



Upper Mount Bethel Township
387 Ye Olde Highway
P.O. Box 520
Mount Bethel, PA 18343-5220
Phone: (570) 897-6127 Fax: (570) 897-0108
www.umbt.org

UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 – 7:00 PM

*This meeting was held in person 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.

Present were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Friedman, Supervisor Birmingham, Township Manager Nelson, Township Engineer Coyle, and Township Solicitor Karasek. Supervisor Teel via phone. Also via phone is Lance Prator.

Public Comments:

Charles Cole, Riverton Rd., commented on the traffic and the NID, one more coffin in UMBT.

Gary Hilliard, Slateford Rd., commented on the flooding issue on Slateford Rd., and since the last meeting with Manager Nelson, has anything been resolved. Manager Nelson stated he has reached out to the Railroad to see what they are willing to do and once the weather breaks, the road crew will be able to put a bigger box in to collect the water.

Howard Chazin, Red Fox Lane, asked why his road was not plowed. Manager Nelson stated he will look into why it was not plowed.

II.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Cindy Beck announced that Waste Management will not pick up Christmas Trees, so residents are welcome to bring them to the Eastern Industries property, just call the office to schedule. The recycle calendars should be out within the next two weeks. And do not forget to sign up for CodeRed. Chairman Pinter stated that next year he would like to Township to dedicate one day for the road crew to pick up Christmas Trees.

Supervisor Bermingham announced his interview with Dr. Raso is posted on his Facebook page, still working on the Emergency Shelter grant, free smoke detector program and is also working with a couple of residents on a Mt. Bethel Art Center. And is there an update on the intersection of Ridge Rd. and Fox Gap Rd. Manager Nelson stated that because a part of Ridge Rd is a State Road, he is trying to work with PennDOT on a solution to the speeding.

Manager Nelson stated that if anyone knows of anyone having difficulty paying for heat, have them contact him at the office, there are programs that are available to assist.

III. PRESENTATION

Portland Borough Authority-Attorney Steven Goudsouzian, representing the PBA, gave a presentation of what they are looking to do regarding the Demi Rd. project. Demi Rd. is looking for water and fire suppression services and the PBA did not want to move forward without first coming to the Township. The Demi Rd. project is not in the Special Services Area, the PBA is willing to add it. Chairman Pinter stated that Solicitor Karasek did provide the Board with an update at the meeting in December and the Board gave the approval for the PBA to move forward. Lance Prator commented that Attorney Goudsouzian does a fantastic job.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the December 13, 2021, Budget Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of the December 13, 2021, Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of the December 27, 2021, WS Meeting Minutes
4. Refuse Reductions, Application Refunds and Exonerations

MOTION by Supervisor Due to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 4-0-1. Supervisor Friedman abstained from the approval of the minutes and approved of the Refuse Reductions, Application Refunds and Exonerations.

V. FINANCIALS

1. Bill List-Manager Nelson read the bill list. Chairman Pinter stated he would like the Dixie Drivetrain invoice in the amount of \$731.01 removed from the bill list until he can get more clarification of the charge. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to pay the bills in the amount of \$195,516.21, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

VI. ACTION AGENDA

1. Resolution #2022-03-Challenge to Re-Districting Map-Manager Nelson discussed the Re-Districting Map. The last map seen takes Upper Mount Bethel Township and Portland Borough and moves it straight into Monroe County. Manager Nelson read Resolution #2022-03. This Resolution will be submitted to the 2021 Legislative Reappointment Commission of Pennsylvania for its earnest

consideration. **MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to adopt Resolution #2022-03, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

VII.

NEW BUSINESS

1. NIDMA-Chairman Pinter stated this has to do with the representation of the Township on the Management Board. Chairman Pinter would like this put out to the public for any resident interested in serving on the NIDMA. Letters of interest should be sent into the Township Secretary by 4:00 pm Thursday, January 13, 2022.

Supervisor Friedman stated that there seems to be a conflict of interest with the Cozza Law and would like to go into Executive Session. Chairman Pinter asked Supervisor Friedman what the conflict would be. Supervisor Friedman stated Matthew Bolewitz representing the Township.

Recess to Executive Session at 7:47 pm.

VIII.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-The meeting reconvened at 8:05 pm.

1. Chairman Pinter stated that discussed in Executive Session was Supervisor Friedman's concern with a possible conflict of interest with Cozza Law Firm. **MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to terminate the relationship with the Cozza Law Firm, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Chairman Pinter stated that during the personal interview with Matthew Bolewitz, he did disclose that he did work for Leech Tishman and the Board did vote to use Cozza Law Firm as the NID Liaison to the Board. Chairman Pinter stated there is a motion on the floor and has been seconded and will call for a vote. Vote: 2-3, motion does not move. Chairman Pinter stated that at this time, there is no further work to be done for the NID and if further work is needed, a decision can be made at that time. Supervisor Bermingham asked Manager Nelson where he found the Cozza Law Firm. Manager Nelson stated on the internet.

IX.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Teel to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.