

MINUTES

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Monday, September 11, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
Township Municipal Building

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

Members Absent: Dennis Benner

Staff Attending: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager
Joseph Geib, Assistant Township Manager
Patrick Leonard, Director of General Services
Patricia Lang, Director of Community Development
Patrick Lambert, Director of Water / Sewer Resources
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor
Charles Unangst, P.E., Township Engineer

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:32 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 May 8, 2023

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Wagner to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 8, 2023.

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

Regular Meeting of June 12, 2023

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Inglis to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 12, 2023.

The motion was approved by a vote of 3 in favor, none against and 1 abstention. Mr. Spaeth abstained from voting because he was not present at the meeting on June 12, 2023.

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2023-24 – Karr Property at 5225 West Hopewell Road

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Wagner to adopt Resolution No. 2023-24 authorizing the Township Solicitor to file a declaration of taking pursuant to the Eminent Domain Code and to perform any other actions necessary to acquire the 20.02-acre Karr property at 5225 West Hopewell Road.

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

MOTIONS

Hire New Assistant Director of Water / Sewer Resources

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Spaeth to hire Jonathan Barron as Assistant Director of Water & Sewer Resources at a starting rate of pay of \$36.12 per hour, contingent upon Mr. Barron passing a pre-employment physical and drug screening.

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

Exoneration of Township Real Estate Tax Bill #6033 – 5600 Saucon Ridge Road

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to exonerate the Upper Saucon Township Tax Collector from collecting 2023 Real Estate Tax Bill #6033 for the property at 5600 Saucon Ridge Road (Property Identification Number 641461557741 1) pursuant to correspondence dated August 14, 2023 from the Township Tax Collector.

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

Release of Funds - Estates at Saucon Valley Subdivision – Security Release Request 14
Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize the release of construction security in the amount of \$80,707.00 for the Estates at Saucon Valley Subdivision in accordance with the Township Engineer's recommendation made by letter dated August 30, 2023.

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

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

None

DIRECTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Petition by Embree Development Group to have the properties at 3875 West Passer Road, 6533 North Main Street and 6501 North Main Street rezoned from Suburban Residential (R-2) to Commercial (C)

Mr. Beil reviewed this matter with the Supervisors explaining Embree Development Group submitted a petition to have several properties located at the northwest corner of Route 309 and Passer Road rezoned from Suburban Residential (R-2) to Commercial (C). He said the Township Staff supports Embree Development Group's rezoning request. He explained the ways in which the rezoning benefits the Township. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the Township Solicitor to prepare the necessary Zoning Ordinance Amendment to accommodate Embree Development Group's rezoning request. The proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment will be considered for possible adoption at an upcoming Board meeting.

BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Wagner to authorize payment of the Prepaid Invoice List Dated September 8, 2023 for Check Issue Dates: 8/15/2023 – 9/11/2023 and Warrant Detail Invoice List dated September 8, 2023 for Report Date: 9/11/2023.

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

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Supervisor Inglis gave an update on the YMCA project proposed at the Township Community Park. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the project. Supervisor Inglis noted the YMCA is very thankful that the Township supports their project.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 6:51 p.m., the Board met in Executive Session to discuss the possibility of the Township purchasing real property or acquiring an interest in real property.


At approximately 7:05 p.m., the Board returned from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.


Secretary