

UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
August 15, 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 Chairperson Mayme Baumann.

Present: Supervisors: Mayme Baumann, 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 and Township Solicitor Mark Freed.

Mrs. Baumann noted that there were executive sessions held on June 2nd and July 22nd 2022 to discuss personnel matters.

Ms. Obenski made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2022, meeting and Mr. Miller seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment, there being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

Reports:

Police: Chief Alexander reported that for the month of July 948 entries were documented into the call reporting system. The department issued 88 traffic citations, issued 35 written warnings, investigated 25 traffic accidents, and made 12 arrests.

Year to date the officers have answered 7,185 calls for service and arrested 85 individuals. The department issued 688 traffic citations, 186 written warning, investigated 1,328 traffic accidents.

Treasurer: Ms. Bernhard reported that in the month of April Township has collected just under 62% of its budgeted revenues for the year and spent just under 55% of its budgeted expenses.

Public Works: Mr. Greenly reported that for the month of July the daily average flow was 1.387 million gallons per day. There was no new connection to the Dara or Eagleview treatment plants.

The Public Works Department responded to 131 PA One Calls. The department repaired a leak in a storm-pipe on Williamsburg, replaced 90 feet of crushed spring water pole in the Amber Cul-de-sac. The department also temporarily patched a hole in a storm-pipe on Misty Autumn as they continue to investigate the cause as well as replacing two failed catch-basins and the pipe along with pouring new headwalls on Horseshoe.

In addition, the department preformed state inspections of trucks and trailers as well as regular maintenance and service of equipment as necessary.

Mr. Greenly noted that the Paving program was pushed back a week and will now be starting on Monday, August 22nd.

Fire Marshal: Ms. Giordano reported that during the month of July the Building Department issued 103 permits for construction projects, had 165 inspections and issued 71 use and occupancy certificates. There were 17 fire responses for the month, 1 open burning complaint.

Lionville Fire Company: Ms. Giordano reported that the Fire Company responded to 45 alarms during the month of July. Of those, 45 were in Uwchlan Township, 20 in Upper Uwchlan, 6 in West Pikeland, and 12 in other Townships.

Uwchlan Ambulance Corps: Ms. Cozzone reported that there were 456 calls for service in July, 126 of those were in Uwchlan Township.

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

BUSINESS:

1. Devon Drive Traffic Update

Mr. Greenly explained that the Township expects to receive a plan submission from the Downingtown Area School District in September. A large part of that plan includes both traffic and pedestrian safety in the surrounding area including Devon Dr. Part of the plan is expected to be a traffic study completed in September. Once all of the information is formally received by the Township it will be reviewed by Township consultants. It will then be brought before the Township Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for discussion.

Public Comments:

Mr. Swymer revisited the comments he made in the July meeting regarding the noise ordinance and the exemption for specific neighborhoods regarding school district and Township events. He also addressed the traffic concerns around Devon Dr and Rt. 113.

Mr. Greenly explained that the Township is researching this matter to determine the background of the exemption in the ordinance. It was also noted that the traffic is a large part of the plan to be submitted by DASD. The DASD plan submission is expected to be at both the September Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meeting.

2. Jones Pond Park Update

Mr. Greenly explained that the Township is currently working with the proper permitting bodies including the DEP. At this point the Township is working on gathering as much information as possible to bring back before the board for discussion and decision.

Public Comments:

Mr. Rothe spoke to the board and asked again that they look at the area and clear and reconstruct the area to allow water flow he believes naturally occurs.

Mr. Greenly explained that the Township is aware and is researching the area in ongoing efforts to gather information in Jones Pond Park.

3. Consider Additional Financial Contribution to the Uwchlan Ambulance Company

Ms. Cozzone asked the board to consider an additional contribution of \$30,000 in 2022. Ms. Cozzone expressed gratitude for the previous contribution as well as the Townships support of the near funding formula that Uwchlan Ambulance hopes to put into place. Ms. Cozzone explained that the organization is struggling with the financial burdens faced.

Mr. Miller made a motion to make an additional contribution of \$30,000 to Uwchlan Ambulance Company and Ms. Obenski seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

4. Approval for Hiring a new Police Officer

Chief Alexander explained that the Police Department was granted permission in January of 2022 to begin the application, testing and hiring process to fill open positions within the department. Chief Alexander is asking for permission to fill the last of those positions by extending an offer to Matthew Lanshe, currently with the West Chester University Police Department, with a swearing in date of August 29, 2022.

Mrs. Obenski made a motion to approve the hiring of Matthew Lanshe to the Uwchlan Township Police Department and Mr. Miller seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

5. DEP LCAP Program Participation Approval

Mr. Greenly explained that this is a program offered through the DEP with Penn State University offering assistance to municipalities in creating a climate action plan. Dedicated students from PSU work with the Township directly to create a local climate action plan. The Township has applied and accepted into the program and is now asking for formal approval to move forward with this plan.

Mrs. Obenski made a motion to approve the participation in the DEP LCAP program and Mr. Miller seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

6. Permission to Advertise Ordinance Appointing Portnoff Law Associates for the Collection of Unpaid Claims and Amending Collection Fees

Mr. Greenly explained that the township has been using Portnoff Law Associates to process collections of past due tax and sewer/trash bills. Portnoff is looking to amend the fee schedule, the Township is asking to advertise.

Mr. Miller made a motion to grant permission to advertise an ordinance appointing Portnoff Law Associates for the collection of unpaid claims and amending collection fees Ms. Obenski seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

7. Permission to Advertise Single-Use Plastics Ordinance

Mr. Freed explained the single use plastics ordinance in which it will ban three types of plastic being used in business in Uwchlan township. Those include single use plastic “grocery type” bags, polystyrene food containers (Styrofoam) and single use plastic straws by commercial establishments. The Township is asking the Boards permission to advertise the single-use plastics ordinance.

Mr. Miller made a motion to grant permission to advertise single- use plastics ordinance and Ms. Obenski seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

8. Permission to Advertise BID for Winter Snow Removal Contractors

Ms. Churchill explained that in preparation for the winter months the Township is asking permission to advertise for bids for winter snow removal contractors.

Ms. Obenski made a motion to grant permission to advertise BID for winter snow removal contractors and Mr. Miller seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

9. Consider waiver of Permit Application Fee for Lionville Elementary Outdoor Stage

Ms. Giordano explained that during the July meeting Lionville Elementary requested a waiver for the gazebo for an outdoor classroom. As part of the same project, they are constructing a 26x12 foot stage area that will require a separate permit. The permit application fee is \$554.50, there is also an additional charge of \$100 for the contractor registration. It was explained that the contractor listed is a parent who will be doing the work himself along with parent volunteers.

Mr. Miller made a motion to add waiving the contractor registration fee for the construction of Lionville Elementary outdoor stage to the agenda and Ms. Obenski seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller made a motion to grant waiver for permit application fee and contractor registration fee for Lionville Elementary outdoor stage and Ms. Obenski seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution #2022-10- Amendment to Uwchlan Township Pension Plan

Mr. Greenly explained that this ordinance will include two minor changes to the Pension Plan. The first allows employees to opt in biannually instead of annually as it currently states. The second will lower the minimum age for participation from 21 to 18. Mr. Greenly noted that all employees will still be subject to the 6-month probationary period.

Ms. Obenski made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-10 Amendment to Uwchlan Township pension plan and Mr. Miller seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being none, the motion was carried unanimously.

2. Resolution #2022-11- Recommending Legislation for the Establishment of "Sensitive Places"

Mr. Freed explained that this resolution relates to a recent the U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down a New York State gun law. The resolution urges state lawmakers grant municipalities the authority to designate areas within their jurisdiction as "sensitive places" where the possession of firearms can be regulated, or pass state-wide legislation defining and designating such temporary and permanent "sensitive places"

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-11 urging state lawmakers to pass legislation authorizing or designating sensitive places for the regulation of firearm possession consistent with the recent decision of the US Supreme Court and Ms. Obenski seconded. Mrs. Baumann asked for public comment. There being no additional comments, the motion was carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The Board members each took a moment to offer comments on Resolution #2022-11

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

1. Wednesdays - Yoga in the Park @ Baird Park - 9:30 am
2. 08/16 - Community Day Committee - 7:00 pm
3. 08/18 - Environmental Advisory Council - 7:00 pm
4. 08/20 - Community Day- Lionville Park- 3:00 pm
5. 09/05 - Labor Day- Township Offices Closed
6. 09/07 - Planning Commission - 7:30 pm
7. 09/08 -Historical Commission - 7:30 pm - Cadwalader House
8. 09/12 - Board of Supervisors - 7:30 pm

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Ms. Clickner on behalf of the Chester County Library spoke to the many programs they have coming up in the fall and encouraged all residents to visit the library and if they don't already get a library card.

There being no other business Mrs. Obenski made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 p.m., Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Gillen