request for a four-way stop was made in July of 2018. Mr. Beil said he also sent a letter to PPL requesting the relocation of two utility poles that interfere with the line of sight at this intersection. PPL has not responded to the request.

Mr. Spaeth noted there are advisory signs at another intersection further down Chestnut Hill Road, in another municipality, which seem to be effective at alerting drivers to sight distance limitations at that intersection. Mr. McDonald said he doubted additional advisory signs would improve the situation.

Mr. Beil suggested that Mr. McDonald and other concerned residents reach out to Representative Simmons to seek his assistance with this matter. The Board requested that Mr. Beil also contact Representative Simmons on the Township's behalf.

SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS

None

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of September 10, 2018

Motion made by Ms. Stehlik and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 10, 2018.

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

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

None

MOTIONS

Deed of Easement & Agreement – Christian and Megan Willman – 4559 Liberty Road

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Farrell to approve the Deed of Easement and Agreement granting Christian and Megan Willman an exclusive easement to continue utilizing an existing swimming pool and fence located on Township property at 4461 Liberty Road.

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

Encroachment Agreement – Christian and Megan Willman – 4559 Liberty Road

Motion made by Ms. Stehlik and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to approve the Encroachment Agreement with Christian and Megan Willman which would allow an existing brick mailbox structure and driveway entrance walls to remain within a portion of the Township right-of-way of Liberty Road and a patio to remain on Township property at 4461 Liberty Road, and to authorize the Township Manager to execute said agreement on behalf of the Township.

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

Release of Funds – Lanark Commons - Certification No. 3

Motion made by Ms. Stehlik and seconded by Mr. Farrell to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$231,376.20 for the Lanark Commons land development in accordance with the Township Engineer's recommendation made by letter dated November 15, 2018.

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

Request For Payment – Oakhurst Storm Sewer Improvements– Certification No. 5

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Ms. Stehlik to authorize payment in the amount of \$282,514.27 to H&K Group, Inc., for work completed on the Oakhurst Storm Sewer Improvement Project.

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

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting will be held on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Benner announced the Board's reorganization meeting will be held on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

DIRECTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Cancellation of Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for December 10, 2018 due to lack of agenda items

It was the consensus of the Board to cancel the meeting originally scheduled for December 10, 2018. The final meeting of the year will be on December 17, 2018, and will include the final consideration of the 2019 Budget.

Procedure for evaluating applicants seeking appointment to Township Boards and Commissions

It was the consensus of the Board to continue the current practice of having the Appointments Review Committee evaluate all applicants seeking appointment to a Township board or commission.

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Schedule for 2019

Mr. Beil reviewed the proposed 2019 regular meeting schedule with the Board. The Board preferred to meet on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 rather than Monday, November 11, 2019 so as to avoid a conflict with the Veterans Day Holiday which will be observed on Monday, November 11, 2019. The Board will consider approving the proposed meeting schedule at its Reorganization meeting on January 7, 2019.

Review Agenda for Zoning Hearing Board meeting on December 3, 2018

Mr. Beil reviewed the only appeal on the docket for the December 3, 2018 Zoning Hearing Board meeting. It was determined this appeal involves a routine matter that can be handled by the Zoning Hearing Board without input from the Board of Supervisors.

PRELIMINARY 2019 TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Motion made by Mr. Farrell and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to adopt the preliminary 2019 Township Budget and to authorize the Township Manager to advertise the Budget so that final consideration of the Budget can be accomplished at the Board of Supervisors meeting on December 17, 2018.

Mr. Beil said the version of the preliminary Budget currently before the Board is slightly different from the version presented to the Board at the meeting on November 12. He explained how the current version of the Budget differs from the previous version, highlighting the following changes:

- The amount budgeted for the dog park has been decreased to \$25,000 to cover only engineering costs, as the lengthy design and permitting process will prevent construction from occurring in 2019.
- The amount budgeted for construction of the Jacoby Road culvert decreased to \$600,000 because the project will carry over into 2020.
- \$20,000 for engineering of the Jacoby Road culvert was added to the budget.
- The 2018 year-end projection was revised to account for an additional \$200,000 expense for road maintenance.

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

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Ms. Stehlik and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to authorize payment of the Prepaid Invoice List and Warrant List dated 11/15/2018.

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

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:10 p.m., the Board met in executive session to discuss litigation against the Township filed by APS Associates LLC regarding the vacation of Short Road.

The Board returned from executive session at 7:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Secretary