

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BOC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2023

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

1. Call to order

The February 21, 2023, 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 Officer Montana Lighthart

A moment of silence was held for slain Temple University Police Officer Christopher Fitzgerald.

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
Ruth S. Damsker	Commissioner
Sandra Zadell	Township Manager
Megan Weaver	Assistant Township Manager
Lauren Gallagher	Township Solicitor
Isaac Kessler	Township Engineer
David Duffy	Chief of Police
Nathan Crittendon	Finance Director

Commissioner Liz McNaney and Zoning Officer E. Van Rieker were absent.

4. Announcement of Executive Sessions

Ms. Gallagher said there were no executive sessions.

5. Police Commendations

- Sergeant Harry Colcher and Officer Montana Lighthart were recognized for going above and beyond the call of duty by rescuing a puppy from being stuck in a PVC pipe in a resident's yard.
- Sergeant Bob Pro and Detective Jon Gill were commended for their professional handling of a double shooting investigation.
- Officers Fred Lynch and Montana Lighthart were recognized for their lifesaving efforts of an unconscious driver.

6. Recognition of Detective Sergeant Bob Pro for 15 years of service to the Township

Sergeant Pro was recognized for 15 years of service to the Township. He is our traffic safety coordinator, was a detective and field training officer and the J-tac officer for the department which provides access to the PA Justice Network. He was recently promoted to Sergeant.

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7. Black History Month Presentation by Sgt. Timothy Greene and Lt. William Slaton of the PA State Police

Lt. William Slaton is the commander of the Heritage Affairs Department for the PA State Police. His colleague, Sgt. Timothy Greene is a Heritage Affairs liaison in the department. Lt. Slaton's department monitors and responds to all hate and bias crime in the Commonwealth. They also handle all civil tension based concerns that lead to protests, violence in the streets and mistrust of law enforcement leaders. They teach police officers subjects that surround cultural competencies, racial profiling, de-escalation techniques and have trained over 4000 officers in an effort to combat hate and bias crimes.

8. Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) Presentation

Presenters were Brandon Ford, Watershed Partnership Co-Chair, Drew Shaw, Environmental Planning Manager with the MC Planning Commission and Erin Landis, Water Programs Manager with Wissahickon Trails

Ms. Landis explained this is a volunteer collaboration between 12 municipalities, 4 WWTP and the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. Shaw said the Wissahickon Creek is impaired due to the high levels of phosphorus. The WQIP drafted an alternative to the 2015 TMDL to address more than just phosphorus.

Mr. Ford spoke about the regulatory mandate and the choice to join together as a group or go it alone. Municipalities must adhere to these mandates. There are reasons to collaborate by addressing more than just phosphorus and easier compliance of the TMDL plan but with more cost effective multi municipal solutions.

The accomplishments of the WQIP include a signed Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), data collected, and a model developed, water quality projects identified, funding secured for the first set of projects.

Next steps include; Submitting a revised WQIP based on regulator feedback, finalize implementation of the IGA, select & design implementation projects and once projects are approved, proceed with implementation.

Beth Miller asked what will residents notice. Mr. Shaw said the plan has a list of projects associated with it and you may see new, water quality improvement plans that may have flood reducing impacts to it.

Mark Connelly asked why the phosphorus is high in the creek. Mr. Shaw said the ground water has high phosphorus as well as phosphorus coming from runoff and wastewater treatment plants.

George Cressman commented on sediment removal. Mr. Shaw said many of the projects in the plan will remove sediment.

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

Carl Smith, commented about the Cornerstone of Pennbrook and asked for updates. Mrs. Hull said there was not an official application submitted for the Pennbrook Plan. It was only discussed staff level at the PRC and only information is shared. There has been no further progress. Ms. Gallagher said they only applied for zoning relief as there is no land development plan proposed. Mrs. Hull also said The Reporter came up with the name "Cornerstone of Pennbrook".

Linda Smith, commented on high density affordable housing and said it is an attack on our lives with property values decreasing.

William Jackson, part of the Bike North Penn group said he is happy about the Power Line Trail investment in tonight's agenda

Mark Connelly is in support of the Powerline Trail grant.

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Denise M. Hull, PRESIDENT Finance/Personnel/Administration

10. Motion to approve the submissions from the UGFD and NPDF for the Volunteer Tax Credits

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

11. Motion to approve the proposal by IntegraOne for the relocation of the Township's Server Network in the amount of \$76,390.

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

George Cressman asked how many bids were received for this project as he questioned the cost. Mrs. Zadell said bids aren't required for professional services and we are using our IT company. Mr. Crittendon said the current server sits in a closet that is not secured. There is also a health hazard aspect should the fire suppression systems get activated or tripped because of the powder/paste used in the system. Mr. Crittendon said the original proposal was much higher in cost by redoing the current server location so they explored other options and felt the best option would be to combine the administration server room with the police server room. He assured residents that we are actually saving money by relocating the server room instead of creating the appropriate environment in its current location.

12. Motion to approve Consent Items A – K (via roll call vote)

- A. Staff Department Reports
- B. Public Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2023
- C. Public Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2023
- D. Appointment of Sherry Chen to the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC)
- E. Laurel House 5K Race on October 22, 2023
- F. Authorization to advertise the bid for Equipment Rental for various Stormwater Projects
- G. Change Order #3 for the 2022 Liquid Fuels Road Program reducing the price of the contract by \$26,132 for a final contract amount of \$831,580.31.
- H. Payment #4 for the 2022 Road Program to James D. Morrissey, Inc. in the amount of \$16,631.61
- I. Payment #2 to KBC Construction for the Dickerson Road Drainage Improvement Project in the amount of \$137,697.87
- J. Final Payment to BSI for the flow diversion pump station in the amount of \$38,650
- K. Payment #29 to BGC for the WWTP Hydraulic Expansion Project in the amount of \$19,149.20

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Damsker, seconded by Mrs. Simelaro, the motion to approve consent items A-K were unanimously approved.

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

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Katherine D. Carter, Vice President **Public Safety**

13. Motion to approve the purchase of two patrol vehicles for the Police Department from Co-Stars vendor New Holland Ford in the amount of \$83,200.

Mrs. Carter said this is part of the 2023 budget.

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**

Mrs. Damsker said the black history month presentation was very interesting and thanked those that helped put together the presentation.

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

14. Motion to approve Resolution 06-2023: Construction of the Power Line Trail

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

Martha A. Simelaro **Wastewater Treatment**

15. Motion to approve Resolution 05-2023: Extending the WQIP Intergovernmental Agreement as an alternative to the EPA Phosphorus TMDL

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

16. Motion to approve the Manhole Grouting and CIPP Repairs Project by Co-Stars vendor Utility Services Group in the amount of \$52,580

Mrs. Simelaro said the repairs save us from treating over 21,000 million gallons of ground water per year.

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

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Other Business

17. Motion to approve the February 2023 Open Invoices (via roll call vote)

Hearing no public questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Damsker, 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 Simelaro	Aye
	Commissioner Damsker	Aye

18. Motion to approve the February 2023 Paid Invoices (via roll call vote)

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

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

19. Adjournment

Mrs. Hull adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.



Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Brookley Zadell
Secretary

Approved March 21, 2023

/djl