

UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
DELAWARE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
August 10, 2023

The Upper Providence Township Council held the regularly scheduled monthly Business meeting on Thursday, August 10, 2023 at the Upper Providence Township Building. Chairperson Elgin Akarsoy called the business meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Mr. Akarsoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was an executive session held immediately prior to the Council meeting to discuss personnel and real estate matters.

Roll Call

Present: Elgin Akarsoy, Chairperson, Christen Rexing, Vice Chair, Kevin Else, and Marsha Peterson. Also in attendance, Don Vymazal, Township Manager, Mareile Watson, Assistant Township Manager, Carl Ewald, Township Solicitor, J.P. Kelly, Township Engineer, Kim McCloskey, Adm. Assistant, and Walt Omlor, Constable.

Awards, Presentations and Announcements

Announcement – Councilperson Marsha Peterson will be attending remotely via ZOOM. Council congratulated Media Little League for the amazing season they have had so far heading to the World Series.

The AJ Blosenski team members, Jim Clark and Rebecca Malcom were present to update residents on the status of the company and address any resident complaints. They are hiring more drivers and doing re-route maps. AJB is reimbursing for missed pickups.

- Fred Pondo, 500 Farnum Road – questions about grass clippings – drivers miss picking them up with trash – communications issues with AJB
- Julie Lancaster, 101 Park Ave – Trash and recycling has not been picked up in 4 weeks; it is impossible to reach someone in the AJB office; they were advised by the truck driver that they were taken off the route; it is now fixed
- Leon Ostrowski, 404 Meetinghouse Lane – Missed pickups; there is no customer service at AJB and they have been extremely rude;
- Kevin Reilly, 6 Cherry Street – AJB drivers and collectors are so much better than the previous trash hauler. They are very respectful;
- Elgin Advised that John Dougherty, 31 W. Ridge Road is on a private drive with 2-3 homes that keep getting missed.

Public Forum

- Chuck Ferraro, 806 Valley View - was present regarding a proposed fence that is currently before the ZHB at 425 Old State Road. He is against this and considers it a safety concern;
- Tiffany Brackon, 61 Shady Hill - requested a stop sign at Shady Hill and Park Ave. The underpass is also extremely dangerous – she requested a speed study and that the engineer look at the underpass structure and stability; is there any possibility for a sidewalk;
- Libbi Skivo, 19 Arrowhead Trail – expressed her support regarding the proposed SDLD at 410 E. Rose Tree Road;
- Deb Margulies, 927 Second Ave - thank you for the “come to a full stop” signs;
- Mary Clinton, 440 Osage Lane – she loves the new website – thank you;
- Kevin Reilly, 6 Cherry Street, traffic on Cherry Street – the soccer camp traffic backs up onto 252.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Rexing made a motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve the July 13, 2023 Regular Council Business Meeting minutes.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Municipal Boards, Authorities, Commissions and Committees

Vacancies on Sewer Authority, Zoning Hearing Board, Recreation Board and 5th District Council Seat were discussed.

ZHB Appointment

Ms. Rexing made a motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve the appointment of Brett Lester, from the 1st District, to fill an unexpired term on the Zoning Hearing Board with said term to expire on December 31, 2025, at which time he can be appointed to his first full 5 year term, if desired.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Council Appointment

Ms. Rexing made a motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to appointing Kimberly Fremont, a registered elector from the 5th District, to fill the vacancy in the position of the 5th District Township Councilperson until a duly elected successor is sworn into office.

Discussion: This position will be on the ballot in 2024, with the elected person to begin the first Monday, January 2025. Mr. Ewald stated five applicants were Jaime Haughton, Kimberly Fremont, Alexis Wolson, Brian Eury and Fredric Reid.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development

410 E. Rose Tree Road – Sketch Plan

Discussion: The applicant wants feedback from Council. The applicant, the Attorney for the applicant, Don Petrosa and Matt Houtman were all present. The applicant appeared before the Planning Commission meeting in May. They discussed the limited frontage on E. Rose Tree Road and the extensive frontage on Route 1. The site views were also discussed. This property is a 2.36 acre parcel zoned R3 and they are proposing a 3 lot subdivision. They believe that Route 1, per Code, can be used as frontage for the properties.

Mr. Ewald thanked the applicant for cleaning the property up and advised that they will need a formal decision from the Zoning Officer and may need to go to the ZHB.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Ewald advised that this is a zoning Ordinance and as such opened a hearing regarding Ordinance 549 – which was announced, presented before the Township and the County Planning Commission, and had a first reading before Council. He summarized that 549 relates to fences in areas with major streets that allow for 6’ high fences and all major streets are listed in the Ordinance. The hearing was then closed.

Ordinance 549 – Use and Definition Standards – 2nd Reading

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve the second reading of Ordinance 549 - §1256.04 – Use and Definition Standards – amending part 12, Title 6 of the Code of the Township to update regulations relating to fences permitted in front yards to make the language consistent with the current terminology used by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and amend the definition of solid fence.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

New Business

Voucher List for July 2023

Ms. Rexing made a motion, seconded by Mr. Akarsoy, to approve the voucher list for August 2023 in the amount of \$511,046.25.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Mr. Vymazal brought the Trash Rebate Program which is tied to the Pennsylvania Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program.

Reimbursement to Rose Tree Fire Company for Mechanical Permit Fee

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Ms. Peterson, to approve reimbursing Rose Tree Fire Company the mechanical permit fee in the amount of \$1,635 for the replacement of their boiler.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Media Little League – Permit Fee Waiver

Tabled

MLL- Donation

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Ms. Rexing, to approve a donation to Media Little League in the amount of \$2,023.12.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Resolution 2023-23

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve Resolution 2023-23, establishing the Zoning Hearing Board application deadline as thirty (30) days prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Resolution 2023-24- Junior Councilperson

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Ms. Peterson, to approve establishing a Junior Councilperson Program.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

2023-2024 Salt Bid Contract

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Ms. Peterson, to approve the 2023-24 salt bid contract from Eastern Salt Co., the lowest of 5 bids for the multi-municipal bid in the amount of \$73.73 per ton.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved – 4-0

Cherry Street Field Use - RTSC

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve the Cherry Street Field Use request from Rose Tree Soccer Club for the Fall 2023 and winter 2023-24 season, as recommended by the Recreation Board.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Cherry Street Field Use - MPFS

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve the Cherry Street Field Use request from Media Providence Friends School for Fall 2023, as recommended by the Recreation Board.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Rec Board Frisbee Purchase

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Else, to approve the request from the Recreation Board to purchase frisbees not to exceed \$1,500, to give out at the 2023 UPT Community Day event.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Road Dedication

Mr. Else advised that he spoke with the engineer about fixing the road in Cherry Street Park. It was discovered that it is not actually a road and therefore liquid fuels monies would not be able to be used. A right of way needs to be created and then the road can be dedicated if there is enough room. Council advised Mr. Kelly to start the survey.

EC Commission Removal of member

Tabled – Administration to reach out to member.

Palmers Mill Sidewalk

Ms. Rexing made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Akarsoy, to direct the Township Manager to send a letter to PennDOT in order to start discussions regarding Palmers Mill Road sidewalks.

Mr. Else	Yes	Ms. Rexing	Yes
Ms. Peterson	Yes	Mr. Akarsoy	Yes

Motion approved 4-0

Storm Sewer GIS Mapping

Mr. Kelly advised that they have been working on a GIS map for the sewer system which is almost complete. He showed Council how it is used. There are many layers to the program and this can be used in the field. This will be very helpful for the MS4 reports.

Maple Avenue Traffic Pattern

Mr. Vymazal advised that the crosswalk that was installed does not lead to a sidewalk on Maple. This roadway needs to be reconfigured and potentially make Maple a one-way Road. The property owner at 947 N. Providence Road is trying to develop the property but is running into parking space issues. They would like to put directional parking on Maple and

making it one way so the parking would fit. The one-way would be exiting to Providence Road. The owner of the property is willing to look into the installation of a sidewalk. Mr. Kelly did look at this area and provided a sketch of the proposed change in traffic flow, the parking and the sidewalk. This should be looked at again as soon as school starts to determine traffic.

Stop Signs Locations

Mr. Else advised that he recently viewed the intersection at Meetinghouse and Farnum Road and would like to revisit the possibility of putting a stop sign on Meetinghouse. Other areas will be looked into as well.

Council's Administrative Reports

- Two new AED machines have been installed in the Highway garage and District Court. A video will be shown to those that did not take the First Aid Class;
- Community Day is coming fast. A wine board raffle, please donate wine
- The reimbursement finding for the AV equipment has been submitted;
- The budget meetings will be advertised soon.

Engineers Report

Mr. Kelly reported that the road crossing reimbursement grant money will be coming soon. Road program is proceeding on schedule. Curbing is not included in the Road Program.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Akarsoy made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Don Vymazal
Township Secretary

Elgin Akarsoy
Council Chairperson