



Upper Uwchlan Township
Board of Supervisors Workshop

August 11, 2015

4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Approved

In attendance:

Kevin Kerr, Chair

Guy Donatelli, Vice-Chair

Cathy Tomlinson, Member

Cary Vargo, Township Manager

John DeMarco, Police Chief

Gwen Jonik, Township Secretary

Al Gaspari, Codes Administrator

Dave Leh, P.E., Township Engineer

Kevin Kerr called the Workshop to order at 4:00 p.m.

Eagle Scout Project Presentation

Al Gaspari introduced Hunter Walp, Eagle Scout candidate, who is proposing a flag recycling program for his Eagle Scout project. He plans to station a box at the Township Building to collect the flags and then he'll properly retire them at a ceremony, hopefully around Flag Day and/or the Township Block Party. Mr. Walp proposes building a fire pit at Upland Farm where he would conduct a proper flag retirement ceremony. The Board of Supervisors favored the project.

Windsor Christian Academy (WCA) – Subdivision/Land Development Modification Request

Cary Vargo briefed the Supervisors about WCA's request to add another modular classroom for the short-term period of this school year -- September 2015 through June 2016 -- and hopes the Board will waive the need to go through the land development process for placement on the modular unit.

Alice Vache, Director of the Academy, and Hal Harper were in attendance to answer questions and request the waiver. The Academy has 240 students enrolled in K-8 grades. Forty students attend at the Fairview Presbyterian Church which serves as the middle school at this time. Two classrooms are needed this year due to a larger enrollment of preschool students using space in WCA's main building. There are 6 classrooms in the existing modular; the rest of the classrooms are in the main building attached to the Church. WCA hopes to begin construction this year of a new 2-story school building on the adjacent property that will accommodate all students and remove all modular classrooms prior to the 2016-2017 school year. The Church Deacons and Elders have to approve the new building construction; their approval hasn't been formalized at this time. The new building will be of pre-fabricated construction, which will shorten the overall construction schedule.

After further discussion, the Supervisors remained hesitant regarding the WCA's proposed new building construction schedule, believing it wouldn't be accomplished in time and the modular units would remain in place after June 2016. The Supervisors would be favorable to granting the request for the modular unit if they are provided with a letter of commitment from the Church Deacons and Elders of their planned approval to replace the modular units with a permanent school building for the 2016-2017 school year. If the commitment letter is brought to the Board's August 17, 2015 Meeting, the Board will discuss and decide the Modification Request at that time.

Mr. Vargo suggested that Mrs. Vache seek permission from the Church to hire a consultant or project manager and Architect to guide the Academy and the Church through this process so

approval processes and construction would stay on schedule. There are various aspects of the land development process that cannot be waived, such as storm water management requirements, and professionals who are familiar with the processes would be beneficial to the Academy.

Stormwater Feasibility Study

Russ Benner, P.E. – T and M, and John Damico, President – ERC Inc., were in attendance to answer any questions the Supervisors may have from Phase I of the Stormwater Authority Feasibility Study, which was presented June 9 during the Supervisors' Workshop. Through the Phase I processes, it was determined that the Township spends approximately \$350,000/year for stormwater management services, such as public works completing inlet maintenance, basin repair, engineering, etc.

Mr. Damico asked if the Board would like to proceed with Phase II of the Feasibility Study, which would conclude with the development of a business plan for an Authority and a proposed storm water rate. Phase III would include educating staff and the public and beginning the billing process.

Questions and comments from the Board included: (answers in *italics*)

Who makes up a Stormwater Authority/Committee (SWAC)?

Citizens, developers, HOA Representatives, etc.

If a SWAC is formed, that doesn't necessarily mean a rate will be set.

Educational materials will be developed to support improved stormwater management services and to provide answers to residents' questions about those services.

The Board agreed they'd like estimates of what it will cost to conduct Phase II activities, and to submit grant applications to the Vision Partnership Program and the State's Municipal Assistance Program to fund those activities. Mr. Vargo advised Phase II activities wouldn't begin until the 2016 budget year, but the County needs a letter of commitment and grant application at this time.

Drone / Model Aircraft Ordinance

Cary Vargo advised there has been an increase in drone use around the township and the County. Chief DeMarco advised there is no current law addressing the use of drones and he has drafted an ordinance which has been reviewed by the Township's Alternate Solicitor. The Board reviewed and discussed the draft, and decided to table the matter until the need develops for such an ordinance.

Streets and Sidewalks Obstruction Ordinance

Cary Vargo introduced a draft ordinance that addresses the increase of obstructions on streets and sidewalks, such as with equipment, dumpsters, building materials, etc. The Board reviewed and discussed the draft and would like it to move forward toward adoption.

Township Manager's Report

Cary Vargo provided updates for the following projects and activities:

Columbia Gas is going to begin 24/7 drilling activity because they are behind schedule. The noise from that activity might become a nuisance to residents and any calls on the matter should be forwarded to Mr. Vargo.

The Turnpike Commission will provide Public Officials with an update of the expansion through Upper Uwchlan Township at a September 10 meeting.

Wastewater Treatment Facility - Phase II. The leaking tank has been resolved. Curbs were installed inside and outside the tank. The tanks were filled, tested and no leakage was detected. There is a 10-year warranty on the tanks. After the first year, they'll drain for inspection and repair, if needed.

Phase II Expansion. A project update letter will be sent to residents included in the public sewer expansion – Eagle Manor, Windsor Place, Heather Hill.

Fellowship Fields Field House site work began yesterday, including preparations for the public sewer lines. Our General Contractor has hired sub-contractors, all is going well, and the project should be complete this November.

Traffic Signal for Route 401 and Fellowship Road. Due to a long lead time for the signal poles, installation is targeted for late October 2015.

Roadway milling and paving will begin August 24.

The NPDES permit for Darrell Drive expires in April 2016. We are planning to begin construction and be substantially complete before the permit expires so that additional costs associated with permit extension fees and additional storm water management measures won't be necessary.

The Township has received right-of-way approval and appraisal approval for Phase IV of the Park Road Trail – Hickory Park to Marsh Creek State Park. Two of eleven affected properties need to be appraised.

Kevin Kerr asked Chief DeMarco for an update regarding the recent incident at the Columbia Gas facility in West Vincent. Chief DeMarco advised a pump overheated, and all safety features worked; the result being that no personnel were injured and no structure ignited.

Melissa Luperi of Car Sense inquired if the Turnpike would provide updates to businesses and/or citizens? Cary Vargo replied that there will probably be information for the general public following the Public Officials briefing in early September.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Kevin Kerr adjourned the Workshop at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen A. Jonik
Township Secretary