

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2017

KENNETH E. KROBERGER, PRESIDENT
Finance/Personnel/Administration

1. Call to order.

The March 27, 2017, Public Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:32 PM by President of the Board, Kenneth E. Kroberger. The following individuals were in attendance.

Kenneth E. Kroberger	President
M. Clare Edelmayer	Vice President
James A. Santi	Commissioner
Steven C. Sands	Commissioner
Leonard T. Perrone	Township Manager
Michael J. Lapinski	Assistant Township Manager
David Brill	Finance Director
David W. Duffy	Police Chief
Russ Benner	Township Engineer
David C. Onorato	Township Solicitor

Following the call to order, Mr. Kroberger suspended the public meeting and opened the Public Hearing.

2. Public Hearing

The purpose of this hearing is to hear comment pursuant to the provisions of the Open Space Lands Act, 32 P.S. §5001, *et seq.*, with respect to the installation of an Upper Gwynedd Township sanitary sewer line in open space lands owned by Upper Gwynedd Township located in the Gwynedd Farm Subdivision bounded by Flintlock Drive, Supplee Road and Powderhorn Drive. Mr. Kroberger entered the four (4) exhibits into evidence (see below) before handing off to Mr. Onorato, Township Solicitor.

Exhibits:

- T1: Proof of Publication for Legal Advertisement published on March 2, 2017.
- T2: Verification of Posting Notice.
- T3: Invitation to attend Open House meeting and mailing list
- T4: Presentation by Bill Brown of EEMA

Brief explanation of the Ordinance by Dave Onorato, Township Solicitor

Mr. Onorato said this hearing is pursuant to the PA Open Space Lands Act that requires a hearing if open space is being sold, transferred or disposed of. The Township is doing neither, but is using the open space to construct part of its pipeline diversion which will run underground, parallel to an existing pipeline. This hearing is being held so that we are in full compliance of the PA Open Space Lands Act, to give notice to the residents that are impacted by this project and to be transparent as we can be with respect to this project. Mr. Onorato then handed off to Mr. Brown, the design engineer for the project.

Mr. Brown gave an overview of where the wastewater flows within the Township which is to one of two Wastewater Treatment Plants. The western portion of the Township flows to the Towamencin Municipal Authority (formerly the UGTMA) Plant and the eastern portion flows to the Upper Gwynedd Wastewater Treatment Plant. Upper Gwynedd Township and Towamencin Township jointly financed an independent engineering study done by Hazen-Sawyer which identified future costs for wastewater treatment at the Upper Gwynedd Towamencin Municipal Water Authority (UGTMA). Based on a review of that study, Upper Gwynedd Township decided to divert the majority of Upper Gwynedd's wastewater flow from the TMA to the UGWWTP. Mr. Brown explained that two (2) pump stations and force mains will have to be constructed because we are moving flow from a low area, up over a hill and back down to the UGWWTP. The two (2) pump stations are both located along Valley Forge Road. The North Pump Station will be located near the intersection of Valley Forge Rd. and Sumneytown Pike, on land acquired by UGT (near the Wawa). The South Pump Station will be located near the intersection of Valley Forge Road and the PA Turnpike in Towamencin Township. He presented a map of the locations of each of these pump stations. Mr. Brown said the flow that comes out of a pump station is under pressure and is an all enclosed pipe that is underground unlike the sanitary sewer pipes that are gravity flow and have a manhole. The force main from the South Pump Station, is the pipe that will be going through the open space. Mr. Brown showed additional slides of the proposed route before concluding his presentation.

3. Request for public comment

Mr. Onorato asked if anyone had questions for Mr. Brown.

Greg Landis asked if the force main replaces the gravity, to which Mr. Brown replied, no the gravity will stay because the flow will still go by gravity downhill and the force main will reverse it.

Mr. Onorato then asked if anyone had any comments about what is being proposed by the Township.

Gladys Smiley - 946 Patriot Dr. – Mrs. Smiley said the area behind her house is wooded with a lot of animals and nice eco system. She asked how disruptive will it be when they have to put the pipes in, (will they have to cut trees, digging)?

Mr. Kroberger replied that there will be trees cut down to allow for equipment to do the construction but does not think there will be a tremendous loss of trees and vegetation. He went on to say that those trees will be replaced to the best of our ability and we will try to put it back to its natural state as much as possible.

Mrs. Smiley said she is concerned with the wildlife, the fox and deer and other animals that are back there. Mr. Kroberger noted that once the pipe is in the ground, there will be no detrimental activity to the animals in that area. The pipe will be underground and the land above will be put back to its original condition.

Mr. Perrone said the trees that are adjacent or close to the pipeline are an impediment for the Township to service the pipeline. Those trees will be taken down and new trees will be replaced, but away from the pipeline to keep the area open in case we need to service the pipe. Mr. Perrone went on to say there will not be much human activity that will give wildlife a reason not to come back once the machines are gone.

Ken Smiley – 946 Patriot Dr. – Mr. Smiley asked where the South pump station is located, how will it be powered, how long will the project take? Mr. Onorato said it is located between the Church and Turnpike on Valley Forge Road, on the vacant land (private property). It will be powered with electricity. Mr. Brown said the construction estimate for that area of approximately 3500 sq. ft. to be 1 -2 months of active digging with an overall total of 3-5 months in this area.

Mr. Perrone said we are looking at starting this project in late 2018/early 2019 as there are multiple steps the Township has to go through prior to putting a shovel in the ground.

Ken Kuntzmann - 949 Flintlock Dr. – How long will the overall project take? Mr. Brown replied that it will take well over a year. Mr. Perrone commented that there is over five (5) miles of pipeline.

Mr. Smiley asked how the project will affect their sewer rates. Mr. Kroberger said there should be no impact to the sewer rates at this point in time. Mr. Onorato noted that the reason for doing this project is to maintain the moderate sewer rates that we currently have.

Mr. Onorato asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were no further questions.

4. Motion to close the Public Hearing and resume the Public Meeting

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion to close the hearing and resume the Public Meeting was approved.

5. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Workshop Meeting held February 21, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Workshop Meeting Minutes were received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Minutes of the February 21, 2017 Workshop Meeting were approved as presented.

6. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Public Meeting held February 27, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Public Meeting Minutes were received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the Minutes of the February 27, 2017 Public Meeting were approved as presented.

7. Motion to approve the Department Reports filed by Township Staff.

Mr. Kroberger asked for comments or questions. Hearing none, upon motion of Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Santi, the Departmental Reports were approved as submitted.

8. Presentation of public comments and concerns (limit of five minutes per individual).

There were none.

9. Approval of a Proclamation declaring April 9 – 15, 2017 as National Library Week

Mr. Kroberger read a portion of the proclamation. He encouraged all residents to visit the library.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Greg Landis thanked the Board for the Proclamation as he is a member of the Board of the Library.

10. Motion to Approve the Articles of Incorporation for the Not-for-Profit Organization

Mr. Kroberger noted this was a request that was brought by our Parks & Rec Director due to some issues that arose during fundraising for the Parks & Rec department. They found that some corporations cannot donate unless they are giving to a non-profit (501C3). This is to make it easier for corporations and other entities to give donations. Mr. Kroberger said this is not just for Parks and Rec, but for all Township activities.

Mr. Onorato noted that the action tonight is to approve the articles of incorporation. The name of the organization is the Upper Gwynedd Community Association and is set up as a not-for-profit and it will be permitted to do those things that a 501C3 can do according to the Internal Revenue Code. Mr. Onorato stated that Mrs. Edelmayer has been named the incorporator as she is the liaison to the Parks & Rec Board. Once approved, this will be filed and then we will begin the process of having meetings. Mr. Kroberger noted the by-

laws state that there will be five (5) members to this organization, two (2) of which will be elected officials of the Township.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Sands, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

M. CLARE EDELMAYER, VICE PRESIDENT

Public Works/Parks/Recreation

11. Motion to Approve the NAC recommendation of Buell Kratzer Powell (BKP) for Professional Architectural Services

Mrs. Edelmayer said the Township has a very active Parks and Rec program. We currently share a building with the Boy Scouts and there are often scheduling conflicts. We began to discuss the possibility of having a community center that would be dedicated to the parks and rec program. Mrs. Edelmayer went on to say, about a year ago, the Needs Assessment Committee (NAC) was formed which consisted of Township staff, (Mr. Perrone, Mr. Lapinski, Ms. Croke, Mr. Kaker), myself (Mrs. Edelmayer) and two (2) community members. Mr. Mike Zumpino (Parks & Rec Board) and Mr. Gil Silverman (Planning Commission) both on the NAC are present tonight. The Committee had a consultation with the Township's engineering firm, T&M Associates and did a needs assessment survey, of which 11% of households in the Community, responded. The NAC received ideas from the Community of what they would like in a center if one was going to be built. Mrs. Edelmayer said the NAC narrowed it down from the responses as to what the Community wants. Mrs. Edelmayer stressed that this is part of a process and it is not definite that we are building a community center.

Mrs. Edelmayer stated the NAC decided that the next step was to get a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Architectural services (sketch plan, cost estimates). Thirteen (13) architectural firms responded. The NAC narrowed it down to 3 firms to interview. The NAC recommended Buell Kratzer Powell (BKP) for a proposal of \$29,350. We have budgeted \$40,000 for this proposal.

Mr. Silverman said BKP offers a wealth of experience with community centers and they gave us the best approach with a proposal that included 3 designs with cost estimates that we have an opportunity to make selections before the final design.

Mrs. Edelmayer said BKP has a lot of experience with recreation centers and community centers such as Upper Merion Township, Rosemont School, City of Philadelphia and others. This is for a schematic and cost estimates.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Edelmayer recognized Mike Zumpino and Gil Silverman for all their help.

12. Motion to Approve the 2017 Fireworks Display Contract with International Fireworks Mfg. Co for \$10,750.00 for 2 nights.

Mrs. Edelmayer noted the carnival will be held on September 7 – 10, 2017

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

13. Motion to Authorize the advertisement of the bid for 2017/2018 Equipment Rental Contract

Mrs. Edelmayer said this is for machinery used for repaving and recycling roads.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

14. Motion to Approve the Letter of Support for the WVWA Grant Application

Mrs. Edelmayer said this is for stream restoration along the Wissahickon (in the PECO area). This is to support the WVWA with their grant application.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

15. Motion to Approve the 2017 CFA Multi-Modal Grant Application for possible sidewalks in West Point Village.

Mrs. Edelmayer said we would like to connect sidewalks over the railroad tracks and the trail that goes over the Wissahickon Creek and into the back of open land and then back to the Township complex.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

JAMES A. SANTI

Zoning/Planning

16. Motion to Approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2017-003. To exclude UGT owned utility facilities from the provisions of the chapter.

Mr. Onorato said in reviewing our zoning code, we made a discovery that unlike most municipal facilities, our code does not exempt the Township from the provisions of the code. This ordinance only exempts utility facilities which we are defining as, those facilities that provide treatment, conveyance, transportation, distribution and transmission of stormwater or wastewater. This ordinance will exempt the Township from the zoning code for the construction of utility facilities, except where it deals with the flood plain.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

17. Motion to Approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2017-004. Amending Chapter 195, adding section 195-37.1 regarding merger of adjacent lots.

Mr. Onorato said we are amending our existing ordinance dealing with the merger of lots due to a recent Commonwealth court decision regarding non-conforming adjacent lots. The decision basically said that unless you specifically put in your ordinance that it is the property owners' burden, then it becomes the municipalities burden to determine the intent of a property owner where the owner has two (2) parcels that are adjacent and non-conforming, and whether the intent is for them to merge into one conforming lot or for them to remain non-conforming lots. This ordinance will clarify the language.

Mr. Santi said this was also recommended by the Planning Commission.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

18. Motion to Approve the Merck & Co., Inc. request for waivers from Chapter 124-5. Noise ordinance waiver for several dates in April and May, 2017. Sunday work hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Mr. Santi noted that this is for every Saturday and Sunday in April and May. The work planned is to vacuum ballast river rock on the existing roof system to allow for installation of a new roof system. Similar work has been performed in the past with no issues regarding noise.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

19. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 05-2017. The Parking Lot Development Plan for Cardinal Hollow Wines

Mr. Santi recognized Chris Boyd from Cardinal Hollow Wines being present. He noted seven (7) waivers that need approval.

1. Section 168-19.C(3)(n) – access roads for all non-residential subdivisions shall be no less than 30' wide at the street line and shall be clearly defined by use of curbing. The width of the proposed parking lot entrance along Chestnut St. is 25' and not defined by curb.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mr. Sands. Waiver 1 was approved.

2. Section 168-19.C(4) – to provide safe and convenient ingress and egress, access road entrances shall for all non-residential subdivisions shall be rounded at a minimum radius of 25'. The radii at the proposed parking lot entrance along Chestnut Street are 5'.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer. Waiver 2 was approved.

3. Section 168-19.C(7) – the center line of an access road or driveway at the point of access to a street should not be located closer to the center line of a street intersection than 75'. The center line of the parking lot entrance is 50' from the center line of Long Alley which is a public road.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mr. Sands. Waiver 3 was approved.

4. Section 168-20.D(2)(n) – the minimum street requirements for a collector street are a 70' right of way, a 46' pavement width, a 4' wide sidewalk and curb. The West Point Pike existing cartway half width is 15.5'

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer. Waiver 4 was approved.

5. Section 168-20.D(2)(a) – the minimum street requirement for a residential street are a 54' right of way, a 30' pavement width and a 4' wide sidewalk and curb. The existing cartway width for Chestnut Street is 11.8' and for Jones Avenue is 12.7'

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mr. Sands. Waiver 5 was approved.

6. Section 168.21.D – no less than 10' of open space shall be provided between the curb line of any parking area and the outside wall of a building. The required 10' setback is not provided at the two proposed parallel spaces along the building (0' setback)

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer. Waiver 6 was approved.

7. Section 168.21.1(1)(c) – Poured in place concrete curbs shall be provided to define street entrances and around the perimeter of parking lots adjacent to buildings. No curb is proposed at the entrance or between the two proposed spaces and the existing winery building.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi and seconded by Mr. Sands, Waiver 7 was approved.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion with waivers was unanimously approved.

20. Motion to Authorize Andy Heinrich, UGT Traffic Engineer to review the Site Access Traffic Study for the Martin Tract

Mr. Santi said the Martin tract is on Allentown Road, directly across from Lehigh Valley. This is a proposed development of homes and this review is to make sure they conform with the road system.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

STEVEN C. SANDS

Public Safety

21. Motion to Approve the Broad Street Re-Run 5 Mile Race on Saturday, May 20, 2017. The beneficiary is Penn Suburban Foundation for Literacy and Wellness in Greater Montgomery County.

Mr. Sands stated that this was tabled at last meeting because there was no named beneficiary. The beneficiary of this event is Penn Suburban Foundation for Literacy and Wellness in Greater Montgomery County

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

22. Motion to Approve the Wissahickon Watershed Green Ribbon Trail, Walk the Wissahickon on Sunday, September 24, 2017.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Sands, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

THOMAS A. DUFFY

Wastewater Treatment

23. Motion to Approve the 2017 GIS/Modeling Proposal

Mr. Kroberger said this proposal from T&M is so we can constantly update and use the GIS system to the best of our ability. It has been used mostly for the sanitary sewer system in the Sugar Valley area. Mr. Kroberger said this a great tool for our employees to use to determine what areas need improvement and how best to continue with projects within the Township. This project is a continuation from last year.

Mr. Kroberger added that the scope of service involves three (3) phases; GPS Training (\$5,800), Sanitary Sewer System Modeling (\$17,800) and Asset Field Survey (\$24,500).

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Kroberger, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

24. Motion to Approve the Bid Award for the 2017 Transitional Couplings Project to Wexcon, Inc. for \$28,400.00

Mr. Kroberger said this proposal is for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Wexcon is a company that is currently working in the township

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Kroberger, seconded by Mr. Santi, the motion was unanimously approved.

25. Motion to Approve the Bid Award for a 2-Year contract for Liquid Sludge Hauling to Franc Environmental, Inc. for \$674,000.00

This bid is based on an estimated number of gallons. The cost per gallon is \$0.0674.

Question by Chris Boyd, he asked if we are going to go back to the old watering process. Mr. Perrone said no because it opens up a whole set of problems that we corrected years ago. Mr. Brown said old system is no longer there.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Kroberger, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was unanimously approved.

26. Motion to approve the construction of a sanitary sewer Line (force main) and any facilities appurtenant thereto through Upper Gwynedd Township Open Space located within the Gwynedd Farm Subdivision and adjacent To Flintlock Drive, Supplee Road and Powderhorn Drive.

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Kroberger, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Perrone noted that we will have another Open House meeting regarding specifics of this project, probably in a year or so.

Mrs. Smiley asked about how to get on mailing list. Mr. Perrone asked her to email him and he will put her name on the list.

OTHER BUSINESS

27. Approval of the March, 2017 bills.

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Board had received a copy of the General fund bills. Hearing no questions, upon motion by Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Santi, the General Fund bills were approved. Mrs. Edelmayer abstained from approving the Zoning Solicitor's bill.

Mr. Kroberger said the next item is Wastewater and asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, the Board unanimously approved the Sewer Fund bills.

Mr. Kroberger advised that the Board was also being asked to approve invoices from all other funds. Upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Board unanimously approved these invoices as well.

Mr. Kroberger advised that there were several invoices that had been prepaid due to timing. Upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Board unanimously approved the pre-paid invoices.

28. Call for Adjournment.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Santi, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard T. Perrone
Secretary

Approved April 24, 2017

/djl