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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 9, 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 7:10 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Friedman, Supervisor Teel, Township Manager Nelson, Township Engineer Coyle, and Township Solicitor Karasek. Supervisor Bermingham via phone.

II.

**APPROVE THE AGENDA**

MOTION by Supervisor Teel to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Due. Motion and second withdrawn.

Manager Nelson asked that the Permit Fees, Section VII, item 3, be removed from the agenda. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

III.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gary Hilliard, Slateford Road, asked for an update on the construction project on Slateford Rd. Manager Nelson stated the work is scheduled to begin next week and the railroad will be paying for the work to be completed.

Chris Finan, Apache Drive, first thanked the Board for the financial assistance they provided for the purchase of a new apparatus. Chris stated that unfortunately the apparatus they were looking at sold. Chris further stated that Pierce would hold a price until May 31<sup>st</sup> but will then increase to \$935,000. There was a discussion on the funding/co-signing/increasing the fire tax mil. Supervisor Bermingham stated that options need to be explored to assist. **MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham for the BOS of UMBT to work alongside the Mt. Bethel Fire Department to explore various options to

fund the fire truck. Chairman Pinter stated he was good with the motion until Supervisor Bermingham stated "fund" the fire truck after 4 years. Supervisor Bermingham amended his MOTION, the BOS of UMBT will work in good faith alongside the Mt. Bethel Fire Department to explore various options for funding the fire truck, seconded by Chairman Pinter. Manager Nelson stated that NB Fire Department has asked the Township to co-sign their loan as well. Manager Nelson recommends exploring options for both Fire Departments. Supervisor Bermingham amended his **MOTION** to include both Fire Departments in exploring various options for funding fire trucks, seconded by Chairman Pinter. Vote: 5-0.

Richard Wilford-Hunt, Shady Lane, commented on the funding of the fire truck and stated that maybe the developer could set up an escrow to help fund it.

Charles Cole, Riverton Road, asked on behalf of Catherine Buehler, what is the status on the mitigation efforts on the Riverton Road closure. Manager Nelson stated that a meeting with a second engineer has been scheduled to give a second quote on the mitigation of the rock wall. There was a discussion on the Township taking over the property.

Judith Henckel, Robin Hood Road, commented on the I-2 and I-3 Zones, the residents are concerned about their culture and the trading off clean air for jobs and taxes.

#### **IV.**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Manager Nelson thanked Ultra Poly for the cleanup efforts on Demi Road. Manager Nelson stated that with all the rain/wind there were no call outs and thanked property owners for being responsible for taking care of dead trees that could possibly fall into the roadways.

Supervisor Friedman announced he attended the Plan Slate Belt meeting where they went over land use maps.

Supervisor Bermingham thanked everyone who attended the fundraiser for Jimmy Comunale, Chelsea Sun for hosting and those who donated. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee is working on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. The American Lung Association would like to see the park be Smoke/Vape free. Has the street sign on Ridge Rd and Fox Gap Rd been replaced? Manager Nelson stated it will be replaced. There was a discussion on a four way stop on Ridge Rd. at the intersection of Fox Gap Rd.

Supervisor Teel announced the Planning Commission will be meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

Chairman Pinter announced he attended the Eagle Scout ceremony for Connor Robert Condel. It was a great event and was proud to present Robert with his Resolution.

## V.

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the April 11, 2022, Meeting Minutes
2. Refuse Reductions, Application Refunds and Exonerations

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

## VI.

### FINANCIALS

1. Bill List-Manager Nelson read the bill list. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to pay the bills in the amount of \$225,794.93, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

## VII.

### TABLED ITEMS

1. NIDMA-Chairman Pinter discussed the submitted letters of interest to serve on the NIDMA. Chairman Pinter confirmed with Supervisor Bermingham that he had a chance to review the letters of interest. Supervisor Bermingham asked if the candidates are going to be interviewed. Supervisor Bermingham stated that since there are no businesses established yet, there is time to interview. Supervisor Teel disagreed with Supervisor Bermingham and stated to let them get their organization together. Supervisor Teel stated he is very comfortable with Scott Cole and Leonard Zito. Chairman Pinter asked Supervisor Due his thoughts, Supervisor Due stated he agrees with Supervisor Teel, Supervisor Friedman stated, we interview for other positions, the candidates should be interviewed. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to appoint Scott Cole and Leonard Zito to the NIDMA, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 3-2. Supervisor Friedman and Supervisor Bermingham voting no. Supervisor Friedman stated he voted no and not because they are not qualified, but because a thorough vetting process was not completed.
2. Overhead cost of Storms-Manager Nelson discussed the overhead cost of storms, material costs and labor costs totaling \$101,733.30. Chairman Pinter stated he was surprised to see the overtime part of the labor was relatively small compared to the overall labor costs.

## VIII.

### ACTION AGENDA

1. Addendum to Shepherd's Hill Improvement Agreement-Solicitor Karasek stated this addendum was prepared as a result of work that still needed to be completed on Shepherd's Hill Dr. Engineer Coyle stated that road improvements have not been completed and this agreement is to address the completion of the installation of Shepherd's Hill Dr. The developer agrees to be solely responsible to maintain and/or replace binder for a period of 18 months. It is the intention the developer to ask the Township to take over the roadway. Matt Goodrich, Attorney for the developer, stated that he and his client have reviewed the drafted agreement and have agreed that it is ready to be executed

by the Board of Supervisors. Solicitor Karasek stated the only correction to be made on the agreement is the date. It should read February 11, 2022, not 2021. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to approve the Addendum to Shepherd's Hill Improvement Agreement, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0.

2. Community Park Bids-Manager Nelson stated that no bids have been received from our advertisement. Manager Nelson stated he made a few calls to general contractors who he thought might be interested in the project. Supervisor Bermingham asked Manager Nelson to reach out to Ray Higgins, he may be interested in submitting a bid. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to advertise for bids in the Morning Call, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.
3. Auditor Resignation-Manager Nelson stated a letter of resignation was received from William Groeneveld. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to accept William's resignation, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to advertise for a Township Auditor, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0. Solicitor Karasek stated the seat has to be filled by 30 days or the Vacancy Board will have to do it.

## IX.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Park-Supervisor Teel stated this has to do with the Upper Mount Bethel Community Park Foundation. Supervisor Teel asked Mark Mezger how much money is in the Foundation and has any of the money been spent on community park endeavors. Mark responded, "why do you need to know", it is a private entity. Chairman Pinter stated that any of the 501 (nonprofits) organizations, access to their financials have to be readily available on the IRS website. If they are not available, they can be reported. Mark stated that all the financials are published on the IRS website. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel for Manager Nelson to obtain the Park Foundation's financials from the IRS to support his allegations, seconded by Supervisor Due. Supervisor Bermingham suggested instead of threatening, why not sit down and discuss. Vote: 3-2.

Stavros Barbounis announced that the trees that line the left side of the entrance lane into the park were kindly donated by RPL. The road crew assisted in the planting of the trees. The first movie night is May 28<sup>th</sup>, showing Sing 2 and the fireworks display is scheduled for July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## X.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Industrial Development Authority Update (IDA)-Supervisor Friedman stated he attended the last IDA meeting where Mr. Pektor gave an update of his project and would like to have Jeff Manzi give the Board an update of what has been going on.
2. Well Ordinance-Supervisor Friedman stated this Ordinance never made it to the Township Zoning Ordinance. Supervisor Friedman stated that an individual has to jump through hoops to drill a well, when a developer can drill a dozen wells with no oversight. Charles Cole discussed the establishment of the well ordinance, baseline testing and the need to update the Zoning Ordinance. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to form a committee to organize the Zoning Ordinance, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Chairman Pinter stated that most of the Board members would like to review the well ordinance. Motion and

second withdrawn. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to table, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham.

Vote: 5-0.

3. Fire House Sub-Station-Supervisor Friedman discussed the need for a sub-station. Chief Finan stated this should be tabled until the fire study is complete. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to table until fire study is complete, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Vote: 5-0.

Supervisor Bermingham stated the NB Fire Company would like to post a notice of their proposed financing, which is a requirement under Section 147 (f) of the Internal Code of 1986, on the Township's website. Chairman Pinter stated he and the other Board members do not have a problem with it being posted on the Township's website.

**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary