



## UPPER PROVIDENCE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 MEETING

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Board of Supervisors:** Philip Barker, Chairman; Lisa Mossie, Vice Chairman; Albert Vagnozzi, Supervisor. **Staff Present:** Timothy J. Tieperman, Township Manager; Bryan Bortnichak, Assistant Township Manager; Joshua Overholt, Fire Marshal; and Mark Toomey, Chief of Police **Consultants Present:** Edward Skypala, Township Solicitor, William Dingman, Township Engineer; Geoff Grace Planning Consultant.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Barker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF BILL LIST**

#### **1. August 11, 2016 – August 31, 2016: \$646,278.36**

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to approve the bill list from August 11, 2016– August 31, 2016 totaling \$646,278.36. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **2. August 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to approve the amended minutes as presented to the Board before the meeting by Mr. Tieperman. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Thomas DiBello, President of the Spring Ford Area School Board, thanked the Board of Supervisors for working with the school district to address school bus stop safety.

### **OLD BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):**

#### **3. Consider adoption of Resolution 2016-40 to approve a lease purchase arrangement for new self-contained breathing apparatus.**

Mr. Tieperman summarized this Resolution and asked the Board to authorize the lease purchase for new self-contained breathing apparatus using recurring grant funds to defray the cost of the eleven breathing apparatus and accessories.

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to adopt Resolution No. 2016-40, authorizing a Master Lease with Fulton Bank, N.A. for the lease purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatus. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):****4. Consider adoption of Resolution No. 2016-42 approving Willowbrook Lane Sewer Grant Application.**

Mr. Tieperman summarized this Resolution. This Resolution authorizes a grant application through the Commonwealth Financing Authority, which if awarded will help fund the Willowbrook Lane Sanitary Sewer Connection servicing eleven (11) existing residential homes.

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to adopt Resolution No. 2016-42, which approved the submission of a PA Small Water and Sewer Program Grant and authorized the Township Manager and Board Chairman to execute all documents and agreements between the Township and the Commonwealth Financing Authority. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**5. Consider a process for assessing our local ambulance service providers.**

In preparation for a discussion on Township ambulance services, Chairman Barker asked Mr. Tieperman to provide some background information on this issue. Mr. Tieperman provided a brief summary of the Board's 2016 goals workshop, in which seven (7) issues were identified, one of which was fire and emergency services, of which ambulance services was a subsection. He used altitude metaphors (50,000 feet, 10,000 feet, etc) to describe the progressive level of detail expended at the Staff level to develop action plans to address these issues.

Mr. Tieperman explained that he formed an emergency services task force comprising the police chief, assistant manager, fire marshal, and BOS Chair to help him untangle the complex web of issues currently affecting emergency services. In regards to the ambulance issue in particular, he explained that Supervisor Vagnozzi provided him with a substantial amount of data regarding ambulance response times in Upper Providence, for which Mr. Vagnozzi was advocating the preparation of a questionnaire to be sent to all area ambulance companies. The task force reviewed this information and agreed that further evaluation was warranted. He explained that any substantive action needs to be in a public forum on a public policy issues as serious as this one. Additionally, Mr. Barker stated the Board should be unanimous in pursuing the next steps; hence, the public agenda item on this issue this evening.

Mr. Kathy Turner (411 Egypt Road) approached the Board and voiced her concerns on this issue. Ms. Turner acknowledged that ambulances services must be addressed but went on to ask the Board to make the Fire Department a priority.

Prior to Ms. Turner's public comment, there was an intense discussion between Supervisors Mossie and Vagnozzi on the urgency and the underlying motivations for pursuing any ambulance initiatives at this time. Chairman Barker promptly tabled any further discussion on this matter until a future date and time.

**6. Hear presentation on Citizens Fire Academy and other firefighter volunteer initiative.**

Mr. Joshua Overholt, Director of Fire and Emergency Services, delivered a presentation on recruitment and retention strategies for our local fire services. One of his proposed strategies is a Citizens Fire Academy which is scheduled to begin on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2016. During the presentation, Mr. Overholt outlined the goals for the training program and encouraged residents to participate. Aside from the Citizens Fire Academy, Mr. Overholt also identified other fire recruitment and retention strategies.

**MANAGER'S REPORT****7. Public Financial Management Group (PFM) Engagement Letter**

Mr. Tieperman stated that the Township has reached a point in the capital budgeting process whereby the Township needs to engage a professional firm to help find the most cost effective ways to finance future projects. Mr. Tieperman asked for the Board's authorization to engage PFM Group for financial investment management. He explained that PFM will be part of a finance team to help the Township craft prudent finance strategies without an overreliance on pay-go financing.

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to authorize Mr. Tieperman to engage PFM for financial investment advisory services. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**8. Kapusta Architects Engagement Letter**

Mr. Tieperman asked for the Board's authorization to engage Kapusta Architects for the next building and renovation phase at the Black Rock municipal campus. Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to engage Richard Kapusta and Company Architects and Planners to begin work on the Black Rock municipal campus, as outlined in it August 1, 2016 engagement letter. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**9. Ratification of South Mennonite Road Trail Easements**

Mr. Tieperman asked for the Board's ratification of the following easements related to the South Mennonite Trail Project:

- Natalie Amann (450 South Mennonite Road) – Parcel# 61-00-03633-88-7
- Warner Farm, LLC (383 South Mennonite Road) – Parcel# 61-00-03634-22-9
- William & Renee Byrne (447 South Mennonite Road) – Parcel# 61-00-03633-90-5

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi to ratify the easements for the South Mennonite Road Trail as listed above. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**10. Funding Request Letter – Montgomery County Libraries**

Mr. Tieperman reviewed an August 19, 2016 letter from Kathleen Arnold-Yerger, Executive Director of Montgomery County Public Libraries requesting its 2016 allocation of \$15,000. Ms. Yerger plans to address the Board at its October 3, 2016 meeting. Chairman Barker suggested deferring any formal action on this funding request until that meeting. Supervisors Mossie and Vagnozzi agreed.

**11. Schedule 2016 Road Tour**

Mr. Tieperman asked the Board for a mutually acceptable date for its annual road tour. The Board selected September 14<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon.

**CONSULTANT REPORTS****12. Mennonite Road Updates**

Mr. Dingman summarized the ongoing work on South Mennonite Road. He announced that the trail has been successfully installed. Mr. Dingman asked for the Board's authorization to engage SJM construction for base paving in front of the new curb on South Mennonite Road. Mr. Dingman confirmed that the Township will supply the 75 tons of asphalt required.

Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to authorize SJM Construction to complete the South Mennonite Road construction project in the amount of \$10,261.15, as summarized in its 9/1/2016 proposal. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

### **13. Winding Ridge Drive Curb Replacement**

Mr. Dingman provided a brief report on this project, which he stated he stated is proceeding on schedule and within budget.

### **SUPERVISORS COMMENTS**

Mr. Vagnozzi commended the prior Board for agreeing to hire full-time career firefighters. He reported on an August 26, 2016 fire, in which the Township's career staff was the first to arrive. He reiterated that without their fast response, the resulting damage would have been more substantial.

### **14. Upper Providence Township Community Day: September 17, 2016**

Mr. Barker announced that Community Day will be held on September 17, 2016 at Anderson Farm Park. Festivities begin at 1:00 p.m. with fireworks at 8:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business Mrs. Mossie motioned, seconded by Mr. Vagnozzi, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:



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Timothy J. Tieperman, Township Manager/Secretary