



Upper Uwchlan Township
JOINT BOARDS & COMMISSIONS WORKSHOP
April 9, 2019
4:00 p.m.
Minutes
Approved
(with revision in *italics*)

In attendance:

Guy Donatelli, Chair
Sandy D'Amico, Vice-Chair
Jamie Goncharoff, Member
Cary Vargo, Township Manager
Shanna Lodge, Assistant Township Mgr.
Gwen Jonik, Township Secretary

Matt Brown, Township Wastewater Consultant
Bob Schoenberger, Planning Commission Chair
Cathy Tomlinson, Park & Rec Board Chair
Lauren Cortesi, Zoning Hearing Board Alternate
Byron Nickerson, Emergency Management
Planning Commission Chair
Hal Harper, Municipal Authority Vice-Chair (4:30)

Guy Donatelli called the Joint Boards & Commissions Workshop to order at 4:02 PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and offered a moment of silence. No one planned to video or audio record the Workshop.

Emergency Management Planning Commission (EMPC)

Byron Nickerson, Emergency Management Coordinator and EMPC Chair, reported that with Kevin Cook's recent appointment, the EMPC is fully "staffed" with 9 members, and is supported by Kathi McGrath. The EMPC's activities include annual updates to the Township's Emergency Operation Plan; interaction with and support from the County Department of Emergency Services and the fire/ambulance companies; interface with the Lions First Alert Team, implementing the Pillowcase Program (Cathy Tomlinson explained this interactive personal/family preparedness program for youth 8-11 via school programs, pillow cases provided by Disney – tested at Shamona Creek and will be moving into other area schools over the next few years); Byron and Kevin are preparing a pipeline awareness and emergency preparedness training session - @ 2-3 hour training; implement public outreach initiatives such as the Township Newsletter and social media presence; damage assessment tabletop exercises; Limerick tabletop exercise in November; recently held a mock pipeline incident with Enbridge, which went very well and was very good training; increased interaction with neighboring EMCs; and several members recently attended a Faith-Based Preparedness Symposium.

Park & Recreation Board (P&R)

Cathy Tomlinson reported that the P&R is very diverse in backgrounds and ideas; their highest priority is improvements at the Parks and expansion of the trail system; improvements to the Upland Farms Barn; support of DARC (Downingtown Area Recreation Consortium). The P&R conducted an on-line survey in 2018, with 320 households responding, covering 1000+ persons and the top request is for trails, expanded trails from Eagle Village. The P&R would like to prioritize a connection from Windsor Ridge toward Eagle, and also connecting the Hunter's Ridge area via Pondview Way to Eagleview trails to Hickory Park. They are looking forward to the County extending the Struble Trail from Dorlan Mill Road to Marsh Creek State Park.

Other topics they're discussing are water trails on the East Branch of the Brandywine, ambulance access at Fellowship Fields, parking lot lighting at Fellowship Fields lower lot. Projects at Upland Farm barn include installing restrooms in the lower level, turning the horse stalls into classrooms, a natural amphitheater for small outdoor concerts and presentations – perhaps no seating – folks

bring blankets and chairs, expand the parking lot as the tree lighting and egg hunt events have been extremely well attended. P&R is looking forward to the Hickory Park Playground ribbon cutting ceremony this Saturday.

Sandy D'Amico asked if the survey responses requested dog parks. There were 4. Discussion noted that Municipalities with dog parks don't recommend them; they are costly to monitor and maintain, and there are concerns with dog parks near children's play areas. Staff will investigate with our Insurance Trust. Sandy D'Amico also inquired of cricket fields. Shanna Lodge has researched the required facilities and we don't have a large enough space for an official cricket pitch but there is an informal tennis-ball cricket that might be possible.

Historical Commission (HC)

Brett Hand, Chair, had a conflict arise and wasn't able to attend.

Municipal Authority

Matt Brown, Authority Administrator, and Hal Harper, Vice-Chair, were in attendance. Matt Brown advised that residents who will be affected by the Byers Road and Milford Farms public sewer extensions were invited to attend a Project Introduction Meeting April 23, which will be held at Pickering Valley Elementary School. The Authority will describe the 2 projects, provide general cost estimates. The connection fee will be determined by the Authority in May. Both projects are included in the recent Bond issuance. The Byers Road expansion – from Route 100 to the Eagle Farms Road cul-de-sac west of Senn Drive – only needs the construction permit from PaDEP. The Milford Farms project – Carriage Drive, Surrey Lane, portion of Font Road -- is under design. Both projects will service properties in those areas with failing on-lot systems.

The Authority is working on an Act 537 Plan update. This will be a Township-wide Plan that will be submitted to PaDEP. We hope to be awarded a PaDEP Grant for preparation of the Plan. The purchase of land for disposal capacity will be included in this Plan update.

There was a power surge and outage at the Route 100 WWTF during the frigid temperatures early this year, causing a chain reaction of switches, equipment, and generators failing. Pipes froze, causing flooding. ARRO, the Operator, and Public Works have been working to provide the Insurance Company with all details and documents for this Claim. Additional "belts and suspenders" have been put in place for the future.

Planning Commission (PC)

Bob Schoenberger, Chair, reported that the Commission is evaluating a series of ordinances for updates. The first ordinance being discussed is the Adaptive Reuse of Historic Structures. The PC holds a work session for an hour before the regular meeting to work on the ordinances. Existing noise, lighting, parking, industrial and commercial uses, impervious surface and riparian buffers need to be updated.

Technology Advisory Board (TAB)

Gwen Jonik, TAB Liaison, advised the TAB will meet this Spring to review the current technology used by the Township and discuss the needs for the renovated Township building.

Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB)

Lauren Cortesi, Alternate Member, advised the ZHB has a Hearing scheduled May 1, 2019 regarding a setback variance. This is the first Zoning Hearing this year.

Township Manager's Report

Cary Vargo provided updates for the following projects:

The Township offices move out this week. The Police Department has partially moved to their temporary location and is almost ready to operate. Administration moves Friday, April 12.

The Park Road Trail is progressing. Storm water infrastructure is being installed, utility poles have been relocated and the utility lines will be moved late May; the Contractor is working on Saturdays until the Memorial Day weekend; then no Saturdays until after Labor Day.

The Turnpike Bridge on Milford Road has been removed; abutments will be removed next; overnight work will cease at this time;

Upland Farms Barn design/construction plans and cost estimates will be reviewed so projects can be prioritized as necessary;

PennDOT advises that Pottstown Pike (Route 100) will be milled and overlaid from Lionville to Garrison Drive this summer;

The Verizon Franchise Agreement is being reviewed for renegotiation - 26 townships are involved - the Cohen Group is handling this Contract.

Comcast wants to begin work on their contract negotiations;

Township Building Expansion/Renovation Project Status Update

The contracts for the Township Building renovation and expansion totaled \$4,013,851. The total was 8% over the original estimates. The electrical bids were rejected, several items removed from the bid specifications and re-bid. The line items removed will be purchased or completed by Staff. All Contracts will be discussed at the special meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. this evening.

Solid Waste & Recycling Bid Results

Cary Vargo advised the 4th year of the current Solid Waste & Recycling Collection contract ends July 31, 2019. Bid specifications were advertised for a new 3-Year Contract – August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2022, and (2) 1-Year Extensions. There are no changes to the program. Three bids were submitted and opened April 1, 2019: J.P. Mascaro, Advanced Disposal, and A.J. Blosenski. The lower bidder for a combined Contract is A.J. Blosenski at \$1,796,256. If 2 separate Contracts are awarded, the low bidder for solid waste/bulk/yard waste is Advanced Disposal at \$1,236,592 and A.J. Blosenski for recycling at \$521,382 for a total of \$1,757,974. That would be a savings of \$38,000 over the 3-Year Contract, \$21,782 in 4th Year option; and \$45,383 in 5th Year option.

Jamie Goncharoff *noted that if all things were being equal, he'd favor one hauler*; Sandy D'Amico asked about market conditions for recyclables. The bid is for collection only, not tipping costs, which is through the County Consortium. Mr. Vargo and Staff have been checking Advanced Disposal's references and facilities, which have been favorable to date. Guy Donatelli expressed his continual satisfaction with A.J. Blosenski's service and their Staff.

Open Session

No comments offered.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Guy Donatelli adjourned the Joint Boards & Commission Workshop at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen A. Jonik
Township Secretary