



Upper Mount Bethel Township
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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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.

Present were Chairman Pinter, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Teel, Supervisor DeFranco, Township Manager Nelson and Township Solicitor Karasek. Supervisor Bermingham was absent.

Chairman Pinter asked for a moment of silence to remember those that perished on 911.

Public Comments:

Charlie Cole, River Rd., commented on the traffic problems and adjoining municipalities working together.

Richard Wilford-Hunt, Shady Lane, read his public comment, commenting on the recent propaganda sent by the developer and the Board that he received, and where did they get the list of resident addresses, the same one used by the Tax Collector. Chairman Pinter stated that the Board had nothing do to with the mailing.

Dave Friedman, Gap View Lane, commented on farmland and open space paying more in taxes than they receive in services.

Judy Henckel, Robin Hood Rd., commented on attending the Plan Slate Belt, being the only UMBT resident that attended, infrastructure and traffic and how it is not just affecting UMBT, it's all the surrounding municipalities. Chairman Pinter asked Manager Nelson to reach out to the surrounding municipalities to get their input and discuss any issues.

Manager Nelson talked about the tax base and the need for balance in the Township.

Richard Wilford-Hunt, Shady Lane, commented on the neighboring municipalities and how they are doing what they can to limit the effects of warehousing in the Lehigh Valley.

Ron Angle, Million Dollar Highway, commented on the Industrial Zone, which has been an Industrial Zone for quite some time and as far as the truck traffic, they have the right to drive on the roads. Ron discussed the proposed sale of his property to RPL and stated you can't stop progress.

Cori Eckman, Potomac St., read her public comment, commenting on negotiating with the residents on issues and protecting the residents from the industrial build.

Cori read a comment from Sheryl (?), Potomac St., commenting on the helicopter that landed on the soccer field at the park on August 15th.

Eleanor Shelton, Heiden Rd., commented on hostility amongst the residents and why the Board shouldn't be surprised.

Charles Smith, Lenape Tr., commented on the size and number of buildings in the Industrial Zone, the tenants of the buildings and the truck traffic crossing the bridge.

Mark Mezgar, Scenic Court, commented on Act 130, the final plan submission to indicate what changes have been made as a result of the concerns of the property owners associated with the NID, and has his questions/concerns been transmitted to the contractor.

Francis Visicaro, N. Delaware Dr., commented on changing the zoning laws, the size of the buildings, and that the Board should be working for the citizens and not for the developer. Francis commented on the deletion of the second public comment section.

Manager Nelson commented on a conversation Tim Hayes wanting to do a 911 event at the park and was denied. Manager Nelson stated that no one was aware of his request and would like to speak with Mr. Hayes as to who had a conversation with. Chairman Pinter asked Stavros, Chairman of the Parks/Rec, if there was any contact between anyone on the committee and Mr. Hayes. Stavros stated no.

II.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Due announced there was dedication of the new handicap kayak launch ramp at Lake Minsi today.

III.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the August 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes.
2. Approval of the August 23, 2021, Meeting Minutes.
3. Refuse Reductions, Application Refunds and Exonerations.

MOTION by Supervisor Teel to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 4-0.

IV. FINANCIALS

1. Bill List-Manager Nelson read the bill list. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to pay the bills in the amount of \$249,360.18, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 4-0.

V. TABLED ITEMS

1. NID-Manager Nelson discussed the NID Public Hearing timeline. Manager Nelson stated he would like to hold the Public Hearing on September 27, following the regular business meeting. Manager Nelson stated that the By-Laws, Ordinance, and the Final Plans will be posted on the Township Website as well as the Cozza Law Firm email address for residents to send questions they may have. After all resident input has been received, a video will be posted on the website on October 5th with the Attorney addressing all questions. The residents will have to October 7th to send any follow up questions. Manager Nelson stated he would like to Board to vote on the NID at the October 11th meeting. Chairman Pinter stated he highly recommends that all questions be emailed directly to the Law Firm. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to hold the NID Hearing, immediately following the business meeting on September 27th, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 4-0.
2. Social Media Policy-Solicitor Karasek stated the final draft has been prepared and ready for final review. Chairman Pinter stated that the Board will take one more look at it before approving. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to table to the September 27th meeting, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 4-0.
3. Sithe Pennsylvania Holdings-Solicitor Karasek stated a comprehensive letter has been received from Michael Corriere, First Assistant Solicitor, clarifying the proposed stipulation. Solicitor Karasek stated that if the Board would like him to attend a meeting for further discussion, he would. Chairman Pinter asked Solicitor Karasek to reach out to Mr. Corriere for him to attend the October 11th meeting. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due to table to the October 11th meeting, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 4-0.

Manager Nelson stated that with all the rain that we have had, with more to come, he is asking residents that own wooded property along township roads to try to keep them cleaned up.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Recess to Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss Legal Matters. The Meeting reconvened at 8:35 pm.

1. Legal-Chairman Pinter stated that discussed in Executive Session was the VIP Settlement. This stems from the lawsuit the Township filed and lost against VIP for the dumping of clean fill on nine (9) acres of Township property. Chairman Pinter stated conditions have been negotiated and the Board has agreed to those conditions. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel to accept the agreement of

conditions made on July 9, 2021, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 3-1.
Chairman Pinter voting no.

VII.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Supervisor Teel to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm, seconded by
Supervisor Due. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

Public Comment UMPAT Pos Mtg
Sept 13 2021

I just recently got back from vacation and found this in my mailbox; propaganda by the developer and this board. You would think you could have gotten this right - Calhoun vs Bethel.

This follows a pattern by the developer; first they said they would respect and abide by all of our local zoning and be a good neighbor



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

yet they can not even get our name right.

I also want to point out on their website - the developer refers to a tax myth perpetrated by DeFranco, ~~that~~ this tax myth has been de-bunked by our long time tax collector Janet Pearson.

But what really irks me is to see that the developer used our Homeowner addresses - the very same ones used by the tax collector.



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

And coincidentally, maybe not our
tax collector is related to DeFranco.

So I want to know did our
township manager or any of you on
this board supply our private information
with the developer? If so this
^{could be} is an egregious abuse of the law
with serious consequences.

Richard Wilford-Hunt
2012 Shady Lane
Mt. Bethel, Pa
58343

Cindy Beck

From: Theresa Mohr Shanley <theresa.mohrshanley@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 7:41 PM
To: Cindy Beck
Subject: UMBT BOS Meeting Letter for Submission

Hi Cindy

Please add to the UMBT BOS Meeting minutes of September 13 that I am writing to once again share that I oppose the Text Amendment and uncontrolled development plans.

I also object to RPL sending a mailer out to the town residents. That is completely inappropriate and the mailer is not honest.

I would like to know how to escalate the continued issue of the BOS not listening to residents. Please advise on this.

Thanks,

Theresa

Good evening,

Feels like there has been more negotiating with residents about the new gun ordinance that is trying to be passed then talking to residents about the industrial build, NID and the fact that Rpl gave 5 million dollars to the Bangor IDA to buy the power plant property so they can apply for federal grant money to do the clean up and when its done i^s hand it back over to RPL.

There is talk of stray bullets wizzing by, what about the amount of truck traffic that will be wizzing by on our back roads because they are following gps or there is a back up and they are looking for alternate routes. There may not be a access road for trucks on Potomac but they can use Potomac, sunrise and Pine tree to get to River Road.

Finding bullet caseings on the roads, how about all the piss bottles and added trash that will be on the side of the roads with the increase of people coming through our area.

Who is negotiating with the residents in the township about protecting us from this industrial build? Who will protect our wells from the drip irrigation or the amount of water they are trying to find to supply the industrial park that will take from our water supply.

This 725 acres may only be 2% of the township and saddle creek at 300 acres is maybe less than 1% of the township but it has gotten more negoation with residents about something that happens one day a week where with the industrial build it will ruin our way of living and surrounding towns for 365 days a year 24 hours a day.

Thank you Cori Eckman

