

January 6, 2020

Pursuant to legal notice, which appeared in The Times Herald, the reorganization meeting and work session of the Board of Commissioners of West Norriton Township was convened at 7:00 p.m. on the above date by Jason Bobst, Township Manager. In addition to Mr. Bobst, present were Commissioners Miller, Eckles and Milazzo and Commissioners-Elect Pavone and Smock. Daniel Grieser, Esquire, Kathy Frederick, A. Dale Mabry, Michael Kelly, Michael Valyo, Donna Horn and Jon Dzedzy. There were 44 people in the audience.

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting continued.

**REORGANIZATION**

**Oath of Office**

The Honorable Marc Alfarano, District Justice, presided over the swearing in ceremonies of the newly-elected Commissioners. Anne Pavone took the Oath of Office as administered by Judge Alfarano. Also, upon presentation of his Certificate of Election, Peter Smock took the Oath of Office of Commissioner.

Judge Alfarano congratulated the newly-elected officials and thanked the Board for the honor of presiding.

**Nominations**

Mr. Bobst requested nominations for the office of President of the Board of Commissioners. On motion of Ms. Milazzo and seconded by Ms. Eckles, Martin Miller was nominated. There being no other nominations, a roll call vote was made and Mr. Miller was unanimously elected as President of the Board.

Thereafter, newly-elected President Miller nominated Judith Eckles for the office of Vice President of the Board, which nomination was seconded by Ms. Pavone. There being no other nominations, a roll call vote was taken and Ms. Eckles was elected Vice President by unanimous vote.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was offered at this time.

**Appointments  
of Township  
Personnel**

Regarding the position of Traffic Engineer, upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed the firm of Remington Vernick was appointed.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, all other Township personnel were retained in their current positions.

A copy of the list of Appointments of Township Personnel is attached (see copy).

**Appointments  
to Boards and  
Commissions**

Thereafter, upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed by the Board, appointments the individuals indicated on the attached list of the Appointments to Boards and Commissions to the positions indicated thereon was made by the Board (see attached).

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After discussion, it was unanimously agreed by the Board to table the remaining appointments to the Planning Commission, Industrial Development Authority, Civil Service Commission, Zoning Hearing Board and Human Relations Commission until next month to provide time for applications to be received. Mr. Bobst noted that applications for all Township Boards and Commissions can be retrieved and submitted from the Township's website.

A motion to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting and open the Work Session was made by of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously approved.

**WORK SESSION**

**Discussion**

Mr. Bobst enumerated the items for discussion/update as follows:

- Liaison positions of Commissioners to the various Township Boards and Commissions was explained, including the lack of need for a liaison to the quasi-judicial Boards, i.e., Zoning Hearing Board and Review Board. Commissioner liaisons were made as follows: Mr. Miller - Environmental Advisory Council; Ms. Eckles - Civil Service; Ms. Milazzo - Recreation; Ms. Pavone - Human Relations Commission; and Mr. Smock - Planning Commission. Mr. Miller commented that he would make sure that the findings of the Boards is communicated to the public.
- The proposed capital borrowing was explained by Mr. Bobst who noted that the last payment of the current debt borrowing was made in October of 2019, and that; therefore, \$217,000.00 is available annually in the budget. A recommendation was made by Mr. Bobst to use cash reserves to pay the \$900,000.00 purchase price for the Burnside property, since we were unsuccessful in our grant application, and to borrow for repairs, renovations and construction of the following township projects: Centennial Park - Parking Lot; Firehouse Recreation Site - Restrooms; Padden Park - Parking Lot; Padden Park - Pavilion, Restrooms & Playground; Firehouse Recreation Site - Parking; and Regents Park - Repaving. Mr. Miller inquired about the proposed increase in the number of parking spaces at Padden Park, the firehouse and Centennial Park. In response thereto, Mr. Bobst stated an increase of approximately 30 spaces at Padden Park, an increase of 5 spaces at the firehouse, and an increase of 50 spaces at Centennial Park. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Smock about the lifespan of repaved roads at Regents Park, Mr. Valyo stated 20-25 years. Mr. Miller suggested, and

Work Session

the Board agreed, that the next step would be to get rates for borrowing.

- The Manager's contract is up for renewal for two years and will be presented to the Board tomorrow for its consideration next week.
- Presentations at next week's Board meeting will be made by Cedarville Engineering regarding the MS-4 and by the Census Bureau regarding the 2020 Census.

**Public Comment** Marc Brier of 106 Plowshare inquired if a new member was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Environmental Advisory Council. Mr. Bobst replied that Donna Suevo was appointed to that position and that the first meeting of 2020 for that group is scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Joan Wurzel, 1401 Regan Court, expressed her concern over the "dangerous" parking lot at the Jefferson Fire Company and requested that, since the firehouse is a polling place, that the repair of same be prioritized so as to be completed before voting season, and that the parking spaces be delineated for voters on those days. It was also mentioned that two alternative sites are being looked at for voting, i.e., St. Sophia's and industrial park on Trooper Road.

Lynn Watters, 1 E. Indian Lane also commented on the parking situation at the firehouse.

James L. Watters, III of 1 E. Indian Lane read a passage from the "Constitution of the United States" regarding education.

Mary Ellen Moran, 74 port Indian Road, commented that parking lots create more water run-off and questioned why we need to increase the size of parking lots when street parking is available.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously passed, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

Mr. Bobst announced the monthly meeting dates of the Township's Board and Commissions as follows: Environmental Advisory Council on January 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM; and Human Relations Commission on January 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:00, with no meetings of the Planning Commission or Zoning Hearing Board.

**Adjournment**

*There being no further business, at 8:15 P.M., on motion of Mr. Smock, seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously passed, the work session was adjourned.*

*Kathy K. Frederick  
Assistant Secretary*