

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

Present were:

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

Robert Pellegrino, Township Manager
Amanda Fuller, 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.

FLAG PRESENTATION

Chairman Moore called forward Mr. Pete Palestina. Mr. Palestina stated we are here to recognize, United States Air Force Senior Airman Timothy Harman. Senior Airman Harman has safely returned home after his deployment. Tonight Senior Airman Harman's Air Force Flag was returned to him and a United States Flag was placed in the display recognizing his safe return home. Also in attendance to recognize Senior Airman Harman was Peter Chong from Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick's, State Senator Tommy Tomlinson's representative Nick Diasio and Kevin Bongarzone from State Representative Wendi Thomas's office.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Fire Safety Awards

Chairman Moore called forward Mr. Peter Palestina to announce the results for the organization's 36th annual 'Fire Safety in the Home' contest. To assist Mr. Palestina with the ceremony is Jessica Kearney, CPCU, Secretary of the Philadelphia Chapter of the CPCU Society who will be reading the names of the 12 winning students. The contest was held for elementary students from the Council Rock School District.

Supervisor Chairman Barry Moore will present for Northampton Township and Newtown Township, Since our legislators are in session and could not be here, standing in for them are Regina Cairo for Representative Perry Warren, Kevin Bongarzone for Representative Wendi Thomas and Nick Diasio for Senators Tommy Tomlinson and Ethan Seletsky for Senator Steve Santarsiero. Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick is tied up in Washington so presenting for him from his staff is Peter Chong. They presented special citations from the Congress, State House, and Senate.

The winners of the contest listed from first place to fourth place were:

<u>1ST and 2ND GRADE CATEGORY</u>	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
1st Place \$100 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Gabriel Cocco	Goodnoe Elementary
2nd Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Johnny Reilly	Goodnoe Elementary
3rd Place - \$50 cash,plaque,movie tickets:	Sofia Ogrizovic	Hillcrest Elementary
4th Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Andrew Sussman	Hillcrest Elementary

<u>3RD and 4TH GRADE CATEGORY</u>	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
1st Place \$100 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Alison Butkiewicz	Richboro Elementary
2nd Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Trenton Wackowski	Hillcrest Elementary
3rd Place - \$50 cash,plaque,movie tickets:	Misa Jeiranashnli	Goodnoe Elementary
4th Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Ichiro Gardner	Welch Elementary

<u>5TH and 6TH GRADE CATEGORY</u>	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
1st Place \$100 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Weston Wackowski	Hillcrest Elementary
2nd Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Sree Allampally	Goodnoe Elementary
3rd Place - \$50 cash,plaque,movie tickets:	Brian Kiedaisch	Newtown Elementary
4th Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Emma Pachai	Newtown Elementary

Mr. Palestina called forward Alison Butkiewicz's mom who asked if she could say a few words. Mrs. Butkiewicz's emphasized the importance of teaching your child fire safety. She explained they had a fire in their home earlier in the year and due to the discussions held on fire safety, everyone was able to get out of the home safely.

Chairman Moore called for a five-minute recess at 8:05 pm and reconvened at 8:08 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board meeting minutes of October 23 and November 12, 2019, were approved by unanimous consent.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable for November 6, 2019, in the amount of \$698,148.42 and November 20, 2019, in the amount of \$1,153,096.80, was approved by unanimous consent.

UPDATE ON BIKE AND TRAIL MASTER PLAN

Chairman Moore deferred to Mr. Pellegrino to provide an update on the potential Bike and Trail Master Plan. Mr. Pellegrino stated the Administration is expecting to receive a final report on the plan from the Bucks County Planning Commission in early December. Mr. O'Donnell suggested the Administration place the maps of the potential bike and trail plan at the Library and the Township Building for public review for comments and suggestions. Mr. O'Donnell also suggested the Bucks County Planning Commission come to a Board meeting to present the plan and take questions.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Authorization to Advertise and Ordinance to Amend Library Code

Mr. O'Donnell stated the Administration, is working with the Bucks County Free Library District Consultant, Chris Snyder, and has prepared an amended Library Ordinance for the Board's review and consideration. The original Ordinance No. 109 adopted on February 27, 1969, requires updating to reference current enabling legislation from the Pennsylvania General Assembly. ☐

Mr. O'Donnell explained most of the suggested amendments include clarifying language defining the different roles of the Township, the Library Board of Directors and the Friends of the Northampton Library.

A motion was made and seconded (O'Donnell-Selisker) to authorize the Administration to advertise an ordinance making amendments to the existing ordinance that established a free, public, non-sectarian library for the use and benefit of the residents of Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. ☐

Mr. O'Donnell also explained regarding the recent term limits discussions, term limits are not legislated in the ordinance, but in the Library Board of Directors Bylaws. Revisions to the Bylaws

will be presented for the Board's consideration in conjunction with the proposed ordinance adoption at the Board of Supervisors December 18, 2019 meeting.☐

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

Motion Passed 5-0.

Presentation of Preliminary 2020 Budget

Chairman Moore called forward Mr. Robert Pellegino, Township Manager and Mr. Robert Armelin, Finance Director to present the 2020 preliminary budget.

Mr. Pellegrino explained that the Board must approve a preliminary budget and make it available for public review for twenty days prior to final adoption. The final budget is scheduled for adoption on December 18, 2020.

Mr. Pellegrino presented a thorough review of the proposed 2020 budget and explained the variables that affect revenues and expenditures. He noted changes from 2019 to 2020 and stated this budget does require a tax increase of 3.6 mills as follows:

The 2020 budget

General Fund	6.0247 mills
Fire Fund	3.0000 mills
Recreation Capital Fund	1.6280 mills (Part of the Recreation Fund)
Ambulance Fund	0.5000 mills
Debt Service Fund	4.5597 mills
Library Fund	1.7284 mills
Road Maintenance Fund	0.5000 mills
Road Equipment Fund	<u>0.5703 mills</u>
	18.5111 mills

Discussion ensued with each Board member complimenting Mr. Pellegrino and Mr. Armelin on various parts of the budget. Mr. O'Donnell expressed concern about the ability of the Country Club operations to fund future Debt Service obligations. Discussion ensued among the Board.

Chairman Moore called for public comment. None was heard.

A motion was made and seconded (Moore-Rose) to adopt the preliminary 2020 budget and advertise its availability for public inspection for a period of not less than twenty days as required by the Second Class Township Code.

Motion Passed 4-1 (with Mr. O'Donnell voting nay).

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- The Historical Commission is accepting historical items for the archives. A vintage fire helmet was donated recently by Mr. Selisker.
- The Senior Center has many amazing events going on including, various classes to meet anyone's interest, Boscov's shopping discount, free flu shots, Bags & Bingo and so much more. If you are 55 years of age or older come out and join the Senior Center located at 165 Township Road. Center is open Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, and Tuesday, and Thursdays until 8:30 pm.
- The Senior Center will be hosting its annual Holiday Marketplace on December 6, 2019, from 5 pm until 9 pm. ☐
- Parks and Recreation have many great programs for all ages check out the Park and Recreation website at www.northamptonrec.com for more information.
- Tickets for various trips are available now, check the Parks and Recreation website for more information.

Mr. O'Donnell made the following announcement:

- The Veterans Day Ceremony was held on Sunday, November 10, at 3:00 pm. Township Police Officer Zach Wyant spoke.
- December 7, 2019, the wreath event at the Union Cemetary will be held recognizing all first responders and veterans. The program begins at 11:00 am. ☐
- The Richboro Coffee Shop Annex has officially opened at the Library. The Coffee Shop is open from 1-5 pm Monday through Thursday and 1 pm until 4 pm on Fridays. ☐
- The Municipal Authority will vote on its 2020 budget at their November 20, 2019 meeting. The Municipal Authority's fiscal year is November 1 through October 30. No rate increase is anticipated this year.
- The Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority litigation has settled resulting in a reduction in charges and savings of approximately one million dollars. These dollars will help to replenish the Municipal Authority's reserve funds.
- Home laterals cause many issues and will be inspected upon the sale of your home. ☐

- A smoke test is being performed by the Municipal Authority to see if sump pumps are still connected to the sanitary sewer systems. Residents will be notified before testing takes place.
- Check the Library's website for information on their various programs.
- The Library is still fundraising and if you would like to donate please contact the Library for more information.

Mr. Selisker made the following announcements:

- Provided comparisons of the Northampton Valley Country Club 2019 business to the business and revenues conducted in 2018.
- The Fire Company and EMS reminded everyone of the dangers of Turkey Fryer safety and asked everyone to read and follow the directions carefully during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Eileen Silver made the following announcements:

- To stay informed check out the Council Rock School District website at www.crsd.org. All the days and times of their meetings can be found here. Be proactive and be involved by attending their various meetings. ☐

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- The Planning Commission will hear the plans for the STAR/Sloan school and the Turf Fields for the Council Rock School District on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, beginning at 7:30 pm. The Board of Supervisors will hear the plans at their meeting on December 18, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank O'Donnell, Secretary