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

#### Present were:

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

Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

The regular business meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 pm. Members of the Board present were:

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

Others present were:

William Wert, Assistant Manager Amanda Fuller, Township Engineer Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Selisker led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence in support of the military and emergency service personnel. A second moment of silence was observed in special memory of Alec Campbell, a Tyler Park Ranger who died over the weekend in a tragic accident.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

George McCale, a resident raised concerns about the \$7 million loan component of the PENNVEST-funded water project, questioning if residents would bear the cost. He noted that local water rates are already high and could increase with development. He also cited outdated water regulations and a personal incident involving a water shut-off attempt during a freezing storm, calling for updated procedures. Mr. McCale also questioned workplace safety, citing a lack of protective gear, poor posting practices, and inadequate record-keeping. He referenced an incident involving an Employee from the Water and Sewer Department and claimed video evidence contradicted official statements. He requested updates to safety protocols and policies.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS**

# **BOARD MINUTES**

The Board meeting minutes of April 23, 2025, were presented by Paula Gasper.

# **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The accounts payable for May 14, 2025, for 1,573,046.20, and May 28, 2025, for \$581,162.73 were presented by Dr. Rose.

The following consent item was presented by Mr. Moore:

Consider Resolution R-25-12 for a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Growing Greener Grant Application for Deerfield North Basin Retrofit. Mr. Moore described this as a stormwater management issue at Deerfield North Basin. The Township is applying for a \$425,000 DEP grant for a project with a projected total cost of \$446,250. The Township is required to provide a 5% match for the project.

A motion was made and seconded (Salzer-Rose) to approve the consent items as presented.

Motion Passed 5-0.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

# **Consider Bids for St. Leonards Road Traffic Signal and Intersection Improvements**

Mr. Salzer noted on April 11, 2025, the Township received bids for the new traffic signal and intersection improvements at St Leonards and Newtown-Richboro Roads. The low bidder, T. Schiefer Contractors, Inc., came in at \$606,934.25 but was disqualified for not being a PennDOT pre-qualified Prime Contractor. The next lowest bid is from Marino Corporation at \$630,868.60.

With the low bidder disqualified, the Township has two options:

- 1. Award the project to Marino at an added cost of \$23,934.35, or
- 2. Reject all bids.

The Administration recommends rejecting all bids and re-bidding the St. Leonards signal project. The new bid would include two additional signal upgrades from the Green Light Go grant — one at Newtown-Richboro and Holland, and another at Newtown-Richboro and Rock Way/Spring Garden Mill. All three locations involve similar work — ADA/sidewalk upgrades, pedestrian push buttons, and signal heads.

Combining the projects could result in better bids by reducing costs due to economy of scale, reduced contractor mobilization costs, and could attract more bidders to the project.

A motion was made and Seconded (Salzer-Gasper) to <u>REJECT</u> all bids for the St Leonards Road Traffic Signal and Intersection Improvements AND authorize the Administration to prepare a new scope of work and RE-BID the project to include a new traffic signal at St Leonards Road and Newtown-Richboro Roads and intersection improvements at Newtown-Richboro Road and Holland Road, and at Newtown-Richboro Road and Rock Way/Spring Garden Mill Road.

Mr. Chairman Selisker called for Board comment. Discussion among the supervisors supported the motion, noting that rebidding with a larger scope could lead to better pricing and attract more bidders. It was mentioned that only two bidders responded initially, and only one qualified. The expected delay from rebidding was approximately 30 days, which was deemed acceptable.

Chairman Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

### Motion Passed 5-0.

# **REPORTS**

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- Highlighted Parks and Recreation events for June, including the Sun and Funfest (June 6th), Children's Interactive Concert (June 12th), Class of 84 band (June 19th), and summer camp starting June 23rd/30th with 492 campers and over 90 staff.
- Discount tickets are available.
- For more information about our Programs and Events contact the administration building or the Parks and Recreation website at www.northamptonrec.com.
- Reported on various Senior Center activities, including a police K9 visit (May 29th), hosting Bucks County Senior Games events (billiards June 5th, bocce June 6th), and upcoming bus trips (Jersey Teners June 12th, Roy Orbison/Carol King/Billy Joel tribute June 18th). A "Summer of 69" party is scheduled for June 20th.
- New extended hours visit the center Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5:00: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 8:30.

Mrs. Gasper made the following announcements:

- Reported that the Library is very busy with classes and activities.
- OPN architects are updating the library design, including furniture, exterior plans, and a walkway.

- The annual summer reading program starts June 21, 2025.
- The Veterans Advisory Commission held its Memorial Day celebration on May 26th at 9:00 AM at Dembowski Memorial Park, the ceremony had over 100 attendees and featured shared letters from Vietnam-era soldiers.

Mr. Salzer made the following announcements:

#### PFOA/PFOS Issue:

- The Navy is working in phases. Approximately \$6 million has been approved for the first phase to realize about 70 connections within the township.
- The residents in phase two should receive communication within 30 days and confirming connection will be available for phases one and two. Maps are on the authority's website. A recent meeting was held with the Navy, emphasizing that the board and authority are actively working to hold the Navy accountable for the water issue, despite having alternative solutions.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- Praised the Municipal Authority staff for their work on the complicated issue involving grants and loans.
- The Zoning Hearing Board and the Planning Commission meetings in May were canceled.
- Upcoming Construction Projects are the Mill Race, in Holland, (expected to start in the fall). Large Development on Buck Road, (12 homes also expected to start in the fall).

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- Acknowledged the tragic incident in Tyler Park involving the death of Ranger Alec Campbell, expressing condolences and thanking the many first responders, including the Northampton Fire Department Water Rescue Team. He urged park users to prioritize safety.
- The Fire Department is offering free community compression-only CPR classes for residents, including AED training. Contact the Fire Department for more information.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

 Delivered by Mr. Wert in Mr. Pellegrino's absence. The ongoing Iron Creek sidewalk project on Second Street Pike is anticipated to have weekday lane closures with flaggers starting the week of June 2nd throughout the month. He advised using the 511pa.com website for state road updates.  PECO will be working in the Buck Hill, Fawn, Antler, and Doe Run Drive areas next week as part of a \$900,000 infrastructure investment program to improve reliability.

# **ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Combined with the Manager's report.

### **SOLICITOR REPORT**

 The Board of Supervisors held an executive session before the meeting for approximately an hour, which involved the Five (5) Board members, the Assistant Township Manager, the Township Engineer, and the Solicitor. The discussion concerned a matter of pending litigation. No official action was taken or required as a result of the executive session.

# **ENGINEER'S REPORT (Gilmore and Associates)**

No Report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

George McKale, a resident, reiterated some of his previous comments under the first public comment period. Employee safety, lack of clear identification, procedures, and safety gear, displaying photos. He mentioned issues with door posting and record-keeping, citing a specific incident involving a Municipal Authority employee and a claim of a false statement. He related safety issues to liabilities for "investors" and contrasted it with efforts regarding the Navy. He warned about potential reactions from veterans to unidentified workers.

Rose Marie Ricardo, a resident, provided letters to the board, including one from Mike Solomon. Her primary concern was mountains of debris blocking a creek behind her property and neighbors' properties, making it look "disgusting". She noted a new retention basin draining into the area and stated that drainage units connecting to the creek were blocked with dirt and not maintained. She is meeting with the Bucks County Conservation Department on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> about the issue. She described a past incident where a bridge on the creek broke loose due to flooding, damming the creek, and she had to personally clear it with a sledgehammer. She stated the bridges are not properly secured with pilings. Mr. Wert stated he would follow up with Mike Solomon and the Township Engineer, Amanda Fuller, to address the issue. Mrs. Ricardo offered a tour of her property.

Ed Mayer, Churchville provided a follow-up on Resolution 25-11 supporting House Bill 1152, which aims to direct insurance reimbursements to EMS providers for 911 calls. He noted the bill now has 46 co-sponsors but has not been placed on the agenda of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee since being referred on April 4th. He advised the township to send letters of support to the committee chairs and remind Representatives Marcel and Hogan of the bill. He emphasized the importance of all five supervisors signing the letter for "collective legitimacy" in Harrisburg.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.	
	Respectfully Submitted,
	Paula Gasper, Secretary