

Council Meeting Minutes  
Upper Darby Township  
100 Garrett Road  
Upper Darby, PA 19082  
December 17, 2025 7:00 pm

**\*\*The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on [youtube.com/upperdarby.org](https://youtube.com/upperdarby.org)\*\***

President Tunis opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Michelle Billups (MB), Marion Minick (MM), Meaghan Wagner (MW), Hafiz Tunis (HT), David Bantoe (DB), Jonahan McMahon (JM), Brian Andruszko (BA), Laura Wentz (LW), Matt Silva (MS), Danyelle Blackwell (Dblackwell), and Myron McNeely (Mmcneely).

Also present: The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown, Chief Administrative Officer Crandall O. Jones, Solicitors Michael Clarke and Lauren Gallagher, Chief Municipal Clerk Kate Doggett, and Upper Darby Township police officers.

President Tunis asked the Council to approve moving the agenda item honoring Immanuel Wilkins before the Public Forum. Council approved.

Mayor Brown honored Immanuel Wilkins, a renowned jazz saxophonist. He spoke about his accomplishments, recognized his Grammy nomination, and proclaimed the day of the upcoming Grammy Awards as Immanuel Wilkins Day in Upper Darby Township.

**Rules for Meeting Decorum**

“Upper Darby residents have the opportunity to speak for three (3) minutes. Residents are prohibited from making threats, using profanity, or acting in a manner that would impede or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting. Any person who attends the meeting and makes remarks, disrupts, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting after receiving a verbal warning may be required to leave the meeting at the discretion of the Council President.” Public Forum should not exceed thirty (30) minutes. If a resident chooses to ask questions, they are voluntarily giving up their time for a response. This means that the 3-minute timer will continue to run no matter who is speaking. The timer will be clearly displayed on the screen.

**Public Forum**

Noah Fields expressed his gratitude for President Tunis’s service to Upper Darby Township.

Steve Komm discussed Rob Reiner's contributions and work following his passing. He also discussed a political group, its members, and policies.

Connie Komm spoke regarding a political group, its members, and its policies, and disagreed with some comments made during the Public Forum.

John DeMasi stated that Resolution No. 44-25 should be addressed by ordinance rather than by resolution.

John Vizzarri discussed two Right to Know appeals, in which he said that Upper Darby Township made inconsistent statements.

Richard A. Blye cited scripture and spoke about Black history awareness, his role in JACE, and Juneteenth.

Becky Duggan thanked the outgoing council members for their service.

Sheldon Rich thanked Council members for their service, noted that First Amendment rights have limitations, and urged civil discourse.

Jeanne Moberly spoke regarding the impact of trash on the community.

Lise Casper-Segal discussed issues with the noise ordinance not being enforced, described its impact on her health, and requested assistance.

Judy Duggan said she submitted a Right to Know request for the lease in Resolution No. 44-25 regarding Fire Department Airpaks and requested a copy of the lease in Ordinance No. 3192.

Olivia Taylor commended the Streets Department for their work during the recent storm, inquired about missing decorations on 69th Street, and discussed a January 2021 incident involving her, stating, "You did not win."

Kyle McIntyre extended his gratitude to President Tunis for his years of service and thanked the outgoing council members for their time and dedication to the community.

Joanne Nammavong yielded her time to Justine Mays, who spoke about her interview for the 5<sup>th</sup> District Council seat and made allegations about council members. LW called a Point of Order during the discussion.

Peggy Kowalski, chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee, urged Council to approve Resolution No. 42-25, appointing members to the Committee.

Rachee Fagg, Upper Darby library employee, announced four upcoming library events and urged residents to get library cards.

Shellie Hoyt, who requested special accommodation due to medical issues, submitted a statement that the Chief Municipal Clerk read. The statement thanked State Representative Gina Curry and the Upper Darby Police Department and aired grievances against members of the Council and the Administration.

## **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by DB seconded by MB**

**Motion for Council to Approve November 19, 2025, Council Meeting and December 3, 2025, Committee Meeting Minutes.**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes.**

**The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown**

Mayor Brown corrected Shellie Hoyt's statement regarding State Representative Gina Curry's involvement in the Township's Code Blue response. He appealed to her to refrain from referring to him as "cancer for Upper Darby" out of respect for his wife's passing from cancer.

He urged support for those less fortunate and discussed the Township's accomplishments and events he attended since the last meeting. He addressed a resident's allegation at a previous meeting that he had made a threatening statement and clarified what he had said.

**Appointment to the Citizens Boards, Committees, and Commissions**

**Resolution No. 43-25: Planning Commission Appointment**

**Motion by Dblackwell, seconded by DB**

**Motion to approve Resolution No. 43-25, appointing William Craig Snapp to the Planning Commission.**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

**Resolution No. 42-25: Environmental Advisory Committee Appointments**

**Motion by LW, seconded by Dblackwell**

**Motion to approve Resolution No. 42-25, appointing Wendie Heatherington, Angel Royal, and Jamie Watts to the Environmental Advisory Committee.**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

**Community and Economic Development**

**Resolution No. 1-26: Amend the Community Development Block Grant Program Action Plans for Program Years 48 and 51 to create a project entitled "Emergency Homelessness Assistance," funded in the amount of \$100,000.**

Rita LaRue introduced Resolution No. 1-26, which would amend the Community Development Block Grant Program Action Plan for Program Year 48 and cancel the project entitled "Bywood Community Association" and amend Program Year 51, creating a project entitled "Emergency Homelessness Assistance," funded in the amount of \$100,000. This is for Council review with action scheduled for a Special Meeting to be held at 6:30 pm on January 7, 2026.

**Motion by MB, seconded by Mmcneely**

**Motion to Introduce Resolution No. 1-26 and Place on the January 7, 2026, Special Meeting agenda for a vote.**

LW asked whether the Bywood Community Association was notified about not receiving funds, to which Ms. LaRue responded. LW also asked about the Code Blue service provider at the Watkins Center and how Breaking Bread is currently funded. She asked why Breaking Bread is not mentioned in the Resolution and spoke about the work they do.

HT thanked Ms. LaRue and reiterated that no one is authorized to direct the Township regarding Code Blue services.

LW stated that the Township held Code Blues in the Watkins Center in the past and has the cots that the Red Cross gave them.

**10 in favor (MB, MM, MW, HT, DB, JM, BA, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 1 opposed (LW)**

**Motion passes**

**Mayor Brown called a Special Meeting for January 7, 2026, at 6:30 PM to consider the approval of Resolution No. 1-26.**

**Resolution No. 31-25:** To approve the destruction of certain public records.

**Motion by MM, seconded by DB**

**Motion to Approve Resolution No. 31-25 approving the destruction of certain public records.**

**Roll Call Vote: 9 in favor (MB, MM, HT, DB, JM, BA, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 2 opposed (MW, LW)**

**Motion passes**

Mayor Brown expressed his appreciation for the service of the outgoing Councilmembers—Councilor Laura Wentz, Councilor Matt Silva, Councilor Meaghan Wagner, Councilor Brian Andruszko, and President Hafiz Tunis. He read a statement honoring President Tunis and presented him with a commemorative plaque.

**President of Council, Hafiz Tunis, Jr.**

President Tunis reflected on his time on Council, discussing the challenges, priorities, and lessons learned, as well as significant legislation he introduced, including the decriminalization of marijuana. He spoke of his service to the community and his internal work on Council, including policies and investments. He noted that his roles as Vice President and President enhanced his understanding of leadership and responsibility. President Tunis thanked Vice Presidents Andrew Hayman and Marion Minick, Secretary Billups, two CAOs he served with—Vince Rongione and Crandall Jones—and Mayors Barbaranne Keffer and Ed Brown. He also thanked Chief Municipal Clerk Kate Doggett, the Killkeny Law Firm, and CGBAG, his fellow Councilmembers, Township staff, and the residents for their trust. He concluded by stating he was beginning a new chapter with gratitude and pride and thanked his family, especially his wife, Marianne Tunis.

President Tunis then spoke about each outgoing Councilmember—Councilor Brian Andruszko, Councilor Matt Silva, Councilor Meaghan Wagner, and Councilor Laura Wentz, and presented each with a commemorative plaque.

### **Solicitor**

No report.

LW disagreed with the Solicitor's explanation about asking a candidate for Council about their political affiliation and cited the Administrative Code.

### **Old Business**

Dblackwell clarified a statement she made while interviewing a candidate for the 5<sup>th</sup> District Council seat.

MS thanked the township, fellow council members, residents, and Mayor Brown for the opportunity to serve.

LW responded to Dblackwell's comment she made during Old Business. She thanked President Tunis and Mayor Brown for their kind words and expressed appreciation to the residents and Township employees, urging residents to remain engaged and attentive to Township matters.

### **New Business**

BA thanked his family, friends, and especially his wife for their support. He also thanked Township staff, administration, and the Police and Fire Departments for their service, including Superintendent Bernhardt and the Fire Chiefs of recent years for their leadership. He thanked the residents of the third district for their trust in him and his fellow council members, expressed appreciation to the Mayor, and encouraged a more cohesive community. He ended with "Be curious, not judgmental."

MW thanked everyone, saying it has been a privilege and honor to serve. She spoke about her father's service, lifelong friendships, and the residents of the first district, recalling pivotal events during her tenure. She also thanked Mayor Brown, acknowledged her friendship with President Tunis, and commended LW and MS for their service.

MB thanked the outgoing council members, highlighting their character and dedicated service. She expressed appreciation for President Tunis's leadership skills and thanked him for his service.

MM thanked all outgoing council members for their service and wished them all the best. He commended President Tunis on his commitment and leadership, thanking him for his dedicated service.

DB thanked all outgoing councilmembers, recognizing each of their strengths, character, and dedicated service. He thanked President Tunis and spoke about their shared national heritage.

McNeely thanked outgoing council members for their service and expressed respect and admiration for President Tunis, noting his leadership.

Dblackwell thanked outgoing council members for their service.

MW addressed BA, reflecting on their campaigns together and referring to him as family.

LW thanked all veterans, VFWs, American Legion Posts, Marine Corps League in Upper Darby, Breaking Bread, Recovery Without Barriers, Murphy's Giving Market, and UDJT for all the work they do.

MB presented President Tunis with a commemorative plaque.

**Chief Administrative Officer, Crandall O. Jones**

**Resolution No. 44-25:** Authorizing Execution of the Master Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement for Fire Department Airpaks

President Tunis requested the Solicitors to provide clarity on the Lease Agreement, which Solicitor Clarke did.

**Motion by Dblackwell, seconded by Mmcneely**

**Motion to Approve Resolution No. 44-25, authorizing the execution of the Master Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement between Community First National Bank and Upper Darby Township**

LW asked how the airpaks are paid for, to which Diane Scutti said they will be paid for from the Capital Reserve Fund in 2025, proposed in 2026, and potentially from bond financing in the future. HT clarified the total cost.

MS asked why the matter was presented as a Resolution rather than an Ordinance.

JM asked about the lease term and total cost.

LW stated that the matter should be an Ordinance rather than a Resolution and provided her reasons.

MB asked the Solicitors for clarification.

**Roll Call Vote: 11 in favor (MB, MM, MW, HT, DB, JM, BA, LW, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 0 opposed.**

**Motion passes.**

**Ordinance No. 3192:** Electronic Parking Meters on Property Located at 4221 Ferne Boulevard

**Motion by MW, seconded by MB**

**Motion to Open a Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 3192**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

**Public Hearing**

Solicitor Clarke clarified the purpose of this Ordinance.

Becky Duggan inquired about the lease, parking fees, and how to obtain a copy of the lease.

John DeMasi asked about the lease terms and fees and stated his opposition to the higher fees.

Becky Duggan asked who would be liable for any incidents on the lot and how violation fees would be shared under the agreement.

Judy Duggan noted these parking fees were not included in the fee schedule Ordinance and that Mayor Brown did not sign the lease agreement. She asked if there would be coin-operated meters and signage about the fees.

Justine Mays requested clarification on the meaning of "electronic parking meter," hours of operation, and handling of defaced signage.

Joanne Nammavong asked about signage installation costs, responsibility for snow removal, and potential increases in insurance costs. She stated that a new lease should be drafted with the proper names.

**Motion by MW, seconded by DB**

**Motion to Close the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 3192**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

**Motion by MW, seconded by Mmcneely**

**Motion to approve Ordinance No. 3192, amending Chapter 520 of the Upper Darby Township Code of Ordinances to provide for the installation of electronic parking meters on property located at 4221 Ferne Boulevard, Drexel Hill, pursuant to a parking lease agreement with Blue Devil Realty, LLC.**

LW had questions regarding the signed lease and urged drafting a new lease with the proper names.

MS asked if Kilkenny Law drafted the lease as the solicitor for Upper Darby Township.

**Roll Call Vote: 11 in favor (MB, MM, MW, HT, DB, JM, BA, LW, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 0 opposed.**

**Motion passes.**

President Tunis asked whether the public hearings for the next four ordinances could be combined, since they are all finance-related and would be voted on individually.

Solicitor Clarke stated that the rules for speaking remain the same; the public will have the opportunity to talk on all items and may speak multiple times.

LW opposed combining the four Public Hearings.

**Motion by MW, seconded by Dblackwell**

**Motion to Combine the Public Hearings for Ordinance Nos. 3193, 3194, 3195, and 3196.**

**10 in favor (MB, MM, MW, HT, DB, JM, BA, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely) 1 opposed (LW)**

**Motion passes**

**Motion by MW, seconded by MS**

**Motion to Open a Public Hearing on Ordinance Nos. 3193, 3194, 3195, and 3196.  
10 in favor (MB, MM, MW, HT, DB, JM, BA, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely) 1 opposed (LW)  
Motion passes**

### **Public Hearing**

Steve Komm spoke on Ordinance No. 3193 regarding expenditures from the Sewer Fund and a potential sewer study.

Becky Duggan (Ord. 3193) asked how much ARPA funding remains for the sewer.

Olivia Taylor (Ord. 3193) asked where the sewer work would begin.

Joanne Nammavong (Ord. 3193) asked how much the township receives annually in sewer fees from residents and asked for more detailed information about the General Government department.

Justine Mays inquired whether the EIT tax is part of the Local Enabling Act taxes, what highway Liquid Fuels are, and the projected revenue for Licenses & Inspection.

John DeMasi spoke about Ordinance No. 3196, inquiring if benefits and legal services were paid from the General Government department. He asked what caused legal services to go over budget and whether Kilkenny Law reimbursed UDT. He discussed the expense vs. revenue budgets, benefits, and salaries.

Becky Duggan spoke on Ordinance No. 3195, asking about a pool table fee under "Amusement License Fees."

Joanne Nammavong discussed Ordinance No. 3195, inquiring whether township fees are intended to generate revenue or to recover costs. She asked about various fees in the ordinance and specifically requested information about the pool table and vacant lot fees. She asked if Blue Devil Realty is exempt from the fee for privately owned parking lots. She also addressed Ordinance No. 3196, stating that certain funds identified as unencumbered are, in fact, encumbered.

Judy Duggan opined that Ordinance No. 3196 is not transparent and asked for clarification.

Justine Mays spoke regarding Ordinance No. 3193, requesting an explanation of the "intergovernmental" and "fines and forfeits" line items. Regarding Ordinance No. 3195, she inquired whether a resident receives a refund if a property does not require a re-inspection. She asked about renting parking meters. Regarding Ordinance No. 3194, she asked about the millage rate.

John DeMasi spoke regarding Ordinance Nos. 3193 and 3196, asking about the budget for the CAO office and the EIT projected revenue. He asked whether potential back pay and union contract increases are included in the budget and what the fund balance will be at the end of the year.

Justine Mays asked what a Sinking Fund is and discussed the EIT rate. She discussed Ordinance No. 3195.

Joanne Nammavong aired grievances about the Ordinances.

Judy Duggan asked when the debt service will be fully paid.

Justine Mays asked what would happen if the township did not receive the projected amount of revenue from the EIT. She inquired about the location of the electric vehicle charging stations. Joanne Nammavong spoke about Ordinance No. 3196, stating that it should be two separate ordinances.

**Motion by MB, seconded by MS**

**Motion to Close the Public Hearing on Ordinance Nos. 3193, 3194, 3195, and 3196.**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

**Ordinance No. 3193: FY26 Budget Appropriation**

**Motion by MB, seconded by Mmcneely**

**Motion to approve Ordinance No. 3193, Appropriating Specific Sums for the Purpose of Municipal Government in Upper Darby Township for 2026.**

**Roll Call Vote: 7 in favor (MB, MM, HT, JM, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 2 opposed (BA, LW), 2 excused (MW, DB).**

**Motion passes.**

**Ordinance No. 3194: Levying a Tax on Real Property for 2026**

**Motion by Mmcneely, seconded by MB**

**Motion to approve Ordinance No. 3194, Levying a Tax on Real Property for General Fund and Debt Purposes for 2026**

LW inquired about the 2026 Trash and Sewer Fees not being included in the Ordinance.

**Roll Call Vote: 10 in favor (MB, MM, HT, DB, JM, BA, LW, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 1 excused (MW).**

**Motion passes.**

**Ordinance No. 3195: Amending the Fee Schedule for the 2026 Fiscal Year**

**Motion by MM, seconded by MB**

**Motion to approve Ordinance No. 3195, the amendment to Chapter 290 of the Upper Darby Township Code of Ordinances, and approve the Fee Schedule for the 2026 Fiscal Year.**

LW noted that many of the fees had increased.

**Roll Call Vote: 8 in favor (MB, MM, HT, DB, JM, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 2 opposed (BA, LW), 1 excused (MW).**

**Motion passes.**

**Ordinance No. 3196: Transfer of Unencumbered 2025 Appropriations**

**Motion by MM, seconded by BA**

**Motion to approve Ordinance No. 3196, the Transfer of Unencumbered 2025 Appropriations.**  
LW thanked the residents for their questions and expressed concerns regarding the transparency of this Ordinance.

**Roll Call Vote: 9 in favor (MB, MM, HT, DB, JM, BA, MS, Dblackwell, Mmcneely), 1 opposed (LW), 1 excused (MW).**

**Motion passes**

**Motion by MB, seconded by MS**

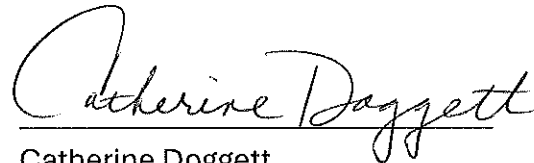
**Motion to Adjourn**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

Meeting adjourned at 11:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Doggett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Catherine Doggett  
Chief Municipal Clerk