

The agenda meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6:00 p.m.

Present were:

Adam M. Selisker
Barry Moore
Paula Gasper
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Robert Salzer
Joseph Pizzo
Amanda Fuller
Robert M. Pellegrino

Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

The regular business meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:03 pm. Members of the Board present were:

Adam M. Selisker
Barry Moore
Paula Gasper
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Robert M. Salzer

Others present were:

Robert M. Pellegrino, Township Manager
Amanda Fuller, Township Engineer
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board meeting minutes of December 13, 2023, and January 2, 2024, were presented by Mrs. Gasper.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable for January 3, for \$336,278.54, and for January 24, 2024, for \$2,133,904.24 were presented by Dr. Rose.

A motion was made and seconded (Moore-Salzer) to approve the consent items. Unanimous Consent approved all consent items.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- Camp Registration opened for residents on Saturday, Jan. 6 and all camps closed within 10 days except for our ½ day program. All camps are back to our pre-pandemic thresholds. We are hoping to offer more locations in 2025 when all CR Schools have completed their renovation plan.
- Flower show tickets are now available at the administration building and the Recreation Center at significant savings. The flower show takes place March 2 – 10, 2024. Regal movie tickets and Camden Aquarium tickets are also available year-round.
- Enrollment is now open for our 2024-2025 preschool year! The 3-day, three-year old class is already full, and all other classrooms have limited availability – DO NOT DELAY, schedule a visit by calling the Recreation Center or register today!
- The Parks and Recreation Department is currently seeking applications for camp counselors, lifeguards, front desk at the swim club. We are anticipating openings for the 24-25 school year at our preschool. Come and join our dedicated and friendly staff!
- For more information contact the administration building, the Recreation Center, or visit us online at WWW.NORTHAMPTONREC.COM
- The Senior Center has many classes, educational programs, special events, parties, and bus trips for ages 55 and older. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call (215) 357-8199 for more information or stop by the center located at 165 Township Road for a tour. The center's hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9 a.m. – to 3:30 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. – to 8 p.m. Another great source of information is the center's website at northamptonsc.com.
- Residents expressed gratitude for Whitetail working through the night to get the trash picked up before the snowstorm hit.
- Thanked the career firefighters for taking care of Northampton's Senior Citizens. The firefighters come out and change batteries in the smoke detectors and help with carbon monoxide detectors. The community is thrilled to have career firefighters on staff.

Chairman Selisker stated if anyone should need assistance from the Fire Department unless it is an emergency then they should call 911 but for other matters call 215-357-8277 and give them your address.

Mrs. Gasper made the following announcements:

- Excellent work by Public Works during this last snow storm.
- The library hosted approx. 149,000 visitors last year and proudly announces the following statistics:
 - 217,000 physical items and almost 48,000 e-books/e-audiobooks, an increase of almost 27% for e-materials;
 - 189 adult programs with 3100 in attendance and 422 kids' programs with more than 14,500 attending this is a 20+% increase over pre-covid kids' programs
 - The library staff added almost 7,000 new items to the collection in 2023
 - Hosted 657 groups in the 3 rooms available for reservations; an increase of 18% over pre-covid usage
 - Volunteers provided 2,861 hours of volunteer time; 53.4% of those hours were provided by teens
 - Noted a few major revenue sources in 2023
 - received more than \$42,600 in donations
 - received approx. \$25,000 in overdue fines and lost or damaged book replacement costs
 - raised more than \$4,800 by providing test proctoring services to 243 test-takers
 - Via our Kanopy app, a vendor providing streaming movies and films, we had 3,200 videos borrowed with almost 122,000 minutes of viewing (over 2,030 hours)
 - Via a Mango Languages app, a vendor providing online language learning, we hosted almost 1,200 sessions and currently have over 300 registered users.

Mr. Salzer made the following announcements:

- Received positive feedback about the Public Works Department and their effectiveness during the last snowstorm.
- On behalf of the Municipal Authority people were under the misconception that the privatization of the potential sale of the Bucks County Water was stopped last year. It has not been stopped. There was a 2016 amendment to the public utilities code known as Act 12. Act 12 is a framework for sellers and prospective buyers of these utilities. The act requires picking a group of consultants vetted by the State Public Utilities Commission. Each consultant then has 6 months to calculate an estimated value of the water system pending sale, this figure takes into account several things but ultimately the acquisition price is set as an average of the two consultant's prices unless the owner agrees to a lower price. Encourage residents to push for the repeal of Act 12. Doing so would create another hurdle for potential buyers of the Public Utilities. Residents need to understand the battle is not over. Hopefully, there will be widespread support for repealing Act 12.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- The Planning Commission meeting was canceled for January. A proposed sub-division on Bridgetown Pike was to be reviewed and will be heard at the February 13th meeting.
- Mill Race Inn is still under review by the Planning Commission
- On January 18, 2024, the Council Rock School Board met to discuss the implementation of full-day Kindergarten. Out of eight (8) districts, only three (3) do not have full-day Kindergarten and Council Rock is looking towards a full-day Kindergarten program.

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- During snowstorms it is a great help if residents find their closest Fire Hydrant, and clean it out in case there is a fire, it saves Firefighters valuable time.
- Address visibility is very important, make sure the numbers to your house are posted on your mailbox or front of the house with contrasting numbers.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Spoke on the Mango App that the Library offers and highly endorses it.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

- No Report- William Wert is absent.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- The Board of Supervisors met in a brief executive session before tonight's meeting. Present for that executive session were the five Board members, the Township Engineer, the Township Manager, and myself. No official action was taken during the executive session. Two matters of pending litigation were discussed no official action was required at this evening's meeting as a result of that executive session.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- No Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gasper, Secretary