

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 20, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
Township Municipal Building

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

Staff Attending: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager
Joseph Geib, Assistant Township Manager
Andrew Bohl, P.E., Township Engineer
Patrick Leonard, Director of General Services
Patricia Lang, Director of Community Development
Thomas Nicoletti, Chief of Police
Dane Carroll, Emergency Management Coordinator
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor

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

None

SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS

None

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 25, 2023.

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

ORDINANCES

Proposed Ordinance No. 42-U – Sewer Lateral Inspection Program

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 42-U establishing a sewer lateral inspection program for the purpose of minimizing sources of inflow and infiltration into the municipal sanitary sewer system.

Messrs. Wagner, Inglis and Spaeth had numerous questions pertaining to the proposed Ordinance to which Solicitor Dinkelacker and Andrew Bohl responded.

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 5 to 0.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2023-30 – Policy for Supervisors to Enroll in Township Health Insurance Plan

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Benner to adopt Resolution No. 2023-30 establishing a policy for Township Supervisors to enroll in the Township's non-union employee health insurance plan.

A discussion ensued regarding this matter.

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

Resolution No. 2023-31 – 2024 Tax Levy

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Wagner to adopt Resolution No. 2023-31 fixing the real estate tax rate and fire hydrant tax rate for the year 2024.

It was noted the Township's real estate tax is increasing for the first time since 1989, from 1.3691 mills to 1.6451 mills. The tax increase is needed to fund the construction of a new police station.

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

MOTIONS

None

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

Chairman Farrell announced that the Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

DIRECTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review Agenda for Zoning Hearing Board meeting on December 4, 2023

Mr. Beil briefly reviewed the two appeals on the docket for the December 4, 2023 Zoning Hearing Board meeting. It was determined both appeals involve matters that can be handled by the Zoning Hearing Board without input from the Board of Supervisors.

Cancellation of Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for December 11, 2023 due to lack of agenda items

It was the consensus of the Board to cancel the meeting originally scheduled for December 11, 2023.

PRELIMINARY 2024 TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adopt the Preliminary 2024 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 18, 2023.

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

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize payment of the Warrant Detail Invoice List dated November 17, 2023.

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

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Supervisor Inglis gave a brief update on the proposed YMCA facility at the Township's Community Park.

Supervisor Spaeth noted that numerous trees were cut down at the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road and Blue Church Road and questioned whether permits were issued for this work.

Ms. Lang said she would look into Mr. Spaeth's concern.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Tammy Clemens of 6725 Blue Church Road South expressed concerns with truck traffic and vehicles speeding on Blue Church Road South. She also expressed concerns with the speed limit changing multiple times on Blue Church Road South and suggested a study to establish a consistent speed limit on this road.

Mr. Beil explained the police are doing the best they can to address the issues of trucks and speeding vehicles.

Ms. Clemens voiced a concern about a telephone pole at the intersection of Beverly Hill Road and Blue Church Road South. Mr. Beil said the Township is not responsible for telephone poles and she needed to contact the telephone company or PPL.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:18 p.m.



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Secretary