

UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

AGENDA - PART 1

1. Call to Order-Chairman Bermingham Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Roll Call-Present in addition to Chairman Bermingham Jr. were, Supervisor Due, Supervisor Teel, Supervisor DeFranco, Township Manager Rick Fisher, and Township Solicitor Ron Karasek. Supervisor Pinter was present via phone conference.
4. Approve the Agenda-**MOTION** by Supervisor Due, to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.
5. Public Comment-5 min.-Richard Wilford-Hunt commented on the safety of some signs that are along Rt. 611. Richard announced that his son is having his 17th annual roadside garbage pick-up on April 13th and would appreciate the assistance of the township road crew to pick-up the collection of garbage retrieved. Charles Cole commented on the Manager's Report of the EAC meeting and expressed his dissatisfaction on the information provided in the report. Janet Pearson asked Solicitor Karasek when the Preserve Deeds will be completed. Solicitor Karasek stated approximately 30 days, providing there is no issue with the Assessment Office. Judy Henckel asked if there will be a 30 day comment period once the Deeds are prepared and will that be an Ordinance. Solicitor Karasek stated that the Deed is just a Deed, but the uses and non-uses should be Ordinance. Jim Potter asked if there is a packet on the procedures of building a home in the township. Manager Fisher stated that there is not, but it is a very good idea and it will be something that will be looked into.

AGENDA - PART II (Presentation)

1. Maria Bentzoni, Administrator for Northampton County Farmland Preservation, gave a presentation on the different Acts in the program. Discussed were Act 515/319 (Clean & Green), Act 43 (Agricultural Security Areas), Act 149 (Easement Purchase Program, and Act 4, (Millage Rate Freeze). Maria stated that because these programs are voluntary, the land owner needs to show intent or interest because they do not solicit the programs to the landowners.

AGENDA – PART III (Action Agenda)

1. Ackerman Farmland Preservation Request for Funding-**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, to approve the funding of Ackerman Farm #2, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.
2. Slate Belt Municipal Comprehensive Plan-Manager Fisher discussed the Slate Belt Municipal Comprehensive Plan, in which they are looking for 3 representatives from Upper Mount Bethel Township, to represent the Township. **MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham Jr., to appoint Supervisor DeFranco, Planning Commission Chairman Scott Minnich, and Township Manager Fisher, seconded by Supervisor Pinter. Vote: 5-0.
3. Hemlock Dr.-Dirt & Gravel Grant-Lindsey Manzi, Road Foreman, explained the Grant Program. Lindsey explained the work to be completed on the road and stated that the Grant Funds will cover all the costs to the improvement of the road. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, to move ahead with the Hemlock Dr. road project, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.
4. BASD Sign Maker Donation-Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated the Sign Maker is no longer in use at the Township and would like to donate it to BASD. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, to approve the donation of the sign maker to Bangor Area School District, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.
5. Act 537 Plan Update-Manager Fisher stated that he received a Financial Gap Analysis for Act 537 Plan Improvements. Manager Fisher gave a brief summary of the findings by Mullin & Lonergan, which included project scenarios & costs and potential grants/loans. There was a discussion regarding the next Draft Act 537 plan public meeting. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, for the next Draft Act 537 plan meeting to be held Wednesday May 8th at 6:00 pm. and to advertise for the special meeting, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.
6. Curtin & Heefner Proposal-There was a discussion amongst the Supervisors on the proposal that was provided to the Board regarding the estimates on the following three research items: a) zoning sludge out of particular zoning districts, b) wellhead protection requirements and public water supplies, with particular concern about the Bangor Area School District campus, and c) testing loads of sludge. **MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham Jr., for Curtin & Heefner to move forward with the three research items and provide their recommendations at a cost of \$3,500.00, seconded by Supervisor Teel. Vote: 3-1-1. Supervisor Due abstained.
7. Police Survey- There was a brief discussion on marketing firms to do a survey. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco, to table, seconded by Chairman Bermingham Jr. Vote: 5-0. Chairman Bermingham Jr. also gave an update on the Ambulance Service. He stated that for 24/7 BLS service, Suburban Ambulance cost would be \$220,265.00

annually. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated he is looking into grants. Chief Finan suggested looking to boosting up the Fire Company QRS.

8. North Bangor Fire Company QRS Truck-Manager Fisher stated North Bangor FC is requesting financial assistance from Upper Mount Bethel Township, for the specific purpose of stocking the vehicle and adding details. There was a discussion regarding LSA Grants. **MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter, to table until the outcome of the LSA Grant process, seconded by Supervisor DeFranco. Vote: 5-0.
9. UMBT Halloween Party Date- There was a discussion regarding the date for the annual Halloween Party and Trick or Treat. **MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham Jr., to have the Halloween Party on Saturday, October 26th and Trick or Treat Thursday, October 31st, Chairman Bermingham Jr. amended his motion. **MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham Jr. to have the Halloween Party on October 26th, 1-3 pm and Trick or Trick 3-5 pm. Supervisor Pinter suggested scheduling the Halloween Party and Trick or Trick for the next three years. Chairman Bermingham Jr. amended his motion. **MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham Jr. to have the Halloween Party and Trick or Treat scheduled for the next three years, 2019-Saturday, October 26th, party from 1-3 pm and Trick or Treat 3-5 pm, 2020-Saturday, October 31st, party from 1-3 pm and Trick or Treat 3-5 pm and 2021-Sunday October 31st, party from 1-3 pm and Trick or Treat 3-5 pm, seconded by Supervisor Pinter. Vote: 5-0.
10. Eastern Properties-Manager Fisher stated he wanted to use the grant funds to make improvements at the Eastern Property. There was a discussion regarding the future of the property and the purpose of the improvements. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, to use the funds, \$32,000, to make improvements at Eastern Properties, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

AGENDA - PART IV (Old Business)-None

AGENDA - PART V (New Business)-None

AGENDA - PART VI (Public Comment-5 minutes)-Jim Potter asked about any news on the Fire Study. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated no. Judith Henckel commented on the landscaping at the park. Janet Pearson asked how the Nixle program was coming along. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated he is working on spreading the word to as many organizations as possible. Manager Fisher discussed the Farming Lease proposal from Ralph Predmore. **MOTION** by Supervisor DeFranco, to accept the proposal, with the understanding that negotiation will be permitted if park expansion is needed, seconded by Chairman Bermingham Jr. Vote: 5-0.

AGENDA - PART VII (Executive Session)-Adjourn to Executive Session at 9:55 pm. The meeting convened at 10:09 pm.

1. Personnel-No action.

AGENDA - PART VIII (Adjournment)-**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 pm, seconded by Supervisor Due. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary