

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

Present were:

Barry Moore  
Eileen Silver  
Dr. Kimberly Rose  
Frank O'Donnell  
Adam Selisker  
William Wert  
Joseph Pizzo  
Kurt Schroeder  
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:

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

Others present were:

William Wert, Assistant Manager  
Kurt Schroeder, Township Engineer  
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

### **CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Moore announced that Dan McPhillips, the President of BCATO will be added under Special Presentations.

### **FLAG PRESENTATION**

Chairman Moore called Peter Palestina forward. Mr. Palestina introduced, Sue Reichart the mother and Caitlyn the sister of United States Army Specialist Tyler Reichert. The family placed

the American Flag in the display and accepted the Army Flag as a symbol of Specialist Reichert's safe return home.

Also in attendance to recognize Specialist Reichert was Vern Ryder from Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick's Veterans Advocates, State Senator Tommy Tomlinson's Constituent Outreach Specialist Nick Diasio, & Pat Camino from State Representative Wendi Thomas's Office.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

### **Patriot Detachment 1230 Marine Corp League Recognition**

Chairman Moore called the Marine Corp League forward and presented them with a Certificate of Recognition for their outstanding support of the community.

### **Ring Corporation**

Chairman Moore called Police Chief Michael Clark forward to explain the program.

Chief Clark outlined the Ring. Identified its purpose and the partnership is being established with the Police Department as a new crime-fighting tool.

Chief Clark stated the "Ring" is actually a doorbell that allows residents to see and talk to anyone who comes close to the ring device. As part of the device, there is an app titled "Neighbors". This app for the phone enables residents to communicate with each other on neighborhood activity: share crime, and safety-related videos, photos, and text-based posts in real time.

Through a partnership with the Ring Corporation, the Police Department will be able to send alerts to neighbors of crime and safety incidents in the area in real time. Request information about local crime and safety situations from Neighbors App who opt-in to share for a particular request. Work together with the local community to build trust and make neighborhoods safer.

### **Northampton Community Day**

Steve Bryer, Chairman of the Northampton Community Day, outlined the events planned for the Community day on May 5. Mr. Bryer stated there is something for everyone and encouraged the community to come out and support this event.

### **Bucks County Association of Township Officials "BCATO"**

Chairman Moore called the President of BCATO, Dan McPhillips forward. Mr. McPhillips provided background on the duties and responsibilities of BCATO. Mr. McPhillips also spoke on

the Sterling Act and asked that people get involved and go to the BCATO website and support the Bills and Legislation that are being presented.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joe Johnson, 41 Grant Drive, spoke on the effects of the Sterling Act and those that work in Philadelphia, the costs associated with working in the city, including parking and working but not living in Philadelphia.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board meeting minutes of February 27, 2019, was approved by unanimous consent.

### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The accounts payable for March 13, 2019, in the amount of \$700,588.36, and March 27, 2019, in the amount of \$1,565,187.39, was approved by unanimous consent.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **Consider Ordinance Amending the Police Pension Plan**

Chairman Moore opened the hearing at 8:20 pm.

Mr. Selisker stated the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between Northampton Township and the Northampton Township Police Benevolent Association states that police officers are eligible to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for a four (4) year term; however, the current Police Pension Plan Ordinance adopted prior to the most recent contract provides for a three (3) year term.

The draft ordinance is intended to amend the Police Pension Plan Document to change the DROP term from three years to four years in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The Deferred Retirement Option Plan allows a police officer to “retire” for pension plan purposes but continue to work for at least one year but not more than four years. During the time that an officer is working under the DROP, his pension payments are deposited by the Township into a self-directed investment vehicle that becomes available to the officer at the end of the DROP period.

The proposed ordinance was advertised in the Bucks Country Courier Times on Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

A motion was made and seconded (Selisker-Silver) to adopt Ordinance #605 to consider amending the Police Pension Plan Document to provide for a four (4)

year Deferred Retirement Option Plan term in accordance with the current Police Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0.**

Chairman Moore closed the hearing at 8:21 pm.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consider Resolution Authorizing an Application to PennDOT for Modifications to the Traffic Signal Permit Plan for the Intersection of Buck Road and Middle Holland Road to Add Left Turn Signals**

Mrs. Silver noted based on resident complaints, McMahon Associates completed a survey of traffic movements at the intersection of Buck Road and East Holland Road. The results of their analysis demonstrate that left turn signals are warranted on southbound Buck Road and eastbound Middle Holland Road.

In order to install the left turn signal head, the Township must obtain PennDOT approval to amend the current signal permit plan. These improvements will make the intersection safer for motorists and potentially reduce future traffic accidents and injuries to individuals. The estimated cost for the project is \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Mr. Pellegrino recommends the Board adopt the attached Resolution authorizing submission of the application and designating the Township Manager to execute all required documents to amend the signal permit.

A motion was made and seconded (Silver-O'Donnell) to adopt Resolution R-19-5 authorizing an amendment to the traffic signal permit plan for the addition of left turn signal heads for southbound Buck Road and eastbound Middle Holland Road, and to authorize the Township Manager to execute all documents required in connection with the permit application.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0.**

**Consider Bids for Road Materials**

Dr. Rose stated on behalf of Bucks County Consortium, New Britain Township advertised for bids for bituminous asphalt materials and stone on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

A total of 10 companies submitted bids for various materials used in road maintenance and resurfacing.

The Department of Public Works recommends contract awards as follows:

1. **Eureka Stone Quarry Inc., Chalfont, PA** – Screenings, AS-1, 1B, 2A, 2B, #4 Ballast, Super Pave Mix 25.0 mm Binder and Base
2. **No Bidders for this contract year** – Crackmaster 3405 (Sealant) and Crafcro Poliflex II Crack Seal
3. **Hei-Way, LLC, Sarver, PA** – QPR Cold Patch and 486 Cold Patch with fiber
4. **Hanson Aggregates BMC Inc., Newtown, PA** – 9.5mm, 19.0mm Super Pave Mixes and Rip Rap

A motion was made and seconded (Rose-Selisker) to award contracts for Bituminous Asphalt Mixture and Stone to Eureka Stone Quarry Inc., Chalfont, PA, Hei-Way, Sarver, PA, Hanson Aggregates BMC Inc., Newtown, PA at their bid prices to the Bucks County Consortium.

It was noted approximately just under 7 miles of road will be paved in 2019.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0.**

**Consider Resolution Authorizing an Application for a Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund Grant for Various Improvements to the Library Building**

Mr. O'Donnell outlined the application and noted the Administration and Library Staff are seeking authorization to apply for a Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund Grant for Public Library Facilities. This grant, if successful would fund improvements to the Library facility as follows:

- Atrium Repairs and Refurbishment
- Electrical Systems upgrades, reconfiguration & rewiring
- HVAC Equipment Replacement
- Carpeting for the community room, story time area and children's area, and
- Main entrance doors replacement.

The estimated project cost is \$450,000. The grant pays 50% of the improvement costs. The Township match would be \$225,000. This includes in-kind and previous eligible expenses to be determined.

Mr. O'Donnell stated if the Board agrees to submit an application the Board must adopt a resolution authorizing the Township Manager to execute any and all documents required to submit the application.

A motion was made and seconded (O'Donnell-Silver) to adopt Resolution R-19-6 authorizing an application to Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund Grant for Public Library Facilities to fund improvements to the Library Facilities and to authorize the Township Manager to execute all documents in connection with the grant program.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0.**

**LIAISON REPORTS**

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- Sign-ups for various leagues are happening now.
- The Senior Center held its annual St. Patricks Day luncheon on Friday, March 15, 2019, and it was another huge success.
- The annual Spring Fling Shopping event will take place on Friday, April 26 from 5 pm until 9 pm at the Senior Center and is still accepting applications for Vendors.
- The Historical Commission has welcomed three new members and the group is working on forming a committee to get historical items together for the Township's 300 year anniversary in 2022.
- The Historical Commission is working on the final touches for the Luft & Geyer archive room that is being named in their honor.
- If you are spring cleaning and find items you believe to be historical, contact Sarah at the Library to discuss. Please do not drop off at the Library without first talking to Sarah.
- The new restrooms at the Civic Center are open.
- The annual Bunny Hunt will be taking place on April 13, 2019, from 9:30 am until 11:15 am at Welch Elementary.
- Registration for Summer Camps is now open and for Spring Youth Sports.
- Parks and Recreation have many great programs for all ages check out the Park and Recreation website at [www.northamptonrec.com](http://www.northamptonrec.com) for more information.

Mr. O'Donnell made the following announcement:

- The Library held a luncheon for their volunteers. The volunteers do a great job and its nice to see them recognized for their time.
- Check the Library's website for information on their various programs.
- The Veterans Advisory Commission is preparing for the annual Memorial Day and Flag Day Ceremonies.

Mr. Selisker made the following announcements:

- The Fire Department has submitted their application for the "Safer Grant" under which five (5) more firefighters will be hired.
- The Fire Department continues to work towards the goal of a combination Fire Company with career and volunteer firefighters working together.
- Thanked Eileen Silver for the Tapestry recognizing the Fire Department's 100 years of service.
- Congratulations to Corporal Michael Long and Corporal Sean McLaughlin for completing the FBI Hostage Negotiation Class.
- The Grille Restaurant at the Northampton Valley Country Club has reopened and will be open 7 days a week and Wednesday through Sunday from 11 am until 3 pm during the offseason. Great place for lunch.

Mrs. Silver made the following announcements:

- It's budget time for the Council Rock School District any concerns should be directed to the School Board.
- The last day of school for Council Rock is June 20, 2019. Senior graduation is scheduled for June 17, 2019.
- Improvements to Wrightstown Elementary are on schedule and students will be returning to their building in September and Rolling Hills Elementary will be moving to Richboro Middle while improvements are being done at Rolling Hills.
- Rob Reiner director of the Business Administration recently retired and the Board wishes him well and thanks him for his many years of service.
- The Churchville Nature Center has many exciting programs coming up and all details can be found on their website at [www.churchvillenaturecenter.org](http://www.churchvillenaturecenter.org).

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- The Police Department is on schedule and once finished an Open House will be held.
- The new State Store will be holding its grand opening on April 27, 2019, at 4:00 pm and will be holding tastings all day.
- EZ's Pub is scheduled to open any day now.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Frank O'Donnell, Secretary