

UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
Community Development Committee
June 15, 2020 - Meeting Minutes

Community Development Committee Members - Commissioner and Chair Joseph A. Lavallo; Commissioners Kip McFatridge and Kevin Spearing; Paul E. Purtell, Director of Code Enforcement; David Elsier, Director of Public Works

I. Moment of Silent Meditation:

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order remotely, via audio call, by Commissioner and Committee Chair Joseph A. Lavallo.

IV. Presentations/Announcements:

- Commissioner Spearing announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session remotely, via audio call, to discuss legal matters.

V. Roll Call: Commissioner and Committee Chair Lavallo, Commissioners Spearing and McFatridge; Mr. Elsier and Mr. Purtell. Also, present: Matthew H. Candland; Township Manager; James Hersh, Township Engineer; Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.

VI. Approval of Minutes – May 11, 2020: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

VII. Old Business:

A. Fair Oaks Park Basin design recommendations provided by Mr. Hersh:

- Commissioner Lockard inquired about planting additional trees. Kimberli Flanders, RLA, McCloskey & Faber, stated that in the summary, 29 trees will be removed and 50 shade trees will be planted, which does not include ornamental varieties.
- Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Council, commended the plan for including native plantings, recommended a broader range of Oak trees, and requested to review the final plan before groundbreaking.
- Dr. Saunders suggested using trees that do not damage pavements near the playground. Ms. Flanders replied that substitutions will be made depending on availability.
- The Committee recommends to move for action at the July 6, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting to authorize an advertisement of the Fair Oaks Basin Design.

B. ARLE Grant recommendations provided by Anton Kuhner, Township Transportation Engineer and Dave Elsier, Director, Public Works:

- Mr. Kuhner explained that PennDOT has voided the Township's 2018 Green Light Go Grant awarded for upgrades at York Road, and Davisville Road and Easton Roads, for operation signals at the train station. Mr. Kuhner stated that another grant application will be resubmitted this year.
- Commissioner Spearing commented on relocation of the light standard on Davisville and Byberry Roads. Mr. Kuhner replied that the pole was moved as part of the YMCA work.
- Commissioner Spearing inquired about paving along Byberry Road. Mr. Kuhner replied that most of McMahan Associates' traffic improvement work is contained on Davisville Road.

UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
Community Development Committee
June 15, 2020 - Meeting Minutes

- Mr. Kuhner stated that the Township currently has County Transportation Program Grant funding for the right turn lane on Davisville Road and to replace the light standard on the southeast corner. The pedestrian crossing improvement would still require funding.
 - Karen Straub, a resident, commented pedestrian safety concerns along Terwood Road and Pennypack Road to the train station. Mr. Purtell replied that he discussed the site with McMahon Associates and there is a 3-to 4-foot-wide macadam path installed according to the Highway Occupancy Permit from Terwood Road past the YMCA. The Committee discussed the walkway dimensions and the terms between the residents and developer.
 - The Committee agreed that Mr. Kuhner will resubmit the ARLE grant application for traffic signal improvements at the Davisville Road and York Road intersection and have it submitted by no later than July 1, 2020.
- C. Montco 2040 Wayfinding and Signage Project – Discussion led by Matt Candland:
- Mr. Candland discussed the formation of a Steering Committee.
 - Commissioner Lavalley suggested asking members from the Revitalization Task Force who were involved in developing the original 2040 Comprehensive Plan.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired about excavation and evacuation plans. Commissioner Lavalley replied that the Wayfinding and Signage Plan is a design document rather than a construction document that details excavation and evacuation plans.
 - Commissioner Scull commented that the Historical Commission should be involved in the Committee.
 - The Committee recommends to move forward for action to the July 6, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting, a list of appointments on the Wayfinding and Signage Steering Committee that will enable a timely submission of the grant application.

VIII. **Land Development/Subdivision** - nothing to report.

IX. **New Business:**

- A. Carson Simpson Farm Streambank Stabilization Project - Discussion led by Jim Hersh, Township Engineer:
- Mr. Candland explained that the YMCA has requested to make a payment in lieu of performing the required streambank stabilization improvements to an area near the bridge on the Farm property.
 - Dr. Saunders inquired on the availability of the plans. Commissioners Spearing and Lavalley stated that the plans will be prepared and provided for comments.
 - Mr. Hersh stated that he will prepare a design proposal and cost estimate for review at the July 13, 2020 Committee Meeting.

X. **Presentations** - nothing to report.

XI. **Acceptance and Approval of the following monthly reports for May:**

- A. Code Enforcement Department Reports:
- Commissioner McFatrige inquired on the status of the Federal Housing project. Mr. Purtell stated that he has been in contact with the construction contractor and the design of the site is progressing toward submitting a Land Development Application.
- B. Public Works Department Report and Recycling Report:

UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
Community Development Committee
June 15, 2020 - Meeting Minutes

- Mr. Elsier stated that road paving and milling will begin on June 16, 2020, starting at Warminster Road. Hatboro Borough will paint temporary stand and stop bars after the milling is completed with paving to follow within a day or two. A schedule will be posted on the website.
 - Commissioner McFtridge inquired on seasonal workers for paving work. Mr. Elsier stated that by using the automated trash trucks, 4-5 laborers are available to assist the paving crew.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented that there is a stormwater inlet located on Parkside Avenue near Sycamore Avenue, which the Township plans to remedy.
 - Commissioner Whiting commended the Department's employees for their hard work and endurance during the COVID-19 crisis.
 - Michelle, a resident of 303 Overlook Avenue, inquired if the streetlight at the intersection at Overlook Avenue and Division Avenue can be positioned as to not project into her backyard. Mr. Elsier stated that he will make adjustments to the light.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired about yard waste collections. Mr. Elsier and Mr. Candland discussed details of improvements to the leaf composting site and options to collect and process materials more efficiently.
- C. Engineer's Report:
- Commissioner Spearing inquired about the schedule for Betz & Lukens, stormwater improvements. Mr. Hersh will have a follow up at the July 13, 2020 Committee Meeting.
- D. Landscape Architect's Report - nothing to report.
- E. Traffic Engineer's Report - Mr. Kuhner provided the following updates:
- Analysis, plans and estimates are being prepared for 2020 Capital Improvement projects on Blair Mill Road, Maryland Road and Commerce Avenue.
 - Submission of the Montco 2040 Grant for Warminster Road was not successful, needs more information going forward with preparing the current 2040 Montco Grants in regard to the Signage and Wayfinding plan.
 - Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) extended their grant application deadline from July 31, 2020 to September 30, 2020.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired about outstanding issues regarding reassignment of specific traffic lights. Mr. Kuhner replied that PennDOT handled the design and construction, cameras are installed, work has been completed and awaiting PennDOT's closeout. Mr. Kuhner will follow up with Public Works for suggestions on changing signal equipment.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired about coordination of Blair Mill Road and Easton Road with Horsham Township. Mr. Kuhner replied that a meeting was held with Horsham regarding updating the concept plan and whether to consider a joint application. Mr. Kuhner stated that Horsham is working with a grant and moving forward with their improvements.
 - Commissioner Lockard inquired about rejection of the Green Light Go grant application. Mr. Kuhner replied that the Davisville Road and Byberry Road design costs can be recouped from PennDOT, will be ready to submit again, and the project should still follow ARLE guidelines.
- F. Upper Moreland School District – Construction/Other Items:
- Commissioners Whiting and Spearing stated that the new superintendent starts August 15, 2020.

UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
Community Development Committee
June 15, 2020 - Meeting Minutes

- G. Horsham Land Redevelopment Authority {HLRA} – to monitor status of redevelopment of former Willow Grove Naval Air Station property - nothing to report.
- H. Environmental Advisory Council {EAC} - Mr. Schaible reported on behalf of Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Chair:
- 50 copies of "Natures Best Hope" were purchased and will be donated to the Library, Commissioners and public.
 - The Council could be easier to search on the Township website and perhaps they can create a Facebook page.
 - The Council plans to partner with the School District and possibly with surrounding townships to assist with their EACs, hire animal control, and educate on relevant topics.
 - Information is being entered into the "Sustainable Cities" website and the Council needs assistance from Township personnel to complete some of the questions.
- I. Pennsylvania Review Advisory Council:
- Commissioner Lavalley stated that subcommittee meetings continue via conference calls to review the 2015 Code and the changes implemented in 2018 to move forward a potential adoption of the updated ICC Codes in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A public meeting is tentative for July.
- J. Upper Moreland Historical Commission - Mr. Schaible reported on behalf of Sue Worth-LaManna:
- Focus has been on the mineral springs in conjunction with the Historical Association as progress continues towards the SEPTA Railroad Station project and completion of the latest part of the banner project.
 - Commissioner McFatridge commented that SEPTA confirmed with the Township that they are not located near the mineral springs.
 - Commissioner Scull suggested that the mineral springs be placed on the Township's Inventory of Historic Places by the Historical Commission, and inquired if the Ordinance needs to be amended since it is located within a park. Commissioner Spearing suggested that a monument could eventually be placed in the park.
 - Dr. Saunders commented the mineral springs should be highlighted and preserved.
- XII. **Other Items** - nothing to report.
- XIII. **Redevelopment** - nothing to report.
- XIV. **Visitor Comments** - nothing to report.
- XV. **Commissioner Comments:**
- Commissioner Spearing commented in favor of education, reform, awareness and community involvement regarding the recent national Police force issues.
 - Commissioner Whiting welcomed the new Police Chief, Andy Block, and commented on working in conjunction with the Police and community partnership, adjunct intervention and review of policies.
 - Commissioner McFatridge commented that the new Chief of Police is planning ideas for community involvement with the Police Department.

**UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
Community Development Committee
June 15, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

XVI. **Adjournment** - There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.