

**Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors**  
**March 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

The March 15, 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 William Oetinger, Esq., Township Engineer Larry Young and Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester.

**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:

- The first Household Hazardous Waste Collection event of 2022 will be held April 2 from 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. rain or shine, at Bucks County Community College Newtown Campus. Visit [BucksCounty.org](http://BucksCounty.org) for more information.
- Township parks will open for the season on April 1.

Mr. Weldon announced that the recent BCATO conference approved resolutions dealing with the legalization of cannabis, global climate change and prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

Ms. Taylor announced that the Council Rock School District is conducting a superintendent search and a community survey is available on the District website.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS PAYABLE**

A motion was made by Dr. Ford and was seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve the March 1, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Cino read into the record the bills list for March 15, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and was seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the March 15, 2022 Bills Payable List in the amount of \$179,163.49. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

The Solicitor's Report is in Board packets.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Affirm EAC Chair**

A motion was made by Mr. Weldon and seconded by Ms. Taylor to affirm Kathryn Benson as EAC Chair for the year 2022. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**2022 Stone/Asphalt Bid**

Mr. Nyman provided an overview of the 2022 Stone and Asphalt Bid. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Taylor to award the 2022 Stone and Asphalt Bid to

Chalfont Materials, Eureka Stone Quarry, Inc. and Hanson Aggregates BMC, Inc., as detailed in the Bruce Scott memo dated March 9, 2022. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Joint Zoning Council**

Mr. Nyman provided an overview of the request from the Jointure to contribute toward the cost of a videographer to record hybrid meetings. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Ford to approve an expenditure of \$1,135.00 which represents Upper Makefield's percentage of the costs of a meeting videographer. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Part-Time Permit Clerk**

A motion was made by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Dr. Ford to hire Patrice O'Rourke for the part time Permit Clerk position in the Planning & Zoning Department. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Board and Committee Appointments**

Mr. Cino provided an overview of the process to date, which included volunteer interviews, reappointments and establishment of a Traffic Advisory Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Ford to appoint Planning and Zoning Director Denise Burmester to the Agricultural Security Advisory Board for a term which expires December 31, 2022. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appoint Brenda Slack to the Agricultural Security Advisory Board. Discussion followed.

Mr. Weldon and Ms. Taylor expressed dissatisfaction with the process to appoint new volunteers and with the intended volunteer placement, noting that some committees have not met regularly and volunteer resources would not be utilized fully.

Mr. Thomas and Dr. Ford stated that they believe the process was fair and thorough, and they encouraged attendance and participation at public meetings.

Based on Board discussion, Mr. Cino tabled further consideration of volunteer appointments.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

There was no Engineer's Report.

The meeting was recessed at 8:00 p.m. to await the arrival of counsel for the Zoning Hearing Board applicants. The meeting was reconvened at 8:11 p.m.

### **PLANNING & ZONING ISSUES**

#### **Laurenzano Zoning Hearing Board Application, 1524 Pebbletown Road**

Joe Blackburn, Esq., represented the applicant and provided an overview of the request for a variance from floodplain soils disturbance for construction of an addition, installation of a pool, driveway extension and parking area. Discussion followed.

Dr. Ford suggested consideration of the establishment of a no mow zone along the Canal.

A motion was made by Dr. Ford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to take a neutral position with the recommendation that a 50 foot no mow zone be established from the margin of the Canal and included in documents recordable against the property. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Kaniewski Ranch LLC Zoning Hearing Board Application, 2955 Windy Bush Road**

Joe Blackburn, Esq., represented the applicant and provided an overview of the request for a variance from agricultural soils disturbance for the construction of a six lot subdivision with 5 new single-family dwellings. Discussion followed.

Dr. Ford expressed opposition to any disturbance of agricultural soils.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Cino to take a neutral position on the application with the recommendation of a conservation easement on the 17 acres to preserve the open space as well as a Declaration against further subdivision on the entire property. The motion carried by 4-1 vote with Dr. Ford voting in opposition.

**BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

Mr. Cino announced that the November 18, 2021 Investment Committee minutes were included in Board packets.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Mr. Cino announced that the following department reports were included in the Board packets:

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

Mr. Thomas stated that as the PSATS voting delegate for the upcoming conference, he would represent the majority of the Board when voting on resolutions before that group. He expressed personal opposition to the legalization of cannabis, but will poll the other members so that his vote will represent Board majority. Dr. Ford also expressed opposition to the legalization of cannabis based on his experiences as a medical professional.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Ford and was seconded by Mr. Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Nyman  
Township Manager  
Approved: April 5, 2022