

UPPER FREDERICK TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2023

The regular monthly meeting for March 2023 was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 PM.

OFFICIALS/CONSULTANTS IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Frisco, Chairman; Thomas Trojansky, Supervisor; Tracy Tackett, Township Manager; Norm Ulrich, LTL Consultants; Kenn Picardi; Matt Landis; Desra Keenan, Park Board

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: GW Goffer Sr, Tracy Harper, Bill Landman, Bill Karaffa, Les Benzak, Carolyn Coleman, William C. Morwald, William Morwald, Ellen & David Garlich, Dave Hoffman, Mike Petosa, Ed Myer, Mark Nolan, Don Cabot, Jeff Zawada, Barbara Clipp, Tracie Graham, Daniel Gilligan, Bob Ramsey, Kevin Downes, Mike Frederick, Robbie Ramsey, Bob Ramsey, Michael Downes, Michael Frederick, John & Merideth Homa, Diego Cinello, Mathew Wells, Donn Scheuren, David Hartline, Amanda Bloch, Nicole King, Bob & Penny Marriot, Frank Darcy, Tom Blair

Pledge to the Flag

Welcome Supervisor Thomas Trojansky

Mr. Frisco introduced Supervisor Trojansky and welcomed him to the Board.

Introduction of State Representative Donna Scheuren, 147th Legislative District

Ms. Scheuren introduced herself to the Board and members of the audience.

Eagle Scout Presentations

Michael Frederick presented his project to the Board, he would like to install trail markers around Wayland Park consisting of 2x4 posts roughly 4' high. These would mark out the 5k run/walk area.

Michel Downes presented his project to the Board, he would like to build and install approximately 7 bird boxes around the tree lines at Wayland Park.

Bid Opening Paving Project 2023- Faust and Sweisford Road

Bids were opened and announced by Mr. Ulrich. Bid amounts as follows: Sacks & Sons \$302,512.57, Gorecon, Inc \$363,000.00, CMR \$578,593.20, Wexcon \$613,075.00, Baver, Inc. \$389,422.70. Mr. Ulrich and Mr. Picardi will review the 2 lowest bids for accuracy and award the bid later in the meeting.

Public Comment

Jeff Zawada – Mr. Zawada welcomed Mr. Trojansky to the Board. He is upset that people are saying bad things about him, we should be blessed to have him in our township. He does many good things for people.

Nicole Young – Questioned Mr. Frisco on why he reached out to Abington Township during the interviews. Mr. Frisco stated Mr. Benzak previously was on a board in Abington.

Ellen Garlich -Mrs. Garlich has been hearing rumors that Montgomery County is looking to move homeless population into the Green Lane Park Campground. It was rumored that the solicitors from surrounding townships were in discussions with the county. Mr. Picardi stated this is the first he has heard of any of this. He was not approached by the county on this subject. Mrs. Garlich also stated she believes people are living in their cars and possible drug deals are happening at the park. Mrs. Tackett said she will reach out to the county to

investigate the homeless rumors. It was advised that if anyone sees anything suspicious at the park they should notify the state police.

Robert Carl Jr – Stated he has heard these rumors as well.

Merideth Homa – Mrs. Homa spoke with a park ranger who said the park is experiencing the issues that were spoken about. People are cutting locks to open gates and access the park. The park rangers stated even if they witness a crime there is nothing they can do. She was informed by the rangers of the possible homeless families moving to the park.

Mike Petosa – He stated he was told that in November or December someone reached out to our solicitor regarding relocating the homeless population to Green Lane Park and our solicitor told him it was a zoning issue. It was reiterated that Mr. Picardi was not made aware of this information before tonight's meeting nor did he have any conversations with the county pertaining to this.

Bill Karaffa – Stated that he submitted a RTK for Planning Commission February minutes, audio and notes and his request was denied. He would like to know why. Mrs. Tackett explained that minutes are only available after they have been approved by the Planning Commission at the following meeting. Mr. Picardi stated notes and audio are only for the purpose of preparing minutes, it is not the practice of the township to release this information. Mr. Karaffa stated the township should not destroy the February audio from the Planning Commission meeting in February.

Donna Scheuren – Stated that the Governors address included appropriations committee to include a booklet to be made available of grants. This will be shipped shortly. She is also looking into the earlier discussion of the homeless encampment. She will contact Mrs. Tackett if she receives more information.

MINUTES

Minutes to be approved at next meeting, Mr. Di Francesco was not in attendance tonight.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report for February 2023 was submitted and includes all funds budget and income reports and statement of cash balances. Mr. Frisco made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and file for audit. Mr. Trojansky seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0

BILLS TO BE PAID LIST

The cash disbursement report for the month of February 2023 was submitted for approval. The list of bills to be paid is included at the end of the report. The total payables for the month are \$160,541.92; Mr. Frisco made a motion to approve payment of the bills and to advance to the Treasurer the funds to pay any needed bills or expenditures, to save penalties or accrue interest and payroll, prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 13, 2023. Mr. Trojansky seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Plymouth Community Ambulance/Lower Frederick Division

The monthly report from Plymouth Ambulance was submitted and posted for review. There were 15 calls for the month of February 2023 in Upper Frederick Township.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Upper Frederick Fire Company reported there were 8 calls for the month of February 2023.

PERKIOMEN CROSSING WATER/SEWER PLANT REPORT PERKIOMEN CROSSING& IVY RIDGE

Report is posted for public review. Mr. Landis reported the plants are good. No violations to report. Mrs. Tackett, Mr. Heller and Mr. Landis did a walk through of the plant to determine future needs and repairs.

PUBLIC WORKS/ROAD REPORT

The monthly Public Works/Road report for February 2023 was presented and a copy has been posted for public review. Work included swale repair, road maintenance, resurfaced road signs, work orders as requested, and miscellaneous repairs and maintenance to equipment.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER'S REPORT

No report for February 2023

CIVIL ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Ulrich stated the monthly report for February 2023 has been updated, posted and distributed. Mrs. Tackett stated there are no significant updates.

BUILDING & ZONING REPORT

The Building and Zoning report for February 2023 was submitted by LTL Consultants and was distributed and posted. There were 4 permits issued, 6 inspections and ongoing zoning issues for the month. Mrs. Tackett stated the zoning violation for Gravel Pike is ongoing. Mr. Picardi noted the hearing was continued to April or May.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Meeting was held on February 23, 2023. Discussion included looking at updates to the water supply standards in the Subdivision and Land Development ordinance. Adaptive reuse of Historic Resources was also discussed. This would pertain to restoring properties that are not intended for single family use and allowing other uses for the buildings.

CPVRPC

Meeting was held in January. Points of discussion included: development in Lower Frederick and the sewer system, Trappe received a grant to build a park behind the township building, Collegeville is working on the Main Street project, Schwenksville has a business that would like to gain access to their property from the trail. Area flooding issues and Emergency services was also discussed.

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Parks and Recreation met on February 21, 2023. Mrs. Keenan stated the board made the decision to cancel the Swamp Creek Stomp for 2023. Community Day planning will be starting soon. They are working with the Boy Scouts on Eagles Scout projects in Wayland Park.

Manager Update

- Mrs. Tackett worked with Mr. Ulrich and Mr. Heller to revise the Faust Road projects and get bid documents out earlier than previous years. We are hoping the road bids come in under **\$380,000** Faust and Sweisford Roads.

- Mrs. Tackett received preliminary plans from the architect for possible meeting room space, but it was not consistent with the guidance originally provided to the architect, so they are reworking the concepts.
- Mrs. Tackett worked closely with Matt Landis to complete the O&M update for Perk Crossing.
- Mr. Heller and Mrs. Tackett met with our PennDOT representative regarding use of our Liquid Fuels funds to be used toward the road project. We discussed submittal requirements for compliance.
- We received a draft of the hydrant study, but we need to have the consultants clarify several components of this document before finalizing for public review.
- The pension audit occurred last week and will be finalized next week. There are no findings (violations).
- The new township sign is installed and operational.
- A site inspection of Perkiomen Crossing Water and Sewer Plants was completed with Rick Sacks, Steve Heller and Matt Landis to review current state of the operations and review projects scheduled for 2023. A summary of the meeting is forthcoming.
- Several comments have been received from residents recently regarding ways to improve transparency. The following is a summary of key items mentioned:
 1. Posting active developments on the website
 2. Posting the breakdown of EMS taxes
 3. Consider the possibility of live streaming the meetings
 4. Provide a summary of the ethics violation of 2021 and the steps that have been taken since the ethics violation to reduce potential of this happening again.
 5. Post monthly reports from our professionals on the webpage in addition to the current posting in the lobby.
 6. Have Planning Commission meet the month following a meeting to, at minimum, approve previous meeting minutes.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

New Business:

1. Paving Project 2023 – Faust & Sweisford Road – Award Bid

Mr. Frisco made a motion to award the bid to Sacks and Son's in the amount of \$302,512.57 and for LTL Consultants to issue an Apparent Low Bidder Notification Letter, providing the low bidder is both responsible and responsive, Mr. Trojansky seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Mr. Frisco made a motion to instruct LTL to issue Notice to Proceed Letter providing information required by Apparent Low Bidder Notification Letter is received and is correct. Mr. Trojansky seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0

2. Resolution 2023-02 Berks County Tax Collection Committee

The Berks County Tax Collection Executive Committee is the governing body that oversees Berks Earned Income Tax Bureau as the collector for Earned Income Taxes and other 511 taxes for Berks County school districts and their municipalities. According to the TCC Bylaws, all municipalities located within the boundaries of a single school district must collectively vote and appoint one primary delegate and one alternate delegate to represent those municipalities on the TCC Executive Committee. This means that that the primary and alternate delegates will be the same for all the municipalities collectively – each municipality does not appoint its own delegates.

At the current time, the Boyertown Area School District municipalities do not have a primary delegate to the TCC. The listed alternate is Rich Sichler from Washington Township.

The municipalities need to agree on the same primary and alternate delegate and each municipality must adopt a Resolution appointing the delegates.

Mr. Frisco made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-03, select a Berks County Tax Collection Delegate. Mr. Trojansky seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0

3. Resolution 2023-03 Perkiomen Crossing Operation & Maintenance Manual & Emergency Plan

Mrs. Tackett stated this plan has need to be update for some time. The Board agreed they would need some more time to review this document.

Old Business:

None

Public Comment:

Tracy Harper – Stated the Planning Commission meeting was very productive and not contentious. Everything was well received. Residents should plan to attend.

Nicole Young – Agrees with Ms. Harper, everyone should plan to attend the next Planning Commission meeting, it was a fun meeting.

Les Benzak – Congratulated Mr. Trojansky. He stated that he felt that because the township was coming off an ethics violation that the supervisors were tone deaf in appointing Mr. Trojansky. He hopes if Mr. Trojansky runs for supervisor he will disclose what Mr. Benzak believes is a conflict of interest being Plymouth Ambulance is a vendor for Upper Frederick Township. Inquired whether Mr. Tray has been making his required payments to the township.

William Landman – Requested Mrs. Tackett explain the historic resources further, which she did. He asked if we had more information on the proposed sewer plant in the proposed development - Mr. Ulrich explained the process and that we are only in the conceptual phases. Mr. Landman asked if we had an updated zoning map – Mrs. Tackett noted the map has not changed in several years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2023 Swamp Creek Stomp has been cancelled.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

(Check website agenda <https://www.upperfrederick.org/AgendaCenter> prior to meeting for possible cancellations)

Parks Board Meeting March 21, 2023 at 7 PM

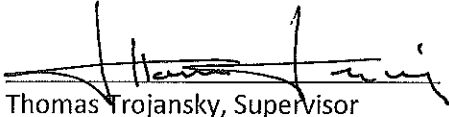
Planning Commission Meeting March 30, 2023 at 7 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Frisco motioned and Mr. Trojansky seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:43 PM.



Sean A. Frisco, Chairman



Thomas Trojansky, Supervisor