

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2020

This meeting was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The public was notified of the meeting via an ad in The Reporter as well as our website and other social media. The public was invited to participate by calling in or by submitting questions in advance.

1. Call to order

The December 7, 2020, Public Meeting of the Upper Gwynedd Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President of the Board, Liz K. McNaney at 7:00 PM. This meeting is being recorded and visually taped.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. McNaney led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

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

Liz K. McNaney	President
Denise M. Hull	Vice-President
Martha A. Simelaro	Commissioner
Katherine D. Carter	Commissioner
Ruth S. Damsker	Commissioner
Sandra Brookley Zadell	Township Manager
Megan Weaver	Assistant Township Manager
Lauren Gallagher	Township Solicitor
Owen Hyne	Township Engineer
David W. Duffy	Chief of Police
E. Van Rieker	Zoning Officer

4. Announcement of Executive Sessions

Ms. Gallagher said the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session on the following dates.

- November 30 to discuss matters of personnel and potential litigation

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

There was no public comment.

Departmental Reports

6. Manager's Report (Sandra Zadell)

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As Reported by Sandra Zadell, Township Manager

Mrs. Zadell reported on the Parks and Recreation activities. She said the gnome (our Township mascot) has been traveling around town and was seen in many locations. We are asking residents to submit names for our gnome. She announced that we are offering free Zumba classes online. We are hosing on online Woodlands Program offered by the Natural Lands Trust on December 9. Please see the website for additional information for any of the programs. Mrs. Zadell announced the Township is open but operating by appointment only.

7. Planning and Zoning Report (E. Van Rieker)

As reported by Van Rieker, Zoning Officer

- **ZHB 20-07** – WB Homes – use variance request to develop Jeppy Property, Sumneytown Pike for 24 apartment units.
The applicant has met with neighbors and will be submitting a revised plan for review by the Board
- **593 Dekalb Pike**, Conditional Use Hearing, Tesla Charging Stations. Hearings held on September 14 and 29, 2020. Approved by the BOC on September 29, 2020.
Tesla modified the plans in such a way that violates the Zoning Code and the applicant now needs a dimensional variance. This will be discussed at the Plan Review Committee meeting. This may need to be reviewed by the Zoning Hearing Board for the relief needed.
- **State Street**, Roosevelt Court Conditional Use Hearing, 9-lot subdivision. Hearing held on September 29, 2020. Approved by the BOC on September 29, 2020 subject to staff review and issuance of building permit. Reduced rear yards deferred.
The applicant received a preliminary opinion from the Zoning Officer regarding the rezoning of the property. Two ads are scheduled with a thirty (30) day comment process, then the land development plan can proceed.

8. Engineering Report (Isaac Kessler)

As reported by Owen Hyne, Township Engineer

- **Haines Run Streambank Improvements**
Some work has already been done at the WWTP with berm and streambank improvements near the gate access. This has significantly improved the protection of the WWTP from rising water levels at this location. Additional work is being designed for upstream controls for long-term flood mitigation.
- **Road Program**
Remington Vernick Engineers (RVE) is coordinating with the Public Works Department for ADA curb ramps and roadways to be part of the bid package for next year's program. The Board will consider the authorization to advertise the Roads Program bid this evening.
- **North Wales Road Trail Crossing Improvements**
RVE is working with the Public Works Department for layout of improved pedestrian safety and signage for vehicles and doing survey and design of the Green Ribbon Trail crossing North Wales Road.

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Liz K. McNaney, PRESIDENT **Finance/Personnel/Administration**

9. Motion to approve the Department Reports filed by Township Staff.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Damsker seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion to approve the department reports was unanimously approved.

10. Motion to authorize Lauren Gallagher, Township Solicitor to sign on behalf of the Township, the assessment appeal stipulation agreement between North Penn School District and Willowick Real Estate Fund

Ms. Gallagher said this is an appeal of the tax assessment. The school district handles the negotiations and recommends approval of this agreement.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Hull seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion to approve the department reports was unanimously approved.

11. Motion to approve the revised Employee Handbook Holiday Policy effective January 1, 2021

Mrs. McNaney said we are replacing Columbus Day with a floating holiday for Township employees.

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Damsker seconded by Mrs. Hull, the motion to approve the department reports was unanimously approved.

Denise M. Hull, VICE PRESIDENT **Zoning/Planning/Code Enforcement**

12. Motion to approve the Merck & Co. waiver request from Chapter 113-1 & 124-5 for extended work Hours for Gate 3 Utility Rack Installation Project. One long weekend only Jan. 15-17, 2021 or Jan. 23-25, 2021.

Mrs. Hull said this is for cleaning operations that may generate noise, but it should be muffled by the buildings.

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

13. Motion to approve Resolution 37-2020, extending the guidelines and policy for outdoor dining until June 7, 2021.

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

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Katherine D. Carter **Public Safety**

14. Motion to ratify/approve the Emergency Declarations dated November 30 and December 7, 2020

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

Ruth S. Damsker **Public Works/Parks/Recreation**

15. Motion to authorize the advertisement of the 2021 Roads Program with ADA Ramps

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

Mrs. Damsker thanked the Parks & Rec staff and Public Works staff for the holiday lights at the Township.

Martha A. Simelaro **Wastewater Treatment**

16. Motion to approve payment #13 to PACT One for the Pump Station & Force Main Project in the amount of \$725,618.40 (via roll call vote)

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

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

17. Motion to approve payment #20 to Blooming Glen for the Hydraulic Expansion Project in the amount of \$60,276.12 (via roll call vote)

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

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

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18. Motion to approve payment #13 to Eastern Environmental Contractors for the Hydraulic Expansion Project in the amount of \$30,078.53 (via roll call vote)

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

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

19. Motion to approve payment #5 to BSI for the Pump Stations (Electrical) in the amount of \$39,781.00 (via roll call vote)

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

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

Other Business

20. Call for Adjournment

Mrs. Hull reminded residents that our Police Department is collecting for Toys for Tots.

Mrs. McNaney adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.



/djl

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Brookley Zadell
Secretary

Approved January 19, 2021