

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

Present were:

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  
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.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Ratifying the Year of the Bird**

Vice-Chairman Silver called Steve McGill, President of Friends of the Churchville Nature Center. Mr. McGill outlined the history of the Audobon Society. Mrs. Silver read the Resolution proclaiming 2018 as the year of the bird and ratifying Resolution R-18-23.

**Fire Safety Awards**

Peter Palestina and the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters Society (CPCU) announced the results of the organization’s 35<sup>th</sup> annual “Fire Safety in the Home” essay contest. The contest was held for elementary students from the Council Rock School District. Those presenting awards were:

- Chairman Moore (on behalf of the Township)
- Phil Calabro, Chairman Board of Supervisors Newtown Township
- State Representative Perry Warren, (on behalf of Newtown Township and Representative Petri)
- Senator Tommy Tomlinson (also on behalf of Senator McIlhinney)
- State Representative-Elect Wendi Thomas
- State Representative Perry Warren – Pennsylvania House and Senate
- Peter Chong (on behalf of Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick)
- Joe Hidalgo, Council Rock Board Member

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:	Spencer Joworisak	Rolling Hills Elementary
2nd Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Alison Butkiewicz	Richboro Elementary
3rd Place - \$50 cash,plaque,movie tickets:	Ashley Miller	Hillcrest Elementary
4th Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Kyleigh Pisarek	Welch Elementary

<u>3RD and 4TH GRADE CATEGORY</u>	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
1st Place \$100 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Nicholas Gromosaik	Churchville Elementary
2nd Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Alexander Gromosaik	Churchville Elementary
3rd Place - \$50 cash,plaque,movie tickets:	Noah Melhuish	Rolling Hills Elementary
4th Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Riley Witmer	Hillcrest Elementary

<u>5TH and 6TH GRADE CATEGORY</u>	<u>WINNERS</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
1st Place \$100 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Alexandria Murashka	Goodnoe Elementary
2nd Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Abby Walsh	Goodnoe Elementary
3rd Place - \$50 cash,plaque,movie tickets:	Sam Khelmer	Richboro Elementary
4th Place - \$50 cash, plaque, movie tickets:	Hope Hackbert	Hillcrest Elementary

Chairman Moore called for a recess at 8:01 pm and reconvened at 8:09 pm

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Thomas Yaegel, 31 Jason’s Way, offered his support for Vincent Deon as Tax Collector and commented on the great job he was doing.

Robert Finley, 35 Jacqueline Circle, reiterated previous comments and noted his support for Vincent Deon as the new tax collector.

Jim Fleuhr, 935 Street Road, Southampton, commented on his support and recommendation of Shannon Brooks for Tax Collector.

Antonio Albano, 644 Newtown Richboro Road, spoke in support of Vincent Deon for Tax Collector.

Shannon Brooks, 8 Boxwood Road, spoke on her qualifications and abilities and why she should be selected as the new Tax Collector.

The following persons all spoke in favor of Vincent Deon for the position of Tax Collector.

Arnold Francisco, 1260 Spencer Road

Dan Wasserstrom, 374 Worthington Mill Road

Steve McGill, 103 Briarwood

Eric Lehman, 57 Schoolhouse Road

Karen Shepard, 37 Joshua Drive

Lynne Kelleher, 119 Fairhill Drive

Joan Betz, 1240 Spencer Road

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Consider Appointment of Tax Collector**

Mr. O'Donnell stated the Township advertised in the Bucks County Courier Times on November 29, 2018, that it would receive resumes through December 7 for the position of Tax Collector, and on December 11, 2018, the Board interviewed three (3) candidates. Each candidate submitted information on their education and professional work experience that they believe qualified them for the position.

A motion was made and seconded (O'Donnell-Silver) to appoint Vincent Deon as Tax Collector effective January 8, 2019, to fill a vacancy in the position through December 31, 2019.

Chairman Moore called for Board comment.

Discussion ensued among the Board with the qualifications of each person discussed and vetted.

**Motion Passed 4-1 (with Dr. Rose voting nay).**

**CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board meeting minutes of November 7, and November 14, 2018, were approved by unanimous consent.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The accounts payable for December 5, in the amount of \$1,643,660.92, and the accounts payable for December 19, 2018, in the amount of \$556,519.34 were approved by unanimous consent.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Consider Ordinance Amending the Park and Recreation Board Membership, Meeting Requirements, and Duties**

Mrs. Silver outlined the proposed ordinance and stated the purposed is to repeal in its entirety Chapter 1, Part 2, Section B. Northampton Township Park and Recreation Board, and rewrite the same section with amendments.

The Ordinance would re-create and re-establish the existing Park and Recreation Board, provide for a five (5) member board, and set minimum meeting requirements. Under the proposed ordinance, the Park and Recreation Board remains as an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors. The substantive changes include:

1. Removing references to previous resolutions and ordinances and subsequent amendments to make one clean, new ordinance that reestablishes the Northampton Township Park and Recreation Board.
2. Reducing the membership on this Board from seven (7) to five (5) members.
3. Removing language that references the original resolution referring to first appointments and terms from 1977.
4. Adding language that provides for a minimum of four (4) meeting per year.
5. Clarifying the language in Section 1-215.1 regarding the powers and duties of the Board as recommended by the Board of Supervisors last meeting.

It is necessary to re-adopt the entire section because the Park and Recreation Board was originally created by resolution, not by ordinance.

This draft ordinance was duly advertised as required by the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code in the Bucks County Courier Times on November 26, 2018.

A motion was made and seconded by (Silver-O'Donnell) to adopt Ordinance #602 amending the Code of Northampton Township, specifically Repealing Chapter 1, Administration and Government, Part 2. B. Northampton Township Park and Recreation Board Sections and re-adopting Chapter 1, Part 2. B.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0**

**New Business Cont'd**

**Consider Authorization to Advertise Ordinance Adopting the 2015 International Fire Code**

Mr. Selisker outlined the proposed draft ordinance amendment adopting the 2015 International Fire Code. On October 1st, the State updated from the 2009 International Code Series to the 2015 editions of the code with respect to the Statewide Building Code (UCC). Those updates took effect automatically. The Fire Code, however, is outside the realm of the UCC and therefore new editions need to be updated by ordinance.

Overall, the primary purpose of this ordinance is for consistency across the editions of the code that we enforce.

A motion was made and seconded (Selisker-Rose) to authorize a public meeting for January 23, 2019 to consider an ordinance adopting the 2015 International Fire Code.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0.**

**Consider Resolution Authorizing Capital Loan for Equipment Acquisitions**

Dr. Rose stated each year the Township seeks quotations from qualified lending institutions for short-term loans to finance the acquisition of capital equipment including police and public works vehicles, IT equipment, and public works construction equipment.

Based on the quotes received by the Finance Department, TD Equipment Finance, Inc., offered the lowest borrowing rates for short-term loans to acquire various capital items as part of the 2019 Capital Equipment Replacement Program.

We propose to borrow \$600,000 over a 4-year period rate of 2.82%, with an estimated annual payment of \$148,368, and \$550,000 over a 7-year period at a rate of 2.96%, with an estimated annual payment of 83,277.

A loan document is required for each of the loans. Upon full payment of the loan obligations, the equipment becomes Township property. In order to secure the capital loan, the Board must approve a Resolution.

A motion was made and seconded (Rose-Silver) to adopt Resolution R-18-22 authorizing a 4-year capital loan obligation in the amount of \$600,000 and a 7-year capital loan obligation in the amount of \$550,000 with TD Equipment Finance, Inc. for the acquisition of capital equipment in accordance with the Township's Capital Equipment Replacement Program, and to authorize the Township Manager to execute all documents required in connection with the loan agreements.

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

**Motion passed 5-0.**

**Consider Final Adoption of 2019 Budget**

Dr. Rose stated the proposed 2019 Budget was advertised for public inspection on November 16, 2018, and a copy was available in the Township Administration Building since Preliminary Budget adoption by the Board on November 14, 2018.

A motion was made and seconded (Rose-Selisker) for final adoption of the 2019 Preliminary budget.

Chairman Moore deferred to Mr. Pellegrino to highlight the important issues in the 2019 Budget.

Mr. Pellegrino provided a short summary review of the proposed 2019 Budget. He noted changes from 2018 to 2019 and stated this budget does not require a tax increase.

The 2019 budget will stay the same as last year and is depicted below.

General Fund	.6019 mills
Capital Fund	.6630 mills (Part of the General Fund)
Recreation Capital Fund	.1284 mills (Part of the Recreation Fund)
Road Equipment Fund	.2053 mills
Library Fund	.1284 mills
Debt Service Fund	<u>.2567 mills</u>
	1.9836 mills

The Board took turns commenting on the budget and thanked Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Armelin, the Finance Director, and the Administration for their effort on a balanced budget without raising taxes.

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

**Motion Passed 5-0.**

**LIAISON REPORTS**

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- The Historical Commission did not meet this month.
- The Senior Center is actively holding programs and fundraising events, free flu shots are just one of the programs, call the Senior Center for more information on upcoming programs.

Mr. O'Donnell made the following announcement:

- No Report. Wished everyone a safe and happy Holiday.

Adam Selisker made the following announcement:

- Provided information on smart911.com and the centralized 911 center.
- People are able to now text an emergency to 911 rather than call.
- Reminded everyone to water their live Christmas Trees as dry trees are a fire hazard.

Eileen Silver made the following announcement:

- Parks and Recreation Winter Brochure is out. Great programs, check out the Park and Recreation website for more information.
- The Book and Bedtime event was another huge success.
- The Parks and Recreation Department applied and received a grant from DCNR for playground improvements. These improvements will help to welcome children and families of all abilities.
- Township Building will be closed from December 24, 2018, through January 1, 2019.
- The Wreath Laying program held at Union Cemetery took place on December 1, 2018, and had another great turnout.

Barry Moore made the following announcement:

- The Board of Supervisors will consider re-zoning for the Bucks County Roses Property for the development of Townhomes at the January 23, 2019 Board of Supervisors meeting.

- Murray's Shop & Bag will be closing its doors permanently. This business has been long standing in the community and will be missed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Frank O'Donnell, Secretary