

Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors

April 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The April 5, 2022 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Tom Cino at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Tom Cino, Vice Chair Ed Ford, Treasurer Tim Thomas, Member Yvette E. Taylor and Member Ben Weldon. Also in attendance were Township Manager David R. Nyman, Assistant Township Manager Judy Caporiccio, Township Solicitor Will Oetinger, Esq., Township Engineer Larry Young, P.E. and Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester, Sgt. Durkin and Chief Schmidt.

Members of the public were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cino made the following announcements:

- Upper Makefield is joining surrounding townships to sponsor an Earth Day event on Saturday, April 23 at Core Creek Park. Stop by the Park between 11 – 2 and meet members of the EAC.
- The Upper Makefield Fire Company Carnival is returning this year: April 26-30 at the Washington Crossing Lower Park.
- The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is April 30 from 10 am –2 p.m. at the Upper Makefield Police Department. If you are unable to attend that day, a collection box is available in the Police Building lobby during office hours.
- We are pleased to announce that Upper Makefield has earned statewide awards from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) for both the Township website and the Township eNews. The website received first place in that category and the eNews received second place, both recognized for the information provided, presentation and accessibility. Please visit UpperMakefield.org and sign up for the newsletter if you have not already.
- Finally, an Executive Session will be held following tonight's meeting to discuss potential litigation.

Mr. Thomas announced the schedule for the Annual Clean Up along the Delaware Canal by the Friends of the Delaware Canal on Earth Day, April 9th. He is also organizing a similar clean up along Taylorsville Road south of Route 532 on April 9th beginning at 9:15 am.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne Marie Murray, Brownsburg Road, expressed concern regarding the appearance resulting from the recent clearing of the no mow areas in the Township parks. Additionally, she expressed hope that volunteers with varying experience would be appointed to the various Township committees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and was seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the March 15, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Ford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the April 5, 2022 Bills Payable List in the amount of \$104,800.36. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PLANNING & ZONING ISSUES

Ms. Burmester informed the Board that the plans for the Anderson subdivision were available for their signatures at the conclusion of the meeting tonight.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ostaniewicz Solar Panel Installation, 1042 Washington Crossing Road

Mr. Oetinger reported that the applicant has granted an extension of time for consideration of the proposed solar panel ground array until June 30, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Ford to acknowledge receipt of the extension for the Ostaniewicz Solar Panel request until June 30, 2022. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Police Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Ford to promote part-time Officer Ryan Moore to the position of full-time officer. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Amendment to Pension Ordinance

Mr. Nyman provided an overview of the amendment revising the definition of average monthly compensation and compensation in the non-uniformed employees' pension plan. Following discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize advertisement of the ordinance amendment. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2022-04-05-01 – Supporting the United States Semiquincentennial

Mr. Nyman provided background on Resolution No. 2022-04-05-01 supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve Resolution No. 2022-04-05-01. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Administrative Assistant

A motion was made by Dr. Ford and seconded by Ms. Taylor to hire Ashleigh Somershoe for the position of full-time Planning & Zoning Department Administrative Assistant. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Board and Committee Appointments

Mr. Cino expressed appreciation for all volunteers and their significant contributions. He noted the intention to appoint all who were interviewed to volunteer positions and provided an overview of the Board's process to make these appointments, which began in December.

Dr. Ford noted that good leadership is being able to solve problems respectfully. He disagreed with comments made at the last meeting regarding the process, which he believes was fair and thorough. He encouraged attendance at public meetings to gain knowledge and experience.

Ms. Taylor stressed her respect for all fellow supervisors, but dissatisfaction with the reappointment process and proposed volunteer placements.

Mr. Thomas stressed the value of the volunteers and their contributions to make Upper Makefield such a remarkable community. He also encouraged attendance and participation at meetings, regardless of appointment status.

Mr. Weldon expressed dissatisfaction with the appointment process and encouraged collaboration and communication. He also thanked the volunteers for their interest and contributions.

Bud Baldwin, 1212 Eagle Road, stressed the value of experience and meeting attendance.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Brenda Slack to the Agricultural Security Advisory Board. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Ray Myslinski to the Financial Advisory Board for a term that expires 12/31/22. Following discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Savitri Barsavi to the Financial Advisory Board for a term that expires 12/31/22. Following discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Dr. Ford to appoint Denise Burmester to the Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB) for a term that expires 12/31/22. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Andrew Somers to the Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB) for a term that expires 12/31/26. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Tom Linus to the Investment Committee for a term that expires 12/31/25. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Dr. Ford to appoint Joe Weiss to the Park & Recreation Board for a term that expires 12/31/24. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Lynn Geiszler to the Park & Recreation Board for a term that expires 12/31/26. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Kathryn Benson to the Park & Recreation Board for a term that expires 12/31/26. Following discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Karin Traina to the Planning Commission for a term that expires 12/31/24. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Ellyn Spiewak to the Traffic Advisory Committee for a term that expires 12/31/22. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Leena Saini to the Traffic Advisory Committee for a term that expires 12/31/23. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Sean Cottrell to the Traffic Advisory Committee for a term that expires 12/31/23. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Ford expressed his willingness to assist any new board/committee appointee in preparing for their new position. He also noted the significant contributions that Bud Baldwin has made to the community, particularly in developing the open space program.

Mr. Thomas also recognized the numerous contributions of Bud Baldwin over the years.

Ellen Radow, Timber Knoll, questioned why the appointees' names were not listed on the agenda. She thanked the Board for their many years of service to the Township.

Karin Traina, River Road, expressed that in her 15 year experience as a volunteer and former supervisor, diversity, cohesiveness and transparency does exist on Upper Makefield boards and committees. She stressed the value of healthy, robust debate, and encouraged the Board to move forward.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

2022 Road Project

Mr. Young provided an overview of the bid results and recommended awarding the 2022 Road Project, including Alternates 1, 2 and 3 to the lowest possible bidder, James D. Morrissey, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA in the amount of \$656,904.50. Tri State Engineering recommends including Alternates 4 and 5 for Streetscape crosswalks in the 2023 paving program due to higher than budgeted costs. Following discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Ford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to award the 2022 Road Project, including Alternates to 1, 2 and 3 in the amount of \$656,904.50. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Ford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to adjourn into Executive Session at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Nyman
Township Manager
Approved: April 19, 2022