

MINUTES
Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 14, 2022 – 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
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor
Charles Unangst, P.E., Township Engineer
Patricia Lang, Director of Community Development
Patrick Leonard, Special Projects Coordinator

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

Kate Santana of 3537 Station Avenue spoke in support of allowing residents to keep chickens on their properties. She noted chickens provide an important source of food security in these uncertain times.

SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS

None

MINUTES

None

ORDINANCES

Proposed Ordinance No. 174 – Open Space Tax

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 174 imposing an additional 0.10% earned income tax on Township residents to fund the preservation of open space consistent with the referendum question approved at the General Election of November 2, 2021.

Chairman Farrell 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 to 0.

RESOLUTIONS

None

MOTIONS

Release of Funds – Lanark III Land Development – Security Release Request 3

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$317,502.48 for the Lanark III land development project in accordance with the Township Engineer's letter dated March 1, 2022.

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

Release of Funds – Estates at Saucon Valley Subdivision – Security Release Request 5

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$1,054,234.92 for the Estates at Saucon Valley Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer's recommendation made by letter dated March 8, 2022.

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

Appointment to Environmental Advisory Council

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Wagner to appoint Diana Inglis to the Environmental Advisory Council for a three year term expiring on December 31, 2024.

The motion was approved by a vote of 3 in favor, none against and 1 abstention. Supervisor Inglis abstained from voting.

Release of Funds – Provco Pinegood Coopersburg (McDonald’s Restaurant Project) – Security Release Request 2

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$79,820.18 for the McDonald’s land development project in accordance with the Township Engineer’s recommendation made by letter dated March 10, 2022.

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

Release of Funds – Provco Pinegood Coopersburg (Wawa Project) – Security Release Request 6

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$136,009.17 for the Wawa land development project in accordance with the Township Engineer’s recommendation made by letter dated March 10, 2022.

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

Release of Funds – Old Saucon Subdivision, Phase 1 – Security Release Request 11

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$358,943.23 for Phase 1 of the Old Saucon Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer’s recommendation made by letter dated March 10, 2022.

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

Release of Funds – Old Saucon Subdivision, Phase 2 – Security Release Request 2

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$1,287,781.19 for Phase 2 of the Old Saucon Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer’s recommendation made by letter dated March 10, 2022.

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

Request for Payment – Route 309 and Lanark Road Intersection Improvements Project – Certification No. 8

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize payment in the amount of \$82,174.49 to Blooming Glen Contractors for work completed on the Route 309 and Lanark Road Intersection Improvements Project.

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

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

None

DIRECTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Resident request for Township to relax zoning regulations pertaining to raising and keeping of chickens in Suburban Residential (R-2) Zoning District

Chairman Farrell invited the public to comment on this issue.

The following individuals spoke in support of changing the Township's zoning regulations to allow residents to keep chickens in a backyard setting:

- Christof Ambrosch of 6224 Hall Court
- Andrew Santana of 3537 Station Avenue
- Kristin Roth of 6288 Hall Court
- Joseph Deering of 6418 Wild Cherry Drive

Chairman Farrell thanked the speakers for their input.

A lengthy discussion ensued about possible changes to the zoning regulations regarding the raising and keeping of chickens.

It was the consensus of the Board to refer this matter to the Planning and Zoning Committee for a more in-depth discussion.

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment of Prepaid Invoice List Dated March 11, 2022 for Check Issue Dates: 2/15/2022 – 3/14/2022 and Warrant Detail Invoice List dated March 11, 2022 for Report Date: 3/14 /2022.

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

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Olya Cooler of 4030 West Hopewell Road spoke in favor of allowing residents to keep chickens on their properties.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 7:12 p.m., the Board met in Executive Session to discuss the following matters:

- Pending litigation against the Township filed by Kay Lehigh, LLC regarding the Township's denial of Kay Lehigh's Curative Amendment.
- Legal issues related to the use or lease of Township-owned property which, if conducted in public, would violate the Attorney / Client privilege and lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law.

At approximately 8:25 p.m., the Board returned from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:26 p.m.



T. F. Deil

Secretary