



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
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020 @ 5:00 PM

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

PART I

1. Call to Order-Chairman Bermingham Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Roll Call-Virtually present were Chairman Bermingham Jr., Supervisor Teel, Supervisor Pinter, Supervisor DeFranco, and Township Manager Nelson. Supervisor Due was absent.
4. Approve the Agenda-**MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 4-0.

PART II (Public Comment)-None

PART III (2021 Proposed Budget Discussion)

Manager Nelson stated the proposed budget is available for the public to view, just call the office to schedule an appointment. Manager Nelson stated that Supervisor Pinter made some solid recommendations and modifications were made. Manager Nelson stated the income is a little light on the Real Estate because with COVID, they wanted to be conservative.

Supervisor Pinter stated that after the 1st quarter, we will have a better insight as to where we are at. Everything runs through the General Fund. The budget is roughly 7.6 million. With the new budget software installed, the budget will be more manageable.

Manager Nelson gave a summary of the line items. Manager Nelson stated we have two bridges that will need to be repaired, National Park Drive and Slateford. We hope to acquire funding through the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program for the National Park Drive Bridge.

Chairman Bermingham Jr. asked if any funds for ambulance were included in the 2021 budget. Manager Nelson responded that there is enough in the operational reserved funds if that was to occur.

Supervisor DeFranco stated he thought that Engineer Coyle's estimated cost for the National Park Bridge was \$200k. Manager Nelson stated that was his initial estimate, but with some modifications, now it will be roughly \$135k.

Chairman Bermingham Jr. asked about equipment that may be needed for the QRS trucks, can the funds for the ambulance be used or should a separate fund for the QRS trucks be set up. Supervisor Pinter stated there is no need for a separate account, that is what the fire tax account is for. Manager Nelson stated the fire tax is for emergency services.

Chairman Bermingham Jr. asked Manager Nelson about the .5 mil that was put aside last year for the Fire Companies and is it in the budget again this year. Manager Nelson stated no, but if they need additional assistance, we will be able to assist, the Board will make that decision. Manager Nelson stated the Fire Companies will now be responsible for paying their bills. They will present us with purchase orders for whatever expenses they have. Supervisor Pinter explained how the new software will be beneficial for tracking.

Manager Nelson stated that the 2021 Proposed Budget will be ready for Final Adoption on December 30, 2020, if no adjustments are made.

PART IV (Public Comment)

Chris Finan, Chief, Mt. Bethel Fire Company, commented on the .5 mil that was put in place to help pay their bills and the 1 mil Fire Tax was to save for the purchase of large equipment/vehicles. Chief Finan stated the Fire Company has purchased some equipment with funds that were received through fundraisers and grants. Chief Finan stated that the Fire Companies will be needing assistance the coming year. Manager Nelson stated if they need assistance, they will get it.

PART V (Adjournment)-**MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary