

**Minutes – Board of Commissioners
Upper Pottsgrove Township**

July 20, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, July 20, 2015, at the Upper Pottsgrove Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Commissioners Elwood Taylor, Russell Noll, Herbert Miller, Jr., and Renee Spaide present. M. Schreiber will try to attend, but he will be late. Also present were Township Solicitor Charles D. Garner, Jr., Public Works Director Frank Quinter, and Township Manager Carol R. Lewis. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

MOMENT OF SILENCE - Mr. Taylor requested a moment of silence in honor of the men and women who have served and are currently serving our country in the armed forces.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

GENE MILLER – 2253 Bruce Drive – Asked whether there were any developments going in with public sewer and water and could it be extended to Bruce Drive. He was advised that there is no development coming to that area in the near future. It was also explained that the sewer and water that has been done in the Township has either been developer driven or mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. It would be very costly to bring sewer to that area. G. Miller also commented about the speed limit on Gilbertsville Road and if anything could be done. Chief Moffett advised that he has not had any specific complaints, but they will look at the area. G. Miller also commented that he has a problem when the new trails are smoother than the road he lives on. E. Taylor explained that these are different line items in the budget that come from different money. The roads come out of property taxes, and the trails come out of earned income taxes. R. Noll explained that a portion of the earned income taxes goes to open space which pays for land acquisition, trails, etc.

AUSTIN COALE -1409 N. Charlotte Street – Thanked C. Moffett and his men for coming quickly when people have been in Sunset Park after hours.

JOHN BUSH – 1256 N. State Street – Commented that since Upland Square has been developed there has been increased traffic on North State Street and Levengood Road. He thanked the Board of Commissioners for keeping North State Street closed or it could be worse. During the time it takes him to mow his lawn, about an hour to an hour and a half, he counted between 42-53 cars. Traffic is increasing every year and people are using North State Street and Levengood Road as a through road. He further advised that google maps still shows North State Street as being open, and he feels the situation is becoming dangerous. He is especially concerned as more development is planned for Upland Square. The Township Manager and Public Works Director will look at the situation and see if anything can be done.

REPORTS:

FIRE COMPANY LIAISON – The report is in the packet. No meeting was held in July.

POLICE DEPARTMENT LIAISON – H. Miller presented the Police Report. The application process has begun, and the first test will be held on August 22, 2015 with the consortium. The second police car is being outfitted, and the first car has been received. The School Resource Officer is now patrolling until school begins again in September. The Chief will be attending a meeting on the new radios. The officers have been trained on the narcan. Lastly, the police department will be participating to some extent in the papal visit.

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE - H. Miller report that the Open Space and Recreation Board will be holding its July/August meeting on July 28, 2015 at which time they will be getting the pond report on Sunset and Sussell ponds. They will also be surveying the community to see what kinds of improvements or lack of improvements they would like to see in each space. They will be surveying the community two (2) spaces at a time. They are also reviewing the open space plan to see what is already set forth. The Pottstown Health and Wellness park contest is underway. Hollenbach Park is in second place. The Open Space and Recreation Board will be holding a community kickball game on Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 6:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to come out and play. The Community Day Committee met and plans for this year's Community Days are underway. Members of the Park Committee, DVRPC, DCNR and other interested parties will be having a field meeting on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 for the tri-county trail plan. One of the stops will be Hollenbach Park and another will be Sunset Park. H. Miller and C. Lewis will be attending. This plan is being financed by a grant received by the Park Committee.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT – E. Taylor reported that a meeting was held at which time they discussed the Kummerer Tract minor subdivision.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – R. Spaide presented the public works report. They have been spending a lot of time mowing and patching pot holes. They have also been repairing damage to Hillside Aquatic caused by cars parking on the wet field. They are also working with Hopewell Trucking to finish the Prout Farm trail and the Snyder trail.

SPECIAL TOWNSHIP PROJECTS - R. Noll reported that he attended the conference. There were a lot of educational events. The PSATC recognizes commissioners and the time that they spend serving their community. He accepted an award on E. Taylor's behalf for years of service. He presented the service award to E. Taylor for 17 years of service and thanked him for his time. He also presented some old campaign ads he found in his records. E. Taylor told the story of how he became involved in politics was through being invited by one of his student's parents to be a Planning Commission member.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER – C. Lewis reported that she attended a meeting with Ken Hamilton of S.A.V.E. Alliance and his interns to go over activities for the arboretum and township parks. His interns will be doing some work for the township on maintenance of the trails. She has submitted the Local Share Montgomery grant and is working on getting letters of support from our representatives. The information for the actuary has been submitted so that he can do the GASB calculations and the audit can be completed. C. Lewis reported to the Board that, due to the new

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GASB 67 and 68 requirements, everyone's audit is being submitted late. She expects to receive it sometime in September. C. Lewis reported that staff attended the Dallas Data customer appreciation conference, and the township will be updated to Connect sometime next year. There is no additional cost for this program as it is part of the maintenance plan. The next Civil Service Commission meeting will be held on July 23, 2015, and they are working on coordinating the testing in order to provide a certified list for hiring. The Farmington Avenue lateral repairs and inspections are ongoing and more people are coming in to view their videos. A few have been completed at this time. All documents related to the acquisition of the first police car have been completed, and the car was received on Wednesday, July 15, 2015. C. Lewis advised the Board that she is recommending a meeting be set up with all parties in August or September to review use of Kulp fields and the parking needs of the pool and ball clubs. Activities for the Park Get Set Go program are being coordinated. A community kickball will be held on July 22, 2015 at 6:30 pm, and Dallas Fries will be there to provide food to participants. Next, C. Lewis advised the Board that she is working on an ash management plan for public spaces within the township. A presentation will be held at the Park Committee meeting on Wednesday at 5:00 pm. She encouraged Board members to attend. This is a situation that is going to greatly impact the township. C. Lewis outlined the three options that will be available to the township and will have a full presentation for the next meeting. C. Lewis had applied for a grant for the fire company for an ATV rescue vehicle and to "Keep America Beautiful" for cameras. Both grants were denied. She will continue to look for new grants and apply for them as she knows that "Keeping America Beautiful" has one coming up periodically. A new alarm was installed by Protection One at the township building as the other one was old and could not be repaired. Lastly, C. Lewis advised the Board that the trash contract is eligible for an additional one year renewal, and this is a matter that will need to be voted on by the Board in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTION #661 FOR A LOCAL SHARE MONTGOMERY GRANT – Motion by H. Miller, seconded by R. Spaide and unanimously carried to ratify Resolution 661 for the Local Share Montgomery grant.

OLD BUSINESS:

FIRE POLICE ACTIVITIES – Motion by R. Noll, seconded by R. Spaide and unanimously carried, to ratify the Fire Police activities.

2016 BUDGET – C. Lewis asked if anyone had any comments on the previous month's presentation. As there were none, she advised the Board that a full budget will be available for review at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion by R. Spaide, seconded by R. Noll and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2015, meeting as presented.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – A motion by R. Noll, seconded by R. Spaide and unanimously carried, to approve the Bill List.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Session will be held to discuss collective bargaining with no action being taken. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:47 pm.

ADJOURNMENT – The Board reconvened at 8:28 pm at which time, a motion by R. Spaide, seconded by R. Noll and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol R. Lewis, Assistant Secretary