

June 8, 2021

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 Miller. Commissioners Eckles, Milazzo, Pavone and Smock were also in attendance, as were: Jason Bobst; Daniel Grieser, Esquire; Kathy Frederick; Michael Kelly; Stephen Morris; Donna Horn; Michael Valyo; Jon Dzedzy; and Erik Garton.

Presentation Ms. Milazzo introduced Helen Reilly, organizer of "Kind Hearts" (Kids in Need of Dads) the non-profit group which is the recipient of this quarter's Commissioners' contribution. According to Ms. Reilly, Kind Hearts organizes free programs in Montgomery County schools and recreation centers, including "Dads Days at School" and "Kids and Dads Connect Days" related to civic topics like police, firefighting, banking, etc. Also, Kind Hearts planned a "March for Our Lives" after the school shootings in Florida. Per President Miller, this is a great cause and we are happy to present this check to Ms. Reilly. Ms. Reilly thanked the Board for thinking of Kind Hearts and commented that it was "humbling".

Minutes Approval Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously passed by the Board were the minutes of its work session of May 4, 2021 and its regular meeting of May 11, 2021.

Report of Bills Approval of checks Ms. Horn read the Finance Committee Report and requested approval of: General Fund and Golf Club payroll checks in the amount of \$20,210.16; payroll vouchers in the amount of \$282,251.17; and the Payment Approval Report of \$726,550.29. Upon motion of Ms. Eckles seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously approved was the aforementioned finance report.

Committee Reports: Administration & Finance Mr. Bobst highlighted the agenda items under New Business and added the following:
That, upon completion of the DCED's requirements for funding through the American Rescue Act, the Township is entitled to funds up to \$1,634,200.00, and that the Township will be receiving the first payment of \$817,100.00 next month. Mr. Bobst proposed that part of the funds be used to set up a local hospitality support fund for local businesses that lost revenue during COVID, and another portion to be used to assist residents with a credit on their sewer bills. Mr. Miller stated that "it sounds great to me and in the spirit of what the funding was created for."

Treasurer Horn did not present her report at the meeting; however, she has submitted her summary which shows cash balances in the various funds as follows:

| | <u>April 30th</u> | <u>May 31st</u> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund | 10,572,336.83 | 12,802,196.66 |
| PLGIT 10105000 | 59,998.90 | 51,223.82 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| PLGIT CD - SEWER | 1,497,583.83 | 1,497,596.72 |
| Golf Fund | 2,103.92 | 3,485.16 |
| Escrow Fund | 484,545.08 | 483,759.61 |
| Sinking Fund | 11,686.05 | 11,686.82 |
| Liquid Fuels | 615,816.36 | 606,581.86 |
| Capital Reserve PLGIT | 21,420.14 | 21,420.50 |
| Capital Reserve PLIGIT PLUS | 19,520.50 | 19,520.50 |
| Sewer Capital Acct | 3,580,375.59 | 3,580,796.31 |
| WN 2020 Project Fund | 933,490.65 | 893,488.95 |
| Vehicle Replacement Fund | 592,477.05 | 690,547.03 |
| Police Pension Citizens | 140,028.07 | 148,269.98 |
| Non-Uniform Pension Citizens | 4,331.38 | 4,949.97 |
| Grants, DUI | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Grants, Misc. | 218,715.53 | 218,733.75 |
| Traffic Impact Fee | 408,897.02 | 408,945.63 |

Public Safety Chief Kelly highlighted the monthly public safety report, and he confirmed that a two-person fireworks detail will be added to the evening shift on July 4th.

Public Works & Planning The highlights of the Public Works and Building-Plumbing reports were presented by Mr. Valyo.

Recreation The Recreation report was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Dzedzy who happily announced that the Firehouse Recreation Site Project has been completed. Mr. Dzedzy also noted that the tennis courts at that site have been officially certified by the USTA ... "adding a little prestige to our site and potentially a little revenue."

Updating that Board on the other park projects, Mr. Dzedzy stated that the Padden Park Playground Project will be completed in the coming weeks, the Centennial and Padden Park Parking Lots will be completed late summer/early fall, and that the erection of a 20'x40' open-air pavilion will be added to Centennial Park this summer.

Also, per Mr. Dzedzy, the second movie night of the year is scheduled for August 28th, and the 1st annual Fall Festival is scheduled for October 16th at Centennial Park.

Finally, it was mentioned by Mr. Dzedzy that he is happy that summer camp will recommence in June and run from June 26th to August 5th, and that the Silver Circle and trips will hopefully recommence in September.

Jeffersonville Golf Club Mr. Bobst presented the monthly golf report and announced that May's revenue of \$233,663.27 is now the highest grossing month ever. With regard to rounds, Mr. Bobst noted that this is probably the fourth time since recorded figures dating back to 2000 that we ever had 6,000+ rounds in a month. According to Mr. Bobst, with the numbers that we are receiving, we are anticipating the golf course to finish the year about \$400,000.00 above budget.

It was also mentioned by Mr. Bobst that we have several golf carts for sale on Municibid right now so that revenue generated will offset the purchase of the new carts, and hopefully we will get close to \$50,000.00, but we should have those numbers for you in July.

Finally, it was mentioned by Mr. Bobst that Urban Partners is wrapping up its report and we should have that for you next month.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Smock, Mr. Bobst mentioned that the tee times of 10 minutes on weekends and 12 minutes on weekdays will be maintained with the decline of COVID.

Sanitary Sewer

In Mr. Figaniak's absence, the highlights of his monthly Sanitary Report were presented by Mr. Garton who mentioned that the Forest Avenue Pump Station is stuck in the COVID supply chain delays, but he expects the pumps are to be delivered late month.

Engineer

The Engineer's Report of Gilmore & Associates was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Garton who mentioned that the cost estimates of the three roads on the proposed 2021 Sewer Budget Paving Program are as follows: Sterigere Street - \$130,000.00; Chancellor Court - \$19,000.00; and Pennfield Avenue - \$31,000.00 for a total of \$180,000.00.

Mr. Garton also mentioned that regarding the short course, he is resubmitting the NPDS permit application to the Conservation District, which is good for 5 years, so whatever way you want to proceed with that you will be ready to go.

In response to inquiries by Ms. Pavone, it was stated by Mr. Bobst that the pipe is in and, as soon as a contractor frees up, it will be installed on Liberty, and that he and counsel are working on the letter to the water company.

The Committee reports were approved by motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed by the Board.

Public Comment

Per Mr. Bobst, no written public comments were received prior to the meeting.

James Watters of 1 E. Indian Lane began by commenting that it was "really nice to see everyone again". Thereafter, Mr. Watters voiced his concerns over, among other things: debris under the bridge not cleaned up by PennDOT after Storm Isaias; street lights being on during the day; PECO's lack of maintenance on electric lines and its proposed rate increase; stream bank restoration; and NASD's cutting plantings and trees in the riparian buffer. Mr. Watters commented that the Rotary plaque placed was on the rock at

Padden Park and it looks good, as do the parks. Also, Mr. Watters noted that tree plantings at the golf course really look great, movie night was a hit and the concept of a dog park is a "thumbs up". Finally, it was mentioned by Mr. Watters that, in response to open vents on sewer drains in Port Indian area, a letter went out to members of the association purchase plugs at Home Depot, which he did and installed.

There being no additional public comment offered, upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously agreed, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

**Commissioners'
Comments**

Ms. Pavone commented that she received a call from a resident inquiring if the Board is committed to sharing meetings via Facebook live, and who would like to have the results of the dog park survey posted on Facebook live.

Ms. Eckles made a comment that the Board decided in January that we would hold a work session every month unless we have nothing to discuss, and that she believes that we should not change our minds on this this unless we discuss it publicly. Mr. Miller responded that he shared with the Board a comment by Ms. Milazzo that in the summer months, when relatively little is going on, we could eliminate the work session, and suggested that we gavel out a work session and gavel in a regular meeting in one evening. According to Mr. Miller, he believes that this accomplishes the spirit of what we are trying to do, and thus meeting the needs and addressing what we discussed in January, while giving the public ample time to discuss issues. Ms. Eckles agreed, in concept. Since ordinances can't be passed on the night of discussion, we are not losing the opportunity to have that month time frame to discuss, per Mr. Miller. Ms. Pavone inquired about physical quorum of Board and staff members and suggested that it seems like we would be stuffing a lot into one meeting and the meetings would be longer. Mr. Grieser added that about one-third of the municipalities have only one meeting per month and that new Board members may like 2 meetings, but once they get more experience, they prefer one meeting. After discussion by the Board, it was decided to continue to have a separate work session every month unless there is nothing to discuss at the work session. Per Mr. Grieser, since there is no requirement to advertise a cancellation, you can cancel a meeting on the website and post the doors 24 hours in advance. Mr. Miller reiterated that if we chose to cancel the work session based on the agenda, we will do so. Mr. Bobst stated that Ms. Frederick and he prepare the agenda the week prior to the meeting and suggested that if they see nothing of substance on the agenda, they will email the Board for a decision on the necessity of a work session that month. The Board concurred.

Discussion

Dennis Trowbridge, a Township resident working to attain the rank of Eagle Scout, approached the Township about constructing a retired flag box for placement at the Township. The flag box has been completed and will be dedicated on June 14th, Flag Day, at the Township building. Ms. Milazzo mentioned another Eagle Scout (Mr. Mitchell's son) was to be honored prior to COVID and that she will get the details on that for recognition.

Per Mr. Bobst, discussion items b. & c. are both notice of intents to award bids for improvement projects in the Township...the ARLE Grant Program at Whitehall Road and Marshall Street, and the Parking Lot Park Improvements Projects. According to Mr. Bobst, these are not action items, just announcing letters are being sent out to prospective low bidders as part of the RCO that we are commencing the 30-day review period and 10day public comment period. As per Mr. Bobst's previous comments, additional funding is available to be used, without touching general funds, for the increased costs of the ARLE Grant Project.

New Business

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution #21-1671 Authorizing Filing of Application for PA Redevelopment Capital Assistance program (RCAP) Grant (copy attached). Per Mr. Bobst, again this just allows us to submit a business plan with the solicitor and engineer review letters.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution #21-1672 Supporting House Bill 955 and Senate Bill 525 re: Local Government Options for Publishing Advertisements, etc. (copy attached).

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution #21-1673 Recognizing June 2021 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month (copy attached). Ms. Pavone thanked President Miller for raising the pride flag and commented that it meant more than he can possibly know to a lot of people. Mr. Miller stated that he is proud to be part of the Board aligned on this issue and thanked Ms. Pavone for her comment. It was asked by Mr. Smock if we can leave the pride flag up permanently. Mr. Miller stated that he has no objection to that. Mr. Bobst noted that the flag of the Township usually flies in that spot, but that both flags can fly on one pole, and he added that as long as the American flag flies at 35 feet alone and above all other flags, there are no other protocols. It was agreed by the Board to continue to fly the pride flag. Ms. Milazzo commented that it is important to recognize diversity in groups and other celebrations.

Upon motion of Ms. Pavone, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board awarded the bid for the 2009 Ford Fusion on Municibid to the highest bidder, August Winkelhaus, in the amount of \$3,600.00. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Miller, Mr. Bobst advised that Municibid charges a 9% fee on top of the bidder, but no charge to the Township, and that we have received over \$337,000.00 in revenue from items sold on Municibid.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized the advertising of bids for the 2021 Sewer Budget Road Paving Program.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board accepted the resignation of Sheridan Earle from the EAC.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board appointed Barbara Pollarine to the EAC for the remainder of the term of Sheridan Earle.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board accepted the resignation of Amy Gallagher from the Planning Commission.

Upon motion of Mr. Smock, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board appointed Arline Sarley to the Planning Commission for the remainder of the term of Amy Gallagher.

Schedule of Meetings

It was announced by Mr. Bobst that the following meetings are scheduled this month:

- Environmental Advisory Council - July 7th @ 7:00 PM
- Zoning Hearing Board - via ZOOM on June 23rd @ 7:00 PM;
- Human Relations Commission - June 24th @ 7:00 PM

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:10 PM, on motion of Mr. Smock and seconded by Ms. Pavone, the public meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Frederick
Assistant Secretary