

**UPPER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2025**

The re-organization meeting of the Upper Township Planning Board was held at Township Hall at 2100 Tuckahoe Road, Petersburg. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

SUNSHINE ANNOUNCEMENT

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Member	Attendance
Mayor Curtis Corson, Class I	Present
Matthew Davidson, Class IV	Absent
Brooke Handley Alt	Absent
Joseph Harney, Class IV	Present
Richard Kaczmariski, Class II	Present
Ted Kingston, Class IV	Present

Member	Attendance
Chris McGuire, Class IV	Absent
Colby Meloy Alt	Present
Samuel Palombo, Class III	Present
Gary Riordan, Vice Chair	Present
Sean Whelan, Chair	Present

Also, in attendance were Richard King, Substitute Board Solicitor and Liz Oaks, Board Secretary and Zoning Officer.

OATH OF OFFICE

All members present took the Oath of Office.

Mr. Whelan turned the meeting over to the board secretary, Ms. Oaks, to ask for nominations for Chairperson.

REORGANIZATION

The board secretary asked for nominations for Chair.

A motion to nominate Sean Whelan as Chairman was made by Mr. Harney and seconded by Mr. Riordan. The nominations were closed.

In favor: Corson, Harney, Kaczmariski, Kingston, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan

SEAN WHELAN BOARD CHAIRMAN FOR 2025

Mr. Whelan asked for nominations for Vice Chair.

A motion to nominate Ted Kingston as Vice Chairman was made by Mr. Riordan, seconded by Mr. Harney. The nominations were closed.

In favor: Harney, Kaczmariski, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan, Corson, Whelan

TED KINGSTON VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2025

Mr. Whelan asked for nominations for Board Solicitor.

A motion to nominate Jeffrey P. Barnes of King Barnes as Board Solicitor was made by Mr. Harney and seconded by Mr. Riordan. The nominations were closed.

In favor: Harney, Kaczmariski, Kingston, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan, Corson, Whelan

JEFFREY P. BARNES, KING BARNES, BOARD SOLICITOR FOR 2025

Mr. Whelan asked for nominations for Board Engineer.

A motion to nominate Kates Schneider for Board Engineer was made by Mayor Corson and seconded by Mr. Riordan. The nominations were closed.

In favor: Harney, Kaczmariski, Kingston, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan, Corson, Whelan
KATES SCHNEIDER BOARD ENGINEER FOR 2025

Mr. Whelan asked for nominations for Board Planner.

A motion to nominate Tiffany Morrissey as Board Planner was made by Mr. Harney and seconded by Mr. Riordan. The nominations were closed.

In favor: Harney, Kaczmariski, Kingston, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan, Corson, Whelan
TIFFANY MORRISSEY BOARD PLANNER FOR 2025

Mr. Whelan asked for nominations for Board Secretary

A motion to nominate Liz Oaks as Board Secretary was made by Mayor Corson and seconded by Mr. Kaczmariski. The nominations were closed.

In favor: Harney, Kaczmariski, Kingston, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan, Corson, Whelan
LIZ OAKS BOARD SECRETARY FOR 2025

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS 2025

A motion was made by Mayor Corson and seconded by Mr. Harney, to utilize The Sentinel Ledger as the primary and The Press of Atlantic as secondary official newspapers.

In favor: Harney, Kaczmariski, Kingston, Meloy, Palombo, Riordan, Corson, Whelan

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Harney and seconded by Mr. Riordan.

In favor: Harney, Kingston, Riordan, Whelan

Abstain: Kaczmariski, Meloy, Palombo, Corson

NEW BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

Mr. Harney stated he has had some discussions with Ralph Cooper regarding his concerns about updating the Natural Resources Inventory Report. He suggested we consider a review of the Master Plan. Through the years there have been some re-exams but we have not done a full review recently.

Mayor Corson – He will look into moving forward with this at the Committee level.

PUBLIC PORTION

The meeting was open to the public.

Nathalie Neiss, 759 Route 50, was sworn. Ms. Neiss questioned why Mr. King was present rather than Mr. Barnes.

Mr. King explained that there were rare occasions this would happen. The agenda tonight had no applications, and they felt it wouldn't be a concern in this case. Mr. Barnes had missed only one meeting in 2024.

Ms. Neiss – She is very interested in the Master Plan for the township. She is very concerned. She wants to encourage more involvement with the public.

Mayor Corson - There will be multiple public hearings at the planning board level and the committee level. Public involvement will be encouraged.

Ms. Neiss – She is concerned about what training the board members were required to do.

Mr. Harney – There is a class that is online that all new members must take but there are multiple other resources. The League of Municipalities is an annual source.

Ms. Neiss – Asked what the laws are regarding the Master Plan and how often it is reviewed.

Mr. King – It is required to do at least every 10 years, but he believes there have been various re-exams done through the years. He would suggest a discussion with the planner.

Ms. Neiss – Complained about her taxes.

Mayor Corson – The bulk of taxes are school related.

Reyna Gaskill, 230 Dennisville/Petersburg Road, was sworn. Ms. Gaskill questioned the status of the bike path project.

Mayor Corson – There had been some concerns that had come up. He will find out more information and contact Ms. Gaskill.

Hearing no one else and seeing no one else, this portion was closed.

RESOLUTIONS

None

BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Harney seconded by Mr. Riordan to pay the bills, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Harney and seconded by Mr. Riordan to adjourn the meeting, with all Board members present voting in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Submitted by,

Liz Oaks