

The agenda meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6:30 pm.

Present were:

Adam Selisker
Eileen Silver
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Frank O'Donnell
Barry Moore
Robert Pellegrino
William Wert
Joseph Pizzo – Participated via conference call.
Amanda Fuller

Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

The regular business meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members of the Board present were:

Adam Selisker
Eileen Silver
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Frank O'Donnell
Barry Moore

Others present were:

Robert Pellegrino, Township Manager
Amanda Fuller, Township Engineer
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor – Participated via Zoom

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Selisker led the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence in support of military and emergency services personnel.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

J.P. Mascaro & Sons Trash Collection Update

Chairman Selisker called forward Al Degenerro, Deputy General Counsel, and Sam Augustine, Director of Sales provided an update to the Board on their company's operations and delays in service. Mr. Degenerro stated due to Covid and many of the workers staying home they are finding it difficult to run routes because they do not have the employees to perform the work. They are hoping to see the situation improve by the first week of September.

Chairman Selisker called for Board comment.

Each member of the Board took turns asking questions. Mr. Pellegrino listed the major issues and concerns and the number of missed calls that are taken by the front desk daily and noted for the record the dissatisfaction that the Township has on the lack of service provided by Mascaro. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Selisker called for public comment.

Carolyn Blacknell, 15 MacFarland Avenue- stated she understands the difficulty of getting workers that Mascaro is facing. Ms. Blacknell asked the Board to contact Harrisburg and ask them to no extend the unemployment, which she believes is the cause for labor shortages.

Chris Nyce, 19 Hope Road – stated Mascaro and other companies who are struggling with labor shortages should invest their time and money into training and technology.

Joseph Burkheimer, 361 Buck Road – Questioned the recycling practices and Mr. Augustine responded. Mr. Pellegrino stated Mascaro only collects the recyclables and it is two separate actions. Mascaro collects and they are delivered where the Township designates the recyclables to go. Mr. Burkheimer also questioned how much CDL drivers are being paid. Mr. Augustine replied they are paid a competitive wage.

Tony Patti, 485 Middle Holland Road – stated he would like to see more openness from the Township and Mascaro. He believes it is best to over-communicate and give daily status updates. Mr. Patti stated he generates a lot of yard waste and Saturday is the worst possible day for pick-up and it usually sits for two weeks. Needs to go back to the day after trash.

Mr. Pellegrino stated he has worked with Mascaro for 3 decades before Covid and noted not many calls were received. Mrs. Silver stated everyone should appreciate the workers. Discussion ensued with the topic of tipping being discussed. It was determined you are allowed to tip the workers as your choice, but they cannot solicit tips or money from any resident.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board meeting minutes of June 23, 2021, was approved by unanimous consent.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable of July 14, 2021, for \$852,191.18 and, of July 28, 2021, for \$1,201,523.79 were approved by unanimous consent.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Department of Community and Economic Development MTF Grant Application

Mr. Moore outlined the application and noted the Administration recommends the Township apply for a grant through the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority from the Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) for pedestrian safety improvements along Route 332. These improvements will provide connections to Tyler State Park and improve pedestrian safety along Route 332. This project is consistent with the goals outlined in the Township's 2019 Master Trail & Bicycle Plan. The proposed improvements for this project include:

- Installation of a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon and pedestrian crossing of Route 332 at Fir Drive. This will include ADA ramp construction and installation of a connection to the #1 Trail Lane.
- Installation of approximately 950' of 10' wide multi-use path along Route 332 from Rock Way to St. Leonard's. This will provide a connection to the planned Neshaminy Greenway. The Township intends to submit for funding under upcoming grant programs to complete the connection from St. Leonard's to Tyler State Park
- Installation of a traffic signal and pedestrian accommodations at Route 332 and St. Leonard's Road.

The total projected cost is \$934,000. This includes construction, construction inspection, and contingencies. Engineering design and permitting costs would be funded by the Township, however, the Township can request a waiver from the match requirement. The grant program requires a Resolution from the governing body authorizing an individual to apply on behalf of the Township:

A motion was made and seconded (Moore-Silver) to adopt Resolution R-21-19 authorizing the Township Manager to file a grant application with the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority from the Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) for pedestrian safety improvements along Route 332 at Fir Drive and at St. Leonard's Road to include connections to Tyler State Park, installation of a 950' multi-use path and a traffic signal with pedestrian accommodations and to execute all documents required by the grant program.

Chairman Selisker called for Board comment.

The Board was all in agreement that this is a great opportunity and will provide better access. Mr. Pellegrino stated for the signal and the final connection will be under another grant that will be coming in the fall.

Mr. Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 5-0.

Consider Resolution Authorizing Destruction of Documents

Dr. Rose explained the Township Administration periodically reviews its paper files and completes an inventory of the files that can be discarded under the Township's record retention policy that is aligned with state law.

The disposition of records meeting the minimum retention period requires the Board of Supervisors to approve a Resolution listing the type and date ranges for the records in question.

The resolution lists the records that have met the minimum retention period under the Pennsylvania Public Records Retention Act. These records are deemed non-essential and can be destroyed. These are older paper records. Current records of similar nature are now stored electronically.

A motion was made and seconded (Rose-Moore) to adopt Resolution R-21-20 authorizing the destruction of certain Township records meeting the minimum retention requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipal Records Act

Chairman Selisker called for Board and public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 5-0.

Consider Bid Award for Gasoline, Diesel, and #2 Heating Oil

Mr. O'Donnell stated on behalf of the Bucks County Consortium, Upper Southampton Township advertised in the Bucks County Courier Times for bids to purchase unleaded regular gasoline, on-road ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel, and number 2 heating oil for the contract period August 1, 2021, to July 31, 2022. A copy of the advertisement was provided to us by Upper Southampton.

Bids were solicited for quantities of 6,000 gallons and above and separately for quantities 5999 or less. The price we will pay for these products is determined by the published price at the dock on the date of order plus a fixed price per gallon fee. Based on the bid results, the Director of Public Works has recommended contract awards to the PAPCO, Inc., Aston, PA, the low bidder for all of the products described.

The prices for products 5999 gallons or less are:

Unleaded regular gasoline at market price on the date of order plus 0.1813 cents per gallon delivery fee.

On-Road ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel at market price on the date of order plus 0.2307 cents per gallon delivery fee.

#2 heating oil at market price on the date of order plus 0.2523 cents per gallon delivery fee.

The prices for products 6,000 gallons and over are:

Unleaded regular gasoline a market price on the date of order Minus 0.0175 cents per gallon delivery fee.

On-Road ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel at market price on the date of order plus 0.0209 cents per gallon delivery fee.

A motion was made and seconded (O'Donnell-Rose) to award contracts to PAPCO, INC., Aston, PA for unleaded regular gasoline, on-road ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel, and #2 Heating Oil for the contract period August 1, 2021, to July 31, 2022, at the bid prices quoted to the Bucks County Consortium.

Chairman Selisker called for Board and public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 5-0.

Consider Appointments to the Library Board

Mrs. Silver noted there are three (3) vacancies on the Library Board. The term of Ilene Sheinson has expired and the two others were due to the resignations of Michael Russo and Diana Turek-Gever.

A motion was made and seconded (Silver-O'Donnell) to appoint Charlene DiSarlo to fill a term, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2023.

A motion was made and seconded (Silver-O'Donnell) to appoint Janet Braker to fill a term, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2022.

A motion was made and seconded (Silver-O'Donnell) to appoint Marcia Lyons-DiCamillo to fill a term effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2021.

Chairman Selisker called for Board and public comment. None was heard.

Motion passed 5-0.

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- The Senior Center will be holding a K9 Circus event, titled Angel on a leash. The ticket cost is \$4.

- If you are 55 or older memberships are available for the Senior Center, call 215-357-8199 for more information
- Parks and Recreation still have openings for their specialty camps. For more information go to northamptonrec.com or by calling 215-357-6800 x249.
- The Sounds of Summer Concerts have started and are held every Thursday through August.
- The Parks and Recreation Departments are providing virtual and in-person classes, and programs. Go to northamptonpa.myrec.com for current information on the various classes, activities, and programs being offered.
- The Parks and Recreation Pre-School program start after Labor Day.
- The Parks and Recreation Department is looking for a Part-Time Preschool Teacher and a Part-Time, Preschool Teacher's Assistant, see the northamptonpa.myrec.com for more information.
- Discounted tickets are available. Call the Parks and Recreation Office for details.

Mr. O'Donnell made the following announcements:

- The Public Works Department will start the milling process and paving the 1st week of August.
- The Municipal Authority has begun the process of soliciting bids for upgrading the sewer system. This project is expected to cost around a million and a half.
- The Veterans Advisory Commission is preparing for the Veterans Day Ceremony.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- The Zoning Hearing Board's next meeting is scheduled for August 9.
- The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for August 10.
- There is a lot of building and renovation projects happening around the Township. A Dunkin Donuts and a Chipotle are in the planning stage. The Giant is almost demolished and starting the building process. The Advent Church is looking to Sub-Divide and a couple of older empty buildings are in the approval process to be renovated.

Mrs. Silver made the following announcements:

- Several inquiries have been made to Board members on the houses being built on Stoneyford. This project came before the Zoning, Planning, and then the Board in April. The process was transparent.
- The Library is planning a 50th plus 1 Birthday Party on the 2nd Sunday of October with plenty of activities planned as well as a present for each child attending.
- The planning for the 300th anniversary is well underway, with many activities and events planned for 2022. This will be a time to celebrate our community.

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- Shared a thank you note he received on what a great place the Library is.
- Safety is important. Remember to check your carbon dioxide detector for an expiration date.
- A ceremony will be held acknowledging the 20th anniversary of 911 at the Northampton Township Police Station.
- Congratulations to the Northampton Bombers for winning the Championship with a season of winning 32 out of 35 games played.
- A food drive will be held at the Richboro Fire Station on Sunday, August 1st from 7 am until 5 pm.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Pizzo announced the Board has met in an executive session three (3) times.

On July 7th a virtual executive session was held. 4 members of the Board, (Mr. Moore was absent), Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Wert, and Mr. Pizzo himself were in attendance. One matter of pending litigation and one matter of potential litigation was discussed. No official action was taken during the executive session and no action was required at tonight's meeting as a result of the executive session.

On July 21st a virtual executive session was held. Members of the Board, Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Wert, the Township Engineer, and Mr. Pizzo himself were in attendance. Two matters of pending litigation and one matter of potential litigation were discussed. No official action was taken during the executive session and no action was required at tonight's meeting as a result of the executive session.

On July 28th immediately before tonight's meeting for approximately 30 minutes. The members of the Board, Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Wert, the Township Engineer, and Mr. Pizzo himself were in attendance. One matter of pending litigation and one matter of potential litigation was discussed. No official action was taken during the executive session and no action was required at tonight's meeting as a result of the executive session

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Selisker called for public comment.

The following persons spoke against the construction of a new Wawa to be located at the intersection of Buck Road and Rocksville Road. They raised concerns about the impacts on neighborhoods, environmental concerns, health issues, traffic issues, pollution, trash, accidents, speeding, and crime.

Erik Lehman, 57 Schoolhouse Road

Thomas Bucher, 669 Holland Road

Charles Chak, 74 Lakeview Drive

Pam Duffy, 125 Hope Road

Gerry Duffy, 125 Hope Road

Shane Duffy, 125 Hope Road

Brett Duffy, 125 Hope Road

Mr. Pizzo advised the matter is not on the agenda this evening and therefore the Board will not discuss any of the merits of the application.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank O'Donnell, Secretary