

UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
July 11, 2022

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this meeting was held hybrid. Questions and comments from the public will be taken during the public comment portion of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Laura Obenski.

Present: Supervisors: Mayme Baumann (Via Zoom), Laura Obenski and Bill Miller; Township Manager Scott Greenly; Assistant Township Manager/Secretary Katie Churchill; Building & Zoning Official Tara Giordano; Township Treasurer Sue Bernhard; Police Chief Scott Alexander; Building Inspector Lee Ruth Township Engineer Dan Daley and Township Solicitor Mark Freed.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2022 meeting and Mrs. Baumann seconded. Ms. Obenski asked for public comment, there being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

Reports:

Police: Chief Alexander reported that for the month of June 1,014 entries were documented into the call reporting system. The department issued 130 traffic citations, 28 traffic accidents, and made 17 arrests. Two motor carrier traffic details were performed resulting in 750 trucks weighed, 6 of which are overweight. Narcan was administered one time.

Chief Alexander noted that during the inspections Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Stickers were issued. These stickers recognize vehicles owner/operators that are in good order.

Year to date the officers have answered 6,237 calls for service and arrested 73 individuals. The department issued 600 traffic citations, 151 written warning, investigated 181 traffic accidents and weighed 1,328 commercial motor vehicles.

Treasurer: Ms. Bernhard reported that in the month of June the Township has collected just under 58% of its budgeted revenues for the year and spent just over 47% of its budgeted expenses.

Public Works: Mr. Greenly reported that for the month of June the daily average flow was 1.5 million gallons per day. There were no new connections to the Dara or Eagleview treatment plants.

The Public Works Department responded to 155 PA One Calls. The department cleared catch-basins and culverts, finished all catch-basin repairs in Williamsburg development. Repaired the blacktop sunken areas on Cornell, Whitford, Connery and Taylor for traffic safety until the projects are complete. The department was out to cut back tree limbs on Brittney and Evan, Saddle and Twp. Line and on Peck at Conerys Way. The department completed state inspections of trucks and trailers as well as all vehicle maintenance.

Fire Marshal: Mr. Ruth reported that during the month of June the Building Department issued 194 permits for construction projects, had 134 inspections and issued 69 use and occupancy certificates. There were 17 fire responses for the month with 2 burning complaints.

Lionville Fire Company: Mr. Ruth reported that the Fire Company responded to 64 alarms during the month of June. Of those, 40 were in Uwchlan Township, 11 in Upper Uwchlan, 5 in West Pikeland, and 8 in other Townships. Year to date there have been 245 fire responses.

Uwchlan Ambulance Corps: No report was given.

Mrs. Baumann made a motion to accept the reports as given and Mr. Miller seconded. Ms. Obenski asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

BUSINESS:

1. Devon Drive Traffic Update

Mr. Greenly explained that Downingtown Area School District submitted a sketch plan for improvements to Downingtown East High School. This plan is expected to be submitted in the fall. The plan will include traffic patterns at and around Devon Dr addressing known problem areas.

Board discussion included: the anticipated timeline as well as discussion around the project during the July 6th Planning Commission meeting. This meeting is available on the Township website for review.

Public discussion: Steven Steinman spoke to the growth of the township and school population and thanked the board for addressing the traffic concerns.

2. Awarding BID for Non-Prevailing Wage Maintenance Paving

Ms. Churchill explained that the Township held a second bid opening on Thursday July 7th for Non-Prevailing Wage Maintenance Paving. No bids were received for the second time. At this time the Township will begin the process of looking for the most responsible contractor.

3. Approval for Hiring two Police Officers

Chief Alexander explained that in early 2022 the police department received permission advertise and start the hiring process. There are two candidates who have successfully completed the steps required for hire. Chief Alexander requested the Board approve the hire:

Jason O'Neil currently with West Chester Borough with a swearing in date of July 26, 2022

Timothy Kaufman currently with Pottstown Police Department with a swearing in date of August 8, 2022

Mrs. Baumann made a motion to appoint Jason O'Neil and Timothy Kaufman to the Uwchlan Township Police Department and Mr. Miller seconded. Ms. Obenski asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

4. Originating Agency Identifier – Appointment of Enforcement Officers

Chief Alexander explained that every law enforcement agency in the state has an originating identifying number associated with their organization. This number allows paperwork filed with the courts to be tracked and linked to the individual agency. Previously the Police Department would work with the Code Enforcement office to provide that number when needed. Mr. Alexander explained that there is a provision that allows the Code Enforcement Department to receive their own Originating Agency Identifier number and will allow for the two departments to be identified as their own entities.

Mrs. Baumann made a motion for the creation of an originating agency identifier with the appointment of Tara Giordano and Katie Churchill as enforcement officers and Ms. Mr. Miller seconded. Ms. Obenski asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

5. Request for Block Party – Chris Hardering, 650 Norwood Road- August 13th 2:00 pm – dusk

Mr. Hardering of 650 Norwood Rd spoke to the board and explained that they had a successful neighborhood block party last year and would like to do it again this year. Mr. Hardering is requesting permission to hold a block party on August 13th from 2pm-dusk for a neighborhood block party.

Mrs. Baumann made a motion to grant the request of Chris Hardering to hold a block party on Norwood Rd. and Ms. Mr. Miller seconded. Ms. Obenski asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

6. Jones Pond Park Update

Mr. Greenley explained that since the last Board meeting in June the Parks and Recreation Committee held a special meeting on July 6th to discuss the ongoing issues at Jones Pond Park. This allowed the Township to explain what was going on and hear the concerns of the committee as well as the public.

Mr. Greenley gave a brief overview of the issue explained that Jones Pond is a man made pond located on Dowlin Forge Rd. Due to an increase in recent storm activity the pond has encountered changes in the water pattern and eco systems of the pond at nearby Shamona Creek. During Hurricane Ida the pipe that supplied the pond was washed away and the creek itself moved creating a problem with water supply to the pond.

Dan Daley, Township Engineer gave a brief overview of the more recent history of the pond and ecological concerns that have been addressed with DEP surrounding the pond and water sourcing in the past. Explaining that currently the pond does not receive any fresh water. Mr. Daley discussed potential issues given the current state of Jones Pond

based on knowledge gained from other similar scenarios. At this time no data has been collected and studied from the area.

Board Comment:

Mrs. Baumann acknowledged the residents for voicing concerns surrounding the Jones Pond area. Mrs. Baumann thanked Mr. Dailey for providing the information and asked him to share more information on the current classification of Shamona Creek.

Mr. Miller suggested that the Township needs to look into all alternatives for the Jones Pond Park area and recognized that \$130,000.00 is about 1% of the yearly budget. Although, not the deciding factor Mr. Miller raised the point that the sum of money could be spent and with the next significant rain event could be washed away again.

Mrs. Obenski addressed the residents who have reached out regarding Jones Park Pond. There are still many questions that have come up and pieces that need to be looked into before decisions are made. Mrs. Obenski made note that this includes a response from the EAC.

The Board of Supervisors reinforced the gratitude for the public interest, stories and comments. Each member spoke to their commitment to gathering information to ensure all aspects of the project will be looked at in great detail before a decision is made.

Public Comment:

Art Rothy spoke in favor of restoring the pond

Ruth Osborn presented the petition that has been circulated and spoke in favor of restoring the pond.

Jessica Becker thanked the Board for looking into this issue further. She suggested fund raising and looking into grant money to supplement funding to restore the pond.

Leslie Soster urged the Board to look into restoring the pond to help manage the ongoing storm water management issues.

Jim Osbourn wanted to clarify that the information given by Township Engineer was general information regarding ponds and not specific to Jones Pond. Mr. Daley confirmed that no analysis has been specifically gathered from the Jones Pond site. Tyler Maze spoke in favor of restoring the pond as well as making improvements to storm water surrounding the area. He spoke to concerns around the time that it has taken to address the issue. Are there disaster relief funds available?

Rita Jones, of Jones Pond, former resident spoke to the history of the pond and the storm water issues. Urging the Township to look at and research all options before making a decision.

Kim Collins would like to see the Township look at all options for funding and fixes for the pond.

Scott Becker wants to ensure that solutions are being looked into.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: *All meetings will be at the Township building unless otherwise noted*

1. Wednesdays – Yoga in the Park @ Baird Park – 9:30 am
2. 07/13 – No Yoga in the Park – will resume 7/20
3. 07/14 – Historical Commission – 7:30 pm – Cadwalader House, 21 N Village Ave
4. 07/15 – Uwchlan Township Industrial Development Authority – 9:00 am
5. 07/19 – Community Day Committee – 7:00 pm
6. 07/21 - Environmental Advisory Council – 7:00 pm
7. 07/27 – Zoning Hearing Board – 7:00 pm – Target Sign Variances
8. 08/03 – Planning Commission – 7:30 pm
9. 08/11 – Historical Commission - 7:30 pm
10. 08/15 – Board of Supervisors – 7:30 pm (Rescheduled from August 8, 2022)

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Steven Swymer asked that the Board look into the current noise ordinance, specifically Downingtown East Marching Band being exempt from the ordinance.

There being no other business Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 p.m., Ms. Obenski seconded, and the motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Gillen