

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.
Virtual Meeting Via GoToWebinar

Due to the COVID-19 health emergency, the Board of Supervisors held its April 27, 2020 regular meeting virtually via the GoToWebinar platform. Participation in the meeting was limited to remote connection using a telephone, computer or mobile device. Directions for joining and participating in the meeting were made available on the Township's website.

Members Participating: Brian J. Farrell, Chairman
Philip W. Spaeth, Vice Chairman
Dennis E. Benner
Stephen Wagner
John G. Inglis, III

Staff Participating: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager
Joseph Geib, Assistant Township Manager
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor
Charles Unangst, P.E., Township Engineer
Patrick Leonard, Special Projects Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

NOTIFICATION

Chairman Farrell 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

Chairman Farrell summarized a letter received from Brad Hetrick. The letter recommends that draft meeting agendas be released to the public at least one week prior to the actual meeting date and expresses opposition to a proposal to convert the Tumblebrook Golf Course into playing fields.

Susan Roberts of 5817 Glen Road wanted to know PennDOT's timeline for starting construction on the Blue Church Road bridge project. Mr. Beil said he would check with PennDOT and get back to Ms. Roberts.

SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS

None

MINUTES

None

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2020-18 – Declaring Local Disaster Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adopt Resolution No. 2020-18 declaring a local disaster emergency for all areas of Upper Saucon Township due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

George Bloeser of 6500 Limeport Pike asked if he could receive a list of items covered by the emergency declaration. Mr. Beil said he would gladly provide a list to Mr. Bloeser.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Resolution No. 2020-19 – Implementing Certain Provisions of Act 15 of 2020 Relating to Property Tax Relief

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adopt Resolution No. 2020-19 waiving any fees or penalties associated with the late payment of the tax imposed on the assessed value of real estate, provided that the tax is paid in its entirety on or before December 31, 2020.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Resolution No. 2020-17 – Authorization to Submit Grant Application

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adopt Resolution No. 2020-17 authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the purpose of obtaining funding to assist with the preparation of a Master Site Plan to convert the Tumblebrook Golf Course to athletic fields.

Mr. Beil reviewed the proposed Resolution with the Board. He said the grant is a backup plan in the event the Township cannot find someone to lease and operate the Tumblebrook Golf Course.

George Bloeser of 6500 Limeport Pike spoke in support of preserving the Golf Course. He suggested that passive recreation be considered if the Golf Course is turned into a park.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

MOTIONS

Request for Payment – Chestnut Hill Road Stormwater & Roadway Improvements Project – Certification No. 2

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment in the amount of \$28,019.74 to Barwis Construction for work completed on Phase 1 of the Chestnut Hill Road Stormwater and Roadway Improvements Project.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Request for Payment – Preston Lane Drainage & Roadway Improvements Project – Certification No. 14 (Final)

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize final payment in the amount of \$26,774.66 to Horst Excavating for work completed on the Preston Lane Drainage and Roadway Improvements Project.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Request For Payment – Hopewell Park Project – Certification No. 10

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment in the amount of \$46,014.91 to Barwis Construction for work completed on the Hopewell Park Project.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Request For Payment – Hopewell Park Project – Certification No. 11

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment in the amount of \$16,114.94 to Barwis Construction for work completed on the Hopewell Park Project

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Release of Funds – Old Saucon Subdivision – Security Release No. 8

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$286,074.53 for the Old Saucon Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer's recommendation made by letter dated April 10, 2020.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

None

DIRECTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Cancellation of Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for May 11, 2020 due to lack of agenda items

Mr. Beil noted that there are no pending items for the May 11, 2020 meeting. It was the consensus of the Board to cancel the meeting.

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment of the Prepaid Invoice List Dated April 21, 2020 for Check Issue Dates 3/10/2020 – 4/24/2020 and Warrant Detail Invoice List dated April 21, 2020 for Report Dates 4/20/2020 – 4/30/2020.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

James Largay of 4344 Allegiant Street said he was very pleased with the Board's decision concerning the Kay-Lehigh warehouse proposal and inquired if there was any new information on this matter. Solicitor Dinkelacker noted that Kay-Lehigh filed an appeal with the Lehigh County Court of Common Pleas.

Mr. Bloeser of 6500 Limeport Pike said there are several dead trees along Blue Church Road and asked if the Township could remove them. Mr. Beil said he would alert PennDOT to the dead trees as Blue Church Road falls under PennDOT's jurisdiction.

Saralyn Foley of 7510 Pheasant Drive asked if the YMCA made any decisions about building a new facility in the Township. Mr. Beil said discussions between the Township and the YMCA are ongoing, and no decisions have been made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 7:13 p.m., the Board met in Executive Session for the following reasons:

- Threatened litigation against the Township by Provco Pinegood Coopersburg, LLC regarding the use of traffic impact fees for future road improvements at the intersection of Route 309 and Passer Road.
- Real Estate Matter / Potential Litigation Involving the Tumblebrook Golf Course Lease.

At approximately 8:42 p.m., the Board returned from Executive Session.

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize the Township Manager to add an option to the Township's grass cutting RFP to mow and provide basic maintenance to preserve the Tumblebrook golf course and pending the award of that bid to have Township employees or others perform such maintenance, with the Board to study the future of Tumblebrook later in the year.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Inglis	Yes
Mr. Benner	Yes
Mr. Wagner	Yes
Mr. Spaeth	Yes
Mr. Farrell	Yes

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm.



Secretary

