

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, September 13, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.
Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Brian J. Farrell, Chairman
Philip W. Spaeth, Vice Chairman
John G. Inglis, III
Stephen Wagner

Members Absent: Dennis Benner

Staff Attending: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager
Joseph Geib, Assistant Township Manager
Anthony Brichta, Township Solicitor
Kevin Chimics, P.E., Township Engineer
Thomas Nicoletti, Police Chief

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Farrell 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

Chairman Farrell asked all in attendance to stand and recite the "Pledge of Allegiance."

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

Doug Pierson, 5493 Chestnut Hill Road, was concerned about speeding and reckless driving on area roads. He recounted an incident where he witnessed two vehicles racing on Route 309 between Quakertown and Coopersburg. He asked what the public can do to help the police deter this type of behavior.

Police Chief Nicoletti said the police take these issues seriously and are doing what they can in terms of enforcement. He said the public should call 911 to report any incidents involving reckless or dangerous driving.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE MILOU MACKENZIE

State Representative Milou Mackenzie introduced herself to the Board and said she would be happy to help with any State related issues.

Supervisor Spaeth thanked Representative Mackenzie for attending the meeting. He asked if she could look into making changes to the Municipalities Planning Code so local governments have more authority to stop undesirable development. Representative Mackenzie said she would look into the issue.

POLICE CHIEF THOMAS NICOLETTI – RECAP OF POLICE COMMENDATION AWARDS PROGRAM HELD AT DESALES UNIVERSITY ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

Police Chief Nicoletti provided a recap of the Lehigh County commendation awards ceremony recently held at DeSales University. He said Upper Saucon Township police officers received numerous awards during the ceremony. He noted Upper Saucon Township Detective Francisco Najera was awarded the prestigious Chiefs' Award of Excellence for his 22 years of service.

ORDINANCES

None

SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS

None

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of July 12, 2021

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 12, 2021.

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

RESOLUTIONS

None

MOTIONS

Release of Funds - Whispering Pines Subdivision – Certification No. 10

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$54,780.00 for the Whispering Pines Subdivision in accordance with The Pidcock Company's recommendation made by letter dated August 30, 2021.

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

Release of Funds – Estates at Saucon Valley Subdivision – Security Release Request 1

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$1,013,162.32 for the Estates at Saucon Valley Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer's recommendation made by letter dated September 7, 2021.

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

Request for Payment – Phase 2 of Chestnut Hill Road Stormwater and Roadway Improvements Project – Certification No. 1

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to authorize payment in the amount of \$293,616.45 to Anrich, Inc. for work completed on Phase 2 of the Chestnut Hill Road Stormwater and Roadway Improvements Project.

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

Release of Funds – Old Saucon Subdivision – Security Release Request 10

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$266,847.90 for the Old Saucon Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer's recommendation made by letter dated September 8, 2021.

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

Request for Payment – Pavilion at Hopewell Park – Certification No. 1

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to authorize payment in the amount of \$71,483.40 to Irish Creek Enterprises for work completed on the new pavilion at Hopewell Park.

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

Stipulation and Settlement Agreement Resolving Litigation between the Township and Aldi, Inc

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to approve the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement with Aldi, Inc. resolving litigation relating to the expansion and further development of the Aldi warehouse facility at 2700 Saucon Valley Road, and to authorize the Township Solicitor to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Township.

Mr. Inglis requested some proposed plantings be altered, including swapping out the blue spruce with Norway spruce, and the inkberry holly with wintergem boxwood.

Joseph Fitzpatrick, Attorney for Aldi, said the plantings for the Aldi expansion project would be revised to incorporate the changes suggested by Supervisor Inglis.

Attorney Fitzpatrick explained how the project would address the problem of tractor trailers parking on Saucon Valley Road.

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

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

The Board discussed recent correspondence from Lower Nazareth Township urging municipalities to send a letter to their state legislators voicing support for legislation that would give municipalities greater authority in controlling development. After some discussion, the Board directed the Township Solicitor to draft such a letter. It was suggested the letter should be somewhat specific in terms of the legislative changes being supported by the Township. The Board will review the draft letter at a future meeting and, if deemed acceptable, authorize sending the letter to state legislators.

DIRECTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize payment of Prepaid Invoice List Dated September 10, 2021 for Check Issue Dates 8/24/2021 – 9/13/2021 and Warrant Detail Invoice List dated September 10, 2021 for Report Date 9/13/2021.

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

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mr. Farrell requested an update on the intersection improvements at Route 309 and Lanark Road. Mr. Beil said the work at the intersection is at a standstill and cannot proceed until PPL energizes the new traffic signals.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 7:11 p.m., the Board met in Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Personnel matters involving employee pay and benefits
- Strategy for public works union contract negotiations – current union contract expires December 31, 2021

At approximately 8:18 p.m., the Board returned from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:19 p.m.



Secretary