



UPPER DUBLIN

T O W N S H I P

370 Commerce Drive
Fort Washington, PA 19034-2619
Phone: (215) 643-1600
Fax: (215) 542-0797
www.upperdublin.net

April 5, 2024

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FROM: KURT M. FERGUSON, TOWNSHIP MANAGER
RE: MANAGER'S REPORT

Township Building Update:

- Township Building has been demolished and site work has begun, footings and foundations to follow in the next few weeks.
- Storm and sanitary is currently being installed.
- Public Works Addition building pad has been completed and inspected, footings and foundations to follow in the next few weeks.

The Philadelphia Energy Company in partnership with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) have included the Township in its \$200 million dollar funding request to EPA for the amount of \$2,170,000. We should have word by late June if the award is authorized.

Agenda Items for Discussion/Consideration:

Establishing a Water Quality Consortium

For quite a few years, Upper Dublin Township has participated in discussions with neighboring Montgomery County communities regarding upcoming mandated requirements of the DEP concerning removal of pollutants, including sediment, phosphorous, and nitrogen from Wissahickon and its tributary watersheds.

The consortium is not binding and does not bring initial financial obligation to the participating communities who become part of the consortium. Eventually, we will likely need to budget money to support the group, but we have done that for many years, even without this consortium structure. However, passing this resolution does not obligate the Township to do so.

All of the member communities, including Upper Dublin, will inevitably have projects to undertake that could be in the millions of dollars. The purpose of organizing, even in this informal fashion, is to begin to identify projects, advocate for those facing these obligations, present to member boards potential ordinance upgrades that will help Townships passively address pollution reduction goals, and jointly prioritize grant requests.

Upper Dublin, along with its other member municipalities who are part of the Wissahickon watershed, have contributed tens of thousands of dollars over the years and the group still has about \$100,000, which will be utilized for hiring legal representation to start.

Projects have yet to be identified, in part because of the lack of formal structure. Commissioner Scherpbier is now the co-chair of the group and I serve on the executive committee. Monthly meetings will continue and I will continue to keep the board in the loop regarding activity moving forward.

A presentation was made at the May, 2023 stated meeting, which discussed the Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP).

Affirming Upper Dublin Township participation in the Sustainable PA Certification program.

Sustainable Pennsylvania is a free and voluntary municipal certification program created to assess a local government's measure of sustainability and provide a curated list of resources and opportunities to help the community improve. A project of the Pennsylvania Municipal League and Sustainable Pittsburgh, Sustainable PA helps municipalities achieve sustainability goals, empowering them to save money, conserve resources, and innovate to improve the lives of their residents. It encourages the municipality to work towards creating a positive and regenerative relationship with the environment. Sustainable PA brings statewide and national recognition to the municipality as sustainability is embedded in operational policy, everyday practices, and the community.

Earning a Sustainable Pennsylvania Certification provides a number of positive impacts for an aspiring municipality:

- Improves the municipality's chances of obtaining grants and loans from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) – the program is formally recognized in DCED's municipal funding application process.
- It improves transparency by providing the municipality with a profile on the Sustainable PA website that highlights the work they have done.
- Signals to the community, businesses, and organizations that the municipality prioritizes the policies and practices of highly effective local governments.
- Lowers the risk of taking actions that may be novel to community leaders by providing them with proven best practices, evidence of related successes, and potential funding opportunities.
- Helps the municipal administration establish a sustainability baseline for planning and implementing best practices.
- Creates a clear pathway for continuous improvement that includes custom reporting tools.
- Fosters a conversation among municipal management, staff, elected officials, residents, and local employers about what is possible.
- Creates and/or strengthens a network of high performing municipalities for sharing information and mutual assistance,

Upper Dublin previously was given a silver certification, which expired late last year.

See you on Tuesday.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
March 2024

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Discussion with staff regarding an update on Twining Valley Park.

Friday, March 8, 2024

Attended the Municipal Authority Meeting.

Attended Land Use meeting with staff.

Monday, March 11, 2024

Met with township staff and consultants to discuss grant opportunities for the Library Project.

Met with Public Works staff to discuss grant opportunities.

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Attended the bi-weekly New Township Building Administration/Police Building discussion with township staff and consultants.

Attended the Board of Commissioners Stated Meeting.

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Attended a staff meeting.

Met with township staff and consultants to discuss the close-out of the tornado insurance claim.

Monday, March 18, 2024

Discussed matters regarding the Norristown Road and Bulter Pike intersection with staff and consultants.

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Attended a discussion regarding participation in the Water Quality Consortium with township staff and representatives from Montgomery County.

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Land development discussion with Commissioners and township staff.

Attended a preparation meeting regarding the Dresher Cemetery Action Plan with consultants and township staff.

Friday, March 22, 2024

Attended Land Use meeting with staff.

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Attended a meeting with Chief of Police and representatives with Temple Ambler.

Thursday, March 28, 2024

Attended the Dresher Cemetery Action Plan meeting with Mr. Dresher, Mr. Heebner, township staff, consultants, and PennDOT representatives.

Land development discussion with Commissioners and township staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt M. Ferguson
Township Manager