

The agenda meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6:00 pm.

Present were:

Adam Selisker
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Paula Gasper
Robert Salzar
Robert Pellegrino
William Wert
Joseph Pizzo
Amanda Fuller

Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

The regular business meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members of the Board present were:

Adam Selisker
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Paula Gasper
Robert Salzar

Members of the Board absent were:

Barry Moore

Others present were:

Robert Pellegrino, Township Manager
William Wert, Assistant Manager
Amanda Fuller, Township Engineer
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Selisker led the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence in support of military and emergency services personnel.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

300TH Anniversary Finale

The Parks and Recreation Department in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors, Township Manager, Assistant Manager, and Township Professional's joined together to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of Northampton Township. The Board reenacted the signing of the Township

Resolution and everyone dressed up in colonial garb to celebrate this milestone in Township history.

Proclamation for Nancy Opalka, Parks and Recreation Director

Chairman Selisker called on Dr. Kimberly Rose to present a proclamation to Nancy Opalka for her retirement. The Proclamation outlined the many achievements she has accomplished as Parks and Recreation Director over her 30 years of service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Johnson, 41 Grant Drive asked if the Country Club was still operating in the red. Questioned the total amount of debt the Township owes. Mr. Pellegrino replied the Northampton Country Club is improving and should be in the black in 2023. The total debt for the Township is 64 million and the Township pays off approximately 2 million a year towards that debt.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board meeting minutes of November 16, 2022, was presented by Mrs. Gasper.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable of November 30, 2022, for \$641,178.62, and December 14, 2022, for \$938,730.71 was presented by Dr. Rose.

A motion was made and seconded (Salzer-Gasper) to approve the consent items. All consent items were approved by Unanimous Consent.

CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Selisker announced Mr. Moore is absent tonight, December 14, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application to the PA Small Water and Sewer Program for a Grant to Retrofit the Northampton Crossing Detention Basin

Mr. Salzer stated in early 2022, the Township was awarded a partial DEP Growing Greener Program grant to convert the existing stormwater management basin at the intersection of Holland Road and Upper Holland Road into an infiltration basin.

The purpose of the basin conversion is to improve water quality and reduce sediment release to address the requirements of our State stormwater system permit (MS4). This is achieved by stripping clay material from the basin bottom, installing new soil that allows water infiltration,

and planting water-tolerant perennials. The estimated project cost is \$615,000 and the previous DEP grant award was \$300,000.

Because of this shortfall in funding, the Administration is recommending that the Township seek an additional grant through the PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Application. The grant request is for the additional project cost not funded by the DEP grant. There is no matching requirement from the Township for this project.

The grant program requires a Resolution from the governing body authorizing an individual to submit the grant application on behalf of the Township. A draft Resolution was provided for your review.

A motion was made and seconded (Salzer-Rose) to adopt Resolution R-22-22 authorizing the Township Manager to file a grant application with the PA Small Water and Sewer Program Grant to improve the detention basin at Holland and Upper Holland Roads, and to authorize the Township Manager and or Assistant Township Manager to execute all documents required by the grant program.

Chairman Selisker called for Board and public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 4-0.

Consider Final Approval of the 2023 Proposed Budget

Chairman Selisker asked Mr. Pellegrino to briefly summarize the proposed 2023 budget.

Mr. Pellegrino briefly reviewed the proposed 2023 budget and explained the variables that affect revenues and expenditures. He noted changes from 2022 to 2023 and stated there is no proposed tax increase in the proposed 2023 budget an increase in the debt service tax is necessary for the new fire stations.

Mr. Pellegrino also noted the contracts for waste collection and disposal will increase in 2023. Waste collection and transportation will increase from \$2.64 million to \$5.18 million with the new Whitetail Disposal contract for waste collection. The three disposal contracts will collectively increase by \$190,000. The current rate for trash, recycling, and yard waste collection and disposal are \$299 per year per household. Based on the new collection contract with Whitetail Disposal, and the projected increase for the three disposal contracts, the fee must be increased to \$575.

Mr. Pellegrino stated the millage will stay the same as follows with no proposed tax increase:

General Fund	8.8747 mills
Fire Fund	3.0000 mills
Parks and Recreation Fund	1.6280 mills
Ambulance Fund	0.7500 mills
Debt Service Fund	4.5597 mills
Library Fund	1.7284 mills
Road Maintenance Fund	0.5000 mills
Road Equipment Fund	<u>0.5703 mills</u>
	21.6111 mills

Dr. Rose stated the e proposed 2023 Budget was advertised for public inspection on November 18, 2022, and a copy was available in the Township Administration Building and on the Township website since the Preliminary Budget adoption by the Board on November 16, 2022.

To date, the Administration received no calls about the proposed budget and no one visited the Administration building to review the document. The Preliminary Budget is ready for final adoption unless the Board has any changes.

A motion was made and seconded (Rose-Gasper) to approve the final adoption of the 2023 Preliminary Budget.

Chairman Selisker called for Board comment.

The Board thanked the Administration and the Finance Department for their hard work to provide a budget with no tax increase.

Mr. Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 4-0.

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- The Parks and Recreation winter brochure has arrived in mailboxes the 1st week of December.
- The Mrs. Claus event held on December 10th was another huge success.
- For all the events happening, check the Parks and Recreation website at Northamptonrec.com. Some events do require pre-registration.
- The annual Holiday Market Place had many new and exciting vendors this year. If you missed it make sure to check it out next year.

- Many exciting events are planned for the Senior Center for 2023. Check their website at nhsc@nhtwp.org or call 215-357-8799 for more information.

Mrs. Gasper the following announcements:

- The steering committee a sub-committee of the Library Board is making great progress on the vision for the Library. The sub-committee met for a retreat on November 19th. Library Board Members, Library Director, Dr. Rose, and Mrs. Gasper herself attended to go over the responses and make an outline for direction for 2023.
- The Library and the Parks and Recreation Department are collaborating to bring forward some exciting events for 2023.
- The Veterans Advisory Commission held the annual Hometown Hero's wreath-laying ceremony on December 3rd. Even with the rain, there were over 100 attendees.
- is receiving a large sum for 2023 from State Aid and the steering committee will be discussing options for this grant.
- The Township has changed trash companies from J.P. Mascaro to Whitetail Disposal. Look for a postcard in the mail to find out more information.

Mr. Salzer made the following announcements:

- No Report.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- No Report – Absent.

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- Sent condolences to the family of Northampton Police and Life Member of the Northampton Fire Department Marty Comyn. Marty dedicated his life to the Northampton Community.
- The Township has received Two (2) Million Dollars in state grant monies and has just received an additional One (1) Million for the Firehouse Project. Thanked Senator Tommy Tomlinson and State Representative Wendi Thomas for their help in getting this funding.
- Thanked Board members, Township staff, and Professional staff for their great service.
- Remember to water your tree and to be careful with the fireworks.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Thanked the Board for their collaboration, cooperation, and support.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

- Echoed Mr. Pellegrino's comments.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Thanked everyone and stated it is a pleasure to serve the Board and the Township.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Echoed Mr. Pizzo's comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gasper, Secretary