



Upper Mount Bethel Township

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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021 – 7 PM

*This meeting was held virtually and live streamed through the Upper Mount Bethel Township Facebook page.

I.

Chairman Pinter called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Virtually present were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor DeFranco, Supervisor Bermingham, Solicitor Karasek, and Manager Nelson. Supervisor Teel was absent.

There was no public comment.

II.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Pinter announced that each Supervisor has a new Township email address for anyone who wishes to contact a Supervisor.

supervisorpinter@umbt.org

supervisorteel@umbt.org

supervisordefranco@umbt.org

supervisordue@umbt.org

supervisorbermingham@umbt.org

Supervisor Bermingham announced he will be giving his second presentation on How Local Governments Work on February 1, 2021 (via ZOOM) at 7:00 pm. Supervisor Bermingham will also be having office hours (via ZOOM) on February 18, 2021 from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Supervisor Bermingham announced he would like to Board to consider adopting a Resolution recognizing the first responders that responded to an individual who was in need of medical attention at the BASD on January 16, 2021. First responders Dale Handlelong of the Mt. Bethel Fire Company, Jason Fleming of the Lower Mount Bethel Fire Company, Chris Ryan and Jodi Dannels from the BASD, should all be commented and recognized for saving his life. Chairman Pinter stated this will be on the agenda next month.

III.

TABLED ITEMS

1. Heritage Conservancy-Solicitor Karasek stated he has made attempts in reaching out to a contact at the Heritage Conservancy to discuss his concerns with the contract but has not received any response. Manager Nelson stated he has a contact person and will reach out to them. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to table this matter until the February 8, 2021 Board of Supervisors' meeting, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Vote: 4-0.

IV.

REPORTS

1. Manager Nelson discussed his monthly activity, some highlighted items included the installation of the traffic speed humps on Potomac St. and Slateford Rd., working on the estimates for bridge repairs on National Park Dr. and Slateford Bridge, continued negotiations with Teamsters on the Road Crew Contract, and coordinating of the MTF grant. Manager Nelson explained the road crew procedures for preparing for inclement weather, routes covered and what to expect. Supervisor DeFranco asked for an update on retaining an attorney for the Overlook Pub. Solicitor Karasek stated he unfortunately did not reach out to Attorney Piperato but will have an update for the next meeting. Supervisor DeFranco asked Manager Nelson if we had an accounting of the funds that were distributed to the servers and bartenders. Supervisor Bermingham stated the servers from Five Points and the Slateford Inn were not in the first distribution of funds, but Manager Nelson did have left over donations, which were then distributed to those missed, even though it was not the same amount the others received. Manager Nelson stated that anyone who received funds, signed an envelope indicating how much they received. Chairman Pinter stated that we will need an accounting record of all funds that came in and were distributed.
2. Manager Nelson gave a summary of the Zoning report, which detailed permits that were issued.
3. Manager Nelson gave a summary of the SEO report, which detailed permits issued, inspections, and witnessed test pits for RPL.
4. Secretary Cindy Beck gave an update of the current plans currently on the Planning Commission agenda. Supervisor DeFranco stated that the EDC will be meeting this month and RPL will be there to provide an update.

5. Tracy DeFranco, Tax Collector, gave a summary of year end 2020. Tracy will be providing her report on a quarterly basis.
6. Secretary Cindy Beck gave a summary of her daily office activity, which included assisting residents with various requests, research, monthly reports, grant reports, preparing agendas and transcribing minutes.
7. Stavros Barbounis gave an overview of projects that have been accomplished for 2020. Stavros has successfully deployed a new server/network upgrade, Township website, Township Facebook page, streamlined Township Meetings, enabled remote services, as well as many other IT/Telecom projects. Stavros provided the Board with 2021 Initiatives and Objectives.

V.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Chairman Pinter discussed the startup of a Budget Committee. Chairman Pinter would like to see one representative from each voting district to work with Manager Nelson to develop the budget. Chairman Pinter will put together a charter to include a mission statement and purpose to present to the Board for consideration.
2. Supervisor Bermingham stated that after the last Park/Rec Committee meeting, Stavros Barbounis expressed his interest in being appointed back into the Park/Rec Committee. **MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to re-appoint Stavros to Park/Rec Committee, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 4-0.
3. Manager Nelson stated the Commonwealth Financing Authority has funds available to be used for the construction and installation of the traffic signal at the intersection of Rt.611/512 and by Resolution #2021-03 (MTF Grant, sponsored by Senator Scavello), the Township requests from the Authority a grant in the amount of \$325,000.00. Supervisor Bermingham asked if there is an overall cost to the project. Manager Nelson stated the original estimate was \$368,000.00 and we already have funds invested with engineering costs, so this estimate will mostly change. Manager Nelson stated that we will be looking into further funding/grants. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to adopt Resolution # 2021-03, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 4-0.
4. Solicitor Karasek stated that an item needs be added to the agenda. At the Planning Commission meeting last week, a time extension was not received for the Tishuk to McCabe, et al. Lot Line Adjustment Plan, which the time for the BOS to take action expires on January 31, 2021 and at this time, the BOS may want to consider to deny the plan. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to deny approval of the plan based on Engineer Coyle's review letter of March 17, 2020, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 4-0. Solicitor Karasek will send them a written denial notice.

VI.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frances Visicaro commented on why the residents can "comment" but not ask questions at the public meetings.

Supervisor Bermingham stated he would like the Board to think of ways to answer residents' questions. Chairman Pinter stated he has discussed this with Solicitor Karasek. Solicitor Karasek stated it is best the questions be submitted for the Board to review and the answers come from the Board, not just one Supervisor.

VII.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Bermingham to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary