

June 14, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of West Norriton Township was convened at 7:00 PM on the above date by President Panzullo. Commissioners Donoghue, Kennedy, McKenzie and Tolbert were also present, along with: Jason Bobst; John Iannozzi, Esquire; Kathy Frederick; A. Dale Mabry; Michael Kelly; Michael Valyo; Jonathan Dzedzy; and T.J. Figaniak. There were twenty-one (21) people in the audience, including the press.

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting proceeded.

Presentation of NASD Budget Anne Rohricht distributed copies and showed a power point presentation of the 2016 Budget of the Norristown Area School District, making special note of the increased expenses and proposed tax increase. Mr. Donoghue inquired about the increase in special education spending/expenses, the inoperable electronic sign on Whitehall Road, and requested a breakdown of the income received by the School District from each municipality. According to Ms. Rohricht, she will supply Mr. Bobst with those figures. It was asked by Mr. Panzullo about status of striping of the parking lot off Eagle Drive.

Also, Mr. Kennedy inquired about many items, including: the disgraceful condition of the tennis courts at the high school, to which Ms. Rohricht replied that a grant was applied for to assist with those repairs; the "no mow" zone of various fields and school property; the intended use of temporary bleachers again this year; the location of the golf football awarded to the school for an alumni's achievements; the program for bringing money into the stadium; and the importance of bringing back points of pride to the district. Ms. Rohricht acknowledged Mr. Kennedy's concerns and stated that points of pride are too much of a secret and that not enough is done to address that.

Presentation of Proposed Land Development of Markley Farms Michael J. Clement, Esquire appeared before the Board and presented a brief history of the Markley Farms property and the current plans for its development. Also present on behalf of the applicants were Lenny DelGrippo, John Kolb, Nicole Seymour and Scott Markley. According to Mr. Clement, the applicants came before the Board to address a few stumbling points, and intend to come before the Board again on July 12th with solutions to those items. It was noted by Mr. Clement that, among other things: in lieu of widening Chestnut Avenue, the developer will make improvements to its intersections with Burnside and Trooper; and that the development is amenable to installing an 8' wide walking trail and/or give a 2.5 or 2.75 acre lot. With regard to the widening of Chestnut Avenue, Mr. Bobst stated that he spoke with Chief Mabry and they concluded that widening of Chestnut Avenue would increase speed on that road and thereby reduce safety. Also, mention was made of a fee in lieu of open space.

**Minutes
Approval**

Upon motion of Mr. Donoghue, seconded by Mr. McKenzie and unanimously approved, the Minutes of the Board's work session of May 3, 2016 and its regular meeting of May 10, 12, 2016 were approved.

**Report of Bills
Approval of
Checks**

Mr. Bobst read the Finance Committee Report and requested approval of: General Fund and Golf Club payroll checks in the amount of \$30,791.31; payroll vouchers in the amount of \$223,955.60; and the Payment Approval Report in the amount of \$647,893.51.

Upon motion of Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously passed, the report of checks and vouchers was approved by the Board.

**Committee
Reports:
Administration
& Finance**

Mr. Bobst advised the Board that, in addition to the items on the Agenda as New Business:

- that a DEP Grant in the amount of approximately \$100,000.00 was applied for by Mr. Valyo and granted for 90% of the cost of the leaf machine;
- that he is pursuing long term healthcare, property insurance and workers' compensation insurance through DVIT; and
- that the cable franchise agreement is up for review with the intent to cover costs through a consortium.

Mr. Murray did not present his report at the meeting; however, he has since submitted his summary which shows cash balances in the various accounts as follows:

	<u>April 30th</u>	<u>May 31st</u>
General Fund	5,925,984.35	8,848,419.47
PLGIT 10105000	18,306.36	18,310.46
PLGIT CD	0.00	0.00
Continental CD	0.00	0.00
Golf Fund	22,245.87	35,716.18
Escrow Fund	732,501.79	731,758.77
Sinking Fund	2,333.08	2,346.65
Liquid Fuels	526,568.91	514,592.55
Capital Reserve PLGIT	188,954.15	188,954.25
Capital Reserve CD	0.00	0.00
Capital Reserve	0.02	0.02
Sewer Capital Acct	800,433.49	786,802.50
Vehicle Replacement Fund	331,652.73	331,680.82
Police Pension Citizens	28,421.36	28,433.40
Non-Unif. Pens. Citizens	7,568.73	7,571.94
Grant DUI	0.00	0.00
Grant, Misc.	15,444.89	15,451.43
Traffic Impact Fee	360,292.78	360,445.39

Upon motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Tolbert and unanimously passed, the Administration & Finance reports were approved.

Public Safety

Chief Mabry highlighted his monthly report and announced that the speed the speed trailer is available if anyone wants it to be placed at a specific location. Mr. McKenzie noted that he saw 2 people "blow through" the stop sign at Burnside and Marshall.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously passed, the Public Safety Report was approved.

Public Works

The highlights of his Public Works report were presented by Mr. Valyo.

It was mentioned by Mr. Valyo that a 4' path around the Rittenhouse Pump Station was installed for access to the Bike Path. Also, Mr. Valyo noted that the street restoration project is out for bid.

On motion of Mr. Donoghue, seconded by Mr. McKenzie and unanimously passed, the Public Works Report was approved.

Building & Zoning

Mr. Valyo presented the highlights of the Building and Zoning Report as prepared by Thomas Heisner, BCO.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Tolbert and unanimously passed, the Building/Zoning Report was approved.

Recreation

The Recreation report was prepared and presented by Jon Dzedzy who reminded all of the upcoming 5K run on July 4th and the family Movie Night featuring the film "Inside Out" on Saturday, August 27th.

Also, Mr. Dzedzy mentioned that the bid for the walking trail at Centennial Park is out and will be opened on Friday, June 24th, and that the wall behind the backstop at Centennial Park will be painted while the backstop at Padden Park will be replaced with funds received from the IDA via its refinancing of a Bond.

Upon motion of Mr. Donoghue, seconded by Mr. Tolbert and unanimously passed, the Recreation Report was approved.

Jeffersonville Golf Club

Highlights of the monthly report of the Jeffersonville Golf Club were presented by Mr. Bobst.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously passed, the Golf Club Report was approved.

Sanitary Sewer Engineer

The monthly Sanitary Report of Gilmore & Associates was presented and highlighted by Mr. Figaniak who noted that he requested of the DEP release of EDU's.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously passed, the Sanitary Report was approved.

**Consulting
Engineer**

In Mr. Estock' s absence, the monthly Engineer's Report was presented and highlighted by Mr. Bobst.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously passed, the Engineer's Report was approved.

All Committee reports are on file in the Administration office of the Township Building for the public to view during normal business hours.

**Commissioners'
Comment**

Mr. Panzullo commented that it was a shame that the weather necessitated the cancelling of West Norriton Day festivities.

Public Comment

Ken Christovich approached the Board to give comment. Mr. Panzullo mentioned that public comment has previously been reserved for residents of the Township and cited occasions when this was upheld, i.e., trash hauler and YMCA meetings. Mr. Kennedy inquired about Mr. Christovich's permission to speak setting a precedence while Mr. Iannozzi stated that it is in the Board's prevue to allow his comment(s).

Thereafter, Mr. Christovich was permitted to speak and he commented that he supports and encourages the plan to improve the golf course as laid out previously by Mr. Bobst, and inquired if there has been a current feasibility or marketability study done? Also, Mr. Christovich inquired if the Board would consider hiring someone to take on this role as he has a relative in this business. Mr. Kennedy responded that the Board would "take it under advisement".

James Watters of 1 E. Indian Lane, mentioned the water fountain on the bike path and noted that he has been in contact with both the County and PA American Water Co. about its need of repair.

Kim Haymans-Geisler, 1810 Ardin Drive, emphatically stated that she is disturbed by the lack of details on the proposed golf course borrowing for its improvements and inquired "what is the plan"? Ms. Haymans- Geisler suggested that the plan and the amount of money proposed to be borrowed is insufficient. Mr. Kennedy inquired if she wanted the Township to borrow more money while Mr. Tolbert noted that until we know the interest rate available you can't proceed with anything. After an emotional discussion, it was again stated that the only thing the Board is voting on tonight with regard to this issue is the authorization of staff to proceed with gathering of financing options....not the improvement plan!

Roseanne Milazzo of 37 Rittenhouse Boulevard stated that she believes that the Rules for Decorum at Public Meetings needs to be readdressed and suggested a limit to discussion of 5 - 10 minutes.

Camille and Rose Muscanero of 28 Rose Avenue requested that the residents be kept up to date and informed of what is going on with the golf course renovation plans.

Mary Ellen Moran, 714 Port Indian Road, stated that she too was disappointed that West Norriton Day had to be cancelled. Also, Ms. Moran inquired about: how many EDU's we have and how many have been requested for projects on the table and for how many can we show work done to justify the release of the EDU's; and if the trail connection at Betzwood will be reopened once repairs are done; and her concerns over our submission of documents to PennDOT on behalf of a developer. Mr. Bobst noted that is a safeguard that developers are not making applications to PennDOT of which the Township is unaware.

There being no further public comment offered, upon motion of Mr. McKenzie, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously approved, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

New Business

Upon motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. McKenzie and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized the preparation and distribution of RFP's for golf course borrowing.

Upon motion of Mr. Donoghue, seconded by Mr. Tolbert and unanimously agreed, the Board agreed to table the adoption of Ordinance 2016-703 regarding updates to Chapter 15 of the Code regarding Motor Vehicles and Traffic until further review.

Upon motion of Mr. McKenzie, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized the execution of the annual DUI Grant Resolution.

Upon motion of Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. Donoghue and unanimously approved the Board rescinded the handicapped parking space previously established at 59 N. Highland Avenue as the property is for sale.

Upon motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Tolbert and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution No. 16-1576 re: submission of the Montco 2040 grant (copy attached).

Regarding tables matters, upon motion of Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. McKenzie, the Rules of Decorum for Public Meetings Resolution will be addressed by the Board at its next public meeting.

Mr. Bobst announced that there is no meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board scheduled for June, but that the Planning Commission would be holding an open house/public workshop on June 20th @ Chap's Taproom & Sports Grill, beginning at 6:00 PM, to discuss the Main Street Vision.

Adjournment

There being no further business on the Agenda, at 8:50 PM, upon motion of Mr. Tolbert, seconded by Mr. McKenzie and unanimously agreed by the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Kathy K. Frederick
Assistant Secretary