

**Minutes - Board of Commissioners Meeting
Upper Pottsgrove Township**

November 21, 2016

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, November 21, 2016, at the Upper Pottsgrove Township Administrative Offices, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Commissioners Elwood Taylor, Herbert C. Miller Jr., Martin Schreiber, France Krazalkovich and John Bealer present. Also present were Solicitor Matthew Hovey, Public Works Director, Francis Quinter, Chief Wheatley and Township Manager, Carol R. Lewis. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE - E. 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 – **Michelle O’Connor** - **1875 Orlando Road** - expressed her concern regarding chickens and roosters in her neighbor’s yard that are coming into her yard. M. O’Connor stated she didn’t know what will happen if the dog is out. She questioned why it takes the Code Enforcement Officer a month to get back to her. Township Manager, Carol Lewis stated she would look into this. M. O’Connor asked what she should do if they come on to her property. Chief Wheatley explained that the Township currently does not have an ordinance in place to take any action.

KEITH KEHL – **1941 Gilbertsville Road** – Asked if the roads are going to change when the new development goes in. Elwood Taylor explained the road will be repositioned to the east.

REPORTS

EMERGENCY SERVICES LIAISON - M. Schreiber reported that the Fire Company responded to 14 calls this month and 192 year to date. There were 24 EMS calls within the Township. M. Schreiber noted the security cameras are installed. Many of our officers attended a training to reduce driving fatalities for police officers. M. Schreiber then read a Letter of Commendation to Officer Farrell. H. Miller asked if we are using back-up in light of the police assassinations going on across the country. M. Schreiber explained that another agency is usually on scene when someone is pulled over. Chief Wheatley added that our communities do a very good job with mutual aid. Motion by F. Krazalkovich second by H. Miller and unanimously carried to pay an extra \$400 for USA phones to run the cabling.

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE - H. Miller presented the Open Space Report. The Board is studying how to develop the open space as well as how to maintain what they put in. Nancy Toothaker attended the informational program on the spotted lantern fly. Upper Pottsgrove has been added to the quarantine area. The Board discussed ash trees falling in the open space. The Open Space and Recreation Board would like the Commissioners to consider allowing the Open Space Board to hold a lottery for archery hunting in open space on two properties on West Moyer Road and Pineford Road, next year, to help decrease the number of dead deer along these roads and State Route 100. There have been over seventeen (17) deer this season killed in this area. C. Lewis will find out from the Game Commission if they have a report of the number of deer in the area. They were generally in favor of such a program. H. Miller took the new Circuit Rider, Michael Lane, around the Township and reviewed upcoming goals with him. M. Schreiber received a request from Woodbrook and Cherrytree

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to install doggie pots in their open space. This would fall under their HOA. C. Lewis is investigating the light at the Turnberry sign. There is one there already but it is dim.

PLANNING COMMISSION – J. Bealer advised the Board that they have decided to keep the same meeting dates as last year. They are reviewing the Sign Ordinance for commercial signs. They also discussed some vacant land on Waste Management which is currently R-80. They are looking into creating a zone to allow for some sort of commercial development in that area. Everyone was in favor of looking at something other than two acre residential homes.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – F. Quinter advised that they installed 370 feet of fence at Hollenbach Park. They rebuilt four old storm inlets that had fallen apart. They discussed the use of fuses instead of circuit breakers at the pump stations.

SEWER AND WATER REPORT – J. Bealer advised that he had attended the combined meeting. The Borough of Pottstown is looking to raise their sewer rates. This will not affect our township. We did apply for two PA Small Water Grants.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS - F. Krazalkovich attended the election at the Middle School. They had 76% of voter turnout. Everyone was glad they were able to move the location. He advised the Board that today the Governor has signed legislation allowing Municipal bodies to offer tax credits to volunteers. E. Taylor expressed confusion as to where this money would come from but agreed it would be a good thing. The Board discussed which taxes to which this would apply. H. Miller congratulated F. Krazalkovich for getting the polling place moved.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER’S REPORT – Motion by M. Schreiber, seconded by J. Bealer and unanimously carried to take the records, to be disposed of, to be shredded at Rapid Recycling not to exceed \$200. CMERT is changing their name and bringing on an additional department. Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by H. Miller and unanimously carried to authorize the Solicitor to develop and advertise the appropriate ordinance and agreements. Motion by M. Schreiber, seconded by H. Miller and unanimously carried, to accept a resolution applying for the Multi-Mobile Grant for the rehabilitation and overlay of Mervine Street. C. Lewis announced that we have received the PEMA Assistance in the amount of \$15,494.33 for Winter Storm Jonas. There is one more form that needs to be sent in and that project will be closed.

BUILDING COMMITTEE - C. Lewis presented the drawings of the new Public Works building and updated them on what the Building Committee has been working on. They discussed whether or not to go with solar for the building. C. Lewis advised them that the amount that they would save in electricity from all of the approved facilities would cover that portion of the loan for the solar. The Board agreed to move forward with solar for this building. Some changes to the drawings need to be made then they will go to the Code Enforcement Officer for permit review and then the Engineers will work on putting together the bid packet which will hopefully be available in January.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNITY PLANNING CONTRACT WITH MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION – Motion by H. Miller seconded by F. Krazalkovich and unanimously carried to authorize the execution of the three (3) year contract with Montgomery County Planning Commission for their planning services.

MEETING DATES FOR 2017 - Motion by H. Miller seconded by F. Krazalkovich and unanimously carried to keep the same meeting dates for 2017.

2017 TAX ORDINANCE - Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by H. Miller and unanimously carried to authorize the advertising of the tax ordinance.

DEDICATION OF ROADS FOR CODDINGTON VIEW - Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by H. Miller to accept dedication of the roads in Coddington View. C. Garner explained that they will not be accepting dedication tonight, just authorizing the advertising of the necessary ordinances. F. Krazalkovich rescinded his motion. Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by H. Miller and unanimously carried to authorize the preparation and advertising of an ordinance to accept the roads in Coddington View for dedication. Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by J. Bealer to authorize the preparation and advertising of an ordinance to amend the Master Traffic Ordinance. M. Schreiber asked if something could be added to allow the sidewalk to be blocked so two cars could park in a driveway during a weather event. F. Krazalkovich suggested they discuss this later as he has other changes he would like to talk about as well. He thanked the township for their efforts in Coddington View. The motion unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSS NOISE ORDINANCE – M. Hovey reviewed the changes that were made. He included a declaration of intent and a standard for negligence and recklessness. They discussed how this would affect enforcement. A severability section will be added in the final draft. H. Miller advised that this is important to support our police. He suggested adding mobile homes, neighbors and communities and expanding the animal noise section to include crowing and cock a doodle doo. M. Schreiber expressed some concern over the hours as he saw a crane at Wendy's at 6 a.m. changing light bulbs before they opened. He does not want to interfere with commercial practices. F. Krazalkovich felt that all our ordinances should match up, the noise ordinance says 7 a.m. but trash trucks are allowed at 6 a.m. Also, the ordinance says 10 p.m. but our curfew is for 11 p.m.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE TRASH ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

– Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by J. Bealer and unanimously carried to adopt the amendments to the Trash Ordinance.

CONSIDER FIRE COMPANY ACTIVITIES – Motion by M. Schreiber, seconded by F. Krazalkovich and unanimously carried to approve the Fire Company activities.

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COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –F. Krazalkovich stated our neighbors and colleagues should know that the County is considering an 11% increase in taxes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 17, 2016 - Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by H. Miller and unanimously carried to approve the minutes with changes to the spelling of two residents names.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – Motion by J. Bealer, seconded by M. Schreiber and unanimously carried to approve the Bill List in the amount of \$ 88,697.33.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board adjourned into executive session at 8:56 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel with no action to be taken. They reconvened at 9:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion by M. Schreiber, seconded by J. Bealer and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol R. Lewis, Manager