



Upper Uwchlan Township
Board of Supervisors Workshop
March 20, 2017
5:00 p.m.
Minutes
Approved

In attendance:

Kevin Kerr, Chair

Jamie Goncharoff, Vice-Chair
(Via Conference Call)

Guy Donatelli, Member

Cary Vargo, Township Manager

Shanna Lodge, Assistant Township Manager

John DeMarco, Police Chief

Gwen Jonik, Township Secretary

Al Gaspari, Codes Administrator

Kevin Kerr called the Workshop to order at 5:06 p.m. The Workshop was rescheduled for today due to last Tuesday's (March 14, 2017) snow storm.

Glenmoore/Eagle Youth Association (GEYA) – Field Use and Fees - Discussion

Bob Armstrong, President of GEYA Baseball, was in attendance requesting the Township consider a reduction (by half) in the field use fees charged to GEYA for their use of 3 baseball fields in Hickory Park. Mr. Armstrong commented that: Upper Uwchlan has the highest field fees in their whole district; other local youth associations charge lower field fees, resulting in lower per player fees (@ \$125/player) and causing decreased enrollment in GEYA's Little League baseball program; GEYA has invested sweat equity into Hickory Park which should be considered; GEYA has had a long-standing relationship with Upper Uwchlan that they'd like to continue.

Kevin Kerr and Guy Donatelli agreed that GEYA's baseball program, and other sports, are important to the Community. Discussion included: the Township's fee schedule is not customized by organization and isn't to turn a profit; the Township researched other local field use fees and we aren't out of line; the Supervisors respect the organization's perspective; if GEYA's rates are discounted, rates across the board would be reduced; is GEYA's soccer enrollment stable; the Township is also interested in maintaining the relationship; the current Season fee for use of 3 fields would be \$14,400; Mr. Armstrong requested the annual fee for 3 fields at Hickory Park be reduced to \$6,000; they are also trying to combine efforts with the GEYA Soccer program. Mr. Armstrong was not sure of the exact number of players that were Upper Uwchlan residents but believes they are the majority of the players.

The Board of Supervisors will take GEYA's request under consideration for next year. The Board commented that if GEYA tightens up their schedule and actual field use, perhaps charging the hourly fee would work out to be less expensive than the season fee.

Police Department Strategic Plan Presentation

Chief DeMarco presented an outline for developing a Strategic Plan for the Police Department. The Department continually works to build positive relationships in the Community by: evaluating the level of services provided and expected; attending training, which helps address the needs of our diverse population; providing programs and educational opportunities that improve the quality of life for the residents. The Department will work on the Strategic Plan with the Board of Supervisors, Staff, Officers, and through community surveys and planning sessions. The Department encourages residents to follow their "Upper Uwchlan Police Department" Facebook page.

Keeping of Chickens – Draft Ordinance - Discussion

Cary Vargo thanked the Planning Commission, Al Gaspari and Gwen Jonik for their efforts in drafting an Ordinance that would allow residents of single-family dwellings to keep a small number of female chickens while limiting the potential adverse impacts on surrounding properties. The current draft allows for a certain number of chickens based on zoning districts and Lot size; roosters are prohibited; chickens must be sheltered/contained and not allowed to run at large; a permit is required for the shelter to assure compliance with zoning; and no one is 'grandfathered'. The Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission did not want to over-regulate and this draft has been simplified considerably from the original. The Planning Commission recommended the Ordinance move toward adoption. The Ordinance will be prepared for the Board to authorize its advertisement in April.

Township Manager's Report

Cary Vargo provided an update of the following projects:

Shanna Lodge has been working with Al Gaspari and Lindsay Haines to update the Field Use Policy;

Sunoco has begun their Mariner II pipeline project. ARRB has completed the pre-construction assessment of the roadways that will be affected by the project;

Shanna Lodge has started the Township website redesign project;

Jill Bukata has begun the data input for the financial dashboard which will give the capability of reviewing financial information from the website;

McKee-Milford Associates have submitted Land Development Plans for the Feters Property;

The Auditors completed their field work last Friday;

Park Road Trail Phase IV - McMahon Associates is moving along with the utility pole relocation prep work. Easements and rights-of-way had been discussed previously with property owners and can now be executed and rights-of-way purchased;

The Pottstown Pike and Graphite Mine Road swap with PennDOT will be under review shortly; Construction activity has begun on the Village trail connections;

Steve McNaughton asked if Sunoco had paid the Township for the Mariner II project. Cary Vargo replied they acquired the rights-of-way last year.

Open Session

Kevin Kerr asked the Staff to look into a Delayed Retirement Plan (DROP) for the Public Works Department that is similar to the Police Department, and also to look into a tiered reimbursement program for college courses, rather than 100% reimbursement.

Kevin Kerr announced the next Workshop is scheduled for April 11, 2017.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Kevin Kerr adjourned the Workshop at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen A. Jonik
Township Secretary