

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
November 14, 2023**

Those in attendance: Robert Stoner and Bob Coleman; Supervisors, Luanna Zimmerman; Secretary/Treasurer, Rich Wiest; Roadmaster, Peter Howland; Solicitor, Joe Underkoffler, Marty Etzweiler, Kim Martz, Doug Moran, Elaine Moran, Rod Lebo, Rhonda Lebo, Scott Wert, Ben Warner; Tri- County Regional Planning Commission, Dawn Lisi, and John Bevec; Sunrise Energy Solar.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stoner at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments: Chairman Stoner stated that he had seen a press release stating that Millersburg Borough recently donated \$20,000 to the Millersburg Area Ambulance Association with an additional donation of another \$20,000 to follow. Stoner told the residents in attendance that Upper Paxton Township donated \$50,000 at the 10-25-2023 meeting with the possibility of another donation to be made in 2023 if there is a need.

Approval of Minutes and Financial Report: The minutes of the October 25, 2023, monthly meeting were reviewed. Bob Coleman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Second by Robert Stoner. With all in favor, motion carried. Luanna Zimmerman presented a list of bills to be paid and the October financial documents. After review, Robert Stoner made a motion to approve the bills and the financial documents. Second by Bob Coleman. With all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Luanna Zimmerman presented the Board with the tentative budget for 2024. After review, Bob Coleman made a motion to approve advertising of the 2024 tentative budget. Second by Robert Stoner. With all in favor motion carried.
2. Chairman Stoner said that he had attended an Upper Dauphin Council of Governments Meeting regarding the proposed EMS Study to be done in Northern Dauphin County. Stoner said that UDCOG President Chris Dietz is working to get more municipalities on board with this study. He also said that Dietz will attend a Dauphin County Gaming Grant Hearing in hopes of receiving funding for the EMS Study. This was tabled and will be revisited at a future meeting.
3. The Board reviewed information regarding the minimum lot size in the Agricultural District from Ben Warner of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. After discussion, it was decided that this will be tabled for a future meeting in order to give the Board time to review the information.
4. Dawn Lisi spoke to the Board regarding rezoning for parcels #65-022-012 & #65-022-013. Lisi said that she, her sister, and niece would like to have these parcels rezoned from Residential Suburban to Agricultural in order to have a solar farm on these parcels. Lisi introduced John Bevec of Sunrise Energy Solar. Bevec gave information on the proposed solar farm. Bevec spoke of the benefits to the community. Chairman Stoner said that he favors this property staying in the Residential Suburban Zoning District due to the fact that there are few areas available to build homes in Upper Paxton Township. Bob Coleman

concurrent. Supervisor Coleman brought up Ordinance No. 7-13-2021a which addresses solar energy systems. Coleman said that this Ordinance limits the amount of land that can be used for a solar farm if the land is labeled as Class I and Class II prime agricultural soils as defined by the then current version of the NRCS Custom Soil Resource Report. Bevec said he would not have made the trip from Pittsburgh if his company did not feel they had a chance to develop this project. Township residents asked questions as to the operations & maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed project. Township Resident Scott Wert asked if there was a way to poll Upper Paxton Township residents to find out if they are in favor of this. Chairman Stoner told him residents that had attended meetings during the process of writing, advertising, the Public Hearing, and adopting Ordinance No. 7-13-2021a were supportive of this Ordinance regulating solar farms. Lisi and Bevec were made aware of the stormwater problems in this area (Tanner Run). This issue was tabled.

New Business:

1. Chairman Stoner said that the audit for the 2021 and 2022 Liquid Fuels (State Funds) account is complete with no findings and the account is in order. Luanna Zimmerman said that we will be receiving a report from the PA Auditor General confirming this.
2. The Board discussed snow plowing for the 2023 – 2024 winter season with Roadmaster Wiest. It was decided to hire some part – time drivers for this period of time. Chairman Stoner and Supervisor Coleman directed Wiest to meet with them in the next week or two and discuss the procedures and routes.
3. The Board discussed meeting times for 2024. Robert Stoner made a motion to advertise the following meeting times: Township Reorganizational meeting will be held on January 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Additional meetings for 2024 will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month and at 10:00 a.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month except for the month of May, it will be held at 10:00 a.m. on the fifth Wednesday. The meeting on the fourth Wednesday of December 2024 will be cancelled due to that being Christmas Day. Second by Bob Coleman. With all in favor, motion carried. Luanna Zimmerman will prepare an advertisement for the Citizen Standard and also update the Township website.

Public Comments: Rod Lebo asked if there are any solar farms in Dauphin County. Ben Warner informed him that currently there is a plan under review for a solar farm in another municipality located in Dauphin County. There was also additional discussion regarding Ordinance No. 7-13-2021a and stormwater.

With no further business on the agenda, Bob Coleman moved to adjourn. Robert Stoner seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Luanna Zimmerman,
Secretary/Treasurer