

Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors

June 1, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The June 1, 2011 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Bud Baldwin at 7:35 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Bud Baldwin, Vice Chair Tom Cino, Treasurer Mary Ryan, and Member Dan Rattigan. Member Dave Kulig was absent. Also in attendance were Township Manager Stephanie Teoli, Township Solicitor John Rice, Esq., Township Engineer Larry Young, P.E. and Director of Planning & Zoning Dave Kuhns.

There were also members of the public and representatives of the press present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Mr. Baldwin led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Baldwin made the following announcements:

- An executive session was held prior to the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters and litigation.
- The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be June 15, 2011. The summer meeting schedule will then take effect with meetings scheduled for July 13th and August 3rd.

Ms. Ryan announced that the Washington Crossing Historic Park Visitor's Center Groundbreaking will be held on Friday, June 10th at 10:30 a.m.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Ms. Teoli provided an introduction to a recognition ceremony honoring students from Mrs. Nancy Stoudt's Third Grade Humanities Class at Sol Feinstone Elementary School. She reported that township staff and members of the Park and Recreation Board were invited to view park design projects that were completed by the class as part of their unit studying community needs and local government. Mr. Baldwin provided Certificates of Appreciation to the winners of the park design contest as follows: Kate McQuarrie (1st Place), Laura Davies (2nd Place), Olivia Pinto and Casey Rogerson (3rd Place). Mrs. Stoudt was also presented a certificate in appreciation of her efforts to teach her students about community needs. Miss McQuarrie gave a brief presentation on her project to the Board and members of the public.

Cathy Magliocchetti, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Council, provided a presentation outlining the EAC's Jericho Creek Stream Assessment Project. The visual assessment is intended to document the overall health of the stream to gain an understanding of existing conditions and to identify areas with the greatest need for improvement.

Guy Polhemus, Washington Crossing Road, provided public comment regarding expenses from the Riparian Fund.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ellen Lane-Novitz, Dunkin Drive, announced that she will be working with Ms. Teoli to review possible ways to coordinate joint purchasing of electric by residents. She made further comments regarding the Township's Act 537 Plan and a traffic concern in New Jersey.

Guy Polhemus, Washington Crossing Road, reported on the upcoming Washington Crossing Historic Park Groundbreaking event. He also noted that he finds it difficult to obtain information from the township. Members of the Board challenged Mr. Polhemus on this comment, explaining that the township is completely transparent in its operations and is in full compliance with the Right to Know Law.

Amy McClellan, Washington Crossing Road, provided extensive comments on her experience interacting with the Upper Makefield Township government during a 1991 development project and associated Curative Amendment process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE:

A motion was made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Rattigan to approve the May 18, 2011 minutes. Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Ms. Teoli directed attention to the bills list for May 18, 2011. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and was seconded by Mr. Rattigan to approve the May 18, 2011 Bills Payable list in the amount of \$423,412.76. Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING ISSUES:

Chupa Zoning Hearing Board Application, 1295 Washington Crossing Memorial Boulevard

Mr. Kuhns provided an outline of the request for a variance to construct a garage in the side yard setback. Ms. Ryan requested additional information regarding the neighboring home and its distance from the proposed structure. After discussion, Mr. Kuhns was directed to contact the applicant to request changes to the proposal or face opposition from the Board before the Zoning Hearing Board.

Cohen Planning Module, 384 Woodhill Road

Mr. Kuhns outlined the Planning Module and referenced the February 10, 2011 Gilmore & Associates review letter. He confirmed that the application was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission. A motion was then made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Cino to approve the Cohen Planning Module. Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Rice announced that an Executive Session would be held following the meeting to discuss

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litigation. No action will be taken.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Lookout Park Picnic Area Project – Payment Request No. 3 (Final)

Mr. Young provided an update on the project and recommended approval of Payment Request No. 3 (Final) in the amount of \$3,694.90. A motion was made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Cino to approve Payment Request No. 3 (Final) in the amount of \$3,694.90. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND MEDIA QUESTIONS:

Larry Breeden, 3 Bankers Drive, asked for information regarding the Washington Crossing Inn Zoning Hearing Board application that was originally scheduled for discussion. Mr. Rice informed him that a revised application would be forthcoming.

Cathy Magliocchetti, Spring Court, discounted the claims made by others that Upper Makefield Township lacks transparency. She shared that, in her personal experience, she has found the staff and government officials to be extremely responsive, providing unfettered access to information.

Mr. Rattigan credited Mr. Breeden for coming to the board with a thoughtful question. He noted that it has been difficult during the past several months during public comment as political actors came forward during public comment to criticize rather than learn. He further noted that it is important for any candidate for elected office take the time to learn.

Mr. Baldwin responded to prior comments made by Amy McClellan and expressed his disagreement with her arguments.

Larry Breeden, 3 Bankers Drive, commented that Mr. Baldwin should not speak to comments made by Ms. McClellan when she is not present. Mr. Baldwin pointed out that Ms. McClellan and Mr. Polhemus left immediately after public comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Rattigan to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Approved: June 15, 2011