

**Upper Moreland Township
Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting
March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Board of Commissioners Members: Commissioner and President, Clifton "Kip" McFatridge; Commissioner and Vice President Cheryl Lockard; Commissioners Nicholas O. Scull, Kevin C. Spearing, Charles M. Whiting, Anthony S. Prousi, and R. Samuel Valenza.

- I. **Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Upper Moreland Township was called to order by the President of the Board of Commissioners Clifton "Kip" McFatridge.
- II. **Moment of Silent Meditation/Pledge of Allegiance:**
Commissioner McFatridge asked everyone to remember the people of Ukraine.
- III. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Board President McFatridge, Commissioner and Vice President Lockard; Commissioners Scull, Spearing, Whiting, Prousi, Valenza. Also present: Randall K. Schaible, Assistant Township Manager / Director of Finance; Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager; Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- IV. **Presentations/Announcements:**
 - a. District Justice Paul Leo to conduct the Oath of Office and swearing-in of Eoghan Quigg as a Firefighter/EMT:
 - Chief Edward Glassman gave an introduction and District Justice Leo performed an Oath of Office and swearing-in of Eoghan Quigg.
 - b. 2022 Bond Sale Presentation by PFM Asset Management (bid results will be provided at the meeting):
 - Commissioner McFatridge explained a discussion was held by the Finance & Administrative Committee.

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- V. **Public Comments** - Nothing to report.
- VI. **Treasurer's Activity Report – February 2022:**
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0, the report as submitted.
- VII. **Approval of Minutes - February 7, 2022 - Regular Meetings:**
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0, the minutes as submitted.
- VIII. **Committee Recommendations:**
 - A. **Finance & Administrative Committee - February 28, 2022** – The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action on the following:
 1. **Appointments/Reappointments:**
 - a. The reappointment of Moureen Wenik as a representative of Ward 4 on the **Parks and Recreation Advisory Council** and serve a new two-year term that will expire on February 3, 2024.

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- b. The appointment of James Morrison to fill the Voting vacancy on the **Environmental Advisory Council** left by John Massucci and serve a new three-year term to expire on January 4, 2025.
 - Commissioner Spearing thanked Mr. Massucci for his service on the Environmental Advisory Council.
- c. **Motion to Approve Resolution R-2022-09** – Appointing Raymond Fox, Jr. to fill the Alternate vacancy on the **Zoning Hearing Board** left by Donald Warner and serve the remainder of the current three-year term that will expire on December 31, 2023 (attachment).
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioner approved by a vote of 7-0 the above appointments and reappointments.
2. **List of Bills Payable:**
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Lockard and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
3. **Aqua General Funds Bills:**
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Prousi and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 6 (one (1) abstention: Commissioner Spearing, Aqua employee).
4. **Other Items:**
 - a. **Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 1727** – Amending Tax Collector Certificate and Duplicate Tax Bills Fee:
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
 - b. **Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 1728** – Authorizing the incurrence of nonelectoral debt of the Township by the issuance of General Obligation Bond, Series of 2022:
 - A \$3M Bond at a rate of 2.76% for 30 years will be used to reimburse the purchase of a building on Center Avenue and the purchase and clean up of the former Woodlawn School.
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
 - c. **Motion to Approve** the installation of flood gates at various locations throughout the Township:
 - Commissioner Valenza read a list of recommendations that includes Warminster Road and York Road, Mill Road and York Road, York Road at Bonnet Lane, Masons Mill Road near Buttonwood Lane, Masons Mill Road at Byberry Road, Byberry Road and Frontier Road, Byberry Road at Pioneer Road, and York Road and Fitzwatertown Road.
 - Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
 - d. **Motion to Approve** the proposal of the Cohen Law Group to perform franchise fee audit and cable franchise renewal negotiations with Comcast:
 - Commissioner Scull commented concerns that customers without cable cannot access any of Comcast's or Verizon's content directly and must stream programs.

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- Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
5. **New Business** - Nothing to report.

B. Community Development Committee - February 14, 2022:

1. **Code Enforcement** - Nothing to report.
2. **Land Development/Subdivision Applications:**
 - a. **Motion to Approve Resolution R-2022-10** – Granting Land Development approval for Federal Realty Investment Trust at the Willow Grove Shopping Center (Park Avenue) for proposed 18K square foot building and associated site improvements:
 - The Board of Commissioners reviewed the resolution and waivers with James Garrity, Wisler Pearlstine, Mark Brennan, Vice President of Regional Development, John Tschiderer, Senior Vice President of Development, and Mike Roth, Bohler Engineering.
 - Commissioner Spearing motioned, seconded by Commissioner Valenza and the Board of Commissioners approved Waivers A-O by a vote of 7-0.
 - Commissioner Spearing motioned, seconded by Commissioner Prousi and the Board of Commissioners approved the Resolution by a vote of 7-0.
 - b. **Motion to Approve Resolution R-2022-11** – Granting a waiver of Land Development by Palz Tap House, 1902 County Line Road, for construction of a deck with roof for outdoor dining:
 - The Board of Commissioners briefly discussed planting a shade tree, the driveway, and bollards.
 - Commissioner Spearing motioned, seconded by Commissioner Prousi and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
3. **List of Upcoming Zoning Hearing Board Applications:**
 - Commissioner Spearing read two applications that will be heard at the next meeting scheduled on March 10, 2022.
4. **Other Items:**
 - a. **Motion to Approve** awarding contract bid for the demolition of the Woodlawn School (background investigations on bidders are currently being researched by Gilmore & Associates, Inc.):
 - Commissioner Spearing motioned, seconded by Commissioner Valenza and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.

C. Parks and Recreation Committee - February 28, 2022 – The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action on the following:

1. **Motion to Approve** the consulting services of Simone Collins for the Woodlawn Park Master Plan:
 - Commissioners Valenza and McFatridge commented that they do not support the choice of Simone Collins.
 - Commissioners Lockard, Spearing, Prousi and Whiting commented that it is important to have options and they support the decision of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council.

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- Commissioner Scull motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 5-2 (five (5) aye: Commissioners Scull, Lockard, Spearing Prousi, Whiting; and two (2) nay: Commissioners Valenza and McFatridge.)
2. **Motion to Approve Resolution R-2022-12** – Authorizing the submission of a Local Share Account Statewide Grant application for Bonnet Lane Park – Phase 1:
 - Mr. Candland explained that the grant opportunity comes from on-line casino funds and would serve to build a connector road between Mill Road and Bonnet Lane, and provide turning lanes on Mill Road and the relocation of overhead utilities.
 - Commissioner McFatridge has notified residents to attend a neighborhood meeting at Mill Creek Park on March 29, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss grant funds and planned improvements.
 - Commissioner Scull motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
 3. **Motion to Approve** the Memorandum of Understanding and the Declaration of Covenants between the Township and Friends of Nathaniel Boileau Farmstead, Inc. (d/b/a/ Farmstead Alliance):
 - Commissioner Scull explained that the memo is an agreement with steps that are required in order to accept funding.
 - Commissioner Spearing commended everyone involved for their hard work.
 - Commissioner Scull motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
 4. **Motion to Approve** the advertisement an Ordinance of the Township’s Shade Tree Commission:
 - Commissioner McFatridge commented concerns that the Shade Tree Commission should be managed through the Parks and Recreation Department.
 - Commissioner Scull motioned, seconded by Commissioner Spearing and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
 5. **Motion to Approve** serving alcohol at certain special events held at Farmstead Park:
 - Commissioner Scull explained that Farmstead Alliance has requested beer gardens be permitted during Park events.
 - Commissioner Scull motioned, seconded by Commissioner McFatridge and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
- D. **Public Health & Safety Committee – February 28, 2022** – The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action on the following:
1. **Motion to Approve Resolution R-2022-13** – Calling upon the members of the Delaware River Basin Commission and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to take all actions necessary to prevent the transportation of liquified natural gas through Pennsylvania by truck and/or rail:
 - Commissioner Lockard commented concerns for safety of the community, the liquified plant has not been completed, and products transported through the community would be used for export.
 - Commissioner Whiting motioned, seconded by Commissioner Prousi and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.

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2. **Motion to Approve Resolution R-2022-14** – Amending the Upper Moreland Township Civil Service Rules regarding the hiring from entry level lists for police officers and firefighters:
 - Commissioner Spearing commented that the amendments provide for the hiring of the best candidates.
 - Commissioner Whiting motioned, seconded by Commissioner Valenza and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
3. **Motion to Approve** the removal of permanent basketball hoops from the Township’s Right-of-Way:
 - Commissioners Spearing and McFatridge commented that residents have been notified and the permanent basketball hoops will be removed.
 - Commissioner Whiting motioned, seconded by Commissioner Valenza and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.
4. **Motion to Approve** the partial closure of the 100 block of Park Avenue on June 18, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.:
 - Commissioner Spearing commented that the closure is for the Juneteenth Event and a committee is working in coordination with the Library and the Police Department.
 - Commissioner Whiting motioned, seconded by Commissioner Valenza and the Board of Commissioners approved by a vote of 7-0.

IX. Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Lockard commented support on tree planting and increasing funds to \$15,000 for the year.
 - The Board of Commissioners recommends a discussion continue at the March 21, 2022 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
- Commissioner Lockard inquired about the status of the base coat for the right-hand turn at Davisville Road and Byberry Road. Mr. Candland will provide a follow-up.
- Commissioner Prousi reminded that March is Women's History Month and encouraged everyone to learn more about women's contributions in American history and commended the leadership of women in many roles of life.
- Commissioner Spearing commented support for the Ukrainian people and requested the Board of Commissioners consider flying the Ukrainian flag during the current turmoil. Commissioner McFatridge explained that the Township flag will be temporarily removed and the Ukrainian flag will be flown lower than the American flag.

X. Visitor Comments - Nothing to report.

XI. Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.