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, November 25, 2019, in the Board of Commissioners’ Meeting Room, Township of Upper St. Clair Municipal Building, 1820 McLaughlin Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241.

PRESENT: Commissioner Christie President
Commissioner Seitanakis Vice President
Commissioner Orchowski
Commissioner Logan
Commissioner Paoly
Commissioner Pardini
Commissioner Waller
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
Irving S. Firman Township Attorney
Jennifer Slagle, P.E. Township Engineer
Laura Long Recording Secretary

PUBLIC: Approximately 2 people attended.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – NEW BUSINESS

Recommendation Re. PLC19-0011 – Defender Properties, LLC – 1140 Boyce Road – Nonresidential Planned Development – Final Approval

Mr. Benigni stated that this application was reviewed by the Planning Commission on November 21, 2019 and was recommended for approval subject to certain conditions. A Bill granting Final Approval will be prepared for consideration by the Board on Monday, December 2, 2019.

 Commission Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.
Recommendation Re. PLC19-5702 – Amendment to Chapter 57 of the Township Code Entitled “Fees”

Mr. Benigni stated that Staff has recently completed a revision to Chapter 57, Fees, of the Township Code to update the Township’s fee requirements related to building permits, zoning permits, and stormwater management permits. A Bill will be prepared for consideration by the Board on Monday, December 2, 2019.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

Recommendation Re. Establish Public Hearing Re. PLC19-1301 - Amendment to Chapter 130 of the Township Code Entitled “Zoning” to add Conditional Uses in the SB – Special Business Zoning District

Mr. Benigni stated that this application was filed by Mr. Andy Shaer of Clair Boyce Associates, L.P. to amend the SB Zoning District by adding “Personal Fitness Centers” and “Massage Therapy Establishments” to the list of conditional uses in the District. This amendment was reviewed by the Planning Commission on November 21, 2019 and recommended for approval. A resolution establishing a public hearing on February 3, 2020 will be prepared for consideration by the Board on December 2, 2019.

In response to Commissioner Paoly and Commissioner Orchowski’s inquiries, Mr. Benigni confirmed the property location and that this matter relates to the same matter that the Board reviewed in May 2019.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

Recommendation Re. Resolution Authorizing the Appropriate Township Officials to Execute all Documentation with Regard to the Maintenance Agreement for the Roundabout at SR3004, McLaughlin Run Road and SR 3034 Lesnett Road/McMillan Road

Mr. Benigni stated that as a result of the roundabout project at the intersection of McLaughlin Run Road/Lesnett Road/McMillan Road, the Township and PennDOT must enter into an agreement for the future maintenance of the landscaping, sidewalks, signage, pavement markings and lighting associated with the roundabout. A resolution designating the appropriate Township Officials to execute all documents with regard to the Maintenance Agreement for the roundabout between the Township of Upper St. Clair and PennDOT will be prepared for consideration by the Board on December 2, 2019.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

Recommendation Re. IMP19-0002 – Acceptance of Public Improvement in PLC17-0013 – Laurel Place

Mr. Benigni stated that Pinehurst Land Partners, LLC has requested acceptance of the public improvement in the Laurel Place planned residential development. A Bill will be prepared for consideration by the Board on December 2, 2019.

In response to Commissioner Christie’s inquiry, Mr. Benigni confirmed that the street and stormwater management system for Laurel Place are private and would not be accepted as a
Commissioner Logan asked to revisit the roundabout matter and asked if there were any additional updates on PennDOT’s progress of the roadwork. Mr. Benigni stated that PennDOT had projected this as a two and a half (2 ½) year project including multiple phases. He stated that the project has been behind; however, PennDOT has shared that they are hoping to save time in future phases in an effort to finish in 2022 as planned.

Conversation between the Board of Commissioners and Mr. Serakowski ensued regarding how the roundabout project originated. Mr. Serakowski stated that after conducting a traffic study, PennDOT confirmed that the roundabout was the most effective option for the Township.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

OTHER AGENDA AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion Re. Recognition of Upper St. Clair High School Girls’ Varsity Golf Team.

In response to Commissioner Christie’s inquiry, Commissioner Seitanakis confirmed that he would present the Certificates of Recognition at the Regular Board Meeting to be held on December 2, 2019 to the 2019 USC High School Girls’ Varsity Golf Team for their Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) Class AAA Championship and for placing 2nd in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) State Championship.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

Discussion Re. Authorizing a Contract with USDA Wildlife Services for Assistance under the Township’s Special Use Culling Permit.

Mr. Mansfield stated that the Township has made great progress over the last thirteen years reducing deer vehicle collisions by utilizing a “Special Use” culling permit issued by the PA Game Commission. USDA Wildlife Services performed the prescribed culling activities on behalf of the Township as part of a contractual arrangement.

The 2019 program removed 70 animals that were processed and given to needy families and food banks. Deer vehicle collisions have been reduced to approximately 50-80 per year, down from over 250 when the program began. The annual culling program continues to keep the herd at a safe and healthy level and has significantly reduced Upper St. Clair’s Animal Control Services annual cost share.

USDA has tendered a contract proposal for culling activities to begin early next year in the amount of $45,000. The 2020 Budget has a recommended allocation of $45,000 for this program.

Therefore, Staff will recommend that the proper Township Officials be authorized to enter into a contract with USDA Wildlife Services in an amount not to exceed $45,000 at the Regular Board meeting on December 2, 2019.

Conversation between the Board of Commissioners and Mr. Mansfield ensued regarding which neighboring Townships participate in deer culling and the safety advantages due to the decreasing
amount of vehicle accidents reported since implementing the culling effort.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

Discussion Re. Adoption of the 2020 Budget

Mr. Romito stated that a public hearing was held on November 4, 2019 to review the Township Manager’s 2020 Proposed Budget. This Proposed Budget holds the Real Estate Tax rate at 3.83 mills, the Earned Income Tax rate at 0.80% and the sanitary sewer rate multiplier at 2.00.

In accordance with Section 906 of the Township Charter, Staff will prepare a Bill for the Board’s consideration of the 2020 Annual Budget as presented.

Staff will recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt the 2020 Annual Budget at the Regular Board meeting on Monday, December 2, 2019.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any further comments from the Board and there were none.

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Review of the Informational and General Affairs Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2019

Commissioner Pardini moved to approve the Informational and General Affairs Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2019. This was seconded by Commissioner Waller and approved by a 7-0 voice vote.

Consideration of the November 2019 Bill Sheet

Commissioner Paoly stated that the Bill Sheet was reviewed and thanked the members of the Board for their review and replies. He moved for approval of the November 2019 Bill Sheet, which was seconded by Commissioner Orchowski and approved by a 7-0 voice vote.

Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Statements for the Ten-Month Period ending October 31, 2019

Commissioner Paoly acknowledged receipt of the Financial Statements for the Ten-Month Period ending October 31, 2019 and stated that they are trending as expected for the time of the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Christie mentioned that previous to this evening’s meeting, the Board met to tour the municipal building for future renovation purposes and would be adjourning to an Executive Session following this meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Commissioner Orchowski moved to adjourn the Informational & General Affairs Meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Logan. This was approved by a 7-0 voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:49 PM.

Laura Long
Recording Secretary
November 2019
LITIGATION REPORT - SUMMARY
TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR
November 25, 2019

CASES WHERE TOWNSHIP IS PLAINTIFF


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

NONE.

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

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

IV. OTHER LITIGATION INCLUDING BANKRUPTCY MATTERS

A. David A. Mackowick - 12-26163

B. Marc Wolkoff - 13-21084

C. Meghan E. Webb - 13-22643

D. Lance and Susan Falce - 13-23468

E. Norman and Barbara Swiech - 13-24404

F. David and Mary Conn - 14-22699

G. Penny Caswell - 17-21249

H. Raymond and Michele Champagne - 14-23668

I. Vincent Kelly - 16-24838

J. Robert and Adriene Bruno - 15-22160

K. Linda K. Rutter - 15-24427
V. LAND USE

VI. OTHER LEGAL MATTERS

A. REDINGER V. ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

B. UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ACTION PURSUANT TO 33 U.S.C. §138

C. R&B CONTRACTING - ALLIED WORLD INSURANCE COMPANY BOND CLAIM

D. TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR V. SUJILIDA, S.A. NO. 19-000168

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