

Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors
September 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The September 7, 2011 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Bud Baldwin at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Bud Baldwin, Vice Chair Tom Cino, Treasurer Mary Ryan, Member Dave Kulig and Member Dan Rattigan. 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.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Resolution No. 2011-009-07-01 – September 11, 2001 Remembrance

Mr. Baldwin read into the record the Resolution, recognizing the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks. A motion was made by Mr. Rattigan and was seconded by Mr. Cino to approve Resolution No. 2011-09-07-01. Motion unanimously approved.

Hurricane Irene Update

Ms. Teoli recognized the efforts of the township staff during the Hurricane Irene event. She then turned the presentation over to Emergency Management Coordinator Rob Kay, who provided an update regarding storm response. He then urged residents who have not already done so to register with ReadyNotify to receive emergency alerts via cell phone and/or email, and he also stressed the importance of specifying that we are located in Upper Makefield Township, Pennsylvania when calling 9-1-1 from a cell phone.

Presentation of Financial Statements – December 31, 2010

CPA Craig Burton of Burton & Browse LLP presented the 2010 Financial Statements, noting that the firm took a risk-based audit approach, utilizing statistical sampling. He then led the Board through the document, highlighting various sections of the report. Mr. Burton concluded with a general statement that the township is well run.

September 11, 2001 Remembrance - continued

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the tenth anniversary of the September 11, 2001 tragedy. Recognized Vietnam Veteran and 9/11 survivor, David Christian provided commentary.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Donald Pearson of Kurfiss/Sotheby's introduced the current and proposed owners of Bowman's Tavern on River Road and offered to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the new business.

Ellen Lane-Novits, Dunkin Drive, reported on discussions she has had with the Township Manager regarding a public meeting regarding electric company choice. She also commented on solar panels located on telephone poles in New Jersey.

Larry Breeden, Bankers Drive, announced that there would be a reading of the United States Constitution at Washington Crossing Park on September 17th at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE:

A motion was made by Mr. Kulig and was seconded by Mr. Rattigan to approve the August 3, 2011 minutes. Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Ms. Teoli directed attention to the bills list for September 7, 2011. A motion was made by Mr. Kulig and was seconded by Ms. Ryan to approve the September 7, 2011 Bills Payable list in the amount of \$338,526.41. Motion carried on a unanimous vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING ISSUES:

Muller Property Title Issue Discussion, Highland Road

Ed Murphy, Esq. represented the property owners and provided an overview of the request for a plan of correction to reconvey a strip of land identified as an access easement. An error was made during a 1989 sale involving an adjacent property, and the owners of the neighboring property are in agreement with the correction to transfer the title back to the Mullers. Following discussion, the Board indicated, by common consensus its agreement and support for the change.

Giagnoacova Planning Module Exemption, 90 Highland Road

Mr. Kuhns provided an overview of the Sewage Facilities Planning Module Exemption Request to allow the construction of a septic system to service a new home. After discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Kulig to approve the Planning Module Exemption Request. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

There was no Solicitor's Report.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Pension Funds – Annual Minimum Municipal Obligation

Ms. Teoli reported on a letter that was recently distributed to the Board of Supervisors indicating that the amount of the Minimum Municipal Obligation that is required for the two pension funds in 2012 is \$407,590, with approximately \$145,000 offset by anticipated State aid.

Eccologix Deer Management Program Proposal

Ms. Teoli provided an overview of the proposal of Eccologix to continue to administer the deer management program in Upper Makefield Township at no cost to the township. Hunter qualifications and insurance coverages will be maintained. After discussion, the Board agreed, by common consensus to allow Eccologix to continue the program. Mr. Kulig indicated his desire that Eccologix sign a Letter of Agreement with the Township outlining the details of the arrangement, including insurance coverages.

2012 Budget Process

Ms. Teoli reported that she has been meeting with department heads and consultants to discuss 2012 budget requests and is in the process of developing a draft budget. She proposed the following schedule for 2012 Budget meetings: Budget Workshops on September 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm and on September 26, 2011 at 6:00 pm; presentation of Preliminary 2012 Budget in October.

Ms. Ryan requested that the staff work to include a tax reduction in the draft budget.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Resolution No. 2011-09-07-02 – Stoopville Road-Phase II – Amendment to Reimbursement Agreement

Mr. Young provided an overview of the resolution authorizing execution of a letter of amendment to the General Reimbursement Agreement for the Stoopville Road Phase II project. Following discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Kulig to approve Resolution No. 2011-09-07-02. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update to Upper Makefield Township Website

Ms. Ryan provided an overview of recent changes made to the township website.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND MEDIA QUESTIONS:

There were no additional public comments or media questions.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Approved: September 21, 2011