

**Upper Moreland Township  
Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting  
April 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Board of Commissioners Members:** Commissioner and President, Kevin C. Spearing; Commissioner and Vice President Charles M. Whiting; Commissioners R. Samuel Valenza, Joseph A. Lavallo, Kip McFatrige, Nicholas O. Scull and Cheryl Lockard

- I. **Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Upper Moreland Township was called to order by the President of the Board of Commissioners, Kevin C. Spearing at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Moment of Silent Meditation/Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Board President Spearing, Commissioners Scull, Lavallo, McFatrige, Whiting, Valenza and Lockard. Also present were Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- IV. **Presentations/Announcements:**
  - A. Commissioner Spearing stated that on March 26, 2020 the Board of Commissioners held an audio conference call for an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.
  - B. Commissioner Spearing stated that tonight's meeting is being held through an audio conference call and reviewed instructions for the public to listen to the meeting on the TV channel, and to email their comments. Commissioner Spearing explained that the Township building is currently closed to the public and the Commissioners and staff are practicing social distancing restrictions, as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

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- V. **Public Comments:**
  - Frank and Cathleen Carver, residents of 3045 Davisville Road, inquired on the Davisville Road construction schedule, and its effect on the turtle migration. Mr. and Mrs. Carver thanked the Board of Commissioners for adding attachments to the agenda and requested that they be included on a regular basis. Commissioner Spearing stated that the answers will be available at the Township Manager's Office.
- VI. **Treasurer's Activity Report – March 2020:** Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatrige and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve the Treasurer's Activity Report as submitted.
- VII. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - **February 24, 2020 Special Meeting** minutes were amended on page three, third comment, "...environmental problems;" and fourth comment, "...Abington Hospital."
  - **March 2, 2020 Regular Meeting** minutes were amended on page 3, first bullet: ...approved by a vote of 4-3 not to table the discussion again on the Land Swap Agreement, four (4) Aye by Commissioners Scull, Whiting, Lavallo, Valenza; and three (3) Nay by Commissioners Spearing, McFatrige, Lockard); and on page 8, Section IX, second Commissioner Comment: "...is considering a resolution...".
  - Commissioner Lockard thanked Kathleen Kristire, Administrative Assistant, for her work on the minutes.
  - The minutes were unanimously approved, as amended.

VIII. **Committee Recommendations:**

A. **Finance & Administrative Committee:**

1. **Appointments/Reappointments** - nothing to report.
2. **List of Bills Payable** - The Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0 in favor, the List of Bills as submitted.
3. **Aqua General Funds Bills** - The Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 6-0 in favor; and one (1) abstention (abstention by Commissioner Spearing, Aqua employee).
4. **Other Items:**
  - a. **Motion to approve Ordinance #1709** – Electing to amend its Non-Uniform Pension Plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System pursuant to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law.
    - Mr. Schaible stated that the IRS requires a review of the Plan and there were no changes made.
    - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve Ordinance #1709.
  - b. **Motion to approve Ordinance #1710** – Electing to amend its Firefighter Pension Plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System pursuant to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law.
    - Mr. Schaible stated that the IRS requires a review of the Plan and there were no changes made.
    - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve Ordinance #1710.
  - c. **Motion to approve Resolution R-2020-20** – Extending the filing of returns and payment deadline for the Upper Moreland Township 2019/202 estimated mercantile and business privilege tax from May 1, 2020 to July 15, 2020, as a result of COVID-19.
    - Mr. Schaible stated that the deadline has been extended which corresponds with IRS and State measures during the COVID-19 crisis.
    - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve Resolution R-2020-20.
  - d. **Motion to approve Resolution R-2020-21** – Authorizing the application for the issuance of and administrative procedures for individual procurement cards.
    - Mr. Schaible explained that it is a Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT) program.
    - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve Resolution R-2020-21.
  - e. **Motion to approve Resolution R-2020-22** – Authorizing the submission of a \$200,000 grant through Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) for stormwater improvements at Farmstead Park, with a 50% Township match.
    - Mr. Candland stated that there will be a variety of stormwater management improvements and beautification in the Park, partnering with Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust as well as the Friends of The Farmstead.
    - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve Resolution R-2020-22.

5. **New Business** - nothing to report.

**B. Community Development Committee**

1. **Code Enforcement** - nothing to report.
2. **Land Development/Subdivision Applications** - nothing to report.
3. **List of Upcoming Zoning Hearing Board Applications** - nothing to report.
4. **Other Items** - nothing to report.

**C. Parks and Recreation Committee** - nothing to report.

**D. Public Health & Safety Committee** - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action on the following:

1. **Motion to ratify** the March 6, 2020 Declaration of Emergency of a public health local disaster emergency in Upper Moreland Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, in response to COVID-19.
  - Commissioner Whiting motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 to ratify the March 6, 2020 Declaration of Emergency.

**IX. Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Scull stated that Ward 1 was doing their best during the COVID emergency.
- Commissioner Spearing stated that he appreciates how the community has been handling the COVID emergency, and all the public's comments.
- Commissioner Whiting commended all the responders working within the Police, Fire and Emergency Services for their work during the COVID emergency. He asked all residents to adhere to the Declaration of Emergency for their own health and safety.
- Commissioner McFatridge commended the nurses and doctors throughout the Country for all their hard work and dedication.
- Commissioner Lockard commended the Township employees for continuing to work and serve the public.
- Mr. Candland stated that the next Community Development Committee meeting will be held as scheduled on Monday, April 13, 2020, and the next Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting will be held on May 4, 2020.
- Commissioner McFatridge stated that the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting is continuing to be held to keep up with the Township's administrative issues.
- Commissioner Spearing stated that the Board will decide to hold a Committees Meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020, if it is determined that there are relevant business issues and deadlines that need to be discussed.

**X. Visitor Comments:**

- Mr. Schaible commented that a resident inquired about a drop box or slot to deliver their tax payments, and Mr. Schaible responded that there is one set up in the Police Station lobby. Mr. Candland stated that the Tax Office is encouraging residents to mail in their payments as well as any important documents that need the Township's attention.

**XI. Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.