

UPPER MT. BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES - MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER- Chairman Bermingham called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present in addition to Chairman Bermingham were Supervisor De Franco, Supervisor Geake, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Hallett, Township Manager Fisher and Solicitor Ronold Karasek. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. APPROVE AGENDA - **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor De Franco to approve the agenda. Vote: 5-0.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT –Senior Garbage discount request – Silver. Manager Fisher indicated the Silvers are present and are seeking a senior discount for their garbage tax, Mr. Silver is 65. The house is in their companies name Medical Device Development Co. Solicitor Karasek said this is not a common occurrence, but be prepared your opening the door. Supervisor De Franco asked if both owners are 65 years old. Solicitor Karasek in PA there is unity by entirety, so that doesn't matter. Supervisor Geake asked if it's a home occupation. Mrs. Silver said "no". Supervisor Geake said he has no objections to granting the Silvers request, these type of requests will be few and far between. Chairman Bermingham asked to put this on the BOS 7/10/17 agenda.
4. Fire trucks– Manager Fisher provided a spreadsheet for Mt. Bethel Fire Company and North Bangor with 10 year and 15 year bank loan options for purchase of a new truck. Supervisor Geake said we don't have a money source for this. Manager Fisher noted cost of truck for Mt. Bethel is \$794,472.00 for a Pierce Velocity Custom Heavy Rescue PUC, they have \$50,000.00 for a down payment. Cost of North Bangor Pierce Velocity Custom Pumper truck is \$788,220.00 and they have \$30,000.00 for a down payment. Manager Fisher said we have reserve money and can look in the future at shifting open space tax to an emergency service tax or raise taxes. Manager Fisher said we can look into shifting the tax burden and there mention of a referendum. Supervisor Geake said we need a steady cash flow in excess of what they need, both fire departments are running old equipment. There was discussion about a fire tax and management plan. Solicitor Karasek noted any change in the EIT tax required a referendum. Public Comment by Bob Schneider – need a 5 year plan. Public Comment by Chief Finan – Rick Weaver did a study and are waiting for the report from the state for a long range plan. Chief Finan mentioned North Bangor not needing the pumper truck. Supervisor De Franco said what if the study comes back and the wrong trucks were bough. Manager Fisher said he has an ad-hock committee which includes himself, Herb Hoagland, John Bermingham Sr. and Bob Schneider to come up with a long range plan. Supervisor Hallett asked the Solicitor to look into a referendum said the time is now and thinks we can do it. Supervisor Due mentioned a procurement tax referendum for an emergency service tax, it can be done and needs to happen. Chairman Bermingham asked down payment of the firetrucks be put on the 7/10/17 BOS agenda.
5. EMS – Suburban submitted a spread sheet for UMBT ambulance costs which indicates 184 Ambulance trips; total expenses they show are \$547,349.39 with a shortfall of \$287,864.90. Supervisor Geake said there's no way they spend that kind of money in Upper Mount Bethel Township. Public Comment by Jim Potter – they have no trucks in UMBT or the slate belt, trucks are coming all the way from Forks Township. Chairman Bermingham asked Manager Fisher to set up a meeting with Suburban/EMS for this Friday June 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. and St. Lukes at 4:30 p.m. if that's not possible, then the following week. Chairman Bermingham asked this be put on the BOS 7/10/17 agenda for a follow-up.
6. Multi-Family Housing – status – Solicitor Karasek said this has to go back to LV Planning Commission and then our Planning Commission. Put on the BOS 7/10/17 agenda for a follow-up.

7. Intermunicipal Agreement – LMBT - Solicitor Karasek submitted changes to page, 3, 5 & & of the agreement as suggested from the LMBT Solicitor. Solicitor Karasek indicated he is fine with the changes and asked it be put on the BOS 7/10/17 agenda for approval.

8. PA Fish & Boat Commission Road Bonding – Manager Fisher submitted to the Board a publication on construction access. The Board discussed Part 3 – Execution. Supervisor Geake said if we don't know where they're going, then we don't know where to bond it. Manager Fisher said Wilmer did not give us plans. The Board discussed and said the roads proposed or use should be bonded and we need to know which township roads will be utilized by heavy trucks. The Board would like to see a copy of the construction plans and noted the amount of \$12,500.00 per mile is too low a number based upon recent paving projects where restoration of roadways as much as \$90,000.00 per mile. The consensus of the Board was that we bond the roads, but we need to know which ones and what material. Chairman Bermingham asked this be put on the BOS 7/10/17 agenda. Public Comment by Judy Henckel – she has been attending the friend of Lake Minsi meetings. They are working with junior conservation care, staging on the big parking lot and working on dredging. They are trying to get money for parking lot and bathrooms.

9. Eastern Industries – status of appraisals – Manager Fisher said we received one appraisal from Gleason real estate; they will do the appraisal for \$11,000.00 and is waiting for some others to get back to him. Chairman Bermingham asked this be put on the BOS 7/10/17 agenda.

10. 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade status – Chairman Bermingham said the parade arrangements are moving forward and going smoothly. The next parade meeting is on Friday, June 30, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

11. Movie night at the Community Park – Chairman Bermingham indicated he has been talking to the Recreation Committee about having a movie night in park. Chairman Bermingham said NA Studios will be providing the equipment and we can choose a movie from the list. The movie equipment will be about \$600.00 and cost of the movie will be anywhere from \$100.00 - \$350.00 depending on the movie. There will be no cost to the township, Lamtech and Custom Laminating are sponsoring the event with a cap of \$2,000.00. Other ideas discussed were lighting, vendors and popcorn. Manager Fisher asked this be presented to the Park Committee. Chairman Bermingham indicated he would attend their meeting on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

10. Adjourn – **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Due to adjourn the Work Session Meeting at 8:45 p.m. No comments. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Melissa Mastrogiovanni, Recording Secretary

Upper Mount Bethel Township

