

UPPER MT. BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES - FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER- Chairman Bermingham called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present in addition to Chairman Bermingham were Supervisor De Franco, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Hallett, Manager Rick Fisher, and Solicitor Ronold Karasek. Supervisor Geake was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. APPROVE AGENDA - **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor Hallett to approve the agenda. Vote: 4-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – There were there (3) citizens who spoke on the matter of Ordinance #2017-02.

Judy Henckel spoke about the small cost per person to support preserving our open space and farmland. She also asked that the Board wait a year and allow the Open Space Advisory Committee to complete their study.

Charles Cole spoke about the importance of first updating the comprehensive plan before proposing a reduction in the open space EIT tax. He pointed out that the Comprehensive Plan is dated and needs to be updated soon.

Supervisor Due mentioned that the Council of Government (COG) was working on a Regional Comprehensive Plan. Manager Fisher stated that the township was already paying for an Act 537 Plan update.

Mary Kieran Antenolli stated that it was a small amount to pay for a better quality of life. She stated she lives on Heiden Rd and the value of houses went up due to open space being preserved nearby.

Chairman Bermingham Jr, asked the Township Manager for the total amount of Open Space EIT tax at 0.125 percent. Manager Fisher replied, one hundred and seventy five thousand dollars (\$175,000).

4. **MOTION** by Supervisor Hallett, seconded by Supervisor Due to adopt Ordinance # 2017-02 - Voters Referendum to reduce EIT tax from 0.25% to 0.125%. Vote: 4-0.

Adjourn – **MOTION** by Supervisor Hallett, seconded by Supervisor Due to adjourn the Special Public Meeting at 5:45 p.m. No comments. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Richard. D. Fisher, Township Manager  
Upper Mount Bethel Township