

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

Present were:

Barry Moore
Paula Gasper
Dr. Kimberly Rose
Robert Salzer
Joseph Pizzo
Amanda Fuller
Robert M. Pellegrino
William Wert

Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

The regular business meeting of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 pm. Members of the Board present were:

Barry Moore
Paula Gasper
Robert Salzer
Dr. Kimberly Rose

Members absent were:

Adam Selisker

Others present were:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Vice-Chairman Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence in support of the military, and emergency service personnel.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Northampton Days Announcement

Vice-Chairman Moore called forward Mr. Pete Palestina who gave an overview of events at the upcoming Northampton Days event to be held on October 6, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

CONSENT ITEMS

BOARD MINUTES

The Board meeting minutes of August 28, 2024, were presented by Mrs. Gasper.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable for September 11, for \$1,806,890.25, and for September 25, 2024, for \$2,311,030.72 were presented by Dr. Rose.

A motion was proposed by (Rose-Gasper) for the approval of the consent items. All of which received unanimous approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Authorization of an Ordinance to Amend Various Sections of the Township Code Related to Stormwater Management and Grading to Add Allowable BMP Design and Construction Criteria.

Mr. Salzer summarized the proposed ordinance which amends the stormwater management requirements to require underground stormwater management systems for single lots. Subdivisions between two to five lots are required to have underground systems or a communal basin maintained by the homeowners' association. Finally, all subdivisions of six lots or larger are required to have a communal basin maintained by a homeowners' association.

As has been discussed with recent subdivision projects, the intent is to prevent property owners from being adversely impacted by having individual, depressed basin facilities on their lots. With this proposed amendment, this objective is achieved while still meeting the requirements of the stormwater management ordinance.

A motion was made and seconded (Salzer-Rose) to authorize the advertisement of a public meeting for Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Township building to consider an ordinance amending the Northampton Township Code, specifically Chapter 23, Stormwater and Grading, Part 5, Design Criteria and Requirements, to add allowable BMP design and construction criteria for residential uses.

Vice-Chairman Moore called for Board and public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 4-0.

Consider Bids for the Northampton Crossing Basin Retrofit

Mrs. Gasper explained that to help meet the Township's unfunded mandate of the Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) Permit, the Township proposes improvements to an existing basin in the

Northampton Crossing neighborhood by constructing new Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce stormwater flow. Once complete, this basin is expected to achieve 22% of the Township's sediment reduction requirement for the MS4 Program. The cost estimate for this project is \$615,000. To cover the cost, the Township received two (2) grants from the DEP Growing Greener Program and the PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Program.

Gilmore & Associates, Inc. evaluated the five (5) public bids received for this project and has determined that the lowest responsible bidder is A.H. Cornell and Son, Inc. and recommends the Board authorize a total contract amount of \$221,516.00 for all items in the Base Bid.

A motion was made and seconded (Gasper-Rose) to award a contract for the Northampton Crossing Basin Retrofit Project to A.H. Cornell and Son, Inc. For a total contract amount of \$221,516.00 for all items in the base bid.

Vice-Chairman Moore called for Board comment.

Discussion ensued among the Board members regarding the positive outcome of receiving grants and the benefits of improving our basins.

Vice-Chairman Moore called for public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 4-0.

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- September continues to be a very busy month at the senior center. It's a great time to check the center out to see what the over 1000 members do there!
- If you're age 55 or better, the opportunities are endless for socialization, participation in activities, educational programs, parties, day trips and FUN! The center provides a wonderful support system to keep you active, vital, and independent.
- There's something for everyone – exercise classes, dance classes, art classes, book clubs, shuffleboard, billiards, darts, table tennis, coloring club, cards, mah jongg, and so much more!
- Stop by for a tour! You can visit the center Monday through Friday 9 am to 3:30 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 8 pm. The senior center is located at 165 Township Road, directly across the street from the library. You can also access information on the center's website at northamptonsc.com.
- If you are an artisan or craftsperson, why not think about participating in the center's Annual Holiday Marketplace Vendor Show on Friday, December 6th from 5 to 8:30? Vendor applications are available at the center. If you're not able to stop by, just call the center and request one.

- Fall classes began their first sessions on Monday and will continue to debut every day this week. From the time classes opened online and Fall brochures landed in mailboxes, the Parks and Recreation Department has received almost 1400 registrations for programs, events, and trips. From Introduction to Canasta and Pickleball to a trip to Broadway, the community is “falling” for Parks and Recreation this September!
- On Monday, September 9th, 49 preschoolers reported for the first day of school! They are having fun getting to know each other, learning about the changes in nature autumn brings, and playing outside on the playground while it is still warm. There were a few tears from our 3-year-old class, as they learned to say goodbye to Moms, Dads, and grandparents, but they quickly learned that Northampton Preschool is a safe, nurturing place for them to laugh, learn, play, and grow!
- The Parks and Recreation Department is currently working with Public Works, Fire, Police, and Administration to deliver a fun, safe, and exciting Fall Festival to the Northampton community this Friday, September 27! With a children’s concert at 6, a mainstage concert at 7:30, 50 vendors, tons of food trucks, distilleries, beer trucks, pony rides, and tons more for families to do, the basin at Civic Center 2 on Newtown Richboro Road is the place to be to celebrate the start of Fall! We look forward to seeing you there!
- For more information about our Programs and Events contact the administration building, or the Parks and Recreation website at www.northamptonrec.com.

Mrs. Gasper made the following announcements:

Strategic Plan Update:

- The Library Board, and Strategic Plan Committee would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their support as the Free Library of Northampton Township looks towards the future decades of library service to our community. After many meetings and discussions, The Free Library of Northampton Township Library Board and its Director, Wayne Lahr, recommend the Township of Northampton Board of Supervisors approve the following:
 1. Request to move forward with hiring a marketing consultant for a rebranding initiative followed by the development, design, and implementation of a new website.
 - a. Funding can be covered by reallocating \$20,000 previously budgeted in this year’s 2024 Library Budget and a gift of up to \$35,000 from the Friends of the Free Library of Northampton Township organization.
 - b. If the Board has no objections to this request since no additional funds are required, this project can begin before the end of this year with a new website in early 2025.

2. Request to budget \$45,000 in the 2025 Library Budget to be used for developing a Master Concept Plan and Visioning/Feasibility Study focused on both facility renovations and exterior library grounds design.
 - a. The outcome of this Plan would establish project priorities and budget, floor plans, detailed program, conceptual and 3D renderings, and future construction cost estimates.
 - b. This funding proposal will be incorporated into the Draft 2025 Budget that will be presented in November for the Board's consideration. No action is required this evening for this request.

Mr. Salzer made the following announcements:

- Provided an update on the PFOS issue and noting on September 23, 2024, approximately 900 letters went out to impacted residents. You can find the letter on the Northampton Township website at www.northamptontownship.com. The point of contact can be found in the letter.

Mr. Moore made the following announcements:

- The Board understands the seriousness of this matter and this is reflected in the letter that was sent out to the residents.
- The Planning Commission meeting on September 10th was cancelled.
- The Planning Commission has approved the Redevelopment of the Mill Race Inn, in Holland. This will be a combination of condominiums and offices.
- The retired vacant Police building has been turned over to the Redevelopment Authority to find the best use for this property. Proposals will be brought in front of the Board for consideration.

Chairman Selisker was absent:

MANAGER'S REPORT

- No Report.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

- No Report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- No Report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- No Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following residents spoke on the PFOS contamination issue, the effect it is having on their quality of life, the lack of response from the Navy, water quality and testing, and the next course of action to be taken.

- Tiffiney Dickson
- Sean Kelly
- Anne Becker
- Kevin Rushbrook
- Ken Grouper
- Eileen Kelly

Discussion ensued with the Chairman, the Township Manager, and the rest of the Board Members offering what information they had available since this is a U.S. Navy issue and they are not getting much feedback at this time. The Township acknowledges the severity of this issue and will work with local, state, and county officials to formulate a course of action. Legislators are pushing for more money based on the scope and size of the project. The Board also encouraged residents to reach out to their local Senators, and local legislators. The Board will continue to advocate for the residents and will keep exploring other avenues. The Board also noted that residents should reach out to the contacts listed in the letter that was sent and check the Township website at www.northamptontownship.com and the Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority (NBCMA) website at NBCMAtoday.org for updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gasper, Secretary