

Upper Makefield Board of Supervisors
May 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The May 7, 2024 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Yvette Taylor at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Yvette Taylor, Vice Chair Ben Weldon, Treasurer Braun Taylor and Member Tom Cino. Also in attendance were Township Manager David R. Nyman, Assistant Township Manager Judy Caporiccio, Township Solicitor Will Oetinger, Esq., Township Engineer Amanda Fuller, P.E., Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester and Chief Schmidt.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Taylor led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Taylor made the following announcements:

- An executive session was held prior to this evening's meeting for personnel matters and legal counsel.
- Bridge update:
Since the last meeting, Hopewell Township, New Jersey has adopted a resolution expressing concern over the potential replacement of the Washington Crossing Bridge, and they also reposted our Bridge Commission meeting notice on their website and Facebook page. Newtown Township and Wrightstown Township have also provided support of our efforts regarding the bridge.

All 5 supervisors attended the last meeting of the Toll Bridge Commission on April 29, which was also well attended by residents. Many provided public comment regarding the Washington Crossing Bridge project. We encourage your continued attendance in person or virtually at the monthly meetings of the Bridge Commission. The next meeting is scheduled for May 20 at 10:30 a.m. The Board emphasized the value of continued community support.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Spiro, Eagle Road, shared concerns regarding the flies and odor emanating from the neighboring property at 575 Eagle Road and requested the status of Township efforts related to that property.

Richard Roche, 23 Jericho Road, expressed support for the deer management proposal on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Taylor to approve the April 2, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve the May 7, 2024 Bills Payable List in the amount of \$683,076.91. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PLANNING & ZONING ISSUES

There were no Planning and Zoning issues.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

County of Bucks Human Services Co-Responder Initiative

Ms. Taylor provided an overview of the County of Bucks Human Services Co-Responder Initiative, which is a voluntary partnership between the Police Departments of Upper Makefield, Newtown Township and Newtown Borough, Newtown Emergency Medical Services and the Bucks County

Human Services Division to address the social services needs of people contacting 911 emergency response to help ensure timely connection to resources. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize execution of Memorandum of Understanding for the County of Bucks Human Services Co-Responder Initiative. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Real Estate Transfer Tax Refund Request

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of a request for a real estate transfer tax refund assessed in error for property transferred to a Revocable Living Family Trust. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Cino to approve the Bergen request for a Real Estate Transfer Tax refund in the amount of \$6,220.14. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Historic Designation of Washington Crossing Bridge

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of a recommended proposal to expand Jeff Marshall's Scope of Work to include the Historic Registration of Buildings in the vicinity of the Washington Crossing Bridge. This item was tabled pending receipt of a proposal.

Jointure Billboard Ordinance

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of the Jointure Billboard Ordinance. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize supporting the proposed Jointure Billboard Ordinance. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Jointure Zoning Ordinance Definitions Revision

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of the Jointure Zoning Ordinance Definitions Revision. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize supporting the proposed Jointure Zoning Ordinance Definitions Revision. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Jointure Ordinance Correcting Impervious Surface Limits in RI and RI-A Districts

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of the Jointure Ordinance Correcting Impervious Surface Limits in RI and RI-A Districts. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize supporting the proposed Jointure Ordinance Correction Impervious Surface Limits in RI and RI-A Districts. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Fenwick Conditional Use Hearing, 106 Buckmanville Road

Mr. Oetinger provided an overview of the application for a conditional use to construct a bridge and driveway crossing through the riparian buffer zones. Ms. Taylor opened the public hearing. The hearing was recorded by a stenographer. Ms. Taylor closed the public hearing. Mr. Oetinger explained that the Board has 45 days to consider conditions and will provide a response at a public meeting. He then requested an executive session following tonight's meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Big Oak Whitetail Management (BOWMA) 2024/2025 Proposal

Mr. Nyman outlined the 2024/25 proposal of Big Oak Whitetail Management Association (BOWMA) for deer management on Township-owned property. The proposal has the same terms and conditions as the previous contract, at no cost to the Township and in accordance with PA game Commission regulations. BOWMA also requested a letter of recommendation from the Township to distribute to local property owners. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize the Township Manager to execute an agreement with BOWMA for the 2024-25 season and to authorize a letter of recommendation. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Sol Finestone Elementary Site Work Construction Escrow Release No. 2 1090 Eagle Road

Mr. Nyman provided an overview of the Sol Finestone Elementary Site Work Construction Escrow

Release No. 2 and recommended approval. Discussion followed, and a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve the Sol Finestone Elementary Site Work Construction Escrow Release No. 2 in the amount of \$1,065,470.00. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Finance Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to hire Angela Incollingo as Finance Officer. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Toll Brothers Request for Release of Traffic Signal Escrow for The Enclave

Mr. Nyman provided an overview of the Toll Brothers Traffic Signal Escrow Release Request for The Enclave. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to ratify the actions of staff directing the Township Engineer to prepare a report following the request of Toll Brothers for release of escrow and, additionally, to ratify the approval of the engineer's report in order to meet timelines set forth in Section 510 of the Municipal Planning Code. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resignation of Police Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to accept the resignation of Officer Aamir Raza effective May 2, 2024 and to authorize Chief Schmidt to continue the selection process for two police officer vacancies. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Lookout Park Pavilion Construction

Mr. Nyman provided an overview of the Lookout Park Pavilion Construction Bids and explained that two of the three bids received were incomplete and the highest bid was over budget. Staff recommended rejecting all bids and rebidding the construction bids. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to reject all bids for the Lookout Park Pavilion Construction and to authorize readvertising the Lookout Park Construction bids. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ENGINEERS REPORT

There was no Engineer's Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Roche, 23 Jericho Run, requested more detail about deer management.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Nyman
Township Manager
Approved: May 21, 2024