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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021 – 7:00 PM

I.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Pinter announced that tonight's meeting is not being live-streamed due to Stavros caring for his father.

In attendance were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Bermingham, Supervisor Teel, Supervisor DeFranco and Township Solicitor Karasek. Engineer Coyle was absent. Manager Nelson arrived at 8:00 pm.

Public Comment:

Chris Finan, Chief Mt. Bethel Fire Company, commented on the new speed hump on River Road, there were no warning signs, which is a safety concern.

Arleen Tishuk, Riverton Rd., stated her home was destroyed by fire and needs to go to the ZHB in order to rebuild. She is asking the Board to see if an emergency zoning hearing could be scheduled because she would like to start building as soon as possible. Tina stated they need a hearing because they are building in a flood plain and need a special exception, the hearing is scheduled for 12/21/21. Solicitor Karasek stated the ZHB is a separate entity, the Board of Supervisors cannot make exceptions.

Gary Hilliard, Slateford Rd., commented on the flooding from the water coming off the mountain, causing damage to his property. Proper drainage needs to be done on Slateford Rd.

Charlie Cole, River Rd., stated he fully supports Farmland Preservation-it is good for the community.

David Friedman, Gap View Lane, commented on the open seats on the various Township Committees and the importance of advertising.

Chris Finan introduced Michael Bruneio, who oversees QRS/EMS, Mt. Bethel Fire Company and also a paramedic for Bethlehem/Allentown. Chris stated that they were supposed to be on the agenda to discuss the AEDs for MBFC and NBFC and 2 LUCAS (CPR Machine). Chris stated they have tried for grants but keep getting denied, so that is why they are coming to Township for financial assistance. They are looking for 15 AEDs and 2 LUCAS machines, totaling \$96,000. Supervisor Bermingham asked Chris if he knows how much is in the Fire Tax account, Chris stated he does not, but is required to submit a RTK to get that information. Chairman Pinter stated the balance sheet shows a balance of \$53,000 in the fire tax account. Supervisor Bermingham made a MOTION to go ahead and place the order on the condition that Solicitor Karasek gives the OK as an exception to the Emergency Management Act, seconded by Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Bermingham withdrew his motion, Chairman Pinter withdrew his second. **MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to add the Purchase of Emergency Equipment to tonight's agenda, under Section III, Action Agenda, #3, seconded by Chairman Pinter. Vote: 5-0. MOTION by Supervisor Bermingham for the MBFC to order the equipment on the condition that Solicitor Karasek gives the OK to order without advertising, motion withdrawn. **MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham for the Township to make a donation to the MBFH for them to purchase the emergency equipment, seconded by Chairman Pinter. Vote: 5-0.

II.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-None

III.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Farmland Preservation/Messinger Farm-**MOTION** by Chairman Pinter to approve the appraisal as presented, amount furnished by the Township, \$143,000.00, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.
2. Trucks/Equipment-There was a discussion on the replacement of two trucks. Supervisor Due discussed the quotes received on tandems and tri-axels. Chairman would like to table this in order to get all the information needed before making any decision. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table the trucks to the December 13th meeting, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0. Supervisor Due and Lindsey Manzi, Road Crew Chief, discussed the quote and specs for the John Deere Excavator. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to table, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.
3. LUCAS CPR Machines and AEDs-Previously discussed.

IV.

REPORTS

1. SEO-Chairman Pinter stated that Scott is not present to give his report, but it is provided in the binders to review.
2. Zoning-Tina gave a summary of her monthly zoning activity.
3. Accounting/Bookkeeper-Chairman Pinter stated that Diann's report is in the binders to review.

4. Open Space Advisory Board-Janet Pearson, Chairperson, discussed her monthly report which included proceeding with preserve projects and consideration of properties for open space.
5. Economic Development Committee-Supervisor DeFranco stated there is nothing to report for the EDC.
6. Manager-Manager Nelson stated he did not prepare a report this month. Manager Nelson stated he and Engineer Coyle attended the Portland Boro Highway Occupancy Permitting meeting this evening for Demi Rd. and River Rd., which is owned by the State and the State is requesting the Municipality to make application for the occupancy permit.
7. Engineer-Engineer Coyle was not present to give his report, but it is provided in the binders to review.
8. Solicitor-Solicitor Karasek gave a summary of his monthly activity, which included meetings attended, subdivision/land development/zoning matters, litigation, and miscellaneous administrative matters.
9. Secretary-Cindy Beck gave a summary of her monthly activity, ongoing website maintenance with Stavros, grants, working on the reappointments, and gave a shout out to the NB Fire Company, Noah Wilder, Dan Cole, Dan Lank, Tom Rinehart, Albert Spang, Troy Bartron and Manager Nelson for their assistance at the Electronics Recycling Event.
10. Parks/Rec-Supervisor Bermingham gave a summary of Parks/Rec report, which included the appointment of Karyn Pinter as a new member, 2022 budget, grant opportunities, park septic system, (a thank you to the Post Foundation for their generous donation to cover that cost) and upcoming community events.
11. IT/Telecom-Chairman Pinter stated that the IT/Telecom report is in the binder to review.
12. Planning Commission-Supervisor Teel stated the Planning Commission will be meeting on December 8th to discuss Demi Rd.
13. Supervisors
 - a. Supervisor Due reported the Lafayette College Tech program might be interest looking at our Preserve, possibly doing a project.
 - b. Supervisor Bermingham reported he is working with Chelsea Sun for a fundraiser for the family of Ashton Dunbar who tragically passed away recently, which will be held 12/21/21, 5-8 pm, December office hours will be scheduled sometime after Thanksgiving, and the Fire Companies will be having their annual Santa drive by and if there are any residents that need support, reach out to him.
 - c. Supervisor Teel had nothing to report.
 - d. Supervisor DeFranco had nothing to report.
 - e. Chairman Pinter reported the 2022 budget meetings will be advertised after Thanksgiving. Chairman Pinter thanked all the committees for getting their 5-year budgets out.

V.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Teel to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary