



Upper Mount Bethel Township

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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

*Due to COVID-19 and the Stay-At-Home Order issued by Governor Wolf of Pennsylvania, this Board of Supervisors' Meeting was a Virtual Meeting held online.

PART I

1. Call to Order-Chairman Bermingham Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Roll Call-Virtually present in addition to Chairman Bermingham Jr. were Supervisor Teel, Supervisor Due, Supervisor DeFranco, Supervisor Pinter, Township Manager Nelson, Township Engineer Coyle, and Township Solicitor Karasek.
4. Approve the Agenda-**MOTION** by Supervisor Due to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

PART II (Public Comments-emails received prior to this Meeting) Chairman Bermingham Jr. read the submitted public comments, which will become part the record.

1. Judith Henckel commented on the Supervisors responsibility to gather support in negotiating with developers.
2. Charles Cole commented on now is the time for elected officials to represent the best interests of the residents.

PART III (Announcements)

1. 4th of July Parade and Fireworks-Chairman Bermingham Jr. announced that Upper Mount Bethel Township and Portland will be bringing the 4th of July parade to the residents of Upper Mount Bethel and Portland. The parade route will be posted on the Facebook and the Township website. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated that the Park Committees' recommendation was to postpone the Fireworks until September.
2. UMBT Food Program-Manager Nelson stated a generous donor donated funds to keep the food program going for another four weeks. Manager Nelson stated that the meal program will be moving to Wednesdays for next four weeks.
3. US Census-Chairman Bermingham Jr. announced that the US Census date to register has been extended to October 31 and hopes that Upper Mount Bethel Township comes through with a 100% response rate.
4. Manager Nelson announced that the \$31,000 that was fraudulently withdrawn from the bank account has been deposited back into the account. Supervisor Pinter stated that the funds should be put into the reserve account.

PART IV (Action Agenda-Matters to be voted on)

1. Live Streaming Quote-Stavros Barbounis gave an overview of the Live Stream Quote that the Board of Supervisors' requested. The Live Stream Solution accommodates the audio/visual requirements to successfully stream and record Township meetings and add the ability to transport the solution properly to an alternative venue. The quote is \$1,732.40, which includes equipment and installation. Supervisor Pinter asked about holding meetings at the Firehouse and whether the new equipment would resolve the internet issues. Supervisor Pinter would like a separate quote for the Firehouse structure. Stavros will work a separate quote for that. Chairman Bermingham Jr. asked Engineer Coyle the status of the Act 537 Plan. Engineer Coyle stated that it was sent to DEP on Friday, June 19th and to expect 3-6 months for their initial comments to come back. Secretary Cindy Beck stated that this upgrade to the new equipment will be part of a grant that will be submitted on Thursday, June 25th. **MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter to approve the purchase of the equipment for the Live Streaming Solution not to exceed \$1,800.00 seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.
2. ASA Application-Messinger 508 Park Rd.-Solicitor Karasek stated this ASA application was received on March 30, 2020 and within 180 days, if no action is taken by the Board of Supervisors, the application is deemed approved. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to accept the ASA Application, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

PART V (Old Business)

1. Smith Property Update-Engineer Coyle gave a summary of the inspection conducted on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at the Smith Property-269 Saddle Creek Dr.-Lot 7. Engineer Coyle stated the picnic table, tires, gun targets and other debris noted in his June 6, 2019 letter, has been removed from the detention basin. The fence has been installed around the entire top of the berm of the basin and the basin bottom, sides and berm appear stable and vegetated. Engineer Coyle stated that based upon his inspection, the stormwater basin was found to be satisfactory. There was a discussion about shooting times, public disturbances, noise ordinance, and the possibility of having our Zoning Officer on call. Solicitor Karasek discussed a firearms ordinance. **MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter to have Solicitor Karasek draft a Firearms Ordinance, seconded by Chairman Bermingham Jr. Vote: 5-0. Solicitor Karasek will provide a draft to the Board to review prior to the meeting on July 13, 2020.

PART VI (New Business)

1. Web/Email Newsletter-Secretary Cindy Beck discussed the struggles using EDDM to distribute our Newsletter and whether doing a monthly Newsletter for the website is an option. The issue using EDDM lies in the mail routes. Not all Upper Mount Bethel Township residents are receiving the Newsletter. Supervisor Pinter suggested having the Newsletter available at local businesses and possibly using our tax records to create a solid mailing list. There was further discussion on ideas how to make certain everyone in the Township receives the Newsletter. Cindy will look into other avenues to distribute.

PART VII (Public Comments received by calling in during this Meeting)

Richard Wilford-Hunt commented on the Township negotiating with Lou Pektor and how disconcerting it is.

Charles Cole commented on the shooting problem and wanted to correct Solicitor Karasek on the shooting distance from an occupied dwelling is 150 yards not 150 feet.

PART VIII (Executive Session) Recess to Executive Session at 8:15 pm to discuss legal matters.

1. Legal-The Meeting reconvened at 9:08 pm. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated the Board of Supervisors discussed a legal matter and at this time no action will be taken.
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PART IX (Adjournment)

MOTION by Supervisor DeFranco to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 pm, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary

Comment to June 22, 2020 BoS meeting

There are many talented people living in the township with skills that if brought together could help affirm and back the Supervisors desire to build a tax base without destroying our community quality of life, both with our natural assets and our culture and history, our sense of place. It is the Supervisors responsibility to gather as much support as possible in negotiating with the current and future developers as to what we see ourselves to be and our future vision. If warehouses are not our desire, how do you work with potential developers to get the best outcome for both. Higher quality of living and standards would seem more like to bring more diverse and futuristic economic development that won't obliterate our sense of place.

Judith Henckel

Comments to UMBT BOS and Public

6/22/20

SUPERVISORS: Do you hear me? I say to you, NOW IS THE TIME!

Now is the time, to start acting as our officials, elected to represent the best interests of the residents. Now is the time, to stop trying to shield yourselves and RPL from criticism. Now is the time, to stop negotiating with developers behind closed doors. Now is the time, to open to the public, the requests of RPL to throw out our local ordinances and bend to wishes of Lou Pektor. How can we trust someone as Lou Pektor who has publicly stated to our Township that RPL, for any development on RPL Logistics Park will comply with Upper Mount Bethel Township Zoning Ordinance and SALDO, and one month later ask us to trash the ordinances and let them do what they want on over a square mile of sensitive and valuable land?

Some of you have been negotiating with RPL, and we do not know what is being ask or said. Is it for the benefit of UMBT, or the Supervisor, or RPL? At best it smells bad and at worst is illegal.

The Spring/Summer 2020 UMBT Newsletter has very, very little in it related to the Act 537 Update, or the RPL development! The EDC Update says only flowery things about a February Meet and Greet with RPL! EDC also tells us about a plan to distribute a “first of its kind” economic development survey to residents in the future. This survey has been going to happen for at least two years, and when it may be done, will be after major changes happen to our Township.

So, remember that Resident’s Lives Matter! Open meetings and lines of communication!

C. Cole

- **Scott Mousley** · 1:42:12 Is now the right time to talk about a local police force?
 - **Richard B Klingle Jr** · 0:00 I didn't know we had 1 million dollars to start it
 - **Renee Marie** · 0:00 why not!
 - **Debbie Pasquino** · 1:57:10 Watching
 - **Renee Marie** · 1:53:51 Thank you Supervisors DeFranco and Pinter for continuing to monitor our budget and bringing to light the issues that are within.
 - **Jim Potter** · 1:46:17 louie
 - **Jim Potter** · 1:43:03 they must be talking about more lawsuits
 - **Michael Laclair** · 50:11 Where will the bethel heights sub division take place in
 - **Michael Laclair** · 1:18:28 **Olga Clara Ulmer** well they communicated the easement was off belvidere Corners rd. The only church is the one I listed
 - **Olga Clara Ulmer** · 10:12 Assume is not a good answer
 - **Michael Laclair** · 57:50 **Olga Clara Ulmer** I assume Mt. BETHEL Lutheran church on Belvidere Corners Rd.
 - **Olga Clara Ulmer** · 0:00 Which Church
 - **Michael Laclair** · 51:47 How many houses planned?
 - **Tiffany Hayward** · 50:50 Next to the church.
 - **Richard B Klingle Jr** · 1:14:29 What happened to the lawnmower contact
 - **Krista Schaarschmidt** · 1:12:08 Here!
 - **Jim Murphy** · 1:12:02 Is anything being done about all the cars parking along River Road near the end of the power plant property where people are illegally accessing the property to get to the river? Very dangerous
 - **Justin Duffield** · 1:08:50 Here
 - **Debbie Wenke** · 1:06:40 Don't know how you can take a vote on a budget when there is money unaccounted for.
 - **Sue Frutchey-Brown** · 1:02:35 What's the issue with the Smith property?
 - **Tiffany Hayward** · 1:01:22 How can you take a vote not knowing where the difference is coming from for the guide rail?
 - **Olga Clara Ulmer** · 54:14 Where is this housing development
 - **Richard B Klingle Jr** · 49:23 Wow
 - **Jim Potter** · 43:30 AMAZING Work fellas
 - **Jim Potter** · 40:04 i smell fish in the sea again, its a major subdivision
 - **Sue Frutchey-Brown** · 35:13 Sue and Dave Brown here
 - **Cyndi Parsons Karner** · 32:35 Cyndi and Steve present
 - **Teresa Schneider** · 29:56 Bob and Teri here
 - **Gary Harman** · 25:10 Present
 - **Christopher Finan Jr.** · 24:31 Thank you Cindy!!!
 - **Jim Potter** · 20:23 50 percent of the capacity when we go green for the building size
 - **Susan LaBar Stofflet** · 3:25 Here!
 - **Debbie Wenke** · 1:14 Deb Wenke here
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- **Jim Potter** · 2:12:10 Marathon executive session
 - **Todd Pysher** · 1:42:57 can someone play the jeopardy music. lol
 - **Faith Sarisky** · 1:24:43 I like the idea of putting the newsletter in with the garbage bill. Is that possible?
 - **Upper Mount Bethel Township** · 1:30:13 Something to look into
 - **Marie Erkenbeck Stoutland** · 1:21:51 How do we send out the tax bills? Don't we have bulk mailing permit to do that? Please! Explain!!!
 - **Upper Mount Bethel Township** · 1:24:53 Tax Bills are mailed out by the Tax Collector
 - **Marie Erkenbeck Stoutland** · 1:15:59 What are you paying for Every door direct vs the bulk mailing permit? Which would go out with the tax bills!
 - **Jim Potter** · 1:14:47 Scott, is spot on tax record mailing list, garbage bills
 - **Scott Cole** · 1:12:25 why not use the same mailing list that is used for the garbage bill mailings?
 - **Todd Pysher** · 1:13:22 that would make to much sense
 - **Marie Erkenbeck Stoutland** · 1:11:45 Not everyone gets the paper
 - **Marie Erkenbeck Stoutland** · 1:06:53 Use email. Mailchimp.
 - **Jim Potter** · 1:01:12
 - **Jim Potter** · 59:37 i think its Tina yet
 - **Upper Mount Bethel Township** · 1:00:37 Yes, it's Tina Serfass
 - **Jim Potter** · 54:47 who is the zoning officer now ??
 - **Todd Pysher** · 56:38 **Jim Potter** you should call in at the end and ask! hahaha
 - **Jim Potter** · 47:31 Louie
 - **Scott Cole** · 39:53 Good job Stavros! we need to keep the online streaming for all township meetings so more people can listen in and stay informed on current events.
 - **Bill Stefanski** · 25:13 Good evening!
 - **Faith Sarisky** · 14:57 Hi
 - **Gary Harman** · 10:51 Present
 - **David Harte** · 10:36 Watching
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