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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WS MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025 – 7:00 PM

\*This meeting was held in person and live streamed through the Upper Mount Bethel Township Facebook page.

**I.**

Supervisor Bermingham called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance were Supervisor Bermingham, Supervisor Eckman, Supervisor Erler, Supervisor Friedman, Supervisor Albert, Township Manager Graziano, Township Solicitor Karasek, and Township Engineer Coyle.

**II.**

APPROVE THE AGENDA

**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Eckman. Vote: 5-0.

**III.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tara Mezzanotte stated she wanted to give an update on the Explore Act, which was passed into law in December. It focuses on identifying and mitigating visitor us impacts to local communities called Gateway Communities. Hopes are for this to become one of 10 pilot programs for recreation and impacts Gateway Communities. Warren County has taken the lead. Tara read their “therefore be it resolved” because they will be drafting municipal versions of this Resolution.

Charles Baltic, Laurel Hill Rd., submitted his public comment for the record. Charles’s public comment was primarily focused on the Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Plan.

Chris Finan, Apache Dr., Chief MBFD, wanted to address some residents’ concerns, specifically the fire department and how they respond. 911 gives them implied consent to enter the property. When there is no red flag warning, the fire department has no

authority to make people put out controlled burns. The fire department has specific things they need to follow. The number one concern of the residents and people is safety, but everyone has to be treated the same. Supervisor Erler if this certain person has called John Bocko for permission to burn. Chris said he does not think so. Manager Graziano asked what if it is an illegal burn and he doesn't call. He receives calls every day because of the burning. All the fire departments are aware of what exactly the circumstances are. If it's an illegal burn, the number one safety is the people of this community. We all respect the fire departments. Chris stated the Township has failed the people. The Township was told that the Township needs a Fire Marshall to enforce fire laws.

Katie O'Brien, Orchard Rd., commented on the burning that is happening right next door to her. She is frustrated. Her children cannot go outside and play because of the smoke. This has been going on way too long. The smell is horrible. She wants it to stop. Solicitor Karasek stated that she has the right to file her own claim against the neighbor.

Thomas O'Brien, Katie's son, stated that the person that is always burning is obnoxious and annoying and he cannot go outside without breathing smoke. His little brother needs to go outside and play.

Patrick McHugh, Quaker Plain Rd., commented on the Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Plan and would like the Board to reconsider the involvement of the plan. He sees no guarantee of benefits for UMBT. There are legal implications. Do we have good relationships with our neighboring communities now.

Ron Angle, Million Dollar Hwy., commented on the Plan Slate and legal ramifications. Ron commented on the Park Foundation that is to be discussed later in the meeting. As a citizen and taxpayer of the Township, he should be able to demand to see the records of the Foundation and would like to see the records of the Foundation.

Russell Horn, Centerville Dr., commented on his opposition to the Plan Slate Belt. Russell read an email from John Paul Goffredo, NC Council member, which stated that this plan will not fare well with the Township and the people who live here and hopes the Board votes it down. Russell would really like to see the Board reconsider this plan.

Anthony Kyzer, Lenape Tr., commented on the garbage contract and would like to see something get fixed for the next one. Anthony shared some ideas to the Board. Manager Graziano stated that a town hall meeting will be scheduled to talk about trash service.

Ray Higgins, Centerville Rd., asked the Board members if they had read the Plan Slate Belt plan. Supervisor Albert stated that he has. Supervisor Bermingham stated that he attended a bunch of meetings and asked questions, so he was well informed when he made his vote. Ray stated that the two people on the committee have violated ethics, the committee needs to be broadened.

Robert Teel, N. Delaware Dr., Chairman of the Planning Commission. What is the advantage of this plan for the Planning Commission. He does not agree with it.

Stavros Barbounis, Potomac St., commented on rumors that the Parks/Rec is corrupt and something about control over emails coming into the Township. This is wrong and inaccurate. Stavros explained how the emails work in the Township.

Ron Angle, Million Dollar Hwy., commented on an individual who opposed Portland Borough drilling another well in the Township, as well as setting up road blocks to obstruct business coming in to the Township.

Sharon Duffield, Potomac St., commented on public comments, and being tired of listening to attacks made on individuals.

#### **IV.**

##### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Animal Control Officer-Supervisor Bermingham stated this is on the agenda to see whether we want to bring an animal control officer into the Township. Solicitor Karasek stated that he sent an email with his comments regarding the proposed contract. Christine Mammi stated that comes into the Township when called by PA State Police. In January, she received nine (9) calls. Christine gave some examples of her current services that she has had to address in the Township. At this point, she cannot afford to keep coming out here for nothing. The cost for her service is \$2 a resident. Supervisor Erler stated the last animal control officer we had charged \$100 a call for the Township. The Township has not received any calls about dogs. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to table, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 5-0.

#### **V.**

##### **DISCUSSION**

Consultant-Paul Soult- Supervisor Bermingham stated that Paul was brought on by the Township for a potential business deal, of which the terms must remain confidential. Paul stated that he was asked to come assist with a potential large commercial project. Because of an NDA, there is a limited amount of information that can be discussed. He generally works as the liaison between the community and the development people. A community benefits agreement will come into play at some point.

Paul stated that there is going to be value to the community in terms of employment, he just doesn't know what that is yet. Some resident questions included if Paul has dealt with other companies of this size before, truck traffic, employment, if Paul has read the NID. Paul stated that he had not read the NID.

Paul stated that this is a collaborative process initially and once everyone is comfortable with terms, it would then become a community process, a community presentation. Another resident question, in regards to a Text Amendment, once an agreement has been reached, does it bypass zoning/planning. Paul stated that it does not bypass

zoning/planning. Charles Baltic asked about his duties and responsibilities. Paul stated that he is 100% for the Township, he does not represent the developer. Scott Cole asked about the contract for \$5,000 with the consultant. Having the background that he has, how is the Township funding him moving forward. Supervisor Bermingham stated that he does not want to go into the details of that yet, it is all part of the negotiation process. Supervisor Friedman stated that an escrow fund will be set-up and professional services will come out of that. Ron Angle asked what Supervisor he's been particularly in contact with the most. Paul stated Supervisor Bermingham and Supervisor Friedman, occasionally, other members of the Board, but not everyone. There was a discussion on the cost of Paul's services. The amount cannot be determined until they know the scope of work. Ron discussed the Plan Slate Belt, which the Board voted on and approved, which may result in zoning changes. Supervisor Friedman stated that Ron is misinterpreting the Plan Slate Belt. Ron stated that he was a convicted violator of the ethics law. Supervisor Friedman stated that he (Ron) forges wills. Paul stated that he is not involved with zoning in any way, shape or form. There was a discussion on the possible benefits of a large, proposed business coming into the Township who want to have a good relationship with us. Ron stated that he would like to see all five supervisors involved in this situation. Charles Cole stated that he fully supports Paul in making decisions. Charlie stated that we need to work with neighboring communities. Judy Henckel commented on the Plan Slate Belt and the fear of not getting the project because of it. Judy stated that no one has any jurisdiction over our amendments. Judy asked Paul if he is at a basic level of finding out if we have the assets/capabilities for what can be built here, is our community the proper fit. Paul stated that this large company has been doing a very thorough due diligence, and if they haven't walked away by now, they're not walking away. Judy stated that she is still a little skeptical only because a lot of big companies that want to do this kind of project and there are people all over the county clamoring to get them. Some sights might be a little more adaptable, more ready to go, she's just concerned. Ray Higgins asked about getting the EDC involved. Supervisor Bermingham stated that it is too early in the process. Supervisor Bermingham stated that they are going to form a community committee. A resident asked the Board if Paul was the only consultant that they spoke to. Supervisor Bermingham stated no, but Paul came highly recommended. Anthony DeFranco asked how we expedite this. Paul will report back when more details are available.

Supervisor Bermingham called for a five-minute recess at 8:50 pm.  
The meeting reconvened at 9:00 pm.

Supervisor Bermingham discussed tabling a few agenda items.

#### IV.

#### ACTION ITEMS

1. Resolution No.2025-05 NJDOT, PennDOT, Amtrack Liaison-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to adopt Resolution No. 2025-05, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 5-0.

2. Resolution No. 2025-06 Haddad/Heritage Conservancy-Solicitor Karasek stated the approximate sale price is \$141,000, 50% paid by grant funding from the Heritage Conservancy and 50% will be paid out of the Open Space fund. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to adopt Resolution No. 2025-06, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 5-0.
3. Resolution No. 2025-07 Nordstrom/Heritage Conservancy-Solicitor Karasek stated the approximate sale price is \$507,000, 50% paid by grant funding from the Heritage Conservancy and 50% will be paid out of the Open Space Fund. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to adopt Resolution No. 2025-07, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 5-0.
4. Inter-Municipal Agreement/Softball-Supervisor Bermingham stated this is done each year between Upper Mount Bethel and Lower Mount Bethel. **MOTION** by Supervisor Albert to accept the Inter-Municipal Agreement between UMBT and LMBT, seconded by Supervisor Eckman. Vote: 5-0.
5. April Pinto Letter of Resignation from Parks/Rec-Supervisor Bermingham stated the Parks/Rec Board accepted April's letter of resignation. The Board of Supervisors accepted her letter of resignation. The open seat will be posted on the Township's website.
6. EAC Reappointment-Supervisor Bermingham stated that Courtney Gilmour submitted her letter of interest to continue serving on the EAC. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to reappoint Courtney Gilmour to continue serving on the EAC, seconded by Supervisor Albert. Vote: 5-0.
7. Auditor Letter of Interest-Supervisor Bermingham stated that he received a letter of interest for the open Auditor's seat. The Township Auditors', Charles Baltic and Rod Rufe have recommended Leonardo Andrade Jr. to fill the open seat. **MOTION** by Supervisor Erler to appoint Leonardo Andrade Jr. to the Township Audit team, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0.

## VII.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Plan-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to table, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0.
2. Property Maintenance Officer-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to table, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0.

## VIII.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Community Wide Yard Sale-**MOTION** by Supervisor Bermingham to table, seconded by Supervisor Friedman. Vote: 5-0.
2. PNRB Letter to BOS about Park Foundation-Supervisor Eckman stated that a letter was presented to the Parks/Rec Board to be voted on to present to the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Eckman stated that she has seen the parks/rec board work tirelessly to raise funds to improve the park. This group of volunteers put together fantastic events that bring people to our park. The cost to put in a kitchen would cost thousands of dollars. There was money left in the Park Foundation intended to be left for parks/rec for future improvements to our

park. Stavros Barbounis, Chairman of the Parks/Rec Board read the letter submitted to the Board requesting access to the Foundation's financial records and any clearance documentation from the Attorney General's office regarding this matter. Supervisor Birmingham stated that the Board will work with Solicitor Karasek and prepare a formal response. Supervisor Erler asked about this being reopened after the issue was closed, can it be reopened. Solicitor Karasek stated that if the Board wishes to revisit this matter, they can. Supervisor Birmingham stated that the Board should have a formal response by the end of March. Ron Angle stated that he would like to get all the records from the Park Foundation, for which he is entitled to. The Foundation needs to be accountable for whatever and all of any money. Supervisor Birmingham stated that he looked at the letter from the Attorney General and certain financial records. Ron said he would like to get a copy of the Attorney General's letter. Supervisor Birmingham stated that he would get him a copy of it. Supervisor Birmingham asked Mark Mezger about the \$8,000 that was in the Park Foundation's account. Mark stated that the only reason the Township knows about the \$8,000 is because the previous Township Manager stole their bank statement. Ed Nelson stated that the bylaws stated that he was entitled to open the mail. Mark discussed a letter from CPA firm in Florida that Solicitor Karasek had and never delivered it to the Foundation. Solicitor Karasek stated that information is completely incorrect. Solicitor Karasek stated that he received an inquiry letter from an accountant in Florida who was sending letters to everybody saying can do their work. Mark stated that at some point a complaint was filed with the Attorney General and he had to hire an attorney to deal with that complaint. The Foundation had to borrow money to pay for that attorney. The Foundation is currently in debt \$30,000 because of that. The Foundation has no money. Supervisor Birmingham asked Mark if has receipts for that. Mark stated that he has everything and delivered it to the BOS on Sunday. He delivered a huge data package to you guys on Sunday. Mark stated that the Foundation has not received a single donation since 2023. Mark stated that since the NID didn't want the Foundation there, they were going to expand their mission and work towards a bigger broader aspect of the community in terms of charitable initiatives and educational initiatives. Mark would like to develop a workforce training center, a national scale workforce in conjunction with the data centers that may be coming to this town. Stavros stated that he would like to know how the letter was released to the public prior to tonight's meeting. And why was it yesterday that additional information was sent to you. Supervisor Birmingham stated that he gave the letter to Mark. There was a discussion on how this item got put on the agenda. Stavros stated that it was a request from the Parks/Rec board. Supervisor Eckman stated that she was getting calls as to why this was on the agenda. Stavros stated that he is looking into starting his own 501c 3 to benefit the park. Ron Angle stated to Mark that he is requesting from him within the next 48 hours all of the records. Mark stated that it is a private corporation. Marty Pinter stated that in regards to the Park Foundation and that it was started with Township funds and would like to think the Board members would like to know how the money was spent from the beginning. Marty stated that he is deeply concerned that the Foundation has taken on \$30,000 in debt. To be a 501(c) 3 all meeting minutes, votes, board meetings, etc. have to be accounted for.

**IX.**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Recess to Executive Session at 9:50 pm to discuss legal matters.

The meeting reconvened at 10:06 pm.

Solicitor Karasek stated that a possible litigation matter was discussed in Executive Session involving the Stine burning issue. **MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to instruct Solicitor Karasek to go ahead with filing the injunction against Mr. Stine and the property owner for the burning issue, seconded by Supervisor Erler. Vote: 4-0-1. Supervisor Albert abstained.

**X.**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Erler stated that he would like the announcements to be moved to the beginning of the meeting.

Supervisor Erler announced the Hands only CPR and Stop the Bleed class will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Mt. Bethel FH 6pm-8pm. March 6<sup>th</sup> office hours will be at TKs starting at 7pm. Supervisor Erler announced that he will be running for the Supervisor open seat.

Supervisor Bermingham announced there will be a regional meeting about ambulance coverage at the MBFH on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The Sportsman Banquet, hosted by the MBFH is March 22<sup>nd</sup>, tickets are \$50 each.

Manager Graziano stated that there has been some criminal mischief happening this morning with garbage toters from Slateford up to Turkey Ridge into Saddle Creek. If anyone has information, please contact Manager Graziano at the Township Building.

**X.**  
**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Supervisor Friedman to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 pm, seconded by Supervisor Eckman. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary

**Statement of Charles V. Baltic to UMBT Board of Supervisors Meeting**

Good evening. I am Charles Baltic, 971 Laurel Hill Rd. and an elected Township Auditor and Chair of the Auditors.

I want to reference the Board of Supervisors ("BoS") Special Meeting (informational only) held on Friday evening (2/21/25) and thank the Supervisors for holding that meeting. The meeting was primarily focused on the Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Plan (the "Plan") now that the Plan has been adopted. What was not adequately addressed by the Board of Supervisors, however, was the current, very time-sensitive process and planning for UMBT's involvement in the Plan's implementation going forward.

In that regard, I am pleased that discussion of the Plan is Item VII.1 on this evening's Meeting Agenda. However, I do not understand this matter as being characterized as "**Old Business**". It is, in actuality, "**Urgent Business**".

From the Plan website itself, I note the following:

#1) The next meeting of the Plan Steering Committee (the "Steering Committee") is scheduled for March 6 at Pen Argyl Borough Hall (public welcome to attend, but no meeting time posted). That is less than two weeks away.

#2) The actual document "Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan - Adopted January 2025" (the "Plan Document") states on page 176 in the Section entitled "*Immediate Action - Plan Adoption*" that the adoption of an Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Agreement (the "Plan Implementation Agreement") is the "**highest Priority for Plan implementation. .... The Agreement should be adopted by each of the municipalities that participated in the Plan**".

#3) The Plan Document states on page 177 that "**the Plan Slate Belt Steering Committee emphasized the need to develop a process to share land uses among the eight municipalities in the region.**" And further states that "**the Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Committee (ICIA)**" (first mention apparently) "**will prioritize reviewing each municipality's zoning ordinances to determine which land uses are most appropriate for a specific municipality.**"

#4) The Plan Document states on page 178 in the Section entitled "*Zoning Actions – Priorities for Action*" that the FIRST listed priority is "**Amend zoning ordinance maps to be consistent with the Plan's Future Land Use Map. .... Specific actions include: Rezone areas in townships around boroughs to allow for greater intensity and diversity of housing development. Policy 1.1**"

I don't think that most citizens of UMBT presently understand that there is a multi-municipality process underway that could result in the rezoning of their properties in a short period of time (within two years) to possibly result in UMBT properties becoming zoned for higher-intensity, multi-family and possibly low-income or community housing to relieve the participating Plan boroughs of their own development issues and objectives.



Something of this great magnitude and import – THE REAL POSSIBILITY OF THE REZONING OF UMBT RESIDENTS' PROPERTIES AS A RESULT OF THIS PLAN– requires a GOVERNMENTAL PROCESS of broad community involvement of citizens representing the greatest number of constituencies reasonably possible, and free of the taint of conflicts of interest and questionable public ethics.

In that regard, I note the following:

#1) UMBT is the only participating municipality that has only two representatives on the Plan Steering Committee; all other participating municipalities have three as specified by the Plan itself.

#2) UMBT's two representatives have **BOTH** been cited and sanctioned by the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission (see references below) for ethics, conflict-of-interest violations. I don't know for sure – because I haven't taken the opportunity to research the matter yet but will do so if necessary – but doubt that the other Plan participating municipalities have had 100% of their members of the Plan Steering Committee previously sanctioned by the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission for ethics, conflict of interest violations.

#3) This fact of UMBT's representatives on the Plan Steering Committee having been sanctioned by the State Ethics Commission is – at a minimum – an embarrassment for UMBT, but more importantly – and of CRITICAL IMPORT –, it also a possible vulnerability to be exploited by the other municipalities in the course of negotiations with and agreements by UMBT in dealing with the other Plan municipalities.

#4) In my opinion and experience, in governmental and other organizational matters requiring the exercise of judgement and fiduciary duty, PROCESS heavily influences POLICY. Therefore, UMBT must have a broad, community-based, transparent, and ethical process to participate in Plan Slate Belt, to best ensure an outcome viewed as fair and favorable for the majority of our community members and fellow citizens.

This process of how UMBT is going to participate in Plan implementation going forward – and the representation of UMBT on the Plan Steering Committee - and any Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Committee - requires the IMMEDIATE attention of the Board of Supervisors.

I believe that there was a strong expression by the community resident attendees at Friday's informational meeting on the Plan that the Supervisors need to very quickly (i) **address**, (2) **reconsider**, (3) **reconstitute**, and (4) preferably **expand** UMBT citizens' involvement in (i) the Plan Steering Committee, (ii) any Plan Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Committee, and (iii) actual Plan implementation going forward. Basic principles of good government demand this.

I kindly and humbly ask the Board of Supervisors to please respond substantively to this submission and request. I may have more to say going forward depending on that response.

I submit this statement and attachments and references in writing to the to the Board of Supervisors and to the UMBT Solicitor to be made a part of the written record of this meeting.

And please note that I do this as both a concerned citizen, resident and elected official of Upper Mt. Bethel Township. Thank you, Charles Baltic

*Plan Document - Page 176 "Immediate Action"*

## **IMMEDIATE ACTION** (within 6 months)

### **PLAN ADOPTION**

The Plan State Belt Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan was created for the municipalities of Bangor, East Bangor, Pen Argyl, Portland, Roseto and Wind Gap Boroughs and Upper Mount Bethel and Washington Townships. Adoption by all the municipalities is critical for establishing the distribution of land uses to satisfy the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code requirements. Adoption of the Plan State Belt document serves as the conclusion of the planning process and the beginning of implementation.

### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT**

The adoption of an Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Agreement (agreement) is the highest priority for plan implementation. The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) created this measure specifically as a means of implementing multi-municipal comprehensive plans. The agreement should be adopted by each of the municipalities that participated in the plan.

The agreement should have the following components, among others:

- ✓ A process to achieve consistency between the Comprehensive Plan and relevant ordinances, such as zoning ordinances that consider all possible land uses.
- ✓ A mechanism for resolving disputes.
- ✓ A process for review and approval of land uses of regional significance. The Agreement will spell out the criteria for what would be considered a land use of regional significance as well as a process for inter-municipal coordination for review of proposals.

Plan Document - Page 177 "Priorities for Action"

## IMMEDIATE ACTION (within 6 months)

### PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

- ✓ The Plan Slate Belt steering committee emphasized the need to develop a process to share land uses among the eight municipalities in the region. Municipalities are enabled by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) to share land uses if they have a multi-municipal plan. This means that each municipality is no longer required to provide for each potential land use if that use is provided for somewhere within the Slate Belt region.
- ✓ The Intergovernmental Cooperation Implementation Committee (ICIA) will prioritize reviewing each of the municipality's zoning ordinances to determine which land uses are most appropriate for a specific municipality. Specific land uses may be removed from municipal zoning ordinances if provided for elsewhere in the region.
- Review municipal services that were identified in the plan for possible regionalization. These include shared public works, emergency response, and community services (Policy 3.2). However, under no circumstances is any municipality or municipal authority obligated to provide sewage treatment capacity or public water supply to an adjoining municipality.
- Identify funding sources for projects.

Plan Document - Page 178 "Short-Term Action – Zoning Actions"

## SHORT-TERM ACTION (within 2 years of plan adoption)

### ZONING ACTIONS

Consistency of zoning across all eight municipalities is critical to implementation of the plan. Coordination of definitions and uses, at a minimum, should be achieved and begin immediately upon adoption by all local governments of the new multi-municipal comprehensive plan. Zoning ordinances should be revised as necessary to be consistent with the Future Land Use Plan.

### PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

Amend zoning ordinance maps to be consistent with the plan's Future Land Use Map. Specific actions include:

- ✓ Rezone areas in townships around boroughs to allow for greater intensity and diversity of housing development (Policy 1.1)
- ✓ Rezone vacant and underutilized industrial properties to allow for expanded reuse/redevelopment (Policy 2.1)
- ✓ Direct intense development to areas where the public sewer and community water supply systems can accept additional growth, or through limited expansion or upgrading (Policy 4.7)
- ✓ Direct exurban development to areas planned to be served by on-lot sewage disposal and water supply (Policy 4.7)
- ✓ Discourage intense development in areas where it can only be served by on-lot sewage disposal or new or expanded privately owned central sewage facilities (Policy 4.7)

### References:

1) *Slate Belt Official Fined for Votes Benefiting Son's Company* – Lehigh Valley Live

- Updated: Jan. 05, 2018, 4:13 p.m.
- Published: Jan. 05, 2018, 3:13 p.m.

[https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/slate-belt/2018/01/slate\\_belt\\_official\\_fined\\_for.html](https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/slate-belt/2018/01/slate_belt_official_fined_for.html)

2) *IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA: David F Friedman, II, Petitioner v. State Ethics Commission, Respondent, No. 1220 C.D. 2023, Submitted: October 8, 2024.*

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

David F. Friedman, II, :  
 Petitioner :  
 v. :  
 State Ethics Commission, : No. 1220 C.D. 2023  
 Respondent : Submitted: October 8, 2024

BEFORE: HONORABLE RENÉE COHN JUBELIRER, President Judge  
 HONORABLE CHRISTINE FIZZANO CANNON, Judge (P.)  
 HONORABLE MATTHEW S. WOLF, Judge

OPINION NOT REPORTED

MEMORANDUM OPINION  
 BY JUDGE FIZZANO CANNON

FILED: November 8, 2024

David F. Friedman, II (Friedman) filed a petition for review (Petition) of a final adjudication and order of the State Ethics Commission (Commission) dated October 4, 2023, which declared that Friedman had violated Section 1103(a) of the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act (Ethics Act),<sup>1</sup> 65 Pa.C.S. § 1103(a). The Commission filed an application to strike Friedman’s brief filed in this Court or to dismiss the Petition on the bases that Friedman’s brief is so grossly defective as to preclude meaningful appellate review and that Friedman failed to file a reproduced record. This Court issued an order to file a reproduced record, with which Friedman complied. This Court issued further orders directing that the Commission’s application for relief and Friedman’s response in opposition to the application for relief be addressed along with the merits of the Petition. Upon review, we deny the Commission’s application for relief and affirm its order.

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<sup>1</sup> 65 Pa.C.S. §§ 1101-1113.