

UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

AGENDA – PART I

1. Call to Order-Chairman Bermingham Jr. called the meeting to order @ 7:10 pm.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Roll Call-Present in addition to Chairman Bermingham Jr. were Supervisor Due, Supervisor Teel, Supervisor Pinter, Township Manager Rick Fisher and Township Solicitor Ron Karasek. Absent was Supervisor DeFranco.
4. Approve the Agenda-**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Due to approve the agenda. Vote: 4-0.
5. Appoint Temporary Vice Chairman-**MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor Teel to appoint Supervisor Pinter as the Temporary Vice Chairman, due to the absence of Vice Chairman DeFranco. Vote: 3-0-1. Supervisor Pinter abstained.
6. Appoint Recording Secretary for Special Meeting-**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Pinter to appoint Cindy Beck as the Recording Secretary for Special Meeting. Vote: 4-0.
7. Public Announcement-Chairman Bermingham Jr. announced that the Halloween Party will be held this Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 1:00-3:00 pm and Trick or Treat is from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.
8. Public Comment (5 minutes)

Judy Henckel would like to make a request for Park Committee support. They are looking for help with native planting for the community garden.

Charlie Cole asked that once the Act 537 plan is proposed to the Supervisors, if there is going to be a public forum to get input from the township residents? Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated that the Act 537 Plan will be put out for advertisement, stating that we will accept written comments for a period of 30 days. The Supervisors have to respond to the written comments received. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated that a report will be generated with both the residents' comments and the Supervisors' responses. The report will then be available for the public to review.

AGENDA – PART II – APPROVE MINUTES

1. Budget Monthly Meeting Minutes-**MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter, seconded by Supervisor Teel to approve the Budget Monthly Meeting Minutes for October 8, 2018. Vote: 4-0.

2. Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes-**MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor Teel to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes for October 8, 2018. Vote: 4-0.

### AGENDA – PART III

- A. District Attorney John Morganelli- Chairman Bermingham Jr. introduced our guest speaker, District Attorney John Morganelli. Attorney Morganelli spoke briefly of his role as the District Attorney for Northampton County. He commented that he has a great admiration for local government and his drive for drug prevention and education. He encourages any local community group to reach out to him to give presentations on bullying, drug prevention/education, gang prevention, domestic violence, or design any kind of message to be presented.
- B. Christine Cahill-Slate Belt COG-Animal Control Officer- Christine gave a brief summary of her position as the Animal Control Officer. She has been a humane officer now for seven years and has her own non-profit business. At this time, she can only handle dogs. Her future plans are to expand to other animals. Solicitor Karasek asked Christine about a statement in her contract with the COG in regards to the right to hire assistants and is the COG willing to compensate her for that. Christine commented that if she elected to hire assistants, it would be her responsibility to pay them. There was a brief discussion amongst the Supervisors regarding the possibility of Upper Mount Bethel Township contracting out Ms. Cahill's services as Animal Control Officer outside of the COG.
- C. Jeff Manzi-LERTA Expansion-Jeff spoke briefly about his request to the Board of Supervisors to expand the LERTA to encourage more businesses down the Rt.512 corridor. There was a discussion regarding the area that Mr. Manzi is looking to expand the LERTA, whether it falls within the guidelines of the LERTA program.

### AGENDA – PART IV- SUBDIVISIONS

- A. Jon Raso Minor Subdivision-Waiver Request

Section 308.2.1-a natural resource inventory is required. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Due to grant waiver. Vote: 4-0.

Manager Fisher stated that a Planning Module was not on the agenda. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor Teel to amend the agenda. Vote: 4-0.

Manager Fisher stated that the letters from PA Game Commission and PA Fish & Boat Commission have been received and have now met all the requirements for this completion. **MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter, seconded by Supervisor Teel to approve the planning module exemption. Vote: 4-0. Solicitor Karasek stated this plan will now be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for recommended conditional preliminary and final approval.

## B. Philip Jones Minor Subdivision-Waiver Requests

Section 302.4.3-the location of natural features within 100 feet of the site and significant resources on the site or within 1.5 miles of the site. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Due to grant waiver. Vote: 4-0.

Section 308.2.1-a natural resource inventory is required. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Due to grant waiver. Vote: 4-0. Solicitor Karasek stated this plan will now be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for recommended conditional preliminary and final approval.

## AGENDA- PART V-ACTION AGENDA

1. EDC Appointment- Stavros Barbounis-There was a brief discussion regarding the one open position on the EDC. A letter of interest has been received from Stavros Barbounis. Supervisor Pinter commented that Stavros already serves on two other committees and questioned if he is able to give his full attention to the EDC. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Pinter to table. Vote: 4-0.
2. River Road Bridge Accident-Asset Search-There was a conversation regarding the process of an Asset Search regarding the River Road Bridge Accident. **MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Due to table. Vote: 4-0.

## AGENDA – PART VI- OLD BUSINESS

1. Police Study Update-There was a discussion about the Police Study. Manager Fisher stated he has not been able to speak with Ron Stern. Manager Fisher discussed the MAP (Municipal Assistance Program) program. He stated that in order to qualify for the program, we need to show that there is community support for shared services. Manager Fisher would recommend a survey for the residents to complete to see what the extent of the community support is for shared services. **MOTION** by Supervisor Pinter, seconded by Supervisor Teel to proceed with the town survey for a police force and then based on the survey, move forward with the study. Vote: 4-0.

Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated East Bangor Police reached out to him looking for a Letter of Support from Upper Mount Bethel Township. The Letter of Support is for them to get a grant for a new police car and generator. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated this has no bearing on whether we contract with them for police coverage. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor Teel to give East Bangor Police a general Letter of Support, with no financial obligation stated in the Letter of Support. Vote: 4-0.

2. Ambulance Update-Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated Jeff Young, Executive Director of Suburban, reached out to him. Jeff has reviewed the agreement and would like to review it with Ryan Hoff, manager of Suburban/Bangor Area. Jeff will provide an update after he meets with Ryan.
3. Environmental Legal Review Update- There was a discussion regarding the review of our ordinances and the Law Firm who gave us suggestions on where we could strengthen environmental protections. Chairman Bermingham Jr. stated that Supervisor DeFranco wanted to bring in an Economic Development Consultant to make their suggestions and then we could look at the pros and cons of both reviews.

**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Chairman Bermingham Jr. to ban sludge dumping on any municipality owned property. Vote: 4-0.

Solicitor Karasek stated that something the township should be thinking about is the 5G push out in Harrisburg. They want to attempt to take away the rights of municipalities to be able to regulate 5G wireless communications. Solicitor Karasek stated we should consider updating our wireless communication ordinance.

#### AGENDA – PART VII- NEW BUSINESS

1. Hazard Mitigation Resolution-Manager Fisher stated that the Resolution cannot be approved without reviewing the report. Once he has the report, he will present it to the Board for review before approving the Resolution.
2. Northampton County Blight Reversal and Remediation Plan Task Force-No Comments.

#### AGENDA – PART VIII- PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Henckel commented on what are the jobs of tomorrow and how do they fit in with what we already have.

Charlie Kull asked if the park pavilion bid has been awarded yet. Manager Fisher stated yes and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled. Charlie also asked about changing electric at the park. Manager Fisher explained future plans for electrical changes.

AGENDA – PART IX – EXECUTIVE SESSION

**MOTION** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Pinter to adjourn for executive session at 9:05 pm. Vote: 4-0.

Meeting reconvened at 9:20 pm. Discussed in executive session was Legal and Personnel Matters. Legal Matter-**MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham Jr., seconded by Supervisor Teel to accept the settlement offer with the Portland Properties, on the condition the settlement agreement contains clean fill notes only on the plan that is to be recorded. Vote: 4-0. Personnel matter-Discussion only, no action.

AGENDA – PART X – ADJOURNMENT

**MOTON** by Supervisor Teel, seconded by Supervisor Due to adjourn at 9:21 pm. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Beck-Recording Secretary