



TOWNSHIP OF UPPER UWCHLAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
January 16, 2024 (Tuesday)
7:00 p.m.
Approved

Attending:

Board of Supervisors

Jennifer F. Baxter, Chair
Andrew P. Durkin, Vice-Chair
Sandra M. D'Amico, Member

Township Administration

Tony Scheivert, Township Manager
Gwen Jonik, Township Secretary
Rhys Lloyd, Director of Code Enforcement
Anthony Campbell, Zoning Officer
Mike Esterlis, Director of Public Works
Tom Jones, Police Chief
Byron Nickerson, Emergency Management Coordinator

LOCATION: Township Building, 140 Pottstown Pike, Chester Springs, PA 19425

Mrs. Baxter called the evening to order at 7:01 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and offered a moment of silence. No one planned to record the meeting. There were 9 citizens in attendance.

Oath of Office ~ Police Chaplain

Chief Jones introduced Peter Drinkwater, who will lead the Police Chaplain Program for Upper Uwchlan Township. Peter was appointed as a Chaplain for the Police Department in 2017 and was trained and certified by the Police Chaplain Program in 2019. Gwen Jonik, Notary Public, administered Peter's Oath of Office.

Recognition of Tony Przychodzien

The Board of Supervisors and the Emergency Management Planning Commission (EMPC) recognized Tony P., of the County Department of Emergency Services, for his many years of dedication regarding emergency preparedness guidance to the Township's EMPC. Byron Nickerson, Township Emergency Management Coordinator, presented Tony with a plaque in recognition and appreciation of his service to Upper Uwchlan.

Mrs. Baxter announced an Executive Session was held January 2, 2024 regarding legal matters.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. D'Amico, to approve as presented the minutes of the December 12, 2023 Board of Supervisors Workshop, the December 18, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting and the January 2, 2024 Board of Supervisors Organization Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Payments

Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. D'Amico, to approve the payments to all vendors listed January 16, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Tony Scheivert reported on Jill Bukata's behalf that the Treasurer's report was the final figures for 2023. Total 2023 revenues were at 109.3% of the budget, expenses were 103.7% of the budget,

and the earned income tax revenue was \$468,638 higher than budgeted. New income was \$126,055.

Supervisor's Report

Mrs. Baxter noted there was no police liaison report, and she read the following calendar: February 13, 2024 4:00 p.m. Board of Supervisors Workshop; February 19, 2024 Office Closed ~ Presidents' Day; February 20, 2024 (Tuesday) 7:00 p.m. Board of Supervisors Meeting; yard waste and Christmas Tree** collection dates: January 24**, February 7** (last Christmas Tree collection) and February 24. Mrs. Baxter noted that Christmas Trees can be taken to the dumpsters at the Public Works Department if the collection dates aren't convenient.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Township Engineer's Report

Tony Scheivert reported on Dave Leh's behalf that a conditional use and a land development application were received for a 6,000 SF daycare facility at 241 Park Road; the Turnpike Commission has submitted a 3-lot subdivision for their property known as the Wertz Farm on Little Conestoga Road; and 2 bond reduction requests have been received for the Preserve at Marsh Creek.

Building and Codes Department Report

Rhys Lloyd reported that 27 permits were issued last month, totaling \$11,076 in permit fees; 2023 totals were 705 building permits issued, totaling \$562,485 in permit fees. The Department conducted 132 scheduled inspections; 10 new construction homes settled and there were 5 resales; @ 15 zoning complaints were handled.

Anthony Campbell noted the zoning hearing for Keystone Outdoor Advertising (billboard) will be rescheduled. The Zoning Hearing Board will meet tomorrow evening to reorganize, to decide on Toll's request to extend the Greenridge Road decision, and to accept the postponement request from the billboard company.

Tony Scheivert noted Rhys Lloyd and Anthony Campbell have been doing a great job working with Eagle Animal Hospital's relocation of their facility to 20 Senn Drive. They're doing okay, temporarily, in the trailer and then they'll be in the building on Senn Drive until they've rebuilt on Byers Road.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Jones reported there were 1,047 calls last month, totaling 13,108 in 2023. The Chief congratulated Tony P and thanked him for his help over the years. He also reported that the traffic truck was delivered and is in service for the traffic safety program – the scales are on the truck and just need to be certified by Harrisburg; thanked Public Works for helping with road closures last week and today; Pickering Valley Elementary School (PVE) had a program/contest to win a police escort to school, and also lunch with the officers, so they had 3 cars and 2 motorcycles involved with the escort and the lunch was fun. Officer Hess is a PVE alumnus, and she was on duty that day. The Safety Tip for the month: with wintry weather conditions upon us, remember safe following distances and have emergency supplies in your car.

Tony Scheivert added that 10 administration and police staff volunteered at the Chester County Food Bank recently, packaging up food and snacks into back packs for children to have food over the weekend. West Chester Police Chief's walkout (retirement) event took place recently and Chief Jones thanked the Board for their support in allowing them to participate. The Chief also noted 3 officers from Uwchlan Township recently retired and they attended those events as well.

Tony P commented that the Junior Police Academy we offer is a wonderful program. Some of the County staff had kids attend and they had a great time!

Public Works Department Report

Mrs. Baxter extended thanks to the Department for their efforts over the last 2 weeks with flooding issues, trees/wires down, etc. last week and today's snow, ice, brining, salting activities. Mike Esterlis reported 69 work orders were received and completed, they've cleaned out stormwater inlets, extended the parking lot for the Police Department, and they've promoted 2 employees: Steve Poley is Assistant Public Works Director and Josh Spangler is Fleet Superintendent.

Chief Jones thanked Public Works for the additional parking spaces, which was done in a short period of time.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

Preserve at Marsh Creek Site Improvements Escrow Releases. Tony Scheivert noted Gilmore & Associates had reviewed the McKee Group escrow release requests and recommended releasing the following amounts: Phase 1 Release #4 \$1,766,526.83 and Phase 2 Release #2 \$277,646.50. Following these releases, the Phase 1 escrow balance will be \$2,868,056.09 and the Phase 2 escrow balance will be \$1,034,386.74. Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. D'Amico to release the amounts as recommended by Gilmore & Associates. The motion carried unanimously.

DSM Conditional Use Approval Extension. DSM is requesting an extension of their conditional use approval for manufacturing as they cannot yet apply for a building permit within 6 months as is required. They request a 1-year extension to January 17, 2025. Kristin Camp, Esq., has reviewed the request and finds it appropriate to approve. Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. D'Amico, to extend DSM's manufacturing Conditional Use Decision until January 17, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

Active Transportation Plan. The presentation has been tabled until the February workshop. Tony Scheivert advised that there have been several public meetings and opportunities for the public to comment on the draft Plan.

Updated Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Byron Nickerson advised that he and Emergency Management Planning Commission (EMPC) members have updated the EOP by revising outdated information such as personnel, dates, etc. The appendices are continuously under review. Mr. Nickerson recommends the Supervisors approve the updated EOP as presented. Mrs. Baxter recognized the EMPC's time spent reviewing the Plan. Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. D'Amico, to adopt **Resolution 01-16-24-01** which approves/adopts the updated Emergency Operations Plan dated January 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Session

Sue Quake asked the status of the Greenridge Road Zoning Hearing Decision appeal. Tony Scheivert will confirm his belief that the Judge who initially heard the case has retired and it's in the hands of a new Judge. Tony Scheivert and Anthony Campbell noted we may consider extending the decision to 2 years as the developer has to go through the planning processes which can take quite some time. This will be discussed between the Zoning Hearing Board, the Developer, and the parties who appealed the Decision. Tony Scheivert will confirm and email Sue. Gerry Stein asked to be copied.

Byron Nickerson thanked the Board for the support in purchasing an EMPC trailer which will house and transport emergency response items such as charging stations, gear, generators, etc. It will be stationed at Milford Road. It was purchased with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Gerry Stein asked what the Vacancy Board is as there's a vacancy on it. The Vacancy Board is 1 Township resident who would assist with filling a vacancy on the Board of Supervisors if the remaining Supervisors couldn't agree on an appointment. Vince McVeigh expressed interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Mrs. Baxter adjourned the Meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen A. Jonik
Township Secretary