

The agenda meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors took place virtually using the Zoom platform. The virtual meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present were:

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

Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

The regular business meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors took place virtually using the Zoom platform. The virtual meeting 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
Jacob Rigg, Township Engineer
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Selisker explained the procedures for public comment and how to email questions to be read and answered. Chairman Selisker also provided an update on the status of the Township and its operations.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

ADOPT-A-HYDRANT PROGRAM

Chairman Selisker repeated his announcement of the Adopt-A-Hydrant program he had outlined at the November Board meeting. Due to the recent storms, Chairman Selisker announced the winners of the gift card drawing for "Adopting a Hydrant". The three (3) winners of this month's drawing are the Edwards Family, Maddy, and Emma Norbury, and Larry Blankenmeyer. If you would like to participate all you need to do is: Clear out your hydrant, take a photo of the cleared hydrant and your shoveling crew and send it to chief@ntvfc.org. A gift card winner will be randomly selected and announced at the monthly Board of Supervisors meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board meeting minutes of January 27, 2021, was approved by unanimous consent.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable of February 10, 2021, for \$301,475.12 and, of February 24, 2021, for \$1,047,511.16, were approved by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Consider an Ordinance Establishing a Speed Limit on Addisville Way from Almshouse Road to Second Street Pike

Chairman Selisker opened the hearing at 7:35 pm.

Mr. O'Donnell explained as with any newly dedicated public street, the Township must adopt certain traffic controls to regulate motor vehicle speed, parking, or proposed STOP intersections.

The Administration is recommending traffic control regulations for the newly dedicated Addisville Way as follows:

1. A maximum 25-mph speed limit from Almshouse Road to Second Street Pike.
2. No Parking on both sides of the road for its entire length.
3. STOP signs for motorists traveling east and west adjacent to Giuseppe's Restaurant.

The PA Motor Vehicle Code, Title 75, allows municipalities to establish a 25 MPH speed limit on any local road; without the need for an engineering study; however, an ordinance is required so that the speed limit is enforceable by the Police Department.

The draft ordinance would amend the Township Code of Ordinances at Chapter 15, Motor Vehicles and Traffic to establish the recommended traffic control regulations. The ordinance was advertised in the Bucks County Courier Times on February 3, 2021.

A motion was made and seconded (O'Donnell- Rose) to adopt ordinance #610 amending the Township Code at Chapter 15, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, to establish a 25 MPH speed limit and prohibit parking on Addisville Way from Almshouse Road to Second Street Pike, establish two STOP locations.

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

Motion Passed 5-0.

Chairman Selisker closed the hearing at 7:37 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Lot Line Change Plan- H.E. Properties, LLC, LL 20-8, 355 West Bristol Road

Mr. Moore introduced Jason Smeland, P.E., Engineer for the project from Lenape Valley Engineering, and Mr. Joshua Richey, owner of the project. Mr. Moore outlined the project located at 355 West Bristol Road, the applicant has submitted a plan to modify the lot lines of two adjacent parcels (TMP 31-6-2 and 31-6-2-1) to create two buildable lots resulting in the construction of a new home in a flag lot configuration.

The proposed Lot 1 will contain the existing dwelling and other buildings located on TMP 31-6-2. The proposed Lot 2 will be for the construction of a new single-family dwelling. The applicant proposes to transfer a portion of land (61,251 square feet) from TMP 31-6-2 to proposed Lot 2. Also, a portion of land from TMP 31-6-2-1 is proposed to be transferred to Lot 1 (20,998 square feet). Overall, the proposed Lot 1 will contain a total of 1.2 acres (53,995 square feet), and proposed Lot 2 will be a flag lot containing a total of 2.8 acres (122,905 net square feet).

The parcels are located in the R-2 single-family zoning district and both lots are proposed to be served by private wells and on-lot septic although the connection to public water may be made as a result of a recent extension of the line. Access for both lots is proposed from Bristol Road. A variance was granted to allow 21% impervious surface coverage on Lot 1 as opposed to the maximum permitted 12%.

Since the property owner is only proposing a lot-line change at this time, they are requesting a deferral of the stormwater management items outlined in the Gilmore review letter. Similar to a recent project where we proceeded in the same fashion, the applicant has agreed to a disclosure outlining the items that must be completed before building on the newly created lot. This has been incorporated into the motion.

The Planning Commission had no objection to the waiver requests.
Enclosed for your review, please find the following:

1. Lenape Valley Engineering – Waiver Letter – February 8, 2021;
2. Gilmore & Associates, Inc. – Review letter – January 29, 2021;
3. Pennoni Associates - Review letter – January 26, 2021;
4. McMahon Associates – Review letter – December 23, 2020;
5. Township Planning Commission Memo – February 11, 2021;
6. Bucks County Planning Commission – Review letter – January 26, 2021;
7. Tucker Correspondence – August 4, 2020; and,
8. Copy of the Plan

A motion was made and seconded (Moore –Silver) for approval of the H.E. Properties Lot Line Change, LL 20-8, subject to compliance with the Gilmore Associates review letter dated January 29, 2021, the Pennoni Associates review letter dated January 26, 2021, and the McMahon Associates review letter dated December 23, 2020. It also recommended that the requested waivers are granted and approval is subject to the following conditions:

- Before construction, a fee-in-lieu of sidewalks is required based on the Township fee schedule as calculated by the Township engineer.
- Before construction, a fee-in-lieu of recreation/open space shall be submitted for \$6,206.86 for the proposed building lot at the time of building permit submission. This fee does not apply to the lot with the existing dwelling.
- Before construction, approval of the Bucks County Health Department is required for the on-lot sewage and well facilities. If a connection to public water is to be made, approval of the Municipal Authority is required.
- Before construction, the applicant shall enter into a land development agreement and escrow agreement in a form acceptable to the Township solicitor and engineer. This shall include a stormwater management maintenance and operations agreement.
- A note shall be added to the record plan identifying items to be addressed at the building permit stage, primarily related to stormwater management.
- A disclosure is required to be recorded outlining these conditions and items to be addressed before building permit approval.

- All conditions and recommendations incorporated with the motion and minutes are subject to the Township Solicitor's approval letter.

Mr. Moore also noted for the record Mr. Richard and Alaina Tucker sent a letter as the adjacent landowners to this property requesting a privacy fence between the property line of the new construction and the Tuckers home.

Chairman Selisker called for Board comment.

Discussion ensued regarding the fee in-lieu-of sidewalks. Mr. Smeland the engineer for the project questioned if this fee was necessary since this is a lot-line change, not a subdivision. Mr. Moore suggested this could be looked at, at a later date. Mr. Pizzo stated the Planning and Zoning Officer, Township Engineer and Township Solicitor would discuss with the applicant to determine what action needs to be taken and will be subject to the Township Solicitor's approval letter.

Chairman Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

Motion passed 5-0

Consider Resolution Declaring and Rescinding Snow Emergency Declaration

Mrs. Silver stated a resolution declaring a limited state of emergency on January 31, 2021, at 1500 hours is required due to a snow emergency. This same resolution declares the limited state of emergency is no longer in effect as of 1830 hours on February 2, 2021.

Mrs. Silver also noted a second limited state of emergency was declared on February 7, 2021, at 1000 hours and was no longer in effect as of 2000 hours on February 7, 2021.

A motion was made and seconded (Silver-O'Donnell) to approve Resolution #R-21- 9 declaring a limited state of emergency effective 1500 hours, January 31, 2021, and ending on February 2, 2021, at 1830 hours and to approve Resolution #R-21-10 declaring a limited state of emergency effective 1000 hours on February 7, 2021, and ending on February 7, 2021 hours at 2000 hours.

Chairman Selisker called for Board comment.

Chairman Selisker thanked the Public Works Department, Police, and all the First Responders for the great job they did during the snow events. The rest of the Board echoed the same sentiments throughout the meeting.

Chairman Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 5-0.

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- The Historical Commission met on March 15 via Zoom.
- The Senior Center is still making calls and checking in on our Seniors and still offering virtual activities.
- The Senior Center has been partnering with the Parks and Recreation Department on creating Valentine's Day Cards for the Seniors.
- The Parks and Recreation Department met on February 4, 2021, via Zoom. Sports and Programs were discussed.
- The Parks and Recreation Departments are providing virtual classes, and programs. Go to northamptonpa.myrec.com for current information on the various classes, activities, and programs being offered. The new brochure is now available.
- The Senior Center will be holding Computer Training for Seniors if interested call the Center at 215-357-8199 for more information.
- P&R will hold summer camp this year, protocols will be in place, watch for emails for updates.
- Miracle League is back on track with projects and fundraising. Go to www.mlnorthampton.com

Mr. O'Donnell made the following announcements:

- The Veterans Advisory Commission held its reorganization meeting on Monday, February 15th starting at 7:00 pm via the zoom meeting platform. Memorial Day Event was discussed and as the date gets closer determination will be made about in person or if it will be virtual.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- The Zoning Hearing Board has been meeting virtually and will be meeting three times in March: March 8, March 22, and March 31, 2021. See the Township's website for full details on cases being heard.
- Construction activity is happening at Spring Mill and on East Holland at the Waverly Sub-Division.
- A Sketch Plan has been submitted for the Mill Race Inn and it looks like a good fit for the site.

Mrs. Silver made the following announcements:

- Restated the great job Public Works is doing.

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- Reminder to residents to keep those hydrants shoveled out during a snow event, it helps the response times for our first responders.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Pizzo announced the Board has met in an executive session on February 11, 2021. The members of the Board, Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Wert, the Township Engineer, and Mr. Pizzo himself were in attendance. Three (3) matters of pending 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank O'Donnell, Secretary