

Council Committee Meeting Minutes
Upper Darby Township
100 Garrett Road
Upper Darby, PA 19082
October 1, 2025 7:00 pm

****The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on 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) via Zoom, Marion Minick (MM) via Zoom, Meaghan Wagner (MW), Hafiz Tunis (HT), David Bantoe (DB), Brian Andruszko (BA), Laura Wentz (LW) via Zoom, Matt Silva (MS) via Zoom, Danyelle Blackwell (Dblackwell), and Myron McNeely (Mmcneely).

Excused: Jess Branas (JB).

Also present: The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown via Zoom, Chief Administrative Officer Crandall Jones via Zoom, Solicitors Gallagher and Youngblood, Chief Municipal Clerk Kate Doggett, and Upper Darby Township police officers.

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

Terry Bradley raised concerns regarding the nuisance provisions of the Property Maintenance Code, specifically citing public safety issues related to hazardous trees, and requested that Council address these issues.

Jean Kosha of 7216 Brent Road spoke about losing library employees due to budget constraints and urged the Council to provide adequate funding. She announced that the Teen Advisory Board will host the Fall Festival on October 25, 2025, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Municipal Branch. She also

expressed support for preserving the green space across from Drexeline. She requested additional lighting at the intersection of Walnut and Shelbourne and asked that parking near the mosque on Garrett Road be addressed to improve safety.

Connie Komm opined on national issues, political parties and their policies, and expressed her views on who she holds responsible for current problems.

Becky Duggan thanked the police for their work during drop-off at Highland Park Elementary School. She inquired about the lease agreement and its purpose outlined in Ordinance 3192.

Stephen Komm opined on national issues, political parties, and their policies.

Olivia Taylor complained about public speakers commenting on national issues and council members.

Lee Jordan of 90 Pilgram Lane thanked the group of residents who cleaned up the area of Veterans' Memorial Circle, also known as Dermond Circle. She requested that the Pilgram Garden Civic Association be permitted to take over the maintenance of this circle. She provided an update on the Mozino property carwash proposal.

Terri McGrath of 5018 Sylvia Road spoke about the installation of a "No Parking Anytime" sign on her street, which creates a hardship for her family. She requested that it be removed and believes a disgruntled neighbor created this situation.

Richard A. Blye discussed freedom of speech, racism, and the importance of supporting the police.

Joanne Nammavong requested information on the proposed Shade Tree Commission appointee in Resolution 29-25 and a response to a previously sent email regarding parking enforcement in Municipal Lot #1 during Council meetings.

Justine Mays stated that speakers are not required to provide their addresses during the Public Forum. She discussed a vote to extend the Public Forum from a previous meeting and the earned income tax.

Bob Yantorno inquired about the ongoing negotiations with the FOP and whether the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the pension plan had been met. He invited the public to meet the candidates running for office tomorrow evening from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Hanrahan's.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by MW, seconded by Dblackwell

Motion to Approve the September 17, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes

All in favor

Motion passes.

The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown

Mayor Brown announced he is currently at the Pennsylvania Municipal League Summit, where he and CAO Jones are scheduled to speak on Friday about the collaboration of an elected mayor and appointed CAO working together. He discussed various events he attended since the last meeting.

Resolution No. 29-25: Shade Tree Commissioner Appointment

President Tunis introduced Resolution No. 29-25, appointing Rajwinder Murare to the Shade Tree Commission.

Motion by MB, seconded by BA

Motion to Introduce and Place Resolution No. 29-25 on the agenda for the next meeting for a vote

LW asked if Mr. Murare had previously worked with the Shade Tree Commission, Tree Tenders, or the Environmental Advisory Committee, and if he is also known as Raj Singh.

Dblackwell asked for information about a gap in Mr. Murare's resume.

All in favor

Motion passes

President of Council, Hafiz Tunis, Jr.

President Tunis expressed appreciation for the well-wishes received on the birth of his son and thanked Vice President Minick for overseeing the previous meeting in his absence. He reminded the Council it was budget season and announced the next meeting would be on 10/15/2025.

Chief Administrative Officer, Crandall O. Jones

Ordinance No. 3192: Parking Lease Agreement with Blue Devil Realty, LLC

Police Superintendent Bernhardt introduced Ordinance No. 3192, establishing a partnership with Blue Devil Realty, LLC, through a lease agreement to install electronic parking meters on the property located at Artillery Brewing, 4221 Ferne Boulevard, Drexel Hill. The presentation included information on revenue sharing, professional services, benefits to the township, and the collaboration with Blue Devil Realty.

Motion by MW, seconded Mmcneely

Motion to Introduce and Advertise Ordinance No. 3192, Parking Lease Agreement with Blue Devil Realty, LLC, to be voted on at the October 15, 2025 Council meeting.

MW spoke about the parking issue in the area and supports this Ordinance. She clarified that the Blue Devil Realty signs would be replaced with township signs.

LW asked if kiosks that accept cash/quarters would be installed and who owns the property.

Superintendent Bernhardt clarified that the township is not leasing the property from Blue Devil Realty, but rather it is a revenue-sharing agreement with Blue Devil Realty.

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

Motion passes.

Solicitor

No report

Old Business

MW expressed appreciation to a resident and pledged to contribute to a monthly donation to help upkeep the Veterans' Circle/Dermond Circle area. She reported that Council received an email from the FOP President concerning township healthcare, specifically withdrawing from the current healthcare trust, and she urged the administration to remain in the trust.

CAO Jones responded to Councilor Wagner's comments regarding the assertions in the FOP President's email, outlined the township's evaluation process, and said that the current plans would not be changed.

LW asked the solicitors if the list of lawsuits against the township she had previously requested was available.

New Business

DB thanked the Islamic Center for the BBQ and Community Appreciation event they hosted.

LW also expressed thanks for the event hosted by the Islamic Center.

DB also thanked Councilor McNeely and a few resident for attending this event.

Motion by MW, seconded by BA

Motion to Adjourn

All in favor

Motion passes

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Doggett
Chief Municipal Clerk