

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

Present were:

Adam M. Selisker
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:

Adam M. Selisker
Paula Gasper
Robert Salzer
Dr. Kimberly Rose

Members absent were:

Barry Moore

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

CONSENT ITEMS

BOARD MINUTES

The Board meeting minutes of October 23, 2024, were presented by Mrs. Gasper.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The accounts payable for November 6, \$962,196.26, and for November 20, 2024, for \$1,615,676.20 were presented by Dr. Rose.

A motion was made and seconded by (Salzer-Rose) for the approval of the consent items.

Motion Passed 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Consider an Ordinance to Amend the Township Code Related to Motor Vehicles and Traffic to Prohibit Parking on a Portion of Treeline Drive

Chairman Selisker opened the hearing at 7:07 pm.

Mr. Salzer stated the provided ordinance amendment was recommended by the Township Police Department to establish no parking from the Saint Leonard's Road Intersection along the Northern Side of Treeline Drive to the Western Intersection of Seedling Drive.

As required, this ordinance was properly advertised in the Advance of Bucks County and posted on the Township website.

A motion was made and seconded by (Salzer-Rose) to approve Ordinance #621 amending the Northampton Township Code, specifically Chapter 15, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Part 4, General Parking Regulations, Section 402, Parking Prohibited at all times in certain locations, to establish no parking on a portion of Treeline Drive.

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

Motion Passed 4-0.

Chairman Selisker closed the hearing at 7:08 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Chairman Selisker called forward Mr. Pellegrino the Township Manager and Ms. Narisi, the Finance Director to present the Preliminary Budget.

Mr. Pellegrino presented a thorough review of the proposed 2025 budget and explained the variables that affect revenues and expenditures. He noted changes from 2024 to 2025 and stated there is a recommended tax increase of 4.5 Mills in the proposed 2025 budget.

The total Township real estate tax levy will be 32.5 Mills if the budget is approved as presented.

The tax millage is allocated to the Operating Funds as follows:

Administration, Police, Zoning & Public Works Services	10.00 Mils
Fire and Emergency Medical Services	8.50 Mils
Library Services	2.40 Mils
Parks and Recreation Services	2.93 Mils
Road Maintenance Services	1.00 Mils
Road Equipment Fund	0.57 Mils
Debt Service	<u>7.10 Mils</u>
	32.50 Mils

Mr. Pellegrino briefly described the budget process, noting the Board is required by the Second Class Township Code to adopt a Preliminary Budget and advertise its availability for public inspection for 20 days. The budget may be adopted any time after the 20 days but must be adopted by December 31 each year.

The Board may make whatever changes it deems appropriate to the Preliminary Budget before its adoption. The Board may also make changes to the adopted Preliminary Budget before the final adoption scheduled for December 11, 2024, meeting within the limits established by the Second-Class Township Code. The Code states that a line item (Department total) may not be changed by more than 25% and the total budget may not be changed by more than 10%.

A motion was made and seconded (Rose-Gasper) to adopt the 2025 Preliminary Budget and advertise its availability for public inspection for not less than twenty days as required by the Second-Class Township Code.

Chairman Selisker called for Board comment.

All Board members expressed their agreement that the proposed budget is well-prepared and extended their gratitude to the Administration and Finance Department for their diligent efforts in developing it.

A discussion followed, with comments focusing on Public Safety, Road Paving, Infrastructure, and various other projects outlined in the proposed budget.

Chairman Selisker called for public comment. None was heard.

Motion Passed 4-0.

REPORTS

Dr. Rose made the following announcements:

- The Northampton Township Senior Center continues to be a hub of activity, vitality, and FUN for anyone age 55 or better! The center provides a wonderful support system to keep you active and social!

- 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.
- Be sure to join us on Friday, December 6th, from 5 pm to 8:30 pm for the Holiday Marketplace Vendor and Craft Show. Shop a wide variety of local vendors and artisans.
- Beginning in January, the Senior Center's operating hours will be in line with the Recreation Center. The Senior Center will open at 8:30 AM for members. At 4:30 PM, facility attendants will operate the front desk for evening programming. Seniors will be able to come into the building to enjoy the amenities while programs are operated. The Senior Center will be open to members until the completion of the programs in the evening.
- The winter brochure is on time to be released on or about November 15. The issue contains summer camp information, 2025-2026 preschool information, the beloved Mrs. Claus event, and many new programs and events for everyone aged 18 months to 99 years!
- The 2025-2026 preschool program will be piloting an all-day Pre-Kindergarten class called "Ready, Set, Grow" to support the switch within the school district to begin all-day kindergarten this coming school year. Having this option will help parents prepare their children to attend school all day beginning in kindergarten. The preschool will also continue to offer their traditional ½ day programs.
- The bus trip to Winterthur scheduled for December 10 filled up so quickly that Kristin secured a date for an additional trip the following week on December 17. Seats are still open and there is still time to grab your seat before it is sold out!
- The Mrs. Claus and Cookies event will take place on Friday, December 13 from 6 - 8 PM. Seats will fill fast! Call the Parks and Recreation Department or visit northamptonrec.com to register today!
- 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:

- Wreath Laying will be taking place on December 7, 2024, at 11:00 am at the Union Cemetary.

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 moves

forward with our Branding initiative. On October 30, we held our first information-gathering meeting with the marketing firm, SWELL, library staff, library patrons, library Board members, and township administration.

Adult Programming update:

- In partnership with the local non-profit, Welcoming the Stranger, the library has hosted 29 English as a Second Language classes for the fall session supporting more than 300 students working to learn the English language. The Fall session ends next week.
- On November 9, the library hosted our final 2024 Second Saturday program. These program costs are sponsored by Friends of the Free Library of Northampton Township each year. This year we held 10 programs and hosted more than 850 attendees, our highest attendance ever.
- Scam calls are being reported from individuals claiming to be from the Northampton Township Police. If you receive one of these calls, hang up immediately and do not engage.

Mr. Salzer made the following announcements:

- The Historical Commission would like to remind everyone that they serve as the custodians of the Township Archives, located at the Free Library. The archives house over 100 collections, including deeds, maps, genealogy records, and artifacts. The Township Archivist provides genealogy and historic research assistance, offers free digitization of family photographs and documents, and conducts oral history interviews.
- The Historical Commission has been actively working on several projects, including installing historical marker signs for the township-owned Addisville Reformed Church Cemetery on Second Street Pike and the Feaster Van Horn Cemetery on Middle Holland Road. They are also engaged in restoration efforts for township cemeteries. A cemetery survey was conducted, and plans for a possible phased restoration are underway.
- Since 2022, the Historic House Plaque Program has produced 53 plaques for resident homes, celebrating local history.
- The Commission extends its gratitude to longtime residents and members Jack Kay, Chairman Steve Arty, and Vice-Chairman Jim Finnegan for their dedicated service.
- Looking ahead to 2025, there will be three seat vacancies on the Commission. Interested residents are encouraged to apply to the Township as soon as possible.
- The Archives are open on Mondays from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Wednesdays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, and alternate Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Appointments are also available. For more information, you can reach the Archives at 215-357-3050 ext. 1114 or access the archives catalog online at www.northamptontownshiplibrary.org.

- This is the monthly update on the PFOS issue. There is nothing significant to report at this time. Chairman Selisker and Assistant Manager Bill Wert attended a nationwide Zoom meeting addressing the scope of the problem, which remains a nationwide concern. While the meeting did not provide substantial new information, the Township remains vigilant and committed to addressing the issue. Updates will be provided as new information becomes available.

Chairman Selisker announced Mr. Moore is absent:

Chairman Selisker made the following announcements:

- A burn ban is currently in effect due to excessive heat and heightened fire danger. Open burning is strictly prohibited. For questions or further information, please contact the Fire Department or the Fire Marshal's Office.
- If you plan to deep-fry a turkey this year, ensure the fryer is positioned a safe distance away from your home and carefully follow all safety instructions.
- On Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, Santa is coming to our local Firehouse! Santa is making a special stop at Station 3 with the Northampton Township Fire Department! Everyone is welcome to stop by.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- No Report.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

- No Report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- No Report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- No Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gasper, Secretary