

The Board's Minutes of the East Donegal Township Board of Supervisors
Held on August 16, 2022

The work session of the Board of Supervisors of East Donegal Township was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 8:30 AM in the East Donegal Township Municipal Building, 190 Rock Point Road, Marietta, PA 17547.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jones.

Supervisor Jones led with a Prayer and Pledge to the Flag.

Roll call of Supervisors: Present were Chairman Thomas M. Jones, Vice-Chairman Allen D. Esbshade and Supervisor Scott Kingsboro. Jeffrey Butler, Township Manager, Jodi Diaz, Township Financial Officer and Craig Underwood, Township Zoning Officer/Building Code Official, were also present.

Mr. Rob Troxell, Upward Broadband, was present to continue the discussion of Upward Broadband's effort to bring wireless internet to unserved and underserved areas of Lancaster County. Mr. Troxell stated that their studies indicate that approximately 757 homes in East Donegal Township lack reliable internet.

Upward Broadband has submitted an application to Lancaster County for American Rescue Plan Act funds to implement the essential infrastructure needed to provide wireless internet service. The total project cost is \$2.8 million. Upward Broadband will invest \$564,000 in the project. Based on the estimated number of unserved residents they could reach, Upward Broadband is asking for \$70,000 from the Township to assist in project costs.

Mr. Troxell indicated that one municipality has committed funds for the project thus far and a few municipalities have provided letters of support to submit with Upward Broadband's application to Lancaster County.

There was general discussion regarding the need for additional towers to serve portion of the Township and projected number of new users to system. Mr. Troxell provided a brief background of the Lancaster County based company.

The Board will consider action on the request at the August 4, 2002 meeting.

FINANCE

Ms. Diaz stated that letters will soon be mailed to trash/recycling customers that have liens placed on their property for outstanding balances providing them the opportunity to have lien fees waived if balances are paid by December 31, 2021.

Ms. Diaz presented a request from landowners seeking relief from payment of trash/recycling

fees as the property transitions through the estate of a parent. The property has been unoccupied in 2022 and will be for the foreseeable future. Payment has been received for the first half of 2022. The Board agreed with staff suggestion to waive fees until such time the residence is once again occupied.

There was general discussion regarding the problems recently experienced with trash/recycling collection. Pickup days have been delayed and calls for missed pickups has increased. The Board directed staff to have representatives of Republic Services attend the September 20, 2022 Work Session to discuss these issues.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mr. Butler informed the Board of an upcoming meeting with GEARS and the Donegal School District Superintendent. Mr. Kingsboro will also take part in the meeting to discuss the use of District facilities by GEARS to hold programs/activities for Township residents. It was also discussed that Mr. Kingsboro would be attending a budget meeting of the GEARS Finance Committee.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Board was reminded of the upcoming Public Hearing scheduled for August 31, 2022 regarding the proposed creation of an Emergency Services Authority and the upcoming public meeting of elected officials from all potential Authority member communities scheduled for September 7, 2022.

Mr. Jones stated that the Township should provide the name of the potential Township representative on the Emergency Services Authority Board. The appointment to the Board would only take place should the Township pass an ordinance to officially become a member of the Authority. The Board suggested Mr. Butler should be the representative indicated in the Authority's incorporation documents.

Mr. Jones discussed the potential of having Maytown East Donegal Township's Fire Department's QRS cover the Donegal Heights area of the Township should the Authority be formed.

Mr. Jones relayed two issues from the Maytown East Donegal Township Fire Department regarding finances. First was related to the impact the rising cost of fuel has had on their finances. The second was related to the cost of the new rescue unit. The timing of the financing paperwork caused the Department to miss a deadline to qualify for an approximate \$1,300 discount on the cost of the unit.

Mr. Jones indicated that the Township's donation to the Fire Department should be a topic of discussion during the preparation of the 2023 Township budget.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Butler stated that the 2022 Township budget included the refurbishing of the International dump truck frame and bed replacement. It's been determined that the frame is not as bad as thought and will not cost as much. In addition, a compatible used truck bed has been found on a truck owned by Conoy Township. It's proposed that the Township purchase the truck from Conoy Township and the bed be used on our International dump truck. This alternative is an additional savings to the Township.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL

Mr. Butler indicated that the Township needs to appoint someone to the Township Vacancy Board. The Vacancy Board is comprised of two Supervisors and one registered elector of the community. The announcement will be on the next meeting agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Esbenshade and seconded by Mr. Kingsboro to adjourn at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey L. Butler, Township Secretary