

The agenda meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6:15 p.m.

Present were:

Robert Salzer
Paula Gasper
Joseph Lombardo
Dr. Kimberly Rose

Members Absent:

Barry Moore

Others present were:

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

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:

Robert Salzer
Paula Gasper
Joseph Lombardo
Dr. Kimberly Rose

Members Absent:

Barry Moore

Others present were:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Salzer led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Public Comment

Christopher Rihl (Churchville, PA) raised concerns regarding two large PECO utility platforms recently installed at the front of his property. He questioned whether the equipment is located within the proper right-of-way and expressed concerns regarding its appearance and safety. He also noted difficulty obtaining a response or resolution from PECO.

Mr. Pellegrino requested that Mr. Rihl provide his contact information to Ashley Casey, Executive Assistant to the Township Manager, for follow-up.

Consent Items

Board Minutes

Chairman Salzer noted that the Consent Agenda includes the Board meeting minutes of July 22, 2026.

Accounts Payable

Chairman Salzer presented the Accounts Payable for approval: August 12, 2026, for \$1,612,960.65 and August 26, 2026, for \$610,179.54.

Report on 2027 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Police and Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plans

Mr. Lombardo reported the Township's minimum obligation for required contributions for 2027: Police Pension Plan at \$1,157,103, Non-Uniform Plan at \$651,897, Firefighters Money Purchase plan at \$11,796, and Money Purchase Pensions Plan at \$420,392 for a total of \$2,241,188. The Township expects a state grant of \$1,373,000 for the municipal pension fund, reducing the actual budget balance to approximately \$868,188, a reduction to the Township's cost from last year of \$915,326.

Bids for the Purchase of De-Icing Salt

Dr. Rose reported that on behalf of the Bucks County Consortium, Doylestown Borough advertised bids for rock salt and recommended awarding the contract to Riverside Construction Materials, Inc. at \$75 per ton, delivered or undelivered. She noted the previous contract price was approximately \$61 per ton and that the Township used approximately 4,100 tons last winter.

Consider One-Year Extension Option for Whitetail Disposal Waste Collection Contract

Mrs. Gasper explained that the Township's solid waste contract with Whitetail Disposal, awarded in 2022, was for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2025, with the option for two one-year contract extensions.

Mrs. Gasper shared that the Administration recommends the Board authorize the final one-year contract extension with Whitetail Disposal for solid waste collection and transportation services, including household trash, yard waste, and recycling materials, for the period of January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027. She noted that the extension would not require an increase in the annual trash collection fee.

A motion was made and seconded (**Lombardo-Gasper**) to approve consent items as presented.

Motion Passed 4-0.

Public Hearings

Consider Ordinance Setting Fees and Charges for Collection of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes

Chairman Salzer opened the hearing.

Mr. Lombardo explained that at last month's meeting it was announced that the Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau has revised its process for collecting delinquent real estate taxes and is requesting municipalities adopt an ordinance to participate in the new collection method. Under the current process, the Bureau collects delinquent taxes, interest, and penalties and returns 95% of the collections to the Township.

Under the proposed method, the Bureau will collect an additional 5% collection fee from delinquent taxpayers and return 100% of the delinquent taxes, interest, and penalties to the Township. This change shifts the cost of collection from taxpayers who pay on time to those who are delinquent.

Mr. Lombardo noted that the draft ordinance was advertised July 26, 2026, for a public hearing this evening.

Chairman Salzer called for public comment. There was none.

A motion was made and seconded (**Lombardo-Gasper**) to adopt Ordinance #632 and amend the Code of Ordinances at Chapter 24 by adding a new Part 5, appointing the Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau as Alternate Collector and establishing fees, interest, and charges for collection of delinquent real estate taxes.

Mr. Lombardo expressed support for the change, noting that it would allow the Township to receive 100% of delinquent taxes rather than 95%. Mrs. Gasper and Dr. Rose also expressed their support.

Motion Passed 4-0. Chairman Salzer closed the hearing.

Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business.

New Business

Consider Resolution R-26-14 Adopting the 2026 Bucks County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dr. Rose explained that the Township is required to adopt a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan to remain eligible for post-disaster grant funding. The Bucks County Planning Commission, with input from emergency management officials, recently updated the County-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan, which has been approved by FEMA and is available for adoption by the Township.

A motion was made and seconded (**Rose-Gasper**) to approved Resolution # R-26-14 adopting the 2026 Bucks County Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of Northampton Township.

Motion Passed 4-0.

Consider Resolution R-26-15 PennDOT Supplemental Winter Maintenance Agreement

Dr. Rose explained that the Township's agreement with PennDOT authorizes the Township to provide snow and ice removal on state-owned roads. Due to line striping changes at Routes 332 and 232, the Township's responsibility increased by one lane mile, resulting in an estimated additional payment of \$16,148.48 over the remaining term of the agreement. The Board is required to approve an amendment to reflect this change.

A motion was made and seconded (**Rose-Gasper**) to approve Resolution # R-26-15 authorizing and designating the Township Manager as the Township official to execute a Winter Services Agreement Amendment and necessary documents with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for Winter Maintenance on the PennDOT roads identified in Exhibit "A" of the Supplemental Agreement.

Dr. Rose expressed support, noting the additional revenue would benefit the Township's snow removal efforts.

Mrs. Gasper and Mr. Lombardo also expressed support, particularly following the past winter season.

Motion Passed 4-0.

Consider Authorization to Advertise Zoning Ordinance Amendment to provide for a Data Center Use in the I-1 – Planned Industrial/Office District

Mrs. Gasper explained that, in response to the growing development of data centers nationwide, a proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment would define data centers and permit them by conditional use in the Industrial District. The amendment would also establish requirements related to dimensions, noise, utility consumption, lighting, security, and environmental and community impacts. If authorized for advertisement, the ordinance will be forwarded to the Township and County Planning Commissions for review.

A motion was made and seconded (**Gasper-Rose**) to authorize advertisement of a public hearing on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 7:00 PM at the Township building to consider an amendment to the Northampton Township Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of adding a definition for data center in addition to permitting the subject use in the 1-1 - Planned Industrial/Office District by conditional use as well as establishing criteria related to the subject use.

Mrs. Gasper stated that while she was initially opposed to data centers, after further research, she believes they could benefit the Township if limited to industrial areas and regulated through the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Lombardo clarified that the ordinance does not approve a data center but establishes where and under what conditions one could be permitted if proposed in the future.

Dr. Rose expressed support for the ordinance, noting that it establishes appropriate safeguards and regulations to help protect the Township should a data center be proposed in the future.

Mr. Salzer clarified that the Board is only authorizing advertisement for a public hearing in October and commended the Board and Administration for being proactive and forward-thinking.

Motion Passed 4-0.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Salzer noted that Mr. Moore was unable to attend the meeting.

Public Works Services

Dr. Rose provided an overview of Public Works activities for August. The Department continued inlet repairs in conjunction with the 2026 Paving Program, completed crack sealing for Cape Seal and Nova Chip treatments, and performed routine road, stormwater, mowing, sweeping, and sign maintenance. She also noted that guiderail repairs were coordinated for the Twining Road Bridge.

Dr. Rose reported that Parks Maintenance supported summer concerts and camp closeout activities while preparing for fall tree plantings. She noted that Facilities Maintenance completed painting projects at the Civic Center, Senior Center, and Library. She also reported that Mechanics began winter preparations, assisted with paving operations, and generated approximately \$69,000 in revenue from the sale of surplus vehicles and equipment, with another sale planned for the fall.

Dr. Rose reflected on the passing of Dolly Parton, recognizing her not only as a beloved entertainer but also for her kindness, generosity, and ability to bring people together. She encouraged everyone to honor her legacy by leading with kindness, giving back, and helping make the community a better place.

Community Services

Mrs. Gasper invited the community to join State Representative Kristin Marcell on Friday, September 18 at 10:30 a.m. at Addisville Church, 945 Second Street Pike for the dedication of a portion of Second Street Pike in honor of Captain Walter H. Sigafos III, MIA POW.

She announced several upcoming Veterans Advisory Commission events, including the September 23 fundraiser at Giuseppe's Pizza benefiting the Hometown Heroes wreath-laying program, and the ongoing Veterans Walkway brick program. She also reminded residents of the September 11 flag-raising ceremony honoring the heroes of 9/11.

Mrs. Gasper reported that the Library's Summer Quest program offered more than 91 programs with over 5,000 attendees, with 178 participants completing the program. She also recognized Council Rock students for contributing more than 700 volunteer hours throughout the summer. Mrs. Gasper highlighted upcoming America 250 PA programs, including the Battle of Crooked Billet, Judge Henry Wynkoop, and Local History Day, and noted that the next Library Board meeting is scheduled for September 3.

Recreation Services and Parks

Mr. Lombardo reported that Parks and Recreation concluded a successful summer season, with nearly 3,000 attendees at the Thursday Night Summer Concert Series despite weather challenges. He highlighted the release of the 2026 Fall Brochure and upcoming events, including a September 16 trip to

Just in Time, the Bobby Darin musical starring Jeremy Jordan; the Senior Expo on September 17 at Northampton Valley Country Club; and Halloween Happening on October 23 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Municipal Park.

Mr. Lombardo announced that the Senior Center has several September programs, including a free four-week nutrition series presented by Penn Medicine beginning September 3, an AARP Safe Driver course on September 11, and an Oktoberfest Party on September 25 featuring food, live music, games, and festivities.

He concluded by reporting that Northampton Valley Country Club has strong participation in golf and encouraged residents to visit Tavern on the Ten.

Community Development and Planning

No report.

Public Safety

Mr. Salzer wished everyone an enjoyable remainder of the summer and reflected on the upcoming 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. He emphasized the importance of remembering the lives lost, ensuring that younger generations understand the significance of that day.

Manager's Report:

No report.

Assistant Manager's Report:

No report.

Solicitor's Report

No report.

Engineer's Report (Gilmore and Associates and Bowman Engineers)

No report.

Public Comment

Curtis Leister (Churchville, PA) raised concerns regarding increased vegetation growth on Township property and rights-of-way and requested that the Township review and update its weed ordinance.

Upon motion and second (**Salzer-Gasper**) the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barry Moore, Secretary