

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**

**September 8, 2020**

The regular meeting and public hearing 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 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at the Community & Recreation Center, 1551 Mayview Road, Upper St. Clair, PA. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

PRESENT:    Commissioner Christie                      President  
                 Commissioner Paoly                      Vice President  
                 Commissioner Enck  
                 Commissioner Orchowksi  
                 Commissioner Plutko  
                 Commissioner Waller                      *(present via audio conference)*

                 Matthew R. Serakowski                      Township Manager  
                 Mark Mansfield                      Assistant Township Manager  
                 Mark P. Romito                      Director of Finance  
                 Adam A. Benigni                      Director of Community Development  
                 Irving Firman                      Township Attorney  
                 Jennifer Slagle, P. E.                      Township Engineer  
                 Missy Fenster                      Network Deposition Services  
                 Prudence Cooper                      Recording Secretary

EXCUSED:    Commissioner Pardini

PUBLIC:        Approximately 12 people attended.

Commissioner Christie began the meeting by recognizing Pennsylvania State Representative Natalie Mihalek, who was in the audience.

### **RECOGNITIONS**

Commissioner Enck presented a Proclamation to the Upper St. Clair High School Odyssey of the Mind Division III Problem Performance Team for their first-place win at World Finals held virtually in May, 2020. The following coaches and students were recognized for their outstanding accomplishments:

Coaches: Laura Murtough, Stacey Seewald, and Meridith Markovitz

Team Members: Victoria Cuba, Brianna Lin, Joseph Markovitz, Max Murtough, Sammie Seewald, Constantine Tripodes, and Eric Wang

Commissioner Enck added that she has been involved in the Odyssey of the Mind organization for many years and still serves on their Board. She offered her congratulations and is extremely proud of the Problem Performance Team's accomplishments this year.

Pennsylvania State Representative Natalie Mihalek congratulated Commissioner Enck for her appointment to Commissioner of Ward 2 and presented her with a Certificate from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. Representative Mihalek shared that she has known Commissioner Enck for several years and commended her involvement in various organizations

within Upper St. Clair. Representative Mihalek thanked Commissioner Enck for considering being appointed to Commissioner, especially during the pandemic.

Representative Mihalek confirmed for Commissioner Orchowski that her office is sponsoring a paper shredding event in the Upper St. Clair High School parking lot on Saturday, October 3, 2020 and it is a free service. Commissioner Orchowski mentioned that Representative Mihalek's website lists many other area recycling events.

### **REVIEW OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2020**

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Commissioner Orchowski moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2020. This was seconded by Commissioner Paoly and carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **RECOMMENDATION RE. PLC20-0004 – WOODSHIRE ESTATES – PRELIMINARY AND FINAL SUBDIVISION APPROVAL**

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Mr. Benigni stated that the applicant is requesting preliminary and final subdivision approval for a consolidation of seven (7) parcels into two (2) parcels zoned R1 Single Family Residential District located at 302 Locust Lane.

Mr. Benigni added that this application was discussed at the Board meetings in July and August and it was continued to tonight's meeting. The Planning Commission and Staff are recommending denial of the application; therefore, two (2) Bills have been prepared: one to approve the application and one to deny the application. The applicant and his counsel are present tonight for the opportunity to provide further comment and answer any questions from the Board or public.

Counsel for the applicant, Mr. Bill Settig, stated that he had no further comments to add on this matter.

Mr. Firman clarified with the Board that their vote of "aye" for Bill No. 7-20 is a vote to deny the application pertaining to Woodshire Estates.

Commissioner Orchowski wished to add that he visited the area pertaining to this application with Mr. Benigni at both Locust Lane and Quigg Drive. The visit was very helpful with his conclusion that there is justification for agreeing with the content of Bill No. 7-20 denying the application. There are many "grandfathered" flag lots in the Township, but those property owners made a choice to live on those properties. The residents of Locust Lane would have no choice in this matter and they would be burdened by the access to the property from Locust Lane and with their properties bordering a flag lot. Therefore, he recommends this application be denied.

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

**MOTION AND VOTE TO ADOPT BILL NO. 7-20 DENYING THE APPLICATION RE. PLC20-0004 – WOODSHIRE ESTATES – PRELIMINARY AND FINAL SUBDIVISION APPROVAL**

Commissioner Orchowski moved to adopt Bill No. 7-20 denying the application Re. PLC20-0004 – Woodshire Estates – Preliminary and Final Subdivision Approval. This was seconded by Commissioner Waller and carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING RE. PLC20-0005 – HASTINGS VILLAGE PLAN REV. NO. 2 – AMENDED TENTATIVE AND FINAL APPROVAL**

Mr. Benigni stated that on Thursday, September 3, 2020, Staff received a tabling request from the applicant. The Board of Commissioners must act to accept the tabling of this application regarding PLC20-0005 – Hastings Village Plan Rev. No. 2 – Amended Tentative and Final Approval, which may be accomplished by a simple motion and voice vote.

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

**MOTION AND VOTE TO TABLE PUBLIC HEARING – RE. PLC20-0005 – HASTINGS VILLAGE PLAN REV. NO. 2 – AMENDED TENTATIVE AND FINAL APPROVAL**

Commissioner Paoly moved to table Public Hearing Re. PLC20-0005 – Hastings Village Plan Rev. No. 2 – Amended Tentative and Final Approval to the Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting on October 5, 2020. This was seconded by Commissioner Plutko and carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RECOMMENDATION RE. APPOINTMENT TO VARIOUS TOWNSHIP BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Serakowski stated that due to vacancies on the Municipal Authority, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board, Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approve the following appointments:

Municipal Authority – 5 year term

- Nicholas J. Seitanakis

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – 3 year term

- Jason Graves

Planning Commission – 4 year term

- David Sirota

Zoning Hearing Board, Alternate – 3 year term

- Justin W. Hollingsworth

Mr. Serakowski stated that Staff is recommending the Board of Commissioners approve the appointments to the Municipal Authority, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and Planning Commission, which may be accomplished by a simple motion and voice vote.

Mr. Serakowski further stated that the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code authorizes the Board of Commissioners to appoint residents of the municipality to the Zoning Hearing Board by Resolution. Therefore, Staff recommends the Board approve Resolution No. 1691 by simple motion and roll call vote.

Commissioner Christie offered his congratulations to the appointees and added that the Township is lucky to have such great candidates and is fortunate to be able to find a position for each one of them on the various Boards and Commissions.

Commissioner Orchowski shared that since Mr. Seitanakis is a former Commissioner and is well known to the Board, he was not interviewed for his position, but he is confident Mr. Seitanakis will be an asset to the Municipal Authority.

Commissioner Christie asked if there were any additional comments or questions from the Board or the public and there were none.

**MOTION AND VOTE RE. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR**

Commissioner Orchowski moved to approve the above appointments to the Municipal Authority, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and Planning Commission of the Township of Upper St. Clair. This was seconded by Commissioner Plutko and carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

**MOTION AND VOTE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 1691**

Commissioner Paoly moved to approve Resolution No. 1691 Re. Appointment of Justin W. Hollingsworth to the Zoning Hearing Board of the Township of Upper St. Clair. This was seconded by Commissioner Orchowski and carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Christie confirmed with the Board of their consensus that they agree with the Board Committee assignments.

Commissioner Orchowski added that he was happy to see school buses today which have not been seen in a while due to the pandemic.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Following a motion for adjournment by Commissioner Enck and a second by Commissioner Paoly, which carried with a 6-0 voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:54 PM.