



**Upper Mount Bethel Township**  
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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021 – 7:00 PM

I.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Bermingham, Supervisor Teel, Supervisor DeFranco, Township Manager Nelson, and Township Solicitor Karasek. Township Engineer Coyle was absent.

Chairman Pinter stated that the streaming card was fried from a recent storm, therefore, tonight's meeting will not be live streamed.

Public Comments:

Charlie Cole, River Rd., commented on the EDC survey, how it is poorly written, and the status of it being active.

John Corica, Shepherds Hill, commented on the condition of his neighborhood, poor road conditions, overgrown empty lots, and no communication with the developer. John commented on the Firearms Ordinance and stated it is mistake.

Richard Wilford-Hunt read his public comment, which will become part of the official record. Richard commented on the behavior of the Supervisors towards Supervisor Bermingham, the EDC survey, the frustration of the residents of UMBT and the proposed Industrial Park Committee. Chairman Pinter stated he is looking for "balance", in the committee, not to disband it. Supervisor Bermingham stated the committee is still moving forward. Supervisor Teel stated he is not a self-proclaimed liaison.

II.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Bermingham commented on the success of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, UMBT Clean-Up will be August 7<sup>th</sup>, office hours will be July 28, 7-8 pm, location to be

announced at a later day, the grant for the Mt. Bethel Fire House received a partial of their Emergency Shelter grant. Congresswoman Susan Wild approved \$250,000. And the notices to all Saddle Creek residents regarding the proposed agreement with William Smith to be mailed by the end of the week.

Secretary Cindy Beck encouraged all residents to sign up for CodeRed, the Emergency Notification System.

### III.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the June 14, 2021, Meeting Minutes.
2. Approval of the June 28, 2021, Meeting Minutes.
3. Refuse Reductions, Application Refunds and Exonerations.

**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

### IV.

#### ACTION AGENDA

1. Designation of Agent Resolution for the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act-Manager Nelson stated that was previously held by the former Manager and this Resolution is to authorize him as the Agent. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to appoint Manager Nelson as the agent for the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

### V.

#### SUBDIVISIONS

1. 1596 & 1608 Potomac St. Lot Line Adjustment Plan-Solicitor Karasek stated the Township's Planning Commission has recommended approval of the Plan based upon Engineer Coyle's recommendation letter dated April 13, 2021, along with the SALDO waiver approved by the BOS. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to approve the Preliminary Conditional Final Plan for 1596 & 1608 Potomac St. Lot Line Adjustment, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

### VI.

#### SITE PLAN

1. 49 Saddle Creek Modification-Solicitor Karasek discussed Engineer Coyle's review letter dated June 14, 2021, recommending a modification to the approved plan be allowed for the construction of the proposed dwelling, driveway and stormwater features within the easement as proposed. The applicant will be responsible for submitting a statement, certified by their Engineer, verifying all stormwater and grading was completed as per the approved Site/Grading Plan. The Township Planning Commission recommends

the modification. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to approve the 49 Saddle Creek Modification, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.

## VII.

### TABLED ITEMS

1. Social Media/Privacy Policy-Manager Nelson asked the Board to review the proposed Social Media Policy that is in their binders and to send any questions or comments to him. Solicitor Karasek stated he will review and should be able to speak on it at the next meeting. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to table to the next meeting, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.
2. River Road Roadway and Embankment Repairs-Manager Nelson spoke on behalf of Engineer Coyle. Bids were received and Engineer Coyle recommends rejecting the bids received. Manager Nelson stated the Township also put together a bid for the project and stated the project can be completed for about \$38,603, since a lot of the material we have in stock. Chairman Pinter would like to know a true cost. Manager Nelson stated he will get that to the Board. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to reject the bids, as per Engineer Coyle's recommendation, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Vote: 5-0.

## VIII.

### FINANCIALS

1. Bill List-Manager Nelson read the bill list. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to pay the bills in the amount of \$572,100.42, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

## IX.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Recessed to Executive Session at 7:40 pm to discuss personnel, Road Crew Contract.

The meeting reconvened at 8:05 pm. Chairman Pinter stated the Union Contract was discussed and stated there are some other burden costs the Township would like to see before they vote on it, therefore, this will be tabled for 30 days for Manager Nelson to work with the Union Rep to gather the information needed. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table for 30 days, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

## X.

### ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 pm, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary



Public Comment – UMBT BOS Meeting July 13, 2021

I was not at the last BOS meeting held June 28, 2021 but I heard from others how some of the supervisors behaved. The attack on Supervisor Bermingham was unwarranted. John has done more for this community than the whole lot of you put together.

His outreach to our community about the proposed industrial park – as liaison between this board, our community and the developer is just that – an opportunity to educate the public, to open a forum where the residents can get some questions answered.

And now, all of a sudden, you want to disband the group. Let me remind you Mr. Pinter that, at the start of your term as chairperson, you suggested forming such as liaison committee and now because it does not seem to be going your way you want to wash your hands of it. Or maybe Supervisor Teel does not like having his turf stepped on as self-proclaimed sole negotiator with the developer.

Similarly, I have heard the EDC has pulled their economic development survey because our manager ~~does~~ <sup>did</sup> not like the comments coming back. I hope that is not the case.

Well.... The residents of UMBT are speaking. We are frustrated and aggravated that seemingly at every turn you, as a board, who are elected to protect us, have failed. And as a result we have had to file a lawsuit



against you. The court is still deliberating the case. A decision either way will have a profound impact on our township. This never had to happen if you had made the developer, from the very beginning, follow all of our local zoning laws as the rest of have to do everyday. We would still be getting tax revenue and jobs for UMBT and the BASD with an industrial park but at a scale that protects and respects our rural community and quality of life.

Richard Wilford-Hunt  
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Mt. Bethel, PA

