

## **Upper Makefield Board of Supervisors May 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The May 21, 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, Member Tom Cino and Member Tim Thomas. Also in attendance were Township Manager David R. Nyman, Assistant Township Manager Judy Caporiccio, Township Solicitor Mary Eberle, Esq., Township Engineer Amanda Fuller, 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 potential litigation.
- Bridge Update:
  - The Delaware River Joint Bridge Commission's monthly meeting was held May 20 and was attended by the supervisors and many residents. The Board stressed the importance of resident participation and encouraged continued attendance in person or virtually at the monthly meetings of the Bridge Commission. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24 at 10:30 a.m.
- Longtime resident Walt Wydro passed last week at the age of 94. Walt was an active volunteer in Upper Makefield Township for 50 years. As a member of the Upper Makefield Township Planning Commission, he played an integral part of land development review and ordinance development to protect the integrity of the Township. In addition, he was instrumental in helping to found the first Jointure in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, served on the Joint Planning Commission and on the Bucks County Planning Commission. For his outstanding service to the community, Walt received Upper Makefield's Volunteer of the Year Award in 2004 and was recognized by the Board in 2019 for his 50 years of volunteer service.

### **SPECIAL ITEM**

Chief Schmidt introduced Officer Gerard Russi, who was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and presented him with the Sergeant's badge. District Judge Mick Petrucci then administered an oath of office to Sergeant Gerard Russi.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE**

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the May 7, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve the May 21, 2024 Bills Payable List in the amount of \$241,210.45. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **PLANNING & ZONING ISSUES**

#### **Daniel Zoning Hearing Board Application, 1262 Eagle Road**

The applicant withdrew the application.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

### **Historic Designation of Buildings in Washington Crossing**

Ms. Eberle provided an overview of the proposal of Jeff Marshall to revise the scope of the Washington Crossing Study. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Cino to accept the proposal of Jeff Marshall to revise the scope of Washington Crossing study to clarify protection of existing historic resources and review historic registry eligibility for an amount not to exceed \$1,300.00. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Resolution No. 2024-05-21-01 – Adopting Newtown Area Joint Comprehensive Plan**

Ms. Eberle provided an overview of Resolution 2024-05-21-01 Adopting Newtown Area Joint Comprehensive Plan. Jeremy Stoff of the Bucks County Planning Commission provided a presentation of highlights of the process to develop the Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve Resolution No. 2024-05-21-01. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Jointure Ordinance No. 2022-04 – Non-Conforming Structures**

Ms. Eberle provided an overview of Jointure Ordinance No. 2022-04 regulating the expansion of Non-Conforming Structures. Ms. Taylor opened the public hearing. There were no comments by the Board of Supervisors and no comments from the public. Ms. Taylor closed the public hearing. A motion made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Cino to adopt JMZO Ordinance No. 2022-04 – Non-Conforming Structures. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Ordinance Amending and Restating Intergovernmental Agreement**

Ms. Eberle provided an overview of Ordinance No. 332 Amending and Restating Intergovernmental Agreement. Ms. Taylor opened the public hearing. There were no comments by the Board of Supervisors and no comments from the public. Ms. Taylor closed the public hearing. A motion made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to adopt Ordinance No. 332 Amending and Restating Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **Award of Bid – 2015 Tahoe**

Mr. Nyman reported on the bid for the sale of the 2015 Tahoe, which was listed on Municibid. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Taylor to award the bid for the sale of the 2015 Tahoe to Evangelos Katrakazos for the purchase price of \$7,800.00. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Public Works Laborer**

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Weldon to accept the resignation of Public Works Department Laborer James Keaton. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Taylor to hire Adam Tudhope as a full-time Public Works laborer. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **ENGINEERS REPORT**

### **2024 Road Program**

Ms. Fuller provided an overview of the 2024 Road Program and recommended awarding the base bid, Alternate 1 and Alternate 2 to Harris Blacktopping, Inc. in the amount of \$604,813.30. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Taylor to award the 2024 Road Program base bid, Alternate 1 and Alternate 2, to Harris Blacktopping Inc. in the amount of \$604,813.30. Motion carried by a 4 to 1 vote. Mr. Cino voted in opposition requesting more time to review bid specifications and results.

### **Flood Mitigation Project Proposal Houghs Creek Sediment/Debris Removal**

Ms. Fuller provided an overview of six areas along Houghs Creek noted for flood debris and sediment removal that were reviewed by Tri-State Engineers in Fall 2023 and are ready for preparation of bid specifications and advertising. Discussion followed and Mr. Cino and Mr. Thomas requested to delay action to obtain pictures and more details of the target areas. A motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Taylor to authorize the Township Engineer to develop bid specifications for Houghs Creek sediment/debris removal, and authorize advertisement of the Houghs Creek Sediment/Debris Removal Bid. Motion carried by 3- 2 vote with Mr. Cino and Mr. Thomas voting in opposition.

### **Additional Sediment/Debris Removal As Needed**

Ms. Fuller provided an overview of additional areas for sediment/debris removal. Discussion followed regarding preparation of bid documents, and it was noted that documents will come back to the Board for approval for advertisement. A motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize the Township Engineer to develop bid specifications for additional sediment/debris removal as needed. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Flood Mitigation Stormwater Assessment Considerations**

Ms. Fuller provided an overview of flood mitigation stormwater assessment considerations. Ms. Fuller explained that this is Phase 2 of the LandStudies reports of concern areas to determine feasibility of potential watershed restoration/flood mitigation projects. Following lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Weldon to authorize the Township Engineer to assess stormwater mitigation improvements and opportunities along Houghs Creek to begin with a not to exceed figure of \$15,000.00 with monthly reporting to the Board of Supervisors on the progress being made and with the understanding that the Board will consider future authorizations of expenditures to keep the project moving. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

Ms. Taylor announced that the following minutes were included in Board packets:

- Financial Advisory Committee – January 31, 2024; March 21, 2024
- Historical Advisory Commission – February 22, 2024
- Investment Committee – February 15, 2024
- Park & Recreation Board – March 11, 2024
- Planning Commission – February 21, 2024; March 20, 2024; April 17, 2024
- Traffic Advisory Committee – January 31, 2024

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Ms. Taylor announced that the following department reports were provided:

- Planning & Zoning Department
- Finance Department
- Fire Departments
- Emergency Services
- Fire Marshal
- Police Department
- Public Works Department

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

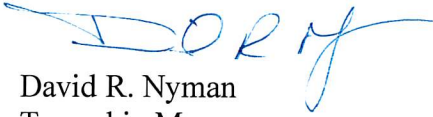
Priscilla Linden, 50 Dillon Way, expressed support of the Board's efforts toward flood control and hears from neighbors that this is their biggest concern in the Township. She inquired about the schedule for federal funding associated with Covid 19.

Heather Kouveras, 997 Swayze Road, thanked the Board for their efforts regarding flood control and encouraged continued swift action for the protection of the neighbors. Ms. Kouveras offered members to visit her property to view the creek.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Mr. Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Nyman  
Township Manager  
Approved: June 4, 2024