

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2017

KENNETH E. KROBERGER, PRESIDENT
Finance/Personnel/Administration

1. Call to order.

The December 18, 2017, Public Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 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
Thomas A. Duffy	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 Onorato	Township Solicitor

2. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting held November 9, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Budget Meeting Minutes were received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the Minutes of the November 9, 2017 Budget Meeting were approved as presented.

3. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting held November 16, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that these Budget Meeting Minutes were also received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Minutes of the November 16, 2017 Budget Meeting were approved as presented.

4. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Workshop Meeting held November 14, 2017

Mr. Kroberger noted that the Workshop Meeting Minutes were received with the Agenda packet. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion of Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the Minutes of the November 14, 2017 Workshop Meeting were approved with the minor change of E. Clare to M. Clare Edelmayer.

5. Motion to approve the Minutes of the Public Meeting held November 20, 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 November 20, 2017 Public Meeting were approved as presented.

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

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

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

Greg Landis, 770 Sumneytown Pike. He thanked Steve and Clare for a wonderful time of support. Mr. Landis said that he has appeared here for the last twenty-five (25) years and he thanked Mrs. Edelmayer and added that it was a wonderful experience dealing with you in a professional setting. He wished them both the best.

Nancy Bednarik, 770 Sumneytown Pike, Merck, Director of Facilities. She said she has been in her position for a couple of years and thanked Clare, Steve, the Board, Len and his team for the work they've done. She added that Merck is looking forward to the next change and the continuing work with the Board.

Mark Connelly, 11 Kierney Drive. He had a comment on the recent snow removal change. He doesn't think PennDOT adequately cleared the roads and said it took him a long time to get home after Friday's small snow storm. He is concerned that we are handing over roads to PennDOT instead of handling it internally. He understands that the goal is to clear Township roads quicker. Mr. Kroberger said that Mr. Troxel will be on top of PennDOT and was comfortable with the quality of work that PennDOT performed during the snow. He added that Mr. Troxel will make sure the quality of the work on the PennDOT roads will be the same as if the Township was doing the work. Mr. Duffy said it is a one-year contract. Mr. Perrone said we interviewed the other municipalities in the area about the quality of work by PennDOT before rendering the decision to make the switch. All the municipalities were very positive regarding their experience with PennDOT clearing the state roads.

8. Motion to approve the 2018 Township Meeting & Holiday Schedule

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

9. Motion to approve Resolution No. 22-2017 – Supplemental revenue appropriations to the capital reserve

Mr. Kroberger said we received money (\$306,000) from a real estate transaction and out of that money, added \$200,000 to bolster the capital reserve fund. The capital reserve is used to take care of any major equipment and expenses. He added that we have to make this change in the budget by adopting a Resolution.

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

10. Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-009, the 2018 Tax Rate

Mr. Kroberger said this Ordinance fixes the tax rate for 2018. There is no increase in the tax rate for 2018. For 2018, the tax rate for general Township purposes will remain at 1.874 mills, the fire tax is .139 mills, and the tax rate for fire hydrant and water district is .028 mills. He noted that we still have the \$30,000 Homestead Exemption.

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

11. Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-010, the 2018 Budget Appropriations

Mr. Kroberger said this is the 2018 Budget. The General Fund is \$13,142,189, expenses and revenue, State Aid is \$720,000 and sewer \$7,219,111. The total budget for 2018 is \$21,081,300. He said the Township is in good financial position.

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

12. Motion to approve the 2018 Security Service Agreement with Schneider Electric

Mr. Kroberger said we have a maintenance contract for the security of our buildings.

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

13. Motion to approve Resolution No. 23-2017, the revised Fee Schedule

Mr. Kroberger stated that we made changes related to the pricing of the fee structure for private residences. He noted that these fees are not a revenue generator but are used to cover the cost of zoning and inspection activity in the Township and are a fixed rate.

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

14. Motion to approve Resolution No. 26-2017, Opposition to Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Bill

This Resolution is in opposition of HB 1620. Wireless contractors are trying to limit the municipalities ability to impose the zoning regulations that we have for our right of ways in the Township. These wireless companies want to put antennas on poles for providing their services and they are trying to limit the ability of municipalities to govern how they go about doing that. Township staff and Consultants are in agreement to oppose HB 1620.

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

M. CLARE EDELMAYER, VICE PRESIDENT

Public Works/Parks/Recreation

Mrs. Edelmayer thanked the residents of Upper Gwynedd Township for allowing her to serve on the Board for 25 years. She said she is proud of the work that was done by this Board. She added that she is proud to be part of all the accomplishments and improvements that this Board has made. She thanked the employees for their work and thanked everyone for coming out. She thanked her liaisons, Mr. Troxel, Mr. Kaker and Mr. Perrone. She also thanked her husband and their three daughters for their support.

15. Motion to approve the 2018 Nor-Gwyn Pool Budget

She asked if anyone had any questions about the budget. She said the Pool Commission has done a great job and has nothing but praise for the Pool Commission.

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

16. Motion to ratify the notice of nighttime work by the Montgomery County Roads and Bridges

There was work done on Sumneytown Pike between Kulpsville and Supplee Road.

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

17. Motion to approve Payment #4 to Floyd Hersh for Equipment Rental in the amount of \$29,985.25 for Stormwater Improvement Projects

Mrs. Edelmayer said this is for equipment rental for various Stormwater Improvement Projects.

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

JAMES A. SANTI **Zoning/Planning**

18. Motion to approve Resolution No. 24-2017, prohibiting gaming in the Township

Mr. Santi stated that this Resolution is to prohibit a Category 4 gaming operation to be located in the Township. These are for mini casinos that have 300 – 750 slot machines. He said the state (Act 42) authorizes licensing of ten (10) of these mini casinos. He added that we have to take a position by the end of this month. Mr. Onorato said we can change our mind in the future if we choose to allow this kind of operation if this could be a revenue stream for the Township.

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

STEVEN C. SANDS **Public Safety**

Mr. Sands thanked the Board for selecting him to replace long-standing Commissioner Gene Ziemba. He thanked the Board for allowing him to serve the remainder of Mr. Ziemba's term. He said he has a new-found appreciation of the hard work, dedication and commitment that goes into being a Commissioner and serving the Community. He thanked Mr. Perrone, Mr. Lapinski, Chief Duffy, Chief Chris Sharkey, Jeff Tomczak and the EMS staff. He recognized the hard work that goes into running this Township. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and said hopefully he will have the opportunity to serve again. He also thanked his wife Margie their daughters Charlotte and Colleen.

19. Motion to approve the Broad Street Rerun 5 Mile Race on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 8:30 am

Mr. Sands noted that this race was held from 2008 – 2012 and was cancelled after that. It has been revived by the Physical Therapy and Wellness Institute and is a fundraiser for the Penn Suburban Chamber of Commerce Children's Health and Youth Fund. They are expecting 300 – 500 runners. He added that three (3) officers may be needed for the race. This was vetted by Sgt. Gillen and recommended for approval.

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

THOMAS A. DUFFY

Wastewater Treatment

20. Motion to approve the 2018 Magnetite Bid Award to Evoqua for \$46,125

Mr. Duffy said Magnetite is used for our Bio-mag system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He added that Magnetite is the same stuff in an Etch a Sketch. We received one bid at the same price as last year.

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

21. Motion to approve the Tapping and Connection Fee Agreement with Normandy Farms Estates

Mr. Duffy stated that Normandy Farms is looking to build twenty-one (21) carriage homes and this is the tapping and connection fee agreement.

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

22. Motion to authorize the advertisement of Ordinance 2018-01, amending local pollutant limits for mercury.

Mr. Duffy said this is for mercury pollutants limits.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

23. Approval of the December 2017 bills.

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

Mr. Kroberger said the next item are the Sewer Bills 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. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mr. Duffy, 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. Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the Board unanimously approved the pre-paid invoices.

24. End of Year Statements, Comments and Commendations

Mr. Kroberger gave his personal thoughts on Steve Sands. He met him when he interviewed him for the Upper Gwynedd-Towamencin Municipal Authority (UGTMA). His education and background qualified him for the position on the UGTMA. Mr. Kroberger was impressed by how he conducted himself at the meetings. He said Mr. Sands educated himself regarding the issues and offered well-informed opinions about how to deal with and resolve the issues. He was equally impressed when he became chairman of the UGTMA with how he conducted the meetings and dealt with the issues at hand. He was committed to providing the best service to the residents of Upper Gwynedd. He was appointed to the Board to fulfill the vacancy of Gene Ziemba in 2016. Mr. Kroberger said in the last 18 months, Mr. Sands has continued to provide his knowledge and expertise regarding all aspects of managing the Township for the benefit of all our residents and this Board and said he will be missed. Mr. Kroberger noted that during this time it has been a pleasure getting to know the Sands family. He thanked Mr. Sands for his dedication.

Mr. Duffy said he has known Mr. Sands for a long time and recruited him for the UGTMA Board. Mr. Duffy said Mr. Sands was exemplary for how he handled himself and the Board. He added that Mr. Sands is one of those people that when he begins talking, you know he is operating on a different level, very intelligent, very personable and easy to deal with. He said he will miss him dearly on the Board, but he will remain a friend forever. Mr. Duffy thanked him for his service.

Mr. Santi said he didn't know Mr. Sands until he joined the Board. Mr. Santi said he filled the position of a very dear friend and added that Mr. Ziemba would be proud. He thanked him for his service and friendship.

Mrs. Edelmayer said she was impressed with Mr. Sands knowledge and experience and said it's been great working with him. She said she feels bad that the Township is losing Mr. Sands and said it is a huge loss to the Township.

Mr. Perrone said Mr. Sands insights are absolutely extraordinary. He frequently puts things at a different level with a new perspective.

Mr. Kroberger made the motion to approve resolution 21-2017, a commemoration for Steven C. Sands for years of public service. Mr. Kroberger read the Resolution to Mr. Sands, the Board and the audience. Hearing no questions or comments, the motion was seconded by Mr. Duffy and unanimously approved.

Mr. Kroberger then presented the signed and framed Resolution to Mr. Sands.

Mr. Kroberger introduced State Representative, Kate Harper. Mrs. Harper offered her thanks and praise to Mr. Sands. She said she is the chair of the House Local Government Committee and it pleases her a great deal to thank someone in local government for their service. She wrote a letter of commendation for Steve Sands and presented it to him in a PA House of Representatives jacket. The letter is hereby attached to these minutes.

Mr. Kroberger gave his personal thoughts about Clare Edelmayer. He said that Mrs. Edelmayer is known as his “work wife” and added that it has been an absolute pleasure to serve with her on the Board for the last twenty-five (25) years. He stated that Mrs. Edelmayer performed her duties as a Commissioner, liaison and Vice-President at the highest level of professionalism and dedication to the residents of Upper Gwynedd. He added that she always stepped in and assisted in the many responsibilities as a Commissioner and always considered her duties as a Commissioner as a primary responsibility and obligation to the residents of the Township. He added that the residents, employees and the Board appreciate her service. He thanked her family for their support and thanked her and hopes that she can continue to serve the Township in the future.

Mr. Santi told Mrs. Edelmayer that we always worked together for the betterment of the community and thanked her for her service and added that it was a pleasure serving with her.

Mr. Duffy said he’s sat on many committees with her and she brought a lot to the Township as she is very involved. He noted that he learned a lot from Mrs. Edelmayer and says she has amazing insight and he enjoyed serving with her.

Mr. Sands said he had the pleasure of working with Clare. He said she is one smart, classy, compassionate, savvy lady and the Township will miss her. He thanked her for her service.

Mr. Perrone thanked Mrs. Edelmayer on behalf of the employees. He said her dedication to Public Works, the Board, Parks and Recreation and the entire Township is inspiring and the work that was completed is a beautiful sight for this community to enjoy and that you had a lot to do with Mrs. Edelmayer.

Mrs. Edelmayer said she will miss interacting with everyone as a team to get things done. We didn’t always agree, but we worked for the betterment of the Township.

Mr. Kroberger made motion to approve Resolution 20-2017, a commemoration for Clare Edelmayer’s years of public service to the Township. He then read the resolution to Mrs. Edelmayer, the Board and the audience. The motion was seconded by Mr. Santi and unanimously approved.

Mr. Kroberger then presented the signed and framed Resolution to Mrs. Edelmayer. She was also given a bouquet of roses.

Mr. Kroberger again introduced State Representative, Kate Harper. Mrs. Harper complimented Mrs. Edelmayer by saying every time she thought of Upper Gwynedd, she thought of Mrs. Edelmayer. She presented Mrs. Edelmayer with a House Citation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives that recognizes her service to Upper Gwynedd Township for over 25 years, which is a rarity. Representative Harper read the citation. A copy of the citation is hereby attached to the minutes.

Mrs. Edelmayer thanked Representative Harper for being her mentor and for her true dedication.

Mr. Kroberger said this is Mrs. Edelmayer and Mr. Sands last Public Meeting and the newly elected Commissioners will be sworn in at the reorganization meeting on January 2, 2018. He added that we welcome them and look forward to continuing the work that Mrs. Edelmayer and Mr. Sands have been a part of as we move forward.

25. Announcement of Retirement

Mr. Kroberger publicly announced that Mr. Perrone is retiring on December 29, 2017. He said he has enjoyed his relationship with Mr. Perrone during the last twenty-six (26) years that he has been on the Board. Mr. Kroberger added that knowing you and the way you conduct yourself, was knowing that I will never be surprised about anything. He said he appreciated Mr. Perrone giving him a heads up on all issues. You’ve been the Township Manager for 28 years which is unheard of. That is due to the quality of

work that you've done for the Board, the employees and the residents of the Township. He said that Mr. Perrone is the driving force in dealing with consultants, attorneys, engineers in getting issues ironed out and keeping projects moving forward. You have provided the guidance and sense of understanding to the employees about their role and responsibilities to serve the residents of Upper Gwynedd Township. It's been a pleasure getting to know your family. Mr. Kroberger stated that the TIP program which was twenty (20) years in duration, the work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and everything else accomplished in the Township was a lot of work and effort. You were involved in all the activities of the Township. He thanked him for the work he has done.

Mr. Santi said he was on the Board when we hired Mr. Perrone. He said we've had our differences but said the TIP project was a good feather in your cap and wished the best of luck to him and his family and thanked him for everything he's done.

Mr. Duffy said he's had a good friendship with Mr. Perrone. He added that he worked with Mr. Perrone on the bio-mag project. He said it was a long and tedious project, but the outcome was great. He added that Mr. Perrone worked hard for his retirement and congratulated him.

Mrs. Edelmayer said she spent 25 years with Mr. Perrone and said he is the most knowledgeable Township Manager and always has the right answer. He knows the laws and regulations and always gave great advice. She added that teaching would be a great path to take with his huge amount of knowledge.

Mr. Sands said over the last ten (10) years, that Mr. Perrone was a mentor and teacher. He noted that Mr. Perrone was his human rolodex, human glossary, human encyclopedia, human dictionary and professor of the Township. He said he always offered his wisdom, experience and perspective and has been a tremendous resource. Mr. Sands then thanked and congratulated Mr. Perrone.

Mr. Lapinski thanked Mr. Perrone for his mentorship and friendship over the last five (5) years and said he has learned great deal from Mr. Perrone about the profession that will serve him well in his future career. He spoke for the staff and said we will miss his leadership. He added that Mr. Perrone has about two weeks of work left but knows he will come in everyday and work to the best of his ability to the end of his time at the Township and that speaks volumes about Mr. Perrone.

Mr. Perrone read a statement noting that this is a very emotional night. He thanked the Board of Commissioners for their support and confidence in him and said they were always motivated by one thing – what is the right thing to do. He also thanked the residents for their confidence through the years. He is appreciative of all the cards, calls and letters he received throughout the years. He thanked the Township staff for their dedication and commitment to performing their jobs in a professional manner. He is so proud of what we have accomplished over the years. He thanked his wife Bonnie, daughter Andrea and son Jeffrey for their support and understanding. Mr. Perrone stated that the staff was the best that any manager could have asked for. He is proud of what was accomplished in the Township the past twenty-eight (28) years) and added, we've build roads and bridges and corrected problems that existed for decades, we transformed the Wastewater Treatment Plant to a technically advanced facility, created a Parks and Recreation Department, and we developed partnerships with our business community. He thanked the folks at Merck for creating employment opportunities that enhance the quality of life in our community. He said we have been leaders in improving the environment through the many projects at our Wastewater Treatment Plant, our cutting-edge MS-4 program, and our initiatives that we took to preserve open space. Mr. Perrone went on to say that we expanded and improved the Township Building, the Public Works Department facilities, and developed Parkside place, all to better serve the residents of Upper Gwynedd. Mr. Perrone stated that he leaves behind a financially secure Township and said the past 28 years, the Township was more secure and productive than at any other time during its 117-year history. He again thanked everyone.

Mr. Perrone received a standing ovation.

State Representative Kate Harper wrote a letter to the Board of Commissioners about Mr. Perrone and presented it to him in a Pennsylvania State Representatives jacket. She read the letter to Mr. Perrone, the Board and the audience and congratulated the Township for having Mr. Perrone. A copy of the letter is hereby attached to these minutes.

Mr. Kroberger made motion to approve Resolution 25-2017 commemorating and congratulating Leonard T. Perrone on his tenure at Upper Gwynedd Township. He then read the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Edelmayer, and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Kroberger presented the signed and framed Resolution to Mr. Perrone.

Mr. Kroberger announced that Mr. Lapinski will fill Mr. Perrone's position.

26. Approval of Separation Agreement

Upon motion by Mr. Santi, seconded by Mr. Sands, the motion was approved.

27. Call for Adjournment.

Mr. Kroberger wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year on behalf of the Board.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mrs. Edelmayer, seconded by Mr. Sands, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for legal matters at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael J. Lapinski
Secretary

Approved January 22, 2018

/djf