

**UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
Community Development Committee
October 11, 2021 - Meeting Minutes**

Community Development Committee Members - Commissioner and Committee Chair Kip McFatridge; Commissioners Anthony S. Prousi, Kevin C. 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 by Commissioner Spearing in the absence of Committee Chair and Commissioner Kip McFatridge.

VI. Roll Call: Commissioners Prousi, Spearing; Mr. Elsier and Mr. Purtell. Absent: Commissioner McFatridge. Also, present: Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager; James Hersh, Township Engineer; Patrick Hitchens, Township Solicitor.

V. Presentations/Announcements:

- Commissioner Spearing presented Citation Awards to David Elsier, Director of Public Works, and Paul Purtell, Director of Code Enforcement, for their exceptional leadership and dedication on the evening of September 1, 2021 and the days that followed, providing assistance and direction to Township staff, community leaders and residents of Upper Moreland Township.
- Commissioner Spearing presented Unit Citation Awards to Public Works Employees: Donald Messner, Jeffery Dillon, Michael Fisher, Brian Donelan, Peter Adamow and Thomas Poppert, recognized for their response to numerous serious situations on the evening of September 1, 2021.

VI. Approval of Minutes – September 20, 2021:

Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Environmental Advisory Council, amended Section XII, F., third bullet point, striking “and available grant opportunities”. Commissioner Prousi motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Committee unanimously approved the minutes, as amended.

VII. Land Development/Subdivision:

A. Request by Henry Mann Investments III LLC for a Waiver of Land Development for the property located at 3615 Davisville Road:

- John Koutsouros, P.E., Carroll Engineering Corporation, discussed comments outlined in the Gilmore & Associates letter.
- The Committee recommends the following conditions be included: a right-of-way along the frontage of the property for a future sidewalk, a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement, and a Fire Marshal review.
- Mr. Hersh will meet onsite to inspect the basin and provide a further report to the Committee.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the November 8, 2021 Regular Meeting on a resolution.

VIII. Other Items:

A. Preparation of NPDES Permit and Bid Specifications for 301 Woodlawn:

- Mr. Candland reviewed the Scope of Services.

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- Mr. Hersh discussed items for remediation on the property and the timeline of the permit and bid specification with demolition estimated for Spring 2022.
- Commissioner Scull shared residents' concerns over pests living in the vacant structure. Mr. Purtell replied that once an infestation is reported, a pest control contractor will be contacted. Mr. Hersh will work with Mr. Purtell to include the item in the specifications.
- The Committee recommends Jim Hersh provide a formal proposal to be considered by the Board of Commissioners at their November 8, 2021 Regular Meeting.

IX. Old Business:

A. Wayfinding & Signage Plan Implementation:

- Mr. Purtell anticipates that the interpretive signs will be ready by next week, and installation will be completed by the Public Works crew. Construction specifications are being finalized for the gateway signs.
- Commissioner Spearing commented about a permit for a driveway closure on Mallard Road and provisions for an easement agreement.
- Commissioner Scull recommended that locations for the interpretive signs be coordinated with the Historical Association and the Historical Commission. Commissioner Prousi replied that they will be confirmed.

B. Zoning Ordinance Updates:

- Mr. Purtell stated that the Advisory Planning Agency (APA) and the Montgomery County Planner will meet on Thursday, October 21, 2021.
- Commissioner Spearing commented that Computer Avenue, Maryland Road and Commerce Drive are zoned light industrial, but are increasing in residential and retail.
- Commissioner Spearing recommended that the Committee consider uses for The Farmstead that generate revenue.

C. Snow and Ice Removal Contract with Montgomery County for Easton Road:

- Mr. Elsier explained that he is awaiting receipt of the revised contract that includes Easton Road.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at a future Regular Meeting, which is conditional upon receipt of the contract.

D. Update on Carson Simpson Farm Streambank Stabilization Project:

- Mr. Hersh explained that a permit, bid and approval will be processed over the winter with construction anticipated for Spring of 2022.
- Commissioner Spearing requested that the County' trail work be coordinated with the streambank stabilization and wetland delineation.
- The Committee will continue a discussion at the November 15, 2021 Community Development Committee meeting.

XI. New Business:

A. Retaining Wall for 118 Center Avenue:

- Mr. Candland explained that an access road for the Police to Center Avenue will necessitate reconstructing the wall.
- Commissioner Spearing suggested that the wall be designated to one side of the property line to clearly determine its future maintenance responsibility.
- The Committee will continue a discussion at the November 15, 2021 Community Development Committee meeting.

XII. Acceptance and Approval of the following monthly reports for July and August:

A. Code Enforcement Department Reports:

- Commissioner Spearing requested a report on the status of property owners' storm remediation. Mr. Purtell replied that he participated in a virtual meeting with Thomas Hughes, Director, Emergency Management Mitigation, and Mr. Candland explained that a pre-application Letter of Intent is being prepared and documentation from residents is required to process claims with FEMA and PEMA.

B. Public Works Department Report and Recycling Report:

- Mr. Elsier reported on rebates received from recycling.
- Commissioner Spearing commended the Sanitation Department crew for clean-up of debris from remnants of Hurricane Ida.
- Commissioner Spearing inquired on the installation of Turnpike signs. Mr. Elsier replied that he is awaiting a meeting be scheduled with the Turnpike Commission.
- Commissioner Spearing inquired on the status of traffic signal construction. Mr. Candland will provide a schedule from McMahon Associates for discussion at the November 15, 2021 Community Development Committee meeting.
- Commissioner Prousi inquired on the street light calibration and Mr. Elsier replied that Ward 7 was experiencing some issues, which were tested and the consultant has been notified.

C. Engineer's Report:

- Commissioner Spearing inquired on the planting schedule for Fair Oaks Basin. Mr. Hersh replied that a cost has been determined and a schedule is forthcoming from the contractor.
- Commissioner Prousi inquired on the culvert repairs at Cathedral Road and Fulmer Heights and Mr. Hersh replied that repairs are completed at Cathedral Road and corrective work at Fulmer Heights Development is in progress.
- Commissioner Prousi inquired about the Library ADA improvements and Mr. Hersh replied that the signed contract has been received and a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled to coordinate a start date.

D. Landscape Architect's Report:

- Commissioners Prousi and Spearing reviewed projects in the report.

E. Traffic Engineer's Report:

- Mr. Candland reviewed projects in the report.
- Commissioner Spearing requested that the schedule include the Moreland Avenue bridge and Mr. Candland will follow up.

F. Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) - Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Bird Town Event is on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at Fair Oaks Park.
- Volunteers will help with planting at the Fair Oaks Basin.
- Proposed an educational sign at the Middle School rain garden explaining the hydrologic cycle, wildlife and vegetation in the basin.
- An Arbor Day event is being planned for Friday, April 29, 2022.
- Explained a geothermal heating/cooling system option for the Township building.
- Requested to circulate a petition to ban plastic bags in the Township. Commissioner Spearing and Mr. Elsier discussed incentives for retailers and customers who use recyclable bags.
- A search continues with the Upper Moreland schools to fill a student position within the EAC.

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- G. Upper Moreland Historical Commission - Commissioner Prousi reviewed the following:
- Michelle Young, President, will be resigning and there will be reassigning of positions at the end of year.
 - Working on the budget surplus from 2021, as well as writing the 2022 budget.
 - Requested to place the Mineral Springs on the Historical Registry.
 - The Committee will continue a discussion at a future Community Development Committee Meeting.

XIII. **Redevelopment** - Nothing to report.

XIV. **Visitor Comments** - Nothing to report.

XV. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioners Prousi and Spearing commended Chief Andrew Block, The Hatboro Baptist Church, Pastor Doug and Ms. Keech for organizing the successful Faith & Blue community event.
- Commissioner Prousi announced that the Historical Association will host an online presentation by Daniel Goldsmith, Holocaust Survivor, discussing his capture and escape during World War II.
- Commissioner Prousi commended the Fire Department for a successful Fire Prevention event.

XVI. **Adjournment** - There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.