

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
October 2, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, October 2, 2017, at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, PA, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Present were Supervisors: Chair A. James Scanzillo, Members Helen B. Haun, Gregory T. Hood and William B. Jones, III. Also present were Township Manager Eileen M. Bradley and Township Solicitor Peter Nelson, Esq. Supervisor John A. Bodden, Sr. was absent.

1. Call to Order: Mr. Scanzillo called the Meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Scanzillo led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then asked for a moment of silence in memory of the Las Vegas shooting victims.

3. Announcements: Mr. Scanzillo announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this Meeting to discuss personnel issues and land acquisition.

3.1. PECO Representative Ted Dorand to Present Green Region Grant Award: Ms. Bradley requested that this matter be tabled, as Mr. Ted Dorand did not appear at the meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mrs. Haun and unanimously approved to table the Presentation of the Green Region Grant Award.

4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: There was no Public Comment at this time.

5. Approval of Minutes:

5.1. Minutes of Meeting of September 18, 2017:

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board approved the September 18, 2017 Minutes as written on a vote of three to zero, with Mrs. Haun abstaining.

6. Departmental Reports: There were no Department Reports at this time.

7. Consideration of Old Business:

7.1. PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance #2017-10-10: Schoolhouse Road Traffic Control: Mr. Scanzillo opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Nelson stated that the proposed ordinance had been properly advertised properly and would relocate a Stop Intersection on E. Schoolhouse Road from Tartan Terrace to Krista Court, add a new Stop Intersection at Prince William Way and other instructional signage along E. Schoolhouse Road.

Mr. Hood asked if blinking lights were permanent. Mr. Nelson stated that PennDOT required blinking signals for the first thirty days of a new installation to alert residents to the new traffic pattern.

Mrs. Haun asked if the Township should consider installing a Stop Intersection at E. Schoolhouse Road and New Britain Walk, where a school bus stop was located. Mr. Nelson stated that per PennDOT warrants, the sight distance did not warrant the installation at that intersection.

Mr. Scanzillo asked if there was any public comment at this time.

Mrs. Cynthia Jones or Circle Drive asked if this new traffic pattern could be changed at a future date. Mr. Nelson stated that it could be altered, provided the changes met PennDOT criteria.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hood and carried unanimously, to close the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Jones to unanimously enact Ordinance #2017-10-10, Schoolhouse Road Traffic Controls.

7.2. First Responder Recruitment/Retention Incentive Plan: Ms. Bradley stated that she had been working with neighboring municipalities, local EMS and fire companies and the State to establish a recruitment and retention incentive program for Active Member Volunteer First Responders. Staff had worked up a plan that followed the guidelines of Act 172, without invoking the statute. Ms. Bradley stated that the intent was that any New Britain Township resident that met the ambulance or fire company criteria for Active Membership status, and was certified by that company as an Active Member in a fiscal year, would be eligible for an annual stipend of \$500.

The Township would issue a lump-sum payment to the volunteer EMS or fire company based on the number of certified Active Members, with the intent of the payment being used for recruitment and retention. The stipend would then be distributed by the first responder company under the Plan guidelines.

Ms. Bradley noted that this plan concept would be more manageable and eliminated the bureaucracy that came with Act 172. Mr. Nelson stated that the plan also avoided any misconception that the volunteer would be a Township employee.

Mr. Nelson stated that a Resolution would be sufficient and Ms. Bradley added that the plan could be approved annually as part of each future Budget.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hood and unanimously approved to adopt the Volunteer First Responder Recruitment/Retention Plan.

8. Consideration of New Business:

8.1. Authorization to Hire Two New Police Officers: Ms. Bradley asked for authorization to extend offers to two qualified candidates for Patrol Officer at this time, so that the review process could begin. She stated that the hiring would need to be officially approved later, once the final vetting process was completed.

Mrs. Cynthia Jones asked where we found candidates. Ms. Bradley stated that the Township had used several methods in the past: through the Bucks County Consortium of Chiefs of Police testing process; through direct advertisement; and through word of mouth in the police community. All potential applicants must be Act 120 certified to be considered. After review of resumes received from an advertisement, applicants went through a rigorous interview process by Police personnel and Township Staff, including the Chief of Police and Township Manager.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mrs. Haun and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the Township Manager to extend job offers to two qualified candidates.

9. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Agenda items: Payment Application #3 in the amount of \$157,729.64 for DESCCO Design and Construction, Inc. for construction of the New Galena Road Bridge Replacement Project, leaving \$335,161.78 remaining; Execution of Record Plans for Prestige Properties Partners, LLC for the plan entitled The Vineyard at Peace Valley, prepared by Boucher and James, Inc.

10. Board of Supervisors' Comments: There were no Board of Supervisor's Comments at this time.

11. Township Administration Comments:

11.1. Resolution #2017-22, Amending 2017 Budget: Ms. Bradley stated that Resolution #2017-22 proposed to amend the 2017 Budget by administratively moving a \$47,087.74 mower expense out of Fund 07 Park and Recreation Capital, and into Fund 01 General. This adjustment would strengthen Fund 07, without creating any strain on the General Fund due to excess revenue in the General Fund. The resolution would create the appropriate paper trail for the upcoming annual audit.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mrs. Haun and the Board unanimously approved Resolution #2017-22, amending the 2017 Budget.

11.2. Krout Zoning Hearing: Ms. Bradley stated that on Thursday, October 19, the Zoning Hearing Board would consider the application of Jeffrey Krout, 32 Cedar Hill Road, TMP #26-005-019, to construct a shed (336 sq. ft.). A variance was sought to exceed the 20% maximum allowable impervious surface coverage, where existing impervious was 22.5% and proposed was 23.3%. It was Ms. Bradley's recommendation that the Township leave the decision to the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board concurred.

12. Solicitor and Engineer Comments: There were no Engineer Comments at this time.

Mr. Nelson stated that he wished to bring to the Board's attention an issue with Ordinance #2017-08-08, Increase in Indebtedness for the Bridge Project that was approved on August 21, 2017. He stated that the loan closing date was originally stated in the Ordinance as September 21, 2017. Due to a delay in DCED approval of the loan, the new closing date was moved to October 4, 2017. Mr. Nelson stated that this change was approved by First National Bank of Newtown, the financial advisor and DCED.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously approved by the Board to authorize Mr. Nelson to make the appropriate changes to Ordinance #2017-08-08, Increase in Indebtedness by establishing the loan closing date at October 4, 2017.

13. Other Business: There was no Other Business at this time.

14. Public Comment: There was no Public Comment at this time.

15. Payment of Bills:

15.1. Bills List dated September 29, 2017 for \$148,053.75:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Haun, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated September 29, 2017 for \$148,053.75.

16. Adjournment:

MOTION: There being no further business or comment, a motion was made by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mrs. Haun, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 a.m.

NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A. James Scanzillo, Chair

John A. Bodden, Sr., Vice Chair

Helen B. Haun, Member

Gregory T. Hood, Member

William B. Jones, III, Member

Attest: _____
Eileen M. Bradley
Secretary/Manager