

Union Township Board of Supervisors Public Meeting
August 24, 2022
5:30pm

The Union Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Heather Daerr at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Roll Call:

Attendees were Heather Daerr, Chairperson; Charles Trax, Vice Chairman/Roadmaster; Richard Lawson, Supervisor/Treasurer; Michael Barna, Supervisor; Michalle Dupree, Supervisor

Also, in attendance were Roberta Singer, Secretary/Ass't Treasurer; Terri Gladus, Project Manager; Gary Sweat, Solicitor, Sweat Law Offices; Sean O'Dell, Engineer, Harshman CE Group, LLC; Sarah Scott, Esq. Sweat Law Offices

Proof of publication Confirmed

Moment of Prayer: by Paster Ken

Public Comment:

Bernadette Speer - 5106 Chevy Chase Dr. – addressed the Treasurer's bond and addressed Mr. Lawson about bond eligibility

Karen Stroop - 39 Finley Ave. – Filed a right-to-know for security camera footage has not received any information regarding her right-to-know status and wanted to be updated on the status.

Sandy Dupree - 6187 Rt. 88, - addressed the right-to-know and binders that hold the documents. She expressed concern that the right-to-know documents were not properly stored and documented correctly.

Lori Kenavey - 608 Brownsville Rd. Extension – wanted to know about properties purchased along Hobbitt Ln. She did research regarding a repository sale and is concerned about it affecting taxes.

Linda Evans-Born - 22 Parkvue Dr. – addressed bill pay and how the township is overbudget and stated that the board would not approve a budget for EMS services.

Larry Spahr - 181 McChain Rd. – attended PCSA board meeting and addressed the court decision by the judge and noted his recommendations. He also expressed concern about spending budgets for the township.

Kevin Daerr – 6187 Route 88, - addressed the bill pay list and escrow regarding expenses. Inquired about why the board of auditors meeting was cancelled. Addressed comments about Charles Wilson making comments regarding the solicitor.

Supervisor and/or Staff Comments

Supervisor Daerr addressed a public comment on how she will investigate Ms. Stroop's right-to-know request and will follow up accordingly and inquired if there was any progress made in terms of someone reaching out to the complainant. She also addressed that she looked over the binder of right-to-know complaints and noted that they were sufficient. She noted that the Plavchak bill will be addressed. She also noted that the engineering costs are higher due to more recreational parks being renovated. Daerr added that Union Twp. Does have an EMS service and that the Contract had just been received from SEREMS for review.

Supervisor Dupree addressed a public comment regarding a right-to-know update that was made by Karen Stroop. She also addressed Sarah Scott regarding the right-to-know addresses.

Sarah Scott addressed a public comment regarding a right-to-know complaint, and she will reach out to the complainant once they have more information. She will also investigate the emails that were sent to find out if she can inquire more details about the right-to-know. She also addressed a public comment regarding how she looked up the complainants address to send the required information, and it was sent to the wrong address.

Project Manager, Terri Gladus gave information about SEREMS EMS services and how she has been in contact with Doug Pascoe regarding the contract.

Supervisor Barna addressed comments made by Supervisor Dupree and Sarah Scott regarding the binders of right-to-know complaints.

Supervisor Lawson responded to a public comment regarding EMS services and contracts and wanted the contract to be reviewed before signing a check.

Executive Sessions:

August 18, 2022

Department Reports:

Project Manager's Report – noted that SEREMSs contract was received, and it will be on the next agenda. The ARC grant application was submitted and should have feedback within the next 4-6 weeks. Dupree and the project manager spoke to the chief about police contract negotiations.

Elrama Pump Station Report – in packet will comment as items come up

Unfinished Business:

Vacancies – continue to be listed
Roadmaster
Parks & Recreation Board
Board of Auditors
Planning Department Alternate

Action Items:

Motion to approve moving the Wednesday, November 23, 2022, meeting (evening before Thanksgiving) to Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. Advertisement will run in the Observer Reporter, as well as on website and Facebook postings.

Motion: Trax

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: Dupree commented that she would like to limit moving meetings because of the cost of advertising the new meeting in the OR.

Roll Call: Dupree – yes Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to approve the Township purchasing the lots along Hobbit Lane in Union Township, listed as Parcel I.D. Nos.: 640-010-13-00-0007-00; 640-010-13-00-0008-00; 640-010-13-0009-00; 640-010-13-0010-00 and 640-010-13-00-0011-00 from the Washington County Repository Sale.

Motion: Barna

Second: Trax

Deliberation: Sweat explained the process of sales and the benefits of acquiring property for the township. It would produce income for township and county. There also are legal costs associated with the property and outstanding debt

Roll Call: Dupree – yes Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to approve payment of Plavchak's Pay Application #2 for Veteran's Memorial Park in the amount of \$53,499.00

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: Lawson mentioned that there was an error on the statement and that it had been corrected.

Roll Call: Lawson – yes Barna – yes Dupree – yes Trax – yes Daerr – yes

Motion carried

Motion to deny Change Order Alt-1 for the 2022 Road & Drainage Program – Coal Bluff Road Repairs for \$25,010.00. This change order will include Add Alternate #1 into the project scope.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Barna

Deliberation: Dupree questioned why her peers had hesitations about approving road repairs for Coal Bluff. Barna and Lawson spoke about the potential storms that could affect the road, and how it should be moved to next year.

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes Dupree – yes Trax – yes

Motion Denied

Motion to / Deny Change Order Alt-2 for the 2022 Road & Drainage Program – Coal Bluff Road Repairs for \$116,275.50. This change order will include Add Alternate #2 into the project scope.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Barna

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes Dupree – yes

Motion Denied

Motion to approve W. G. Tomko grading permit renewal for an additional year.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Dupree – yes Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes

Motion carried

Motion to approve the settlement of the Kenneth Lee Puglisi, Sr. v. Union Township lawsuit entered at Docket Number 2021-1586.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Dupree – pass Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes

Dupree- abstain

Motion carried

Dupree stated she abstained due to not having enough information

Discussion regarding the placement of Township surveillance cameras.

Motion to approve the removal of surveillance cameras in road crew office

Motion: Dupree

Second: none

Discussion regarding Veteran's Memorial Park construction status and soil status.

Motion to approve purchasing necessary materials for soil remediation & grass production - not to exceed \$5,000.00 - for Veteran's Memorial Park.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Dupree – yes Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes

Motion Carried

Discussion Items:

Discussion regarding holding tank and temporary occupancy permit for 123 Houston Run Rd. Dominic Koenig is currently trying to purchase a residence and correct the sewage run off himself and addressed the board about his denial. Sweat explained the DEP sewage act and how it is the responsibility of the township to ensure proper flow of sewage. Daerr suggested a meeting between Dominic, project manager, and engineer to discuss solutions and approval for the next meeting.

Discussion regarding annual insurance renewal.

Discussion regarding Waste Management automation start date and to alert the public to check social media about updates.

Discussion regarding liens and threshold balances for overdue sewage bills. Ms. Singer is working on past-due balances. Daerr suggested to put up Facebook posts regarding the updates. Mr. Sweat suggested that the fees should be included in the post that clearly states the extra cost that will be required to turn water back on from the water company.

Discussion regarding a plot of land in Shire plan from the HOA president of the housing plan. Mr. Sweat will review the property and discuss at the next meeting the recommendations.

Discussion regarding supervisor access to files and documents. Dupree mentioned the importance of access to c-can to fulfill elective duty. Mr. Sweat explained the process of bonded employees and suggested a policy of chain of custody files. Mr. Sweat suggested to put a policy in place regarding the file room and to provide a key to the c-can if requested. Intern will investigate digitizing records and files per Barna's suggestion.

Discussion regarding inclusion of timeline minutes. Daerr discussed wanting to update the timeline to anything relevant to this year, and update minutes. Gladus will provide an updated copy for next meeting to all supervisors and board members.

Bill pays list:

Motion to approve Payroll dated August 19, 2022, in the amount of \$11,286.46 for 2 Administration, 1 Intern and 3 Road Crew. (Included 5.25 hrs. (Overtime for Administration for Meeting Attendance and Audit by Auditor General of Pa. on August 4, 2022 [through lunchtime])

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – abstain Barna – yes Dupree – no

Motion Carried

Lawson stated he has not reviewed the timecards.

Motion to approve bill pay list for the Brentwood Bank general account in the amount of \$30,788.19.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Lawson – abstain Barna – yes Dupree – no Trax – yes Daerr – yes

Motion carried

Lawson stated he has not reviewed the bills for approval.

Motion to approve bill pay list for Brentwood Bank Elrama Sewer account in the amount of \$6,134.89

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Dupree – no Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – abstain Barna - yes

Motion carried

Lawson stated he has not reviewed the bills for approval.

Motion to approve bill pay list for Brentwood Bank for escrow account in the amount of \$17,030.00

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Trax – yes Daerr – yes Lawson – abstain Barna – yes Dupree – no

Motion Carried

Lawson stated he has not reviewed the bills for approval.

Correspondence:

PennDot district 12 project report is in packet.

Washington County TCC act 32 EIT audit of 2021, TCC audit for 2022, and the bond were received Monday from Keystone Collections.

Public Comment:

Bernadette Speer - 5106 Chevy Chase Dr. – Inquired about the political signs that are not following ordinances from the previous meeting.

Sandy Dupree - 6187 Sr. 88 – Stated that board members and staff do not like Michelle Dupree, supervisor. The board should follow the laws required for the state.

Linda Evans-Born - 22 Parker Dr. – Stated that the numbers she stated at the beginning of the meeting were from bill pay. Additionally, she does not think protocol was followed regarding historical documents being destroyed incorrectly. Dupree is not liked by board and staff members and all rules and regulations should be followed.

Remarks and / or comments by Supervisors and / or staff:

Roberta Singer, Secretary/Asst. Treasurer addressed Bernadette Speers inquiry and will follow up with her request.

Terri Gladus, Project Manager addressed Bernadette Speers and suggested she fill out a complaint form online or in the office regarding political signs. She also followed up with a public comment that was made regarding the destruction of historical documents.

Richard Lawson, Supervisor/Asst. Treasurer addressed a public comment regarding records that were improperly destroyed.

Heather Daerr, Chairperson, addressed a public comment regarding her character and how she is perceived by the public. She addressed the problem of raw sewage in Union Twp. Addressed how subjects can be put on the agenda and followed up with.

Michalle Dupree, Supervisor, addressed a public comment regarding how she does not want the board to assume other board members opinion.

Motion to Adjourn meeting at 9:45 pm


Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Trax – yes Daerr – yes Dupree – yes Lawson – yes Barna – yes

Motion carried


Roberta J. Singer, Secretary