UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP MEETING APRIL 4, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Workshop Meeting on Monday, April 4, 2024, in the Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:47 p.m., followed by a pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Bill Jenaway, Greg Waks, Tina Garzillo, Carole Kenney and Greg Philips. Also present were: Anthony Hamaday, Township Manager; Amanda Lafty, Assistant Township Manager; John Walko and Tyler Miller, Township Solicitor's Office.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS: None

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE AND BID THE 2024-2025 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CONSORTIUM FUEL CONTRACT:

Mr. Tony Hamaday, Township Manager said Upper Merion Township handles this contract for Montgomery County each year so he's asking the Board if we can advertise as the entity for this BID. Once it is open and awarded each of the respected Municipalities would have to award the contract individually as well as Upper Merion Township.

Board Actions:

It was moved by Supervisor Kenney, seconded by Supervisor Waks, all voting "Aye" authorizing Upper Merion Township to advertise and bid the 2024-2025 Montgomery County Consortium Fuel Contract. None opposed. Motion passed 5-0.

DISCUSSIONS:

A. FIRE/EMS TAX CREDITS:

Mr. Tony Hamaday gave the Board a package showing what other municipalities enacted for their Volunteer Fire Company as an incentive.

He mentioned the County is also doing something by providing a credit or refund of real estate taxes. Mr. Hamaday asked the Board of Supervisors if they were interested in doing that in some kind of form for our volunteer residents. If so, they would have to craft an Ordinance to provide that incentive to our Volunteer Firefighters & EMS personnel, which is about 50 residents and will total around \$40,000 each year.

Vice-chair Jenaway ask if the Board wanted to include the General Fund as well as the Fire Protection Fund and he suggested that the credit only applies to the house that the Volunteer lives in. He also mentioned whether to only include firefighters or also include administrative personnel that achieve the threshold of points and the Board can pick the parameters from 20% to 100% for the credit. Mr. Jenaway suggested that we follow whatever percentage the County picks so it stays uniformed and should also include the Volunteer EMS residents. So, the Board agreed to draft an Ordinance allowing Volunteer Firefighters and EMS residents to apply for a credit in 2025 for the 2024 Township portion of their Real Estate Tax.

Public Comments: None

B. BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA REVIEW:

Mr. Hamaday said this week's Business meeting might be long due to having two Conditional Use Hearings, swearing in of a new EMS personnel, a proclamation for Local Government Week and two resolutions. He mentioned Don Herbert will be sending a PowerPoint to the Board to go through; it's a presentation to the residents from each department head saying this is what their department can do for them. Then he went over the Consent Agenda for the Agenda for April 11th meeting.

Mr. Hamaday mentioned a resident at 458 Coates Street applied for a permit to build a retaineing wall in front of his property instead of having a grass slope. The Codes department said he had to request a waiver due to the wall being in the Right of Way. The Board doesn't feel that this issue has to be included in the Business Agenda, the Planning Commission can handle this.

Public Comments: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Board Action:

It was moved by Vice-Chair Jenaway, seconded by Supervisor Waks, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the meeting. None opposed. Adjournment occurred at 8:40 pm.

ANTHONY HAMADAY TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Ir Minutes Approved: Minutes Entered: