

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 3, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, December 3, 2012 at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, PA, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Present were Supervisors: Chair William B. Jones, Vice Chair A. James Scanzillo, Members John A. Bodden, Robert V. Cotton, and Helen B. Haun. Also present were Township Manager Eileen M. Bradley, and Township Solicitor Peter Nelson.

**1. Call to Order:** Mr. Jones called the Meeting to order.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. Jones led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Announcements:** Mr. Jones announced that the Board had met in Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

**4. Public Comment:**

**4.1. New Britain Township Business Alliance presentation to the Board:** New Britain Township Business Alliance (NBTBA) representatives Cathy Scanlon, Stephanie Shortall and Thomasine Erkert presented a check in the amount of \$4,600.00 to New Britain Township. The check was accepted by Veterans Committee Vice Chairman William Malone and VFW Post 3258 Commander Elwood Hippel. The NBTBA held their second Annual 5K Race on September 30, 2012 to help raise funds for the Veterans Committee and their effort to create Veterans Park.

**5. Approval of Minutes:**

**5.1. Minutes from November 19, 2012 Board of Supervisors' Regular Meeting:**

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Bodden and carried on a 4-0 vote, to approve the November 19, 2012 Minutes as written. Mr. Cotton abstained from voting, as he was absent from that meeting.**

**6. Departmental Reports:**

**6.1. Lenape Valley Baseball Banner Request:** The Park and Recreation Committee had received a letter from Lenape Valley Baseball requesting approval to hang sponsor banners during their games to help raise money to play in Cooperstown, NY in 2013. At their meeting on November 20, 2012, the Park and Recreation Committee approved recommending the request to hang banners on Township fields to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Bradley stated that she did not recommend approval as this would open up requests from every team for the same privilege. The fields are for the use of the entire community, not just one entity. Mr. Bodden agreed that it is a slippery slope and would not benefit the Township. Once you say yes to one team how do you say no to another? Mr. Cotton suggested regulating the signs and creating guidelines to be followed. Mr. Cotton also recommended that the topic be tabled for discussion at a later time.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Cotton, seconded by Mr. Scanzillo, and unanimously carried to table making a decision on approving sponsorship banners to the next meeting.**

**6.2. Proposed Eagle Scout Project:** At their November 20, 2012 meeting, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board recommended the approval of Andrew Montgomery's proposed Eagle Scout Project to install 4 to 5 bat houses at North Branch Park. Mr. Cotton commented that the Eagle Scout projects are great for the community and a very successful one was just completed in Chalfont Borough.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Bodden, and unanimously carried to approve Andrew Montgomery's Eagle Scout Project to install bat houses at North Branch Park.**

**7. Consideration of Old Business:**

**7.1. Resolution #2012-20: 2013 Final Budget:** Ms. Bradley presented the 2013 Final Budget, reflecting no real estate tax increases to the residents. An emergency generator has been added to the budget since the preliminary draft was approved and some changes have been made to the health insurance numbers.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Cotton, and unanimously carried to approve the 2013 Final Budget as Resolution #2012-20**

**7.2. Tax Levy Resolution #2012-21:** In conjunction with the 2013 Budget, Ms. Bradley recommended approval of the annual Tax Levy Resolution, outlining millage distribution of 12.0625 mills, as well as earned income tax, local services tax and street light assessment rates for 2013.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Cotton, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution #2012-21, the Tax Levy Resolution for 2013.**

**8. Consideration of New Business:** There was no new business at this time.

**9. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Scanzillo, seconded by Mr. Bodden, and unanimously carried to approve the following consent agenda item: West Branch Park / Ply Mar Construction Request for Payment #3 for \$48,038.65, leaving \$37,213.25 remaining.**

**10. Board of Supervisors Comments:** Mr. Cotton announced that the 202 Parkway was opened today at 3:00 p.m.

**11. Township Administration Comments:**

**11.1. Highlands Community Roads:** Ms. Bradley reported that staff had met with Mr. Steve Gratz of the Highlands Community Association, who had requested that the Board consider taking dedication of the roads in the Highlands. Ms. Bradley stated that the roads are not up to today's zoning or construction specifications and if the Township would take over the roads, it would not be fair to all taxpaying residents. Additionally, many would be ineligible for State Liquid Fuels funding. Mr. Cotton said that some of the roads are not big enough for fire trucks. Mr. Bodden stated that he, along with Mrs. Haun, had participated in the staff meeting with Mr. Gratz and that Mr. Gratz was not looking at the whole picture, just at what would benefit him. Mr. Bodden did not believe there was any validity to Mr. Gratz's request. Ms. Bradley suggested that the Solicitor's office write a letter to Mr. Gratz indicating that the Board did not wish to proceed with dedication of the roads located in the Highlands.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mrs. Haun, and unanimously carried to direct the Solicitors office to send Mr. Gratz a letter indicating the Board would not take dedication of the roads in the Highlands.**

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

**13. Other Business:** There was no Other Business.

**14. Public Comment:** Mrs. Theresa Browngold of Ferry Road inquired into the Board's intentions regarding a proposed 42 unit housing development plan on the Wordsworth Tract at Ferry Road and Old Iron Hill Road. The plan was scheduled to be discussed before the Board on December 17, 2012. Mrs. Browngold hoped that there was a way the plan could be modified to less than 42 houses. She asked the Board to look at ways to eliminate some of the infrastructure costs so that it would be affordable for the developer to construct fewer homes. Mr. Bodden stated that he felt that residential construction on this lot is preferable to an institutional use, provided improved stormwater management was

achieved. Mr. Bodden added that he would like to see the best design for the property; however, the currently enacted Stipulated Agreement on the property allowed an institutional use. Mr. Bodden added that he believes this plan is a plan that can work.

Mrs. Browngold did not believe that the plan was aesthetically pleasing to the neighbors. Mr. Bodden stated that agreeing to amend the Stipulation would give the developer the opportunity to move forward with fully designing the property. Mrs. Haun stated that hard engineering still needed to be completed and that the existing steep slopes and possible wetlands could pose a problem, and therefore possibly reducing the number of houses.

Mrs. Browngold stated that she did not believe that the proposed right turn lane on Ferry Road was necessary. Mr. Jones explained that the turning land was a PennDOT requirement. Usually in this type of development project, PennDOT would require full width expansion. Mr. Jones also stated that the Board was trying to work with the developer to make the project possible. Mrs. Bradley added that it was her understanding that the developer would be meeting with the residents of Brookdale to address any of their stormwater concerns.

#### **15. Payment of Bills:**

##### **15.1. Bills List dated November 29, 2012 for \$57,961.57:**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Scanzillo, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated November 29, 2012 for \$57,961.57.**

##### **15.2. Bills List dated November 29, 2012 for \$73,936.41:**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mrs. Haun, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated November 29, 2012 for \$73,936.41.**

#### **16. Adjournment:**

**MOTION: There being no further business or comment, a motion was made by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Cotton and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.**

#### **NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
William B. Jones, Chair

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A. James Scanzillo, Vice Chair

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Robert V. Cotton, Member

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John A. Bodden, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Helen B. Haun, Member

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Eileen M. Bradley  
Secretary/Manager