

**MINUTES
UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING 1 – 6:30 P.M.
JANUARY 4, 2023**

COMMISSIONERS

Kenneth M. Martin, President
Richard A. Castranio, Jr., Vice President (absent)
Virginia M. Anderson, Assistant Secretary
James G. Cochran, Assistant Secretary
Jeffrey M. Walter, Assistant Secretary

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Scott Fraser, Township Manager
Kelly Palmer, Assistant Manager
Andy Parsons, Chief of Police
Jennifer Boyer, Comm Dev Director
Barry Cupp, Sewer Dept. Manager
J. Stephen Feinour, Solicitor
Jason Reichard, Engineer
Tom Shumberger, Fire Chief (absent)

CALL TO ORDER

President Martin called the Board of Commissioners regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A moment of silence was held, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Roll Call was taken by Mr. Fraser.

CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Cochran made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Anderson. The motion passed unanimously.

Virginia LaFond, of 1012 W. Lisburn Road

Ms. LaFond shared her frustration regarding Republic Services. She talked to their customer service regarding missed pickups, reduced services and increased costs. They instructed her to contact the Township. She is concerned about the reduction in the types of plastic being recycled. She stated that the quarterly cost for services has increased. In the guide, Republic Services shared they will no longer pick up office paper. She stated that we are receiving fewer services and paying considerably more. She recognizes the pandemic, inflation, supply chain problems and the reduced workforce have some bearing on some of these problems, but they started before the pandemic.

President Martin shared that the Township put the service out for public bid and received only one bid. Labor and fuel costs are part of the increase. The rates that we have to pay went up substantially. Commissioner Cochran said the fuel escalator did not keep up with the rising fuel costs. It did not feel like it, but we were undercharged a year or two because of the type of contract we had. Vice President Castranio said there were a couple municipalities in Cumberland County that did not get any bidders for their trash this year. Ms. LaFond shared that in Carlisle, they buy a bag and put it out when it is full. President Martin shared that there is no market for paper. Commissioner Walter said that in his area, there is a problem with holiday pick up of recycling. He said he thinks it is manpower.

Ms. Negley said that none of the recyclers will take the paper. That was new in 2018. Recycling and trash are picked up by two different trucks so sometimes it is the manpower or if they have a

truck down. The cost of their recycling went from \$33 a ton to \$100 a ton. She took all of the comments from Ms. LaFond and she will follow up with Republic Services and let Ms. LaFond know what she finds out.

Phil Walsh, of 443 McCormick Road

He encouraged the Board to consider some traffic calming actions of the park area before committing to any more substantial improvements of that park area. He provided a copy of the Pennsylvania Traffic Calming Handbook to the Recording Secretary. He stated that it told how traffic bumps and humps are designed and installed. President Martin said the Board would take his suggestions to the Public Improvement meeting.

Mr. Walsh saw a posted request for a vacancy for HARB for the position currently held by Joe Botchie. The Board said that they would like a resident to be in that position. Mr. Walsh advocated for Mr. Botchie to remain in that role.

President Martin noted that prior to this meeting they had an executive session to detain legal counsel regarding ordinances.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Cochran made a **MOTION** to approve the following Consent Agenda items, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Walter. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration/Approval of Bills in the Amount of \$363,232.31

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Approval of Coursework for Officer Robert Powers

Commissioner Walter made a **MOTION** to approve coursework, Data Driven Decision Making and Criminal Justice for Officer Robert Powers, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried unanimously.

FIRE COMPANY

Deputy Chief Ryan Kunkle was in attendance on behalf of Chief Shumberger. There were no items for discussion.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

2520 Mill Road is Requesting a Variance to Construct Decks within the Type 1 Buffer Yard. To be discussed at the January 12, 2023 Zoning Hearing Board

Ms. Boyer said that the set back and easement will be 15 feet. There is 10 feet to the next property. President Martin asked if the adjoining property was made aware. Ms. Boyer said they would receive notice of the hearing. Commissioner Cochran would like to see additional screening.

Commissioner Cochran said that the end result is that we will have townhomes 5 feet closer to residents than what we would normally allow.

1876 Waltana Court is Requesting a Special Exception to Convert Unfinished Basement into an Accessory Apartment. To be Discussed at the January 12, 2023 Zoning Hearing Board

Commissioner Walter asked if it was for family. Ms. Boyer said it would not matter. Vice President Castranio said it has separate access. Ms. Boyer said if you create an accessory apartment, it does not matter who lives there. Its purpose can change over time. Ms. Boyer is going to reach out to the Homeowners Association to see if they would allow it. Commissioner Cochran said the entrance is a sliding glass door and he is really not in favor of the exception. President Martin said it goes against the intent of that development. Commissioner Walter agreed.

There is a planning meeting scheduled for January 30, 2023. HARB will meet on January 17, 2023.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

There were no items for consideration.

SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

They will have a preconstruction meeting on January 5, 2023.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Palmer gave an update on the sale of the residential structure at Generations Park. Since there were a couple of changes from the initial advertisement that we put out last August, this is a bit more involved. Our engineer is reviewing the technical specifications, so it is taking a little longer than anticipated. The new timeline for posting the advertisement would be during the week of January 17th, proposed bid opening to be on February 21 and proposing the bid to be awarded March 1.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting on January 25th.

MISCELLANEOUS

Solicitor Update

There was nothing to report.

Tax Collection Committee (TCC) Update

Mr. Fraser said that he will have more information at the next meeting, but Cumberland County Tax Bureau is moving to a new executive director.

Capital Region COG Update

There is a dinner on January the 16th.

Municipal Advisory Board (MAB) Update

There was nothing to report.

Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners (PSATC) Update

Commissioner Anderson said there is an Executive Board meeting February 3-5 in Pittsburg. They will be going over new legislature which will be in action maybe by then. She will also get to see the issues they will be bringing up in the Spring for us to take a stance on. She will be reporting back.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Bailey, of 450 E. Lisburn Road

Ms. Baily expressed her support of Mr. Botchie to serve on the HARB.

Eric Fairchild, of 1224 McCormick Road

Mr. Fairchild referred to Mr. Mumma saying he donated land. Commissioner Cochran said the land was donated in lieu of recreational fees. Mr. Fraser said he would send the agreement to Mr. Fairchild.

Mr. Fairchild asked if there could be more public input into the design of McCormick Road instead of just making it an engineering project. President Martin said it will not be done in the dark.

Commissioner Cochran made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m., **SECONDED** by Commissioner Walter. The motion passed unanimously.