

**Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors
January 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The January 16, 2024 meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Ms. Taylor at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Yvette Taylor, Treasurer Braun Taylor, Member Tom Cino and Member Tim Thomas. Vice Chair Ben Weldon participated by telephone. Also in attendance were Township Manager David R. Nyman, Assistant Township Manager Judy Caporiccio, Township Solicitor Mary Eberle, Township Engineer Amanda Fuller, P.E., Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester and Chief Mark Schmidt.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Taylor made the following announcements:

- Supervisor Ben Weldon is participating by telephone this evening.
- Prior to this evening's meeting, the board held interviews for new volunteer board applicants.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Smolow, 56 Betts Drive, Traditions, congratulated the new majority and thanked Mr. Cino, Mr. Thomas and the staff for their service. He expressed disappointment in the re-organization meeting atmosphere and expressed hope that the Board would be able to work together.

Dr. Ed Ford, 995 Washington Crossing Road, former supervisor, shared concerns regarding the re-organization process and statements made at that meeting that he feels were false. He noted the accomplishments of the previous Boards, citing specifically the Township's open space efforts.

Harry Barfoot, 124 Beaumont Drive, expressed hope the Board could work together. As a member of both the EAC and the Planning Commission, he shared highlights of some of their past work, including open space and watershed protection. He then noted that the Township participates in the Community Rating System to help residents receive lower flood insurance rates and engaged Land Studies for stream evaluations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Cino and was seconded by Mr. Taylor to approve the January 2, 2024 Board of Supervisors Reorganization meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Cino to approve the January 16, 2024 Bills Payable List in the amount of \$726,913.37. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PLANNING & ZONING ISSUES

3rd Construction Zoning Hearing Board Application, 1107 General Hamilton Road

Ms. Burmester provided an overview of the 3rd Construction Zoning Hearing Board Application requesting a variance for construction of a single-family dwelling in a floodplain. The structure is proposed as a slab on grade first floor with no basement or crawl space. Architect Joel Petty was in attendance to provide further detail and answer questions. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to oppose the requested variance, with both Mr. Cino and Mr. Thomas agreeing to amend the motion to instruct the Solicitor to prepare a letter to the Zoning Hearing Board expressing the concerns of the Board. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Amended Consultant Agreement with Tri-State Engineers

A motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve the amended Consultant Agreement with Tri-State Engineers & Land Surveyors, Inc. with Larry Young as principal engineering consultant, to ensure continuity of certain Township engineering projects. Following discussion, the motion carried by a 3 to 2 vote with Mr. Cino and Mr. Thomas voting in opposition.

MANAGER'S REPORT

2024 Revised Fee Schedule

A motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Weldon to approve the 2024 Revised Fee Schedule to include the recently appointed Township Engineers, Gilmore & Associates. Motion carried by a 3 to 2 vote with Mr. Cino and Mr. Thomas voting in opposition.

Deer Ridge Site Work Construction Escrow Release No. 4 (Final)

Mr. Nyman presented the Site Work Construction Escrow Release Request No. 4 (Final) and recommended approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cino and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Deer Ridge Site Work Construction Escrow Release No. 4 (Final) in the amount of \$85,973.93. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Township Engineer Amanda Fuller was introduced and welcomed to the Township.

BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS

- Ms. Taylor announced that the January 4, 2023 Board of Elected Auditors minutes were included in Board Packets.

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

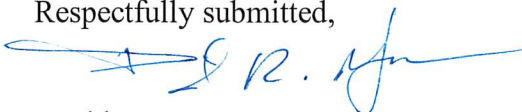
PUBLIC COMMENT

Priscilla Linden, 50 Dillon Way, expressed disappointment at the antagonism occurring on the Board and recommended greater transparency.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Taylor to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Nyman

Approved: February 6, 2024