

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BOC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2022

This meeting was held in person at the Township and live streamed on our website at www.uppergwynedd.org

1. Call to order

The June 21, 2022, Public Meeting of the Upper Gwynedd Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President of the Board, Denise M. Hull at 7:00 PM. This meeting was recorded and visually taped.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Raymond Winter.

3. Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Deanna Logan, Administrative Assistant to the Township Manager. The individuals in attendance were:

Denise M. Hull	President
Katherine D. Carter	Vice President
Martha A. Simelaro	Commissioner
Liz K. McNaney	Commissioner
Nicole Feight	Township Manager
Megan Weaver	Assistant Township Manager
Lauren Gallagher	Township Solicitor
Isaac Kessler	Township Engineer
David Duffy	Chief of Police
Nathan Crittendon	Finance Director
E. Van Rieker	Zoning Officer

Commissioner Ruth S. Damsker was absent.

4. Commendation of Crossing Guard, Raymond Winter (will attend)

Chief Duffy recognized Raymond Winter for his service and dedication to the job. Mr. Winter has been a crossing guard for the Township since 2019. He was recognized for going above and beyond in the performance of his duties. Mr. Winter is assigned to a busy intersection and crosses dozens of students each school day morning and afternoon. He keeps everyone safe and goes out of his way to have positive interactions with people. Mr. Winter is very reliable and is a great asset to the Township.

Mr. Winter said it is a privilege and honor to serve the Township and thanked everyone for his commendation.

5. Recognition of Susan McKnight for 5 years of service to the Township (unable to attend)

Chief Duffy said Susan McKnight has been with the police department for five years. In addition to her administrative duties, she is assigned as the coordinator for the C100 Mobile Command Post. Susan also is one of our Public Information Officers and represents the police department and the whole Township very professionally.

6. Announcement of Executive Sessions

Ms. Feight said the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss matters of personnel.

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

7. Public comments and concerns (limit of five minutes per individual)

Carl Smith, 815 McIntosh Way, commented about high density housing and wants an explanation from this board as to why this isn't considered spot zoning and why a rezoning is being considered by the Board. He also wants to know if the Board knows the circumstances as to why Station Square was rezoned and does that same circumstance present itself to the property on Pennbrook Parkway. That tract of land was owned by Ford Motor Co., and it was contaminated and became an EPA Superfund Site. He asked if this is part of a national agenda to urbanize the suburbs, bring down property values and marginalize our way of life. Mrs. Hull said our Zoning Officer Van Rieker has reached out to your wife to discuss density as you left last month's meeting before we could get your information. She has not responded to Mr. Rieker. Mrs. Hull added we are happy to discuss density with you. She added that Mr. Rieker is planning on doing a presentation on density at next month's work session meeting.

John Gannon, 815 W. Walnut St. is concerned about the density in the township and said 78% of the housing in the past ten (10) years have been multifamily dwellings. He said the Board of Commissioners should be compelled to do what's right for the citizens.

Linda Smith, 815 McIntosh Way said her email was changed so she didn't receive Mr. Rieker's correspondence regarding density. Mrs. Hull reiterated that Mr. Rieker is doing a report next month (July 11) about what high density means in relation to Upper Gwynedd Township. Mrs. Smith asked if this was high density housing at Pennbrook Parkway to which Mrs. Hull replied no. Mrs. Zadell said an applicant makes application to the Township for land development. At this point, they have not made an application for land development so there is not a proposed development the Township is contemplating. The applicant has presented a proposed amendment to the text that staff is currently reviewing. When that amendment is considered, it will move to the UGT Planning Commission and the Montgomery County Planning Commission for review. There will be public meetings during this process which could take 3-6 months depending on the developer. The Township does not solicit for development. Once a developer submits an application, the Township has ninety (90) days to respond. Mrs. Zadell went on to say, that per the Municipal Planning Code, the Board is required to review all applications. Mrs. Smith asked if the Commissioners have any past experiences on any other boards. Mrs. McNaney said once elected the board members are offered many courses, seminars and boot camps that cover matters of zoning, planning, land development and all aspects of local government that they take.

Fred Hencken, 802 Clover Dr. commented about the 5-minute rule. He also commented about the number of developments the Board of Commissioners have approved. Mrs. McNaney corrected herself from last month and said there were three (3). Mr. Hencken said there were five or six (5 or 6) projects the board approved but were not started by this board.

George Cressman, 612 Brookwood Ln. asked the Board to think about the burdens already on the existing departments in the Township.

Denise M. Hull, PRESIDENT **Finance/Personnel/Administration**

8. Motion to approve Consent Items A – M (via roll call vote)

- A. Staff Department Reports
- B. Public Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2022
- C. Public Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2022
- D. Advertisement of 2 vacancies on the Board of Appeals
- E. Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5 for extended daily work hours and Sunday hours for B75A Renovation Project – July 22 through August 7, 2022
- F. Approval of escrow release #2 for Roosevelt Court in the amount of \$117,485.10
- G. Approval of the Ride Ataxia Bike Race on Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 8 am – 1:30 pm
- H. Approval of the fireworks contract with International Fireworks Manufacturing Co. for a 2-night total of \$13,200

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- I. Approval of Change Order #1 to TTI Environmental Inc. for the Underground Storage Tank Removal Project in the amount of \$24,509.84 bringing the new contract total to \$264,707.73
- J. Approval of Payment #1 to TTI Environmental Inc. for the Underground Storage Tank Removal Project in the amount of \$246,799.03
- K. Approval of Change order #16 to Blooming Glen Contractors for the WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Contract for Bio-Mag Piping and Valve Upgrade in the amount of \$171,500.00
- L. Approval of Payment Application #26 to Blooming Glen Contractors for the WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Project in the amount of \$171,500.01
- M. Approval of Changeorder #2 to BSI for the WIP Pump Stations Electrical Contract in the amount of \$15,800

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Simelaro, seconded by Mrs. Carter, the motion to approve the Consent Items was unanimously approved

Roll call vote:	President Hull	Aye
	Vice President Carter	Aye
	Commissioner McNaney	Aye
	Commissioner Simelaro	Aye

Katherine D. Carter, Vice President Public Safety

9. Motion to approve the amended Civil Service rules to accommodate changes in the law as recommended by the UGT Civil Service Commission

The Civil Service rules were last amended in 2019 and they were recently reviewed and updated to be consistent with the First Class Township Code.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion was unanimously approved

10. Motion to approve the Chief of Police to sign and enter into a contract with PennVet for care of police canines.

Mrs. Carter said the canines were previously under care from Telford Vet and will now be transitioned to PennVet.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion was unanimously approved

Ruth S. Damsker Zoning/Planning/Code Enforcement

11. Motion to authorize the advertisement of Ordinance 2022-02, amending Chapter 195 "Zoning" to repeal section 10.2

Mrs. Hull said this repeal is due to the current use of the district and the overlay is no longer deemed necessary or appropriate.

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion was unanimously approved

Liz K. McNaney **Public Works/Parks/Recreation**

12. Motion to approve the Proclamation for Parks & Recreation Month in July

Mrs. McNaney read the entire proclamation. Here is an excerpt from the proclamation.

WHEREAS, the Upper Gwynedd Township Parks and Recreation Department is important to maintaining a high quality of life in the community, improving the health of citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental wellbeing of Upper Gwynedd; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve air quality, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife;

Mrs. McNaney added that our Parks and Recreation Department is absolutely fantastic. Mrs. McNaney said we are currently in "Unplugged Week" with a week full of activities that encourage families to put down their devices and enjoy activities together.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. McNaney, seconded by Mrs. Carter, the motion was unanimously approved

Martha A. Simelaro **Wastewater Treatment**

13. Motion to approve the advertisement of Merck's updated 537 Plan

Mrs. Zadell asked the Board to table this item as Merck still has a little work to do before the plan can move forward.

14. Motion to approve Resolution 18-2022, Addendum #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Lansdale Borough for Merck capacity

Mrs. Simelaro said this is for extra flow going from the West Point Site to Lansdale's WWTP increasing from an average flow of 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD) to 0.72 MGD.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Simelaro, seconded by Mrs. Carter, the motion was unanimously approved

15. Motion to approve Resolution 19-2022 authorizing emergency purchasing action at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mrs. Simelaro said the emergency purchases are due to some Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) because of recent heavy rains.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Simelaro, seconded by Mrs. Carter, the motion was unanimously approved

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

16. Motion to approve Payment #2 (Final) to Derstine Co., LLC for the WWTP RAS Pump Replacement Project in the amount of \$39,550 (via roll call vote)

Mrs. Zadell said the RAS pumps took over a year to receive them after the order was placed and this is the final item of repairs due to the flood of Tropical Storm Isaias. Mrs. Simelaro said the RAS pumps take the sludge and degrades the organisms to remove the nutrients from wastewater to produce a high-quality effluent.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Simelaro, seconded by Mrs. Carter, the motion was unanimously approved

Roll call vote:	President Hull	Aye
	Vice President Carter	Aye
	Commissioner McNaney	Aye
	Commissioner Simelaro	Aye

Other Business

17. Motion to approve the June 2022 Open Invoices (via roll call vote)

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Simelaro, seconded by Mrs. Carter, the motion to approve the Open Invoices was unanimously approved.

Roll call vote:	President Hull	Aye
	Vice President Carter	Aye
	Commissioner McNaney	Aye
	Commissioner Simelaro	Aye

18. Motion to approve the June 2022 Paid Invoices (via roll call vote)

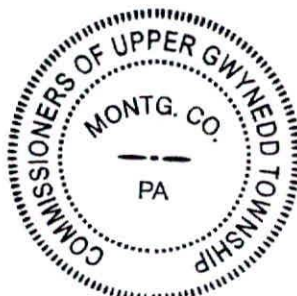
Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion to approve the Paid Invoices was unanimously approved.

Roll call vote:	President Hull	Aye
	Vice President Carter	Aye
	Commissioner McNaney	Aye
	Commissioner Simelaro	Aye

19. Call for Adjournment

Mrs. Hull said our EAC is doing a fantastic job. They recently had an Arbor Day Tree Sale and there were ten (10) trees left over so Jon West and Brian Hutchinson of the EAC along with residents Martin Slamon, Marcia Wise, Tom Wise, Sandy Sweeney, Rachel Wise, Dan DiLanzo, planted the native trees along the streambank at the WWTP to add to the riparian buffer to replace some downed ash trees along the Wissahickon Creek. The trees will enhance the canopy which will help slow streambank erosion.

Mrs. Hull adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.



Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Brookley Zadell
Secretary

Approved July 19, 2022