



TOWNSHIP OF UPPER UWCHLAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

March 18, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Approved

Attending:

Board of Supervisors

Jennifer F. Baxter, Chair

Andrew P. Durkin, Vice-Chair

Township Administration

Tony Scheivert, Township Manager

Lindsay Yeager, Assistant Township Manager

Gwen Jonik, Township Secretary

Jill Bukata, Township Treasurer

Rhys Lloyd, Director of Code Enforcement

Anthony Campbell, Zoning Officer

Mike Esterlis, Director of Public Works

Kristin Roth, Public Works Administrative Assistant

Kristin Camp, Esq., Township Solicitor

Tom Jones, Police Chief

Joe Carr, Police Lieutenant

Jami Martin, Police Administrative Assistant

Dave Leh, Township Engineer

LOCATION: The Barn at Upland Farm, 301 Pottstown Pike, Chester Springs, PA 19425

Mrs. Baxter called the evening to order at 7:00 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and offered a moment of silence. No one planned to record the meeting.

Police Department ~ Years of Service Recognitions, Life Saving Awards

Mrs. Baxter was honored and pleased to recognize our Police Officers as follows. Chief Jones appreciated all who came out this evening to support the Officers.

Life Saving Award. Corporal Adam Pozza and Officer Alec Fleming were dispatched to an unconscious person on Pennsylvania Drive, a cardiac arrest. The Officers initiated CPR and administered AED until emergency medical personnel arrived, and the man's heart was beating before leaving in the ambulance.

Mrs. Baxter and Mr. Durkin presented Corporal Pozza and Officer Fleming with Life Saving Award plaques. Mr. and Mrs. Kansu presented them with their Life Saving Commendation Uniform Bars, and both read statements of thanks to the Officers.

Also responding to the call were Fire Chief Mike Esterlis, Deputy Chief Mike Lamb, paramedics, EMTs, Detective-Corporal Gathercole, Detective Stiteler and Lieutenant Carr. Chief Jones was honored that they were attending tonight and thanked the team of responders.

Years of Service Awards. Chief Jones announced the following Officers' years of service and a brief history of their accomplishments with the Department. Mrs. Baxter and Mr. Durkin presented them with plaques.

Corporal Rob Paradis, 15 years of service; Officer Bob Davis, 25 years of service;
Corporal Paul Kemme, 25 years of service; Corporal Kyle Sherman, 25 years of service;
Lieutenant Joe Carr, 25 years of service.

Mrs. Baxter called a 5-minute recess before beginning the business meeting.

Mrs. Baxter reconvened the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to approve as presented the minutes of the February 20, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Payments

Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to approve the payments to all vendors listed March 14, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Jill Bukata reported a strong balance sheet; we're 16.7% through the year; year-to-date revenues are at 16% of the budget; year-to-date expenses are at 12.8% of the budget

Mrs. Bukata advised that a \$450,000 transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Fund was included in the budget and she requests authorization to do so to cover planned expenditures over the next few months. Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to authorize the transfer of \$450,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor's Report

There was no police liaison report.

Mrs. Baxter read the following calendar: March 23, 2024 8:00-10:00 Litter clean up ~ meet at Upland Farm Park; March 23, 2024 11:00 a.m. Annual Easter egg hunt at Hickory Park; March 29, 2024 Office closed ~ Good Friday; April 6, 2024 9:00 a.m.-Noon E-waste drop off / shredding event at Public Works, 132 Oscar Way; April 9, 2024 4:00 p.m. Joint Boards & Commissions Workshop; April 9, 2024 5:30 p.m. Conditional Use Hearing re: 241 Park Road ~ Ducklings Daycare; April 14-17, 2024 Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) Annual Educational Conference in Hershey; April 20, 2024 11:00-2:00 Earth Day Celebration at Upland Farm Park; April 22, 2024 7:00 p.m. Board of Supervisors Meeting; yard waste collection dates: March 20 April 3, 10, 17.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Township Engineer's Report

Dave Leh reported revised land development plans for 241 Park Road are being reviewed by the consultants; a conditional use application has been received for 500 Pottstown Pike for a Porsche service center; met with DEP for a NPDES permit for stormwater related to the Hickory Park improvement project.

Mrs. Baxter asked if the stormwater issues at Hickory Park will impact the design of the improvements. Mr. Leh noted they'll be underground so probably not.

Building and Codes Department Report

Rhys Lloyd reported 53 building permits were issued, totaling \$29,120 in permit fees; he and Anthony Campbell conducted 171 scheduled inspections; there were 4 resales; 15 zoning complaints, and 10 new homes settled.

Vince McVeigh, Marsh Harbour resident, thanked Rhys for his work with the new railing installations in Marsh Harbour.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Jones reported the Department received 1,065 calls; Junior Police Academy registration will open April 8. It runs June 24-28, 2024; the monthly safety tip is to watch out for kids in the neighborhoods, balls entering the road, etc., now that the weather is nice.

Records Management System Agreement. Kristin Camp, Esq., reported that several municipalities in the County are switching from MetroAlert as the system is no longer supported. MetroAlert was sold to a company known as CentralSquare Technologies. CentralSquare is discontinuing the use of the MetroAlert software and replacing it with a new record management software known as CentralSquare Software Solutions. After investigating other systems, a consortium of six police departments -- West Goshen Township, Birmingham Township, North Coventry Township, Easttown Township, Downingtown Borough and Upper Uwchlan -- would like to enter an intergovernmental agreement, reducing the costs to each department. Data can be transferred from MetroAlert. West Goshen will be the location for the host server. To join an intergovernmental agreement, a Resolution must be adopted by each municipality entering the master agreement.

Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to adopt **Resolution #03-18-24-04**, which authorizes the Township to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the aforementioned Police Departments for the purchase and use of CentralSquare Technologies, LLC's software products. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Department Report

Mike Esterlis reported the Department received and completed 116 workorders, responded to 2 snow/ice events in February, finished painting all the rooms at the Barn, the new full-time employee Dan Mellinger started; installed new bathroom fixtures in the Upland Farm farmhouse, and painting is complete as well; moved Historical Commission's items from the storage unit to the farmhouse; started street sweeping today, which could take 4-6 weeks, weather permitting; looking for seasonal mowing help.

Keystone Outdoor Advertising Zoning Hearing Application ~ Presentation

Kristin Camp, Esq., stated the application is before the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board of Supervisors is listening to the presentation to decide if they want to take a position of neutrality, opposition, or support. The Zoning Hearing is scheduled for April 24, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Vincent Mancini, Esq., Keystone Outdoor Advertising President, Dominick Cipollini, Vice-President, Joseph Felici and Michael Tantala, P.E. attended.

Mr. Mancini provided a brief explanation of the project: entered into a lease with Eaglepointe Associates, proposing 2 locations for billboards along the Turnpike frontage of the 26-acre property. Each billboard will be double faced, with 1 side static and the other digital. Requesting 3 variances: from the maximum height of the billboard -- 59' instead of 30'; uplighting the static side with directed LED instead of casting down from the top; and illumination cut off at night -- seeking low level illumination on the static sign from 10 PM -- 6 AM. The digital side will automatically dim at night. Michael Tantala provided greater details about why those locations were chosen, visibility of the billboards, and why the variances are requested.

Mr. Durkin questioned the visibility of the billboards, daytime or nighttime, from several vantage points in the Township. Mr. Tantala said they would not be visible due to the way the billboards are 'spread'.

Following brief discussion, Mr. Durkin moved to engage special Counsel to represent the Board of Supervisors in opposition of the application. Mrs. Baxter seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Camp advise that the Board will request Party Status. The public and residents can also become a Party, which provides them the opportunity to cross examine the Applicant's witnesses and present their own witnesses if desired. The Zoning Hearing Board decides if they are granted Party Status.

Administration

Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Contract Award(s).

Four bids were received for the solid waste and recycling collection bid. The new collection contract period is August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2027 for once per week collection of trash (1 toter), recycling, once per month bulk trash, 24 yard waste collections each year, provision of and once per week collection from dumpsters at Township facilities. The low bidder is A.J. Blosenski, Inc. at \$3,142,254.38 for the 3-year contract; Waste Management's bid was \$3,900,150.00; J.P. Mascaro's bid was \$4,942,296.00; Whitetail's bid was \$4,616,369.72.

The results were reviewed, and our Solicitor consulted. It is recommended that A.J. Blosenski be awarded the single contract for both solid waste and recycling collection.

Mr. Durkin moved, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to adopt **Resolution #03-18-24-05** awarding the solid waste and recycling collection contract for the 3-year period August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2027, to A.J. Blosenski, Inc. at \$3,142,254.38. Discussion included that a rate change would be necessary as it's been 5 years since the current contract was awarded, and that the Public Works Department took their time with due diligence crafting the bid specifications. The motion to adopt **Resolution #03-18-24-05** carried unanimously.

Open Session

Gerry Stein thanked Mike Esterlis and the Public Works staff for moving the Historical Commission's fireproof cabinets from the Upland Farm Barn to the farmhouse. It was quite a feat – the cabinets are extremely heavy.

John Eblacker thanked Mike Esterlis and the Public Works staff for set-up for the Milford Mills Lecture.

David Lipow commented on the Porsche Service Center application. Kristin Camp explained the conditional use approval procedure and encouraged attendance at the April 11 Planning Commission meeting when the consultants' reviews will be discussed.

Steve Egnaczyk asked how outside counsel will know how the Board of Supervisors feels about the billboard. Tony Scheivert will advise the Solicitor of the Board's thoughts.

Gerry Stein made comment that the Porsche representatives said they'd put the service center further back from the road, toward the back of the property, and asked about a traffic signal at Font Road and Route 100.

Scott Johnson of JTech thanked the Board, Tony Scheivert, Rhys Lloyd and Anthony Campbell for the help they gave Eagle Animal Hospital getting resituated after the fire. The Board thanked Scott for helping the veterinarians have a temporary place of operation.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Mrs. Baxter adjourned the Meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen A. Jonik
Township Secretary