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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 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 the passing of Bob Gerwig, a former Township Supervisor, and asked for a moment of silence.

Public Comment:

Wayne Green, Saddle Creek Dr., commented on Solicitor's Karasek response to the Stroud Township decision on Firearms being interesting.

Mark Mezger, Scenic Court, commented on the importance of crucial conversation between the BOS and the public.

Ron Angle, Million Dollar Highway, commented on social media and the accusations that are made on the Supervisors and commended the Board on the decisions they've made.

Charlie Cole, Riverton Rd., commented on Robert's Rule.

Frances Visicaro, N. Delaware Dr., commented on BACIDA cleaning up the Brown Field, applying for grants that do not have to be paid back and the NID, the possibility of it being expanded. Chairman Pinter explained that in the Ordinance, the NID cannot be expanded beyond the borders of the NID, you must request to be in the NID. The Ordinance can be changed by future Boards.

Jeremy Redcay, Johnsonville Rd., commented on the size of businesses/development in Mt. Bethel, they do not have to be big.

Michael LaClair, Frutchey Court, commended the Board in helping with the fields and his efforts to support and be part of the community.

Sharon Duffield, Potomac St., commented on the words and actions of the developer and that there are alternatives for smart development.

Cori Eckman, Potomac St., commented on smart development and truck traffic.

Jim Comunale, Fox Gap Rd., commented on developing the Mt. Bethel Plaza, bringing businesses in for the community, new development must be controlled and mesh with the community.

Eleanor Shelton, Heiden Rd., commented on the Boards' actions taken are not in the interest of the residents, we need smart development.

Dave Friedman, Gap View Lane, commented on Conditional Use, something the Board should institute.

## II.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Bermingham announced that Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, there will be an End of Summer Celebration at the Community Park, with food, fireworks and the Bangor High School Marching Band will be performing.

## III.

### TABLED ITEMS

1. NID-Manager Nelson stated there was a presentation for those that will be affected with the NID and good questions/ideas came up. Manager Nelson would recommend to table until those questions and ideas can be incorporated in the Ordinance. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0. Supervisor Bermingham stated it would be a good idea to hold a town hall meeting with the residents to address their questions and concerns.
2. Social Media Policy-Manager Nelson asked for this to be tabled for one more meeting so that he can address any concerns that Solicitor Karasek may have. Manager Nelson stated that along with the Social Media Policy will be a Code of Ethics Resolution. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.

#### IV.

##### ACTION ITEMS

1. Sithe Pennsylvania Holdings-Solicitor Karasek discussed the proposed Stipulation of Counsel negotiated by Northampton County and Sithe Pennsylvania Holdings, Tax Parcel No. C12-5-4, regarding the real estate tax assessment. The County is agreeing the fair market value will change from \$7,800,000 to \$3,255,000. Solicitor Karasek stated he will contact Attorney Corriere, First Assistant Solicitor, to get more information on why the numbers are what they are. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to table, seconded by Supervisor Bermingham. Vote: 5-0.
2. Mowers-Manager Nelson stated the Township has the opportunity to purchase two Jacobsen bat wing mowers from Salisbury Township. The purchase price for both mowers is \$18,000. Both machines have been inspected and found to be well maintained and in excellent condition. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco to purchase two Jacobsen bat wing mowers from Salisbury Township for \$18,000, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 5-0.

#### V.

##### REPORTS

1. SEO-Chairman Pinter stated Scott's report included permits issued, perc tests conducted, and conducted 6 inspections.
2. Zoning-Tina Serfass discussed her monthly report, which included permits issued, building reviews and no Zoning Hearings for July. Tina reported Matt's monthly activity, addressing complaints, and investigating.
3. Accounting/Bookkeeper-Manager Nelson discussed Diann's report, which included her working on escrow accounts and daily accounting duties. Chairman Pinter stated that he would like to see budget vs actual next month.
4. Open Space Advisory Board-Manager Nelson reported the OSAB walked three properties to be reviewed by the Heritage Conservancy. Chairman Pinter stated he would like to see a five-year timeline plan from the Committee, of what they would like to see completed.
5. Economic Development Committee-Supervisor DeFranco reported the EDC is planning for the business meet and greet on September 23, 2021, time to be determined.
6. Manager-Manager Nelson gave a summary of his monthly activity, meetings attended, conference calls, grant application and assisting residents.
7. Engineer-Engineer Coyle discussed his monthly report, which included the Slateford Rd. Bridge Rehab update, River Rd. Embankment repair, National Park Dr. bridge culvert replacement 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, working with Tina for ZHB, CPR training completed, and will prepare a RTK excel chart for the next meeting.
10. Park/Rec-Chairman Stavros Barbounis gave a summary of his monthly report, working on the policies and procedures, park development, completion of the pavilion is a priority, working with Cindy on grant opportunities and the End of Summer Celebration at the Park on August 28<sup>th</sup>.
11. IT/Telecom-Stavros Barbounis gave a summary of his monthly report, ongoing IT support, website updates, meetings attended, and live streaming. Chairman Pinter asked for a five-year plan for Park/Rec and IT.
12. Planning Commission-Supervisor Teel reported the Steven Ott Minor Subdivision was reviewed and Mr. Ott will be addressing conditions. Supervisor Due asked about fill being brought in by RPL, that it should be "clean fill". Chairman Pinter asked Engineer Coyle to make sure that it is indicated on any plans submitted.
13. Supervisors
  - a. Supervisor Due reported that both Manager Nelson and the Property Maintenance Officer are addressing the issues located on Ridge Road, specifically the well being of the minor that was removed from the residence.
  - b. Supervisor Bermingham reported that he spoke with Arlene Tishuk, whose home was destroyed by fire, she stated she is very appreciative of everyone who has been coming over to check on her, they are planning on rebuilding the home. Also, held the Saddle Creek meeting with the residents and William Smith's gun range. Also met with Kevin Horn, band leader at BAHS, they will be performing at the End of Summer Celebration at the Park. Attended the Rock Wall meeting. Meeting with Fire Dept, possible 911 Tribute. Resident concerns, helicopters at the Park.
  - c. Supervisor Teel nothing to report.
  - d. Supervisor DeFranco-nothing to report.
  - e. Chairman Pinter reported the migration to Freedom Systems is going well, solid reporting in regard to where the money is going.

Manager Nelson stated that the gate to the Eastern property is now being kept locked due to abusing the disposition of non-yard waste.

## VI.

### ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary