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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 – 7:00 PM

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

I.

Supervisor Bermingham called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance were Supervisor Bermingham, Supervisor Friedman, Supervisor Eckman, Supervisor Erler, Supervisor Albert, Township Manager Graziano, and Township Solicitor Karasek. Engineer Coyle was absent.

II.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

MOTION by Supervisor Friedman to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 5-0.

Supervisor Bermingham stated that violence for free speech is never the answer. Charlie Kirk was a patriot and a hero as well as many others who speak their mind when others want them quiet. He shared his values, his visions, and his ideas, you could either agree or disagree with him. We all have a right to free speech. From the speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark to Charlie Kirk, they were all trying to make the world a better place. Supervisor Bermingham now asked for a Moment of Silence for Charlie Kirk and all those who have been killed for speaking their mind.

Supervisor Friedman asked for a Moment of Silence for the three police detectives that were brutally murdered in York, PA while responding to a call. They gave the ultimate sacrifice and deserve the same credit.

III.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Charles Cole, Riverton Rd., commented on the Slate Belt Museum monies. What was the purpose of the contribution of the \$7,500 to the museum, was it to go on to the cemeteries? Who will be contributing to the cemeteries to aid in correcting the fallen stones.

Charles Baltic, Laurel Hill Rd., responded to Charles Cole comment, who knows the history of the contributions to the cemeteries. Charles stated that the Slate Belt Museum has nothing to hide and does not know why the museum is being called out on having issues. The Slate Belt Museum would be willing to undergo a forensic audit for 10 or more years, as long as the Park Foundation undergoes a forensic audit. This should be done by an independent auditor, hired by the Township, selected independently from the Supervisors, so there is no interference or any undue influence being exerted over the auditor.

Ron Angle, Million Dollar Hwy, stated Mr. Baltic's suggestion of the forensic audits is a very good idea.

Judith Henckel, Robin Hood Rd., commented on agenda item BACIDA. They have not met since the first quarter. Has the Township received any minutes from their meetings and have we received any feedback/input from the Township's representative of the BACIDA.

Tom Gilmour, Morningside Dr. commented on Supervisor Erler's actions at his recent office hours held at TK's and other actions that may be found to be unethical. Supervisor Erler responded to Mr. Gilmour's public comments. Supervisor Erler stated that the bar was full, contrary to what Mr. Gilmour claimed, he was eating a bacon cheeseburger and had a beer. Mr. Gilmour stated that when he arrived he had a beer, a shot and a cigarette in his ear. Supervisor Erler disagreed.

IV.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Erler announced that he met with Supervisor Friedman and Township Manager Graziano to start discussions on the budget. Supervisor Erler spoke of Code Red and the advantages of signing up for it. Supervisor Erler commented on the statement regarding the museum being open to an audit as long as the Park Foundation performs one as well. Supervisor Erler would like to discuss this more. Supervisor Erler gave a brief report on his liaison positions, the newly formed solar panel committee (meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month) TAC, EDC, and EMS. Supervisor Erler stated that he will not announce his meet and greet in hopes that another Supervisor will.

Supervisor Eckman announced that this Saturday, September 27th is the Team Tommy bingo tricky tray fundraiser at the Bangor Elks, starting at 6pm.

Supervisor Albert announced the SBVA fundraising event on November 8th, at the Bangor HS, featuring the Swing Time Dolls. Tickets in advance are \$30 and \$35 at the door, tickets are available here at the Township.

Supervisor Bermingham thanked all those that helped out and participated cleaning up Quaker Plain Rd. Supervisor Bermingham presented Paul Ennico's wife the Resolution for Paul, for his dedication to the children and adults of the community supplying us with ice cream. The community wide yard sale is September 25-28th. Supervisor Bermingham gave a presentation on Roberts Rule of Order at his office hours. The classic car fundraiser for Terry Lockwitch is November 2nd at the Chelsea Sun. Supervisor Bermingham is asking for all committees to have a report for the October 27th meeting. Trunk or Treat at the Community Park, October 26th 12-3, Trick or Treat, October 26th, 3-5:30. Tuesday, October 7th, 7pm, Special BOS Meeting on the Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic River Designation Expansion. Supervisor Bermingham is working on having Adrian Cousens attend the October 13th meeting.

Manager Graziano gave an update on all the activity going on at the Community Park. The two softball fields are going in, the fields closer to Potomac St. are getting leveled for four soccer fields. Met-Ed has three arborist companies in the Township working on trees.

V.

ACTION ITEMS

1. DWG Gateway Community Liaison-Supervisor Eler stated that one letter of interest was received, Charles Baltic. **MOTION** by Supervisor Eler to appoint Charles Baltic, DWG Gateway Community Liaison, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Vote: 5-0.
2. Picone Joinder Deed-Solicitor Karasek discussed the request to join two pieces of property together. All the proper documents have been submitted, as well as review letters from the SEO and the Zoning Officer. Solicitor Karasek sees no issues with this. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to approve the Picone Joinder Deed, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 5-0.
3. BACIDA-Supervisor Bermingham is asking that we reach out to Jeff Manzi, BACIDA representative for the Township, and ask for him to provide an update of the activity happening at the Met-Ed property.
4. Garbage Bill Discount-Manager Graziano stated he would like to know if the Board would like to continue with the 10%, which is in place by Resolution. Solicitor Karasek stated that if the Resolution is specifically tailored to that contract (with WM), a new Resolution will need to be drafted. This will be on the agenda at the Oct.13th meeting.

VI.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Skid Steer Purchase-Supervisor Friedman this piece of machinery would be a great asset to Township. We are currently renting one up at the park. Supervisor Friedman read a letter from the Road Foreman, who recommends the purchase of a skid steer. The three months of rental fees will be deducted from the purchase price. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to purchase the skid steer for \$82,100. seconded by Supervisor Erler. Manager Graziano went over the purchase price. Source well pricing, new, \$93,200, less the three months in rental fees of \$11,100, total \$82,100. Supervisor Erler stated that he did reach out to Rich Klinge, who may not be fully onboard with this, but stated it could be used for multiple tasks. Marty Pinter, Lindsey Lane, urges the Board to consider leasing the skid steer, buy the attachments, but lease the machine. Vote: 4-1. Supervisor Eckman voted no.
2. Ford 5000 Mower-Manager Graziano stated that it is time to sell the 1976 Ford 5000 mower. It still works but it is not safe to use. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to sell the Ford 5000 mower on Municibid, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 4-1. Supervisor Erler voted no.
3. Generator-Manager Graziano stated that he would like to sell the old generator. The motor still works but it does not make electricity. **MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to sell the generator on Municibid, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0.
4. Ordinance Review-Supervisor Erler stated that he has been talking with Tina, our Zoning Officer, about certain ordinances that have discrepancies or no longer apply. Supervisor Bermingham stated that it's a good idea but thinks the Board needs to think about it.

VII.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Policy 1402 (g) 3 Wage Compensation-Supervisor Erler discussed the PSATS Forum that he attended today and the amount of information he acquired. Due to the fact that he does have a job, in which he had to take the day off to attend, his wages do suffer to do the role of a Supervisor. This policy may allow other Supervisors who do work to do the training. Charles Baltic, Township Auditor, stated that this is a policy choice of the Supervisors. Charles wanted to point out some things to be considered 1) have written guidelines, 2) requirement for pre-approvals for anything that would be compensated, 3) have an understanding of how it benefits the Township, 4) has this been done in the past, if so, what has been the cost, 5) where does the funding come from, is it part of the budget, 6) is this just for Supervisors or does it involve different categories of employees. Charles stated that this type of compensation is not what is referenced in the auditor's setting of the wage scale for part time work of the Supervisors. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to table, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 5-0. This will be on the October 13th meeting agenda.

VIII.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Friedman to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary

