

UNION TOWNSHIP, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2024- 13

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING RESOLUTION 2020-09 TO AMEND THE POLICY REGULATING THE CONDUCT AND ORDER OF BUSINESS AT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS TO AMEND THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, TO AMEND THE PUBLIC COMMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND TO PROVIDE A POLICY FOR THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AT MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Union Township by Resolution 2020-09 set forth regulations regarding the conduct and order of business at Board of Supervisors meetings, including provisions relating to public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to amend Resolution 2020-09 in order to amend the order of business, amend the public comment rules and regulations, and to provide a policy for the use of technology equipment at meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors by Union Township as follows:

Section 1.

Resolution No. 2020-09 is amended to revise the order of business to be as follows:

- CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PUBLIC COMMENT BY RESIDENTS OR TAXPAYERS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
- FINANCIAL REPORTS
- PAYMENT OF BILLS
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- BUSINESS ITEMS
- REPORTS/COMMENTS
- OTHER COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS
- CORRESPONDENCE
- PUBLIC COMMENT BY RESIDENTS OR TAXPAYERS ON CURRENT TOWNSHIP MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN, WHICH DO NOT APPEAR ON THE PRINTED AGENDA
- BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Supervisors may, at its sole discretion, consolidate into a consent agenda to be considered at the beginning of the meeting any routine and non-

controversial items which do not require discussion by the Board, with the consent agenda to be approved with one motion and one roll call vote.

1. The Board shall have sufficient copies of the meeting agenda for any regular or special meeting available to the residents and taxpayers who may attend such meetings.

Section 2.

Resolution No. 2020-09 is amended to revise the public comment rules and regulations in its entirety as follows:

1. All individuals shall treat one another with dignity and respect.
2. The Chair of the Board, or Acting Chair in the event of the Chair's absence, shall preside over the public comment period, and shall:
 - a. Recognize individuals wishing to offer comment. Individuals must be residents or taxpayers of Union Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania; and
 - b. Require identification of such individuals, including name and address, or the location of their property owned in Union Township; and
 - c. Determine amount of available time and allocate available time among individuals wishing to offer comment, allowing all individuals wishing to offer comment to do so; and
 - d. Require groups to select a spokesperson to make a comment if the group of individuals wishes to express the same or similar concerns; and
 - e. Rule out of order scandalous, impertinent and redundant comments or any comment the discernable purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting.
3. Union Township taxpayers and residents shall have an opportunity to comment on matters of concern, or action, or deliberation which are or may be before the Union Township Board of Supervisors and currently on the Township Agenda. Matters not on the Agenda shall be commented upon at the close of the meeting under Public Comment. This period of time is for comments only and is not a time to engage in a question and answer or debate with the Board. Comments from the Board are at the option of the Board. The Board retains the option to accept all public comment at this time. The time allocated for the public comment period will be limited to three minutes per person. The Board of Supervisors has the right to extend a speaker's time at their sole discretion. Both residents and non-residents shall provide their names and addresses to the Township Secretary to record in the minutes. Anyone who refuses to provide their name and address may not be recognized to speak. Anyone who conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner (as determined by the Chair) may be asked to leave the meeting. In the event that the Board determines that there is not sufficient time for residents or taxpayers of the Township to comment, the Board may defer the comment period to the next regular meeting.
4. All comments should be addressed to the chairman of the Union Township Board of Supervisors. Arguments between parties or the public are prohibited.

Section 3.

Resolution No. 2020-09 is amended to add the following policy regarding the use of technology equipment:

1. Recording devices are permitted so long as they are identified at the start of the meeting and do not interfere in the meeting.
2. The use of the Township's audio-visual equipment is not permitted for public use, unless approved by motion passed by a majority of the Supervisors present and voting.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately, or as soon as legally permissible thereafter.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision, sentence, clause, section, or part of this Resolution shall for any reason be found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such determination shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts of this Resolution, and it is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Union that this Resolution would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid provision, sentence, clause, section, or part not been included herein.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby superseded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Union has adopted this Resolution in lawful session this 15th day of May, 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
UNION TOWNSHIP,
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By: 
Chairman

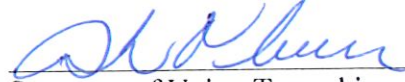

Vice Chairman


Member

Attest: 
Secretary

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Union, Berks County, Pennsylvania, which was fully adopted at a public meeting held pursuant to notice as required by law on the 15th day of May, 2024.


Secretary of Union Township

Dated: 5/17/24, 2024

