

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

Present were:

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

Others present were:

Robert M. Pellegrino, Township Manager
William Wert, Assistant Manager
Jacob Rigg, Township Engineer
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Selisker led the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence in memory of Alan Rubenstein, a former resident of Holland, Bucks County District Attorney, and Judge in Bucks County, who was a longtime supporter of community events. Supervisor Robert Salzer later offered additional comments, remembering Judge Rubenstein as a great jurist and person who would be deeply missed by the legal community and the township.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- **Northampton Day Event Announcement – September 14, 2025:** Jenny Espazito, representing the Northampton Day committee, announced the 27th annual Northampton Day Festival will take place on Sunday, September 14th, at 98 Upper Holland Road (the site of the old Richboro Middle School).

- **Proclamation Recognizing Parks & Recreation Professionals Month:** Dr. Kimberly Rose presented a proclamation recognizing Parks and Recreation Professionals Month.
- **Proclamation Recognizing Fire, EMS and Police Personnel for Exemplary Service:** Supervisor Robert Salzer led this recognition, joined by State Senator Frank Farry and Representatives Marcel and Hogan. A proclamation was presented to Tri-Hampton Rescue Squad, Northampton Township Fire Department, and Northampton Township Police Department for their exemplary response to a near-drowning incident on June 29, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were no public comments on agenda items.

CONSENT ITEMS

- **BOARD MINUTES**

The Board meeting minutes of July 23, 2025, were presented by Secretary Gasper.

- **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The accounts payable for August 13, 2025, in the amount \$2,123,410.75 and August 27, 2025, for \$894,942.74 were presented by Dr. Rose.

- **CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH NO PARKING ON A PORTION OF CHINQUAPIN ROAD:**

Chairman Selisker presented a request from the Administration to advertise an ordinance amendment to establish no parking on a portion of Chinquapin Road, from the Buck Road intersection for approximately 500 feet. There will be for a public meeting on September 17th at 7 PM at the township building.

- **CONSIDER BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF DE-ICING SALT:** Barry Moore reported that the annual bid for de-icing salt was awarded to Morton Salt at a price of \$61.86, as they were the low bidder among three.

- **REPORT ON 2025 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION FOR POLICE AND NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEE PENSION PLANS:**

Barry Moore reported the Township's minimum obligation for required contributions for 2026: Police Pension Plan at \$1,046,445, Non-Uniform Plan at \$869,777, and Money Purchase Pensions Plan at \$363,144, for a total of \$2,79,326. The township expects a state grant of \$1,164,000 for the municipal pension fund, reducing the actual budget balance to approximately \$915,000.

- A motion was made and seconded (Gasper-Salzer) to approve all consent items as presented. With a single vote, the motion carried with all voting in favor. **Motion Passed 5-0.**

PUBLIC HEARING - No items were presented under Public Hearings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - No items were presented under Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Resolution 25-14 Authorizing Execution of Right-of-Way and Temporary Construction Easement Documents with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Almshouse/Jacksonville Intersection Roundabout Project:

Supervisor Robert Salzer made a motion to adopt Resolution R-25-14, authorizing the Township Manager to execute all documents required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for right-of-way acquisition and to grant a temporary construction easement on Township owned tax parcel number 31-00001-070 for the proposed roundabout project at Almshouse and Jacksonville Roads. This is a PennDOT project aimed at improving traffic at the intersection, with construction expected to start in 2026 and is funded by the state.

- A motion was made and seconded (Salzer-Rose) to approve Resolution 25-14. The motion carried with all voting in favor. **Motion Passed 5-0.**

Consider Appointment to Veterans Advisory Commission:

Paula Gasper recommended the Board of Supervisors to appoint Jim Gallagher to the Veterans Advisory Commission. Mr. Gallagher is a veteran with 27 years of service in the Air National Guard.

- A motion was made and seconded (Gasper-Salzer) to appoint Jim Gallagher to the Veterans Advisory Commission to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2027. The motion carried with all voting in favor. **Motion Passed 5-0.**

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- **Parks and Recreation:**

- The 2025 summer season concluded successfully, thanks to the dedicated pool and camp staff (Derek Geianetti, Scott Pachman, Sinead Powers, Barb Prima Vera) and nearly 150 seasonal staff, who served close to 500 campers and 300 swim club members.
- The Thursday night summer concert series at Municipal Park, led by Kristen Fullerton, was a notable success. The Fall/Winter brochure will be arriving in mailboxes soon, with a sneak peek available at www.northampton.com.
- Upcoming events include the Halloween Happening on Friday, October 24th, featuring food trucks, a costume contest, and a showing of "Hocus Pocus" at the municipal park amphitheater, and the First Annual Winterfest on Friday, December 5th, at the municipal park, with a tree lighting, Santa Claus, food trucks, a hot chocolate station, and an outdoor holiday market.

- **Senior Center:**

- An AARP safe driver course will be offered on Friday, August 29th, from 10 AM to 3 PM. Tickets for the Senior Center Lottery, with a drawing on Tuesday, September 2nd, are available for \$10.
- Starting Wednesday, September 3rd, senior center members will have exclusive court time on the new pickleball courts at Northampton Township Municipal Park, held each Wednesday from 8 AM to 11:30 AM (advanced registration required).
- Upcoming bus trips include "Never Too Late" on September 24th at the Hunton Hills Playhouse in Hampton, NJ, and a tribute to "The Ed Sullivan Show" on October 8th at the Ace in the Hole Club in Patterson, NJ.
- The Senator Frank Ferry Senior Expo will be held on Thursday, September 25th, from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Northampton Valley Country Club.

Mrs. Gasper made the following announcements:

- **Library:** The Free Library of Northampton Township, its director Wayne L., library board, and staff invited the Board of Supervisors to the launch of their new branding, logo, and website on Thursday, September 4th, at 5 PM. The new website is scheduled to go live after 5 PM.

- **Veterans Advisory Commission (VAC):**

- A fundraiser for the wreath laying celebration in December is scheduled for **September 25th at 6 PM at Giuseppe's Pizza & Family Restaurant**, offering free beer and food.
- The designated parking space in front of the Administration reserved for Purple Heart Veterans has been reinstalled. The parking spot is marked with a sign and purple stripes lining the parking space and is designated for Purple Heart medal recipients.

Mr. Salzer deferred his report on the PFAS/PFOA Navy water connections update to Chairman Selisker.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- **Planning and Zoning:** Mr. Moore noted several developments underway in the township.
 1. A 12-lot subdivision on Twinning Road, previously approved by the zoning hearing board, is now proceeding through the planning commission process.
 2. Bucks County Roses and Mill Race developments are moving through administrative processes, with construction expected begin in the near future.
 3. Two new subdivisions are under review, both to be presented to the planning commission.:
 - 18-lot single-family detached dwelling subdivision on the Russell Gardens property located at 600 New Road
 - 6-lot single-family detached dwelling subdivision on 400 Twinning Ford Road
- **Public Safety - Bicycle Safety:** Mr. Moore expressed significant concern about an increasing number of people, particularly young children, riding bicycles and scooters (electric and non-electric) without helmets, through parking lots, and on the wrong side of the road, including on Second Street Pike. He urged parents and the community to prioritize safety and helmet use.

- **Public Safety - Break-ins:** Mr. Moore reported a recent increase in car break-ins, often involving unlocked vehicles in driveways, and instances of house break-ins through unlocked doors. He advised residents to consistently lock their cars and house doors. The police department has increased patrols in affected neighborhoods and has recently apprehended some individuals involved in these incidents.

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- **PFOA/PFAS Contamination Update:** Chairman Selisker provided an update from a recent Navy public meeting regarding PFOA contamination in Northampton Township. He advocated for residents on two key issues:
 1. **12 ppt Threshold for Public Water:** Chairman Selisker addressed concerns about the Navy's 12 parts per trillion (ppt) threshold for connecting homes to public water, noting many residents are just below this level (e.g., 11.6, 11.9 ppt). The Navy committed to retesting these homes, and if levels have risen to or above 12 ppt, those residents would likely receive public water.
 2. **Expansion of Phase Three Area:** Chairman Selisker pressed the Navy to enlarge the Phase Three area to extend public water to more streets and neighborhoods, specifically mentioning streets in the Holland, Magnolia, and Wisteria areas. The Navy publicly committed to amending the Phase Three agreement to add these streets, which will provide public water to approximately 100 additional homes. Residents on these streets with questions should contact the water authority or Jonathan Harris at the Navy. Chairman Selisker noted a resident's public thanks for the Township's advocacy.
- **Bicycle Safety Initiative:** In response to Supervisor Moore's concerns, Chairman Selisker announced that the township would put a bike safety message, specifically reminding people to "wear your helmet," on all township signs the following day. He also expressed his personal disagreement with Pennsylvania's law not requiring motorcycle helmets, emphasizing the critical importance of helmets for safety.
- **Fire Department Updates:**
 1. Fire Prevention Night will be held on October 10th, with all three fire stations open from 7 PM to 9 PM.
 2. The fire department received a \$14,000 grant from the state fire commissioner for water rescue equipment, which will enhance safety for emergency personnel during flood rescues in the flood-prone area.

3. A full-day, multi-agency training exercise and certification for school safety was conducted on August 26th at the old Richboro Middle School, involving 30 participants from the police, fire, and EMS departments, significantly increasing the number of certified rescue personnel for school-related incidents. Senator Ferry secured a \$26,000 grant to procure necessary equipment for this tactical safety training. He thanked everyone who supports the emergency services workers.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Township Manager, Robert Pellegrino, reported on resident concerns regarding Robert Dembowski Memorial Park. The township will address these through tree trimming, shrubbery trimming, and general cleanup. The park's fountains will be closed after Labor Day for the season, and a burned-out pump will be replaced over the winter to ensure readiness for the spring.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT: Assistant Manager, William Wert reported two items:

- Buck Road Project (Holland): The road closure for through traffic on Buck Road has been confirmed for September 15th and will last for three months. The detour route is posted on the township website. Mr Wert encouraged residents to sign up to receive email updates delivered right into their inboxes.
- Labor Day Trash Collection: Due to the upcoming Labor Day holiday, all trash collection next week will be pushed back by one day.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Township Solicitor, Joe Pizzo, reported that the Board of Supervisors met in an executive session immediately prior to the public meeting with all five supervisors, the township manager, assistant township manager, and the solicitor present. The discussion involved a personnel matter, and no official action was taken or required. Another executive session will be held immediately after the current meeting to discuss a second personnel matter and pending litigation; no official action will be taken or required from that session either. He wished everyone enjoyable Labor Day celebrations.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Township Engineer, Jacob Rigg, provided a report that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recently inspected the township's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. The DEP reviewed the annual report and conducted site visits, including public works facilities and two basin retrofit projects. The final inspection report identified minor clarifications needed for the current year's report, but no violations were noted, and the township received a "clean bill of health" for the MS4. The next annual report is due September 30th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rosemary Ricardo (Township resident): Spoke about persistent and worsening creek issues behind her property. She presented a report from the water conservation/watershed committee, noting that despite efforts, her neighbors are not cleaning their sections. She explained that water runoff from a nearby soccer field is creating additional tributaries, causing severe erosion that is threatening trees and her detached garage.
- Joe Lombardo (Holland resident): As a basketball referee for the Council Rock Basketball Association, he raised concerns about the lack of protective padding on the basket extensions at the new municipal park's basketball courts. He noted minor injuries during playoff games where children hit their backs against the unprotected metal extensions and suggested adding soft coverings, similar to those at other local courts. He also reiterated his previous request for a fence to help retrieve basketballs. Additionally, he praised Kristen Fullerton for the successful and growing summer concert series, commending the inclusion of food trucks and suggesting ways to expand the event further.
- Ed Mayer (Churchville resident): Made comments under the theme "it's so obvious it's overlooked". He reiterated advice heard during the meeting regarding bicycle helmets message. He also highlighted a police report about car thefts, noting a trend of people leaving keys in their cars, advising against this practice. He asked the Township to address the deteriorating brick crosswalk at the Crossroads Plaza and Second Street Pike intersection.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gasper, Secretary