

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

March 19, 2018

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, March 19, 2018, at the Upper Pottsgrove Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Commissioners France Krazalkovich, Trace Slinkerd, Martin Schreiber, Renee Spaide and Elwood Taylor present. Also present were Township Solicitor Charles D. Garner, Jr., Police Chief Francis Wheatley, Public Works Director Justin Bean and Township Manager Carol R. Lewis.

MOMENT OF SILENCE – The Commissioners 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.

It was announced that an Executive Session was held at 6:30 pm to discuss personnel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – **February 20, 2018 & February 27, 2018** – Motion by R. Spaide seconded by F. Krazalkovich and unanimously carried to table the minutes of February 20, 2018 and February 27, 2018.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – Motion by R. Spaide, seconded by F. Krazalkovich to authorize the payment of bills in the amount of \$146, 095.34.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There were no public comments on agenda items.

REPORTS

TOWNSHIP MANAGER advised that her report is in the packet. She highlighted that they are still in the process of switching over from Casselle to QuickBooks. They are finishing reconciliation and will have the Financial Statements for the next meeting. Personnel activities were coordinated with Chief Wheatley including the processing of rehiring of Brad Guildin to full-time. C. Lewis advised that the Volunteer Firemen Credits draft ordinance has been sent out for the Board to review for discussion at the next meeting. Also an ordinance on the destruction of emails and recordings prepared by Chuck Garner has been sent out for the Board to review. There is a question on the electric work at the fire station. The electric has been restored to the two offices; however the entire Fire Company needs to be rewired. It was originally installed in the 1950's and the insulation has melted off of areas which caused the problem. Also, part of the wiring is still knob and tube.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – J. Bean presented the Public Works Report. The sewer line on Hollyberry Court was plugged; they pulled several other manholes looking for I & I. They fixed a hydraulic leak on the 1996 International Dump and replaced damaged stop signs. Test pits were dug on Detweiler Road for the drainage and blacktop project per LTL. An estimate was received from Pollack for reclamation of Kummerer Road. This road has gotten considerably worse over the winter and needs to be moved up on the priority list. J. Bean has talked to LTAP regarding doing a study on the road to see if there are any other viable options or other considerations that should be taken in when redoing this road. That will take a little longer to do as they can't start it for 2 – 4

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weeks. Chuck Note requested that the list of roads be read. J. Bean responded with portions of the following roads: Evans, Pineford, Snyder, West Moyer, Diamond, Willow and North State Street.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR – C. Garner reported that he is cleaning up the outstanding grinder pump agreements with Michelle Reddick. He is also reviewing the HOA documents for Phase I of Sprogel’s Run. They agree with our comments and are making the changes. M. Schreiber asked if they have the ability to limit commercial vehicles parked in the development. C. Garner responded that they do but once the roads are dedicated to the Township it falls under the Township’s purview.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING LIAISON - E. Taylor reported that the Regional Planning Commission discussed regional roads to be improved one of which includes the intersection of State and Route 100.

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION – R. Spaide reported that the Board is working on long term goals and additions and improvements for the open space. The fishing rodeo will be held on May 19th at 9:00 a.m. and they encourage people to register. The archery hunt will start September 15th and Community Days will be held on September 22nd which will be held at the Middle School.

SEWER AND WATER – J. Bealer reported that they met on the 6th. They discussed the fact that the pump station in Regal Oaks does not have flow meters. North Hanover Street still has some I & I issues that needs to be looked at. They are also looking at manhole repairs for Regal Oaks. They will be moving forward with the purchase of the twenty (20) additional edu’s.

FIRE AND AMBULANCE – M. Schreiber advised that there is only one Ambulance Report. The Fire Company will be holding their egg hunt at Heather Place Park. They got a thank you for their help with the recycling event. The trucks were an hour late so traffic was quite stacked up. He explained what service hours are meant on the Fire report. The Fire Committee went over slides with numbers that were requested by F. Krazalkovich. They discussed the fire trucks. The Fire Committee voted to purchase the truck. He asked if the Board of Commissioners want to move forward with it as well. The Township has not been a co-signer on the loans for the last two. He would like the Commissioners to be on line with purchasing the truck. F. Krazalkovich asked if the Township is not going to be a co-signer do they really need to do anything. E. Taylor responded that it is the Board’s responsibility to maintain fire protection and if they do not think the Fire Company is doing their due diligence they should be notified. R. Spaide does not see the fire tax going away anytime soon. M. Schreiber advised that looking back at the 2009 loan it never came to the Board and there were some issues. T. Slinkerd asked about the \$60,000 for the chassis. M. Schreiber advised that they will bill us for the chassis and \$30,000 will come out of the Fire Fund from the Township and \$30,000 will come out of the Fire Fund that the Fire Company has set aside. In response to a question about Firemen’s Relief, M. Schreiber advised that it pays for a lot of the stuff on the trucks such as hose, gear, etc. He advised that they are still shopping for the best interest rate before executing the loan.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDER CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS

DIRECTOR - Motion by F. Krazalkovich seconded by R. Spaide, to appoint Joe Alessi as the Deputy Public Works Director. M. Schreiber questioned why someone would take on more responsibility without an increase in pay. The motion carried with M. Schreiber voting nay.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION OF OS&R BOARD TO APPOINT SHERRY PAUP TO

FILL THE TERM OF CHRIS DELP – Motion by M. Schreiber, seconded by R. Spaide and unanimously carried to appoint Sherry Paup to fill the term of Chris Delp on the Open Space and Recreation Board.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER ESCROW RELEASE #1 FOR CROSSROADS IN THE AMOUNT OF

\$74,705.00 – Motion by R. Spaide seconded by F. Krazalkovich and unanimously carried to approve Escrow Release #1 for Crossroads in the amount of \$74,705.00

STAFF – Manager C. Lewis thanked staff members Linda Coleman and Michelle Reddick for stepping up while Victoria Reichman was out for an extended period with health issues. Covering her duties put a lot of strain on the staff but they went above and beyond to make sure that everything runs smoothly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

KEITH KEHL – 1941 Gilbertsville Road – Asked about Moyer Road in front of Ming Drive. J. Bean advised that the homeowner said a truck got stuck in the mud and they are going to fix it. She is waiting for warm weather to fix.

RICH MINGEY – Advised that he is the owner of the parcel on West Moyer Road and Route 100. It is fifteen (15) acres. He’s asking for an Overlay District for an Age 55 Community. The main issue they are facing is getting utilities. They plan to potentially tunnel under Route 100 for extension of utilities and a possible open space connection. He would like to set up a meeting with PennDOT to discuss this. E. Taylor advised that they had a presentation at the Planning Commission and they’re working on setting up meetings with PennDOT. R. Spaide asked about wetlands or steep slopes. He advised that during the planning process all of those items would be looked at but it is environmentally feasible. Keith Kehl commented that it is zoned R-80 and should be kept that.

DENNIS ELLIOTT Chairman of the Open Space and Rec Board asked if Sherry Paup’s resignation from the Civil Service Commission had been accepted by the Board? C. Garner advised that her appointment to the Open Space and Rec Board terminates her service on the Civil Service Commission.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

MARTIN SCHREIBER feels that someone needs to be appointed as an Alternate to the Civil Service Commission. He knows that we have at least one application and asked if it be on the agenda next month. He then read a statement regarding the Ad hoc Building Committee.

ELWOOD TAYLOR commented that the Arboretum’s Recycling Event was very successful. They had over 2100 pounds of electronics recycled. They will be having a forest Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday with a cost of \$5.00 per child. In addition, they are in the process of getting accredited as an official Arboretum.

FRANCE KRAZALKOVICH commented that he has been in discussion with Senator Mensch’s office and they plan to come to the July Board of Commissioners meeting. They will speak and answer questions.

CHIEF WHEATLEY arrived late to the meeting. He reported that we still have one officer out and one officer has resigned. They’ve had several suspicious person reports regarding public drunkenness. They had a possible drug overdose on North Hanover Street. The victim was deceased of a drug overdose. New protocols include a criminal investigation and currently a joint criminal investigation is being conducted between Upper Pottsgrove Police Department and Montgomery County Detective Division.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DENNIS ELLIOTT – Commented on the Ad Hoc Building Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:03 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel and litigation. They reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion by M. Schreiber seconded by R. Spaide and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Submitted,

Carol R. Lewis, Manager/Secretary/Treasurer