

Mr. Miller, President of the Board, convened the work session at 7:00 p.m. on the above date. Present were Commissioners Eckles, Milazzo and Smock, while Commissioner Pavone was absent. Also, present were: Jason M. Bobst; Sean Kilkenny, Esquire; Kathy K. Frederick; A. Dale Mabry; Michael Kelly; Donna Horn; Michael Valyo; and Jonathan Dzedzy. There were eight (8) people in the audience.

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting proceeded.

**Presentations**  
NASD Youth &  
Government

Caitlin Hunt, an English teacher from the Norristown Area High School gave a presentation of the PA YMCA Youth & Government Club at NASD for which she is the advisor. According to Ms. Hunt, nine (9) members of the Club wrote bills and will present/debate them as participants in the Model Government Convention held at the PA State Capital building in Harrisburg in April. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Eckles, Ms. Hunt noted that the bills presented by the Club will wind up on the Governor's desk. Ms. Hunt mentioned the need of the students for funding for this endeavor and requested a donation. According to Mr. Miller, the Commissioners are "rolling out" a program whereby the Commissioners contribute a portion of their salaries quarterly, "because that is when we get paid", to show that they believe in community topics and issues such as this. Thereafter, Mr. Miller presented Ms. Hunt with a check in the amount of \$500.00. Ms. Hunt expressed her gratitude and hopes that young people will get involved in government and perhaps that will trickle down to the local level. Mr. Miller thanked Ms. Hunt and noted that the Board "is happy to help".

Kimmel Lorah

Robert Stephenson of Kimmel Lorah appeared before the Board to provide an overview of the 2018 financial audit. Mr. Stephenson began by thanking Township staff for their patience and helpfulness in preparing the audit and, thereafter, provided a brief history of the Township's "small audits", prior to 2014, and its move from a cash basis. According to Mr. Stephenson, the Township is in good financial shape with only two (2) issues on the books, i.e.: the lack of a computer database as to delinquent taxes; and the liability as to pension (police @ \$5.8M and non-uniform @ \$2.9M) and healthcare of \$10M. Mr. Bobst explained that the major component of the healthcare liability is for the disabled retirees and their spouses as they are contractually covered with health care for life and they do not have to go to Medicare, but that Mr. Bobst is working on plans. Mr. Stephenson concluded by thanking the Board for its confidence in his firm.

**Discussion**

The possible acquisition by the Township of Lot #22 W. Indian Lane was presented by Mr. Bobst who noted that the property owner, Riverview, is in arrears on County and Township taxes on the property. The appraised value of the property is \$180,000.00 and the proposed acquisition price is the amount of the back taxes, approximately \$26,000.00. According to Mr. Kilkenny, the

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advantage of the Township acquiring the property and giving it to the IDA to sell is that the IDA is not limited by bidding regulations like the

Township. Ms. Eckles and Ms. Milazzo inquired about open space restrictions and conditions of the land. It was mentioned by Mr. Kilkenny that Gilmore & Associates looked at the property and no issues exist.

According to Mr. Bobst, the RFP's for borrowing are out and the responses are due back prior to next month's work session, when the results and recommendations will be presented. The process of calculating the current debt service (which expired in 2019) was explained by Mr. Bobst, who mentioned that the Township would like to borrow \$2.7M which is "conservative" with regard to its borrowing ability of approximately \$19M.

The items on the Agenda for the upcoming Board meeting were enumerated and addressed by Mr. Bobst as follows:

**Manager**

A. As discussed at previous meetings of the Board, the goal of the proposed adoption of Resolution #20-1648 amending Section 3.5 of the Rules and Regulations of the Civil Service Commission is to obtain more applicants and more diversity of candidates for police officer positions.

B. Appointments to remaining positions on Township Boards and Commissions will be made at the upcoming Board meeting next week.

Anthony Uhrich of Alexander Drive requested that public access to the Township's WIFI be available during meetings.

Lynne Watters of 1 E. Indian Lane noted that the recreation department's Zumba class is great, and she offered "kudos" to the Board and staff on their reusable water glasses.

**Public Comment**

James Watters, III, 1 E. Indian Lane, commented that "things are looking good around here" with the new sidewalks out front of the Township building, but mentioned that what is not looking good is stormwater and mud on the river. According to Mr. Watters, he filed a police report and a formal complaint with the State, via Representative Dean, complaining about the Army Corps of Engineers' release of water from Blue Marsh without notice to downstream residents. Mr. Watters stated that he will continue to gather information on flood waters and keep us apprised.

There being no further public comment, upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously agreed, that portion of the meeting was closed.

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February 4, 2020

**Work Session**

The schedule of the upcoming meetings for the following boards and commissions were announced by Mr. Bobst: EAC on February 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM; and Human Relations Commission on February 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM. No meetings of the Planning Commission or Zoning Hearing Board.

There being no further items on the Agenda, upon motion of Ms. Eckles seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously approved, the work session

**Upcoming  
Meetings**

was adjourned at 7:47 P.M.

Kathy K. Frederick  
Assistant Secretary

**Adjournment**

