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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 26, 2021 – 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.

In attendance were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Bermingham, Supervisor Teel, Supervisor DeFranco, Township Manager Nelson, Township Engineer Coyle, and Township Solicitor Karasek.

Chairman Pinter announced that two Fireman were injured, two separate off-site accidents. One of the firemen is doing much better. Supervisor Bermingham stated that Nancy Mahan, a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, was also injured in a car accident. Thoughts and prayers to everyone.

Chairman Pinter stated Section III, Tabled Items, will be moved to Section V and Section V will be Section VI.

Public Comment:

Charlie Kull, Hartzell Ferry Rd., asked about the procedure to dispose of used motor oil at the Township Building.

Dave Friedman, Gap View Lane, commented on the promotional video that the CBRE that RPL hired, states that there will be eight (8) 100 ft. buildings.

Charlie Cole, Riverton Rd., commented on CBRE, the marketing firm hire by RPL to sell the buildings in their development.

Charlie Hentz, Ridge Rd., commented on RPL being a shell company formed by Ashley Development, and the deal with the BACIDA (Bangor Area Commercial and Industrial Development Authority) on the clean-up of the Met-Ed property.

Holly Tincani, Morningside Dr., commented on the Firearms Ordinance and the second amendment rights of the people.

William Smith, Saddle Creek, commented on his request for public records, never receiving a response, and the Firearms Ordinance.

Charlie Hentz stated he hopes the Board of Supervisors pass the Illegal Gun Ordinance, which was plagiarized by the Stroud Township Attorney, and the intent to sue under Title 42 of the Civil Rights Act.

Jeff Fulmer, Saddle Creek Dr., commented on the myths of William's shooting range, it is a safe environment.

Mark Mezgar, Scenic Court, stated he is against the Firearms Ordinance. Mark stated that on June 22, Jeff Manzi signed a Resolution entering into an agreement with RPL East and the BACIDA regarding the clean-up of the brown field.

Supervisor Teel asked Mr. Mezgar if he is opposed to the process or to the clean-up. Mark replied he is opposed to government agents making decisions to maximize profit for a single company, he is not opposed to the clean-up.

Supervisor Bermingham commented on this how Government needs to work, questions are asked and answered. A town hall meeting needs to be scheduled where a questions and answers dialog can take place.

Manager Nelson explained the NID. There was a discussion on the qualifications of understanding the NID.

Supervisor DeFranco stated that RPL is using a program that the Government is providing.

Bob Eckman, Park Rd., commented on the grant, if it's not enough to clean up the Met-Ed (brown field), who pays the rest. Supervisor Teel stated they have environmental insurance.

Charlie Cole, Riverton Rd. commented on the clean-up of the brown field.

Cher Mount, Saddle Creek, thanked all that served our country and for the BOS to vote no on the Firearms Ordinance.

Dan Manihem (S?), Church St., commented on shooting on his property and will the Firearms Ordinance be enforced.

Michael Bucher, Hampton Dr. in Saddle Creek, commented on recently moving here from NJ and his freedom of shooting on his property.

There was a discussion on the number of residents that have attended tonight's meeting and it was decided to table the Firearms Ordinance. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table the Firearms Ordinance, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.

Dan Hughes, Tower Lane, commented that he is against the Firearms Ordinance and the act of practicing freedoms.

Karen Pinter, Lindsey Lane in Saddle Creek, expressed her frustration listening to the meeting and the personal attacks against her family, this is not a Pinter vs. Smith issue.

Supervisor Birmingham stated that he knows that it is not a Pinter vs. Smith issue. Supervisor Birmingham stated there is meeting scheduled on August 16, for the residents of Saddle Creek to attend and listen to William Smith's noise reduction and safety plan.

Supervisor Teel stated that this Ordinance is not take away guns, it is a safety issue.

Thomas Curry, Ridge Rd., stated that there is a shooting range near his property and has no problem with it.

Josh Romano, Potomac St., commented on joint Fire calls.

Rich Klinge, Totts Gap Rd., commented on the speed humps.

Charlie Hentz, Ridge Rd., commented on the road budget, give back roads. There was a discussion on the humps and the speeding that occurs throughout the Township.

II.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-None

III.

REPORTS

1. SEO-Scott was not present to give his report.
2. Zoning-Tina Serfass discussed her monthly report, which included permits issued, building reviews and no Zoning Hearings for June.
3. Accounting/Bookkeeper-Manager Nelson discussed Diann's report, which included her working on Escrow accounts, invoicing, recycling grant, and daily accounting duties.
4. Open Space Advisory Board-Supervisor Birmingham asked Solicitor Karasek if the Preserve deeds have been filed yet. Solicitor Karasek stated no, not yet. Supervisor Birmingham also stated that Janet is waiting for a call from Manager Nelson on the 25%. Manager Nelson stated he is still looking into it.
5. Economic Development Committee-Scott Cole stated the business directory will be on-line @ umbt sometime this week. Scott provided an update on the RPL development, 3 potential companies (Aerospace and Pharmaceuticals,

Vertical/Indoor Farming) are interested, and the EDC will be holding its first business symposium in September.

6. Manager-Manager Nelson gave a summary of his monthly activity, meetings attended, completed applications, worked on policies and contracts, federal funds received from the federal government and the distribution of funds for disaster relief.
7. Engineer-Engineer Coyle discussed his monthly report, which included the Slateford Rd. Bridge Rehab update, River Rd. Embankment repair and reviewed Land Development Plans.
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, codification, agendas/minutes, CodeRed reminder, and garbage pickup reminder.
10. Park/Rec-Chairman Stavros Barbounis gave a summary of his monthly report, working on the policies and procedures, park development, sports & recreation, and community engagement (events, outreach, funding). Due to the resignation of Tiffany Hayward, there is now an open seat on the Park/Rec Committee. A Fireworks display is scheduled for August 28, 2021, at the Park.
11. IT/Telecom-Stavros Barbounis gave a summary of his monthly report, ongoing IT support, website updates, and live streams to Facebook. There was a brief conversation regarding employees using their phone to log in their time and at some point, eliminating the time clock.
12. Planning Commission-Supervisor Teel gave a brief update of plans submitted and recommended for approval.
13. Supervisors
 - a. Supervisor Due reported he will begin attending the Liberty Watergap Trail meetings, Friends of Lake Minsi meetings and the Air Liquide meetings. Manager Nelson gave a summary of the road departments activity.
 - b. Supervisor Birmingham reported that he has residents reach out to him regarding speeding on Ridge Rd., he was invited to the Bangor Boro Zoning to speak in support of the Slate Belt Veteran Association, possible movie nights at the Fire House to benefit the emergency shelter, UMBT clean up on August 7th, working on the William Smith/Saddle Creek agreement, and the American Legion will be holding the Retirement of Colors on August 8th. There was a discussion on the grant for the Fire House Emergency Shelter and the raising of approximately \$202,000 in funds.
 - c. Supervisor Teel nothing to report.
 - d. Supervisor DeFranco stated that Scott Cole already provided an update on the EDC. Supervisor DeFranco stated that a comment was made from Mr. Mezgar and does not appreciate any comments made about any employee of the Township.

- e. Chairman Pinter reported he has been working with Chief Pinto, North Bangor Fire Company, and Representative Emrick on an LSA grant to complete their Fire House into an Emergency Shelter.

IV.

TABLED ITEMS

1. Ordinance No. 2021-01- Firearms – Tabled.
2. Ordinance No. 2021-02 False Alarms- Solicitor Karasek stated he has reviewed the Ordinance. Solicitor Karasek stated he would like to share the City of Easton's Ordinance with Manager Nelson and the Fire Chiefs to review and comment. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.
3. Resolution 2021-08- Procedure to Request and Access Public Records-Solicitor Karasek stated he has reviewed the Resolution and stated a prior Resolution was adopted in 2009 and recommends only one change, to remove to word "all" from the first sentence in Exhibit A. Supervisor Bermingham asked about the discussion regarding the ORO being a neutral party. Manager Nelson stated the guidelines under the Right-to-Know, the ORO is either a Township Official or Employee. Manager Nelson will send that information to Supervisor Bermingham. Supervisor DeFranco asked if a fee can be implemented or are they set by the state. Solicitor Karasek you cannot charge for legal costs. There was a discussion on the procedure on appeals. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to adopt Resolution No. 2021-08 with Solicitor Karasek's revision, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.
4. NID-Manager Nelson requests this to be tabled until the August 9th meeting. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table, seconded Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.
5. Social Media Policy-Manager Nelson requests this to be tabled. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to table, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.
6. Road Crew Contract-To be discussed in Executive Session.

V.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Recessed to Executive Session at 9:20 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 9:42 pm.

Chairman Pinter stated discussed in Executive Session was the Road Crew Contract. Manager Nelson outlined the contract. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to approve the Road Crew Contract, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

VI.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 2021-03 2015 IPMC- Solicitor Karasek stated that the 2021 IPMC is now the most current one. Solicitor Karasek stated since we are no longer a member to the COG, we will need to establish an Appeals Board, three qualified members, non - employees or contractors. Solicitor Karasek will draft the Ordinance. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel for Solicitor Karasek to draft Ordinance 2021-03, 2021 IPMC, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

VII.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Teel to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary