

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS INFORMATIONAL
AND GENERAL AFFAIRS MEETING MINUTES**

AUGUST 29, 2016

The Informational and General Affairs Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Upper St. Clair, duly advertised and posted in accordance with law, was called to order at approximately 7:30 PM, Monday, August 29, 2016, in the Community Room B, Community & Recreation Center, 1551 Mayview Road, Upper St. Clair, PA 15241.

PRESENT: Commissioner Christie President
 Commissioner Del Re
 Commissioner Paoly
 Commissioner Pardini
 Commissioner Seitanakis

 Matthew R. Serakowski Township Manager
 Mark S. Mansfield Assistant Township Manager
 Mark P. Romito Director of Finance
 Adam A. Benigni Director of Planning & Community Development
 Gary Schafer Forestry Administrator
 Charles Succop Planning & Zoning Coordinator
 Irving S. Firman Township Attorney
 Ruthann L. Omer, PE Township Engineer
 Cynthia Kane Recording Secretary

EXCUSED: Commissioner Waller Vice President
 Commissioner Orchowski

PUBLIC: Approximately 19 persons attended.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Christie announced that the Perimeter Trail Installation will be discussed later in the meeting. If anyone has comments re. that topic, you may hold your remarks until that time if you wish.

Ms. Sue Lekse, 2230 Country Club Drive, 25-year resident, disagrees with the Traffic Calming Proposal for Country Club Drive. She stated she would be penalized by having to drive over the speed humps 2 or 3 times a day. Secondly, she continued that the Traffic Calming Policy states 50% or more agreeable responses are needed to move forward. Of the 148 surveys mailed, the Township received 85 responses resulting in a 57% response rate for the neighborhood. Fifty responses (59%) of those who responded did so in favor of the proposed Traffic Calming Plan. She questioned the approval percentage based on those surveys returned as opposed to the total number of surveys mailed. She also stated the surveys were sent at a time when many people are on vacation.

Ms. Lekse continued that traffic calming measures are done “to preserve and improve safety of residents” as stated in the Policy. Ms. Lekse does not believe speed humps will do that because of

where they are proposed to be installed. They cannot be put on the lower portion of the road because it is too steep.

Ms. Carol Coliane, 2265 Country Club Drive, 20-year resident, handed out a “Traffic Calming Fact Sheet” to the Board. She commented that when the Country Club Drive traffic study was done, there was an unusually high number of vehicles due to road work being done on McMurray Road, therefore she believes the underlying data is flawed. She asks that the data be examined again. Ms. Coliane also mentioned that in a report by the National Motorists Association, one of the impacts of speed humps is slower response time by emergency vehicles.

Ms. Coliane continued that on a personal level, the speed humps would be directly in front of her home. As drivers slow down to go over the hump it would create a lot of noise. Driving over the speed humps could be bad for low-lying vehicles and cause additional wear and tear on normal vehicles.

Mr. Norm Coliane, 2265 Country Club Drive, stated he believes speed humps are warranted in some places such as schools, but not on Country Club and does not want to drive over them several times a day. He does not see Country Club as a unique situation and stated that similar traffic monitoring results would be attained no matter what street is tested.

Ms. Karen Connor, 2266 Country Club Drive, 4-year resident, stated she is the person who started the campaign for the traffic calming for Country Club Drive because she is concerned about children, pedestrians, and bicyclists on the road. She is open to measures other than the speed humps if available. Ms. Connor continued that there is a school bus stop by her house. She has also called about delivery trucks speeding but there have been no changes.

Ms. Mary Ann Wellener, 2274 Country Club Drive, stated she validates Ms. Connor’s comments and also stated she did not realize what a cut-through Country Club Drive is to McMurray Road. It is a very busy road, particularly in the morning.

Mr. Jatin Patel, 2264 Country Club Drive, stated he has two children and lives near the top of the hill on Country Club and people “are flying” on the street.

Commissioner Christie thanked everyone for their comments.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Community Development – Old Business

None.

Community Development – New Business

Public Hearing Re. PLC16-1301 – Zoning Map Amendment for Rezoning 1320 Mayview Road from C-1 Neighborhood Commercial District and R-LI Low Intensity Residential District to R-3 Medium Density Residential District

Mr. Benigni stated this is the initial public hearing on an application filed by Laurel Communities, LLC, for the rezoning of 1320 Mayview Road from C-1 Neighborhood Commercial District and R-LI Low Intensity Residential District to R-3 Medium Density Residential District. This application was reviewed by the Planning Commission on April 28, 2016 and was recommended for approval

subject to certain conditions. Following the applicant's presentation, staff will recommend the hearing be continued to Monday, October 3, 2016 for the purpose of taking staff testimony.

Recommendation Re. Morrow Road Bridge Replacement Project Acquisition of Right-of-Way

Mr. Benigni stated that in order to complete the Morrow Road Bridge Replacement Project, PennDOT must purchase the right-of-way and a temporary construction easement from the Township. The required right-of-way area is 2,965 sq. ft. and the temporary construction easement is 2,489 sq. ft. The total amount offered by PennDOT is \$9,600.00. The project is tentatively scheduled for summer 2017. Staff will prepare a Resolution, authorizing Township Manager Matthew R. Serakowski to sign all documents, agreements, and permit applications on behalf of the Township at the September 6, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Recommendation Re. Traffic Calming Plan – Country Club Drive

Commissioner Christie asked Mr. Benigni to respond to the remarks made during Citizens' Comments this evening.

Mr. Benigni explained the traffic calming process. First, the Township receives a request from residents from at least 20 households. After the signed petition is received, the Township sends the Traffic Engineer (Trans Associates) to test if traffic calming is warranted. If the data warrants traffic calming measures staff moves forward sending surveys to residents in that particular area. Fifty percent or more of responses need to be in favor of the measures before the proposal is presented to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Christie asked if that is 50% of responses or 50% of total surveys sent out.

Mr. Benigni answered that that is something that needs clarified. The Township has Trans Associates looking at the current Traffic Calming Policy for any updates or amendments taking into account national standards.

Commissioner Pardini also asked if in the case of the Country Club Drive Traffic Calming, if 50% is on those surveys returned or on the total number sent out.

Mr. Benigni answered that it has been common practice to use 50% of those surveys returned and that's the way it's been done to date.

Commissioner Del Re questioned if the Township has received feedback from residents who have had traffic humps installed on their street. He also asked staff to address the snow plow issues, low-lying vehicles, and signs indicating speed humps are being approached.

Mr. Benigni stated the speed humps are typically 3" to 3-5/8" with a gradual buildup to height. There are signs and pavement markings as you approach the speed humps. Residents of Sky Ridge Drive have said they like the speed humps. It has been about a year since those were installed so the Traffic Engineer will follow-up to see if they are working as expected.

Mr. Serakowski also answered that snow removal equipment can adequately remove snow.

Commissioner Paoly stated he uses Country Club Drive and it does get a lot of vehicles and a lot of people walking up and down the hill. He asked if other solutions had been looked at such as such as sidewalks top to bottom. Commissioner Paoly also stated this may not be the best time to decide on this proposal if we are considering revising it.

Mr. Serakowski stated that the Township has had a Traffic Calming Policy for nine years and some streets in the Township have had speed humps installed as a result. All the speed humps in the Township are asphalt and when installed properly, they pose no problem for low-profile vehicles or snowplows. Only one complaint has been received in nine years re. a speed hump and a low-profile vehicle and upon inspection the hump was found to be installed improperly and fixed.

Mr. Benigni reviewed the proposal for Country Club:

- One speed hump located approximately 220 feet west of Fairway Circle
- One speed hump located approximately 800 feet west of Fairway Circle
- Placement of a 25 mph speed limit sign near the entrance of Country Club Drive from Old Washington Road
- Placement of appropriate warning signage at each speed hump on eastbound and westbound approaches.

The total cost for these improvements is \$14,350 from El Grande Industries, Inc.

Mr. Mark Paunich, 101 Marwood Drive, stated he opposes the traffic calming proposal. If the speed humps were to be installed, they need to be where people are speeding which is on the hill.

Mr. Serakowski stated that over the past nine years, it has been shown traffic calming can be a divisive issue. Some families have children and some residents have no children or have raised them and they are no longer at home. Mr. Serakowski stated everyone's comments are appreciated.

Ms. Coliane asked if the goal to save lives or slow traffic. She distributed a handout "Problems Associated with Traffic Calming" from the National Motorists Association. [*Staff will make additional copies for the Board.*] She continued that on the South Side, there is an area with different signage – it makes it appear there is a speed hump, but there isn't one. This may slow traffic without the noise of driving over a speed hump.

Commissioner Christie thanked everyone for their comments and stated this item will be on the September 6, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda.

Community Development – Other

Items of Interest Report.

The Board reviewed the Items of Interest Report.

The Board unanimously agreed to have the current Traffic Calming Policy reviewed.

Other Agenda and Discussion Items

Discussion Re. Approval of Contracts

- **Public Works Vehicles – Upfits**

Mr. Mansfield stated staff is seeking approval to purchase two upfits for Public Works Vehicles in accordance with the Township's Fleet Replacement Schedule, as follows:

<u>Vehicle Upfit</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid/GSA</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Two (2) 9' Aluminum Dump Body Upfits @ \$49,895 each (Public Works)	Walsh Equipment Prospect, PA	PA COSTARS Contract #025-021	\$ 99,790

(For (2) 2017 Ford F-550 Cab &
Chassis Trucks Approved on
6/6/16)

Funding for the above mentioned upfits for Public Works vehicles is allocated in the Township's 2016 Capital Projects Budget in an aggregate amount of \$379,000.

Staff will recommend that the proper Township officials be authorized to enter into a contract with Walsh Equipment for two (2) upfits for Public Works vehicles in the amount of \$99,790 at the September 6, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Board.

- Perimeter Trail Installation

Mr. Serakowski thanked the Board for the amount of time spent on this item over the last several weeks by reviewing the details and taking a tour of the area. He also thanked Mr. Schafer who led several of the tours.

Mr. Serakowski stated this final section of the trail is also some of the most difficult terrain. He reviewed the funding sources including \$250,000 (Grant from the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources) and \$200,000 (grant from DCED Greenways, Trails & Recreation program).

Mr. Serakowski then introduced Mr. Schafer.

Mr. Schafer stated that in the last Community Survey, multi-use bicycle trails were a desired amenity. The two sections of trails proposed at this time are:

- Southern Extension Trail – (Ardolino's to Community Gardens)
- Morton Trail – (Community Gardens to Morton/Restrooms)

These areas will include picnic tables, benches, and portions that are handicap accessible. Part of the grant funds will also go toward improved parking.

Mr. Schafer gave a brief overview showing illustrations of the trail locations.

Commissioner Seitanakis asked if there are any updates re. trail connections from South Fayette.

Mr. Benigni answered that the developer of the Mayview area is interested in connecting to the trail and then as part of the bigger picture to the Montour Trail.

Mr. Serakowski added that when the timing is right, the rail line connection will be explored from South Fayette/Peters on the Montour Trail.

Commissioner Christie asked if there are any citizen's comments.

Mr. Preston Shimer, 1609 Terrie Drive, President, Citizens for Land Stewardship, commended Township staff on their fund raising skills. He further commented that the Perimeter Trail will connect neighborhoods with the park so that residents can access the park without having to use cars. Areas such as Rostron Drive, anyone with walking access to Boyce School via the Boyce School Trail, and Deerfield via Millwood Drive come to mind. Those in the Lattidome area will have access. And, residents of Friendship Village will also benefit.

Mr. Shimer continued that the \$900,000 cost provides much mileage.

Commissioner Del Re stated it would be foolish for the Board not to approve this.

Commissioner Christie thanked the public for their comments and Mr. Schafer for his report.

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Review of the Informational and General Affairs Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2016

Commissioner Paoly moved to approve the Informational and General Affairs Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2016. This was seconded by Commissioner Pardini and approved by a 4-0-1 voice vote. Commissioner Del Re was not in attendance at the July 25, 2016 meeting, therefore he abstained from the vote.

Consideration of the August 2016 Bill Sheet

Commissioner Paoly stated the Board has received the August 2016 Bill Sheet. Commissioner Pardini then moved to approve the August 2016 Bill Sheet. This was seconded by Commissioner Paoly and approved by a 5-0 voice vote.

Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Statements for the Seven-Month Period ending July 31, 2016

Commissioner Paoly acknowledged receipt of the Financial Statements for the Seven-Month Period ending July 31, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Del Re moved to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Commissioner Pardini and approved by a 5-0 voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:56 PM at which time the Board convened in Executive Session to discuss Legal Matters.

Cynthia Kane
Recording Secretary

**LITIGATION REPORT - SUMMARY
TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR
August 25, 2016**

I. CASES WHERE TOWNSHIP IS PLAINTIFF

- A. Township of Upper St. Clair v. Carol Ann Caporali - (No. CV-221-2014) (Magistrate Arnoni).
- B. Township of Upper St. Clair v. H. Samuel Price and Kris Price - (No CV- 038-2016) (Magistrate Arnoni).

II. CASES WHERE TOWNSHIP IS DEFENDANT NOT DEFENDED BY INSURANCE CARRIER

III. CASES WHERE UPPER ST. CLAIR IS DEFENDANT AND INSURANCE COMPANY IS DEFENDING

- A. Waldron v. Upper St. Clair Township, GD 14-7316.
- B. Folino v. West Penn Power and Upper St. Clair Township, GD 15-11969

IV. OTHER LITIGATION INCLUDING BANKRUPTCY MATTERS

- A. Gary and Tywanta Walton - 10-27461
- B. John and Tracy Pancari - 12-20169
- C. Andrew and Diana James - 11-27696
- D. David A. Mackowick - 12-26163
- E. George and Melissa Drews -13-23545
- F. Marc Wolkoff - 13-21084
- G. Meghan E. Webb - 13-22643
- H. Lance and Susan Falce - 13-23468
- I. Norman and Barbara Swiech - 13-24404
- J. David and Mary Conn - 14-22699
- K. Florence I. Underhill - 14-23547

- L. Brad and Patricia Gilles - 14-23596
- M. Raymond and Michele Champagne - 14-23668
- N. Vincent Kelly - 15-20009
- O. Karen Demma - 08-23546
- P. Andrew and Marcella Lantzman - 15-21857
- Q. Robert and Adriene Bruno - 15-22160
- R. Linda K. Rutter - 15-24427

V. LAND USE

None.

VI. OTHER LEGAL MATTERS

None.