

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
January 5, 2015**

A Reorganization and Regular Meeting of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors was held on January 5, 2015, at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, PA, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Present were Supervisors: A. James Scanzillo, Helen B. Haun, John A. Bodden, Robert V. Cotton, and William B. Jones. Also present were Township Manager Eileen M. Bradley, Township Solicitor Peter Nelson, and Township Engineer Erik Garton.

Reorganization:

1. Nomination(s) of Temporary Chair: Upon nomination by Mr. Scanzillo, seconded by Mr. Bodden, Mrs. Haun was nominated as Temporary Chair. No other nominations were presented.

2. Appointment of Temporary Chair:

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Scanzillo, seconded by Mr. Bodden, and unanimously carried, to close the nominations and appoint Mrs. Haun as Temporary Chair.

3. Nomination for Permanent Appointment of Chairman: Upon nomination of Mr. Scanzillo, seconded by Mr. Bodden, Mrs. Haun was nominated as Permanent Chair. No other nominations were presented.

5. Appointment of Permanent Chairman:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Scanzillo, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously appointed Mrs. Haun as Chair.

6. Approval of Resolution No. 2015-01: Appointments, Reappointments and Modifications of Appointments:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cotton, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2015-01, setting various Committee and Board appointments effective January 5, 2015; and authoring all Supervisors and key staff members to attend the PSATS and BCATO conventions with all expenses paid thereto.

Public Meeting:

1. Call to Order: Mrs. Haun called the Meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mrs. Haun led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Announcements: Mrs. Haun announced that the Board had met prior to this meeting in Executive Session to discuss personnel issues, land acquisition and litigation.

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

5. Approval of Minutes:

5.1. Minutes of December 15, 2014 Board of Supervisors' Regular Meeting:

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Cotton, seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously, to approve the December 15, 2014 Minutes as written.

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

7. Consideration of Old Business: There was no Old Business at this time.

8. Consideration of New Business:

8.1. Approval of Resolution No. 2015-02, setting the Benefits Package for Chief Robert Scafidi:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cotton, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-02, setting forth the annual Benefits Package for Chief Robert Scafidi.

8.2. Approval of Resolution No. 2015-03, the Fee Schedule:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-03, setting the Fee Schedule for 2015.

8.3. Approval of Resolution No. 2015-04, Fund Balance Policy for 2015:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Scanzillo, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-04, setting the Fund Balance Policy for 2015 based on GASB requirements. This policy reflects no changes from prior years' policy.

8.4. Public Hearing: Ordinance #2015-01-01: Zoning Amendment Ordinance to Floodplain Overlay District Regulations: Mrs. Haun opened the Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance #2015-01-01.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Ordinance had been duly advertised. The Ordinance addresses new floodplain requirements mandated by FEMA. The ordinance had been reviewed and approved by DCED and would become effective March 16, 2015, along with the new FEMA Flood Maps.

There was no comment from the public on the proposed Ordinance. Mrs. Haun closed the hearing.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Cotton, the Board unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2015-01-01, the Zoning Amendment Ordinance to Floodplain Overlay District Regulations.

8.5. Public Hearing: Ordinance #2015-01-02: Repealing Discharge of Firearms Regulations: Mrs. Haun opened the Public Hearing for a proposed ordinance that would repeal certain regulations related to firearms.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Commonwealth had passed a law in November 2014 making municipalities liable and susceptible to lawsuits from gun restrictions that might supersede those enacted by the Commonwealth. Should an entity sue over such a law, the Township would have to fight that court battle, pay any judgment, and potentially be liable for the legal costs of the plaintiff. This opened the Township up to huge potential financial losses.

The Township had two sections that posed potential problems in face of the new law: Ordinance #2005-05-01, regulating the discharge of firearms; and Ordinance 2007-02-01, which prohibits hunting and shooting on Township lands. Proposed Ordinance 2015-01-02 would repeal these regulations.

Chief Scafidi noted that the repeal of these sections would not prohibit the enforcement of nuisance ordinances or criminal code sections related to disturbances or risking a catastrophe.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Ordinance had been duly advertised.

There was no comment from the public on the proposed Ordinance. Mrs. Haun closed the hearing.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Scanzillo, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2015-01-02; repealing Chapter Six, Part 1 of the Codified Ordinances regulating the discharge of firearms and amending Park Rules and Regulations concerning archery equipment, disturbing animals and fireworks.

9. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Cotton, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Agenda item: Professional Services Agreement for Mangar Industries, Inc, 97 Britain Drive, New Britain, with corresponding legal and engineering escrow of \$2,500.00.

10. Board of Supervisors' Comments: Mrs. Haun stated that the North Branch Watershed Association would be meeting at New Britain Township on January 22, 2015.

11. Township Administration Comments:

11.1. 2015 Bid Limits: Ms. Bradley provided the Board with the updated Public Bid Limits for 2015.

11.2. Personnel Manual Resolution #2015-05: Ms. Bradley stated that the Non-Uniform Personnel Manual had been updated and required the Board's approval.

MOTION: Upon motion of Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Scanzillo, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-05, approving and adopting the revised Non-Uniform Personnel Manual.

11.3. Gallagher Zoning Hearing Board Application: Ms. Bradley stated that the Zoning Hearing Board would consider the application of James and Deborah Gallagher, 389 New Galena Road, TMP #26-001-116, for a variance to construct a 1,265 square foot addition, a future 320 square foot addition and a new 506 square foot driveway and a future 1,388 square foot driveway. The applicant requests relief from the minimum front yard setback requirement of 50 feet (23 feet is proposed). Ms. Bradley recommended the Board take no action.

11.4. NBBP Lot Line Change for Lots #20, #20-1, and #20-2: Ms. Bradley reminded the Board that Record Plans for the NBBP Lot Line Change for Lots #20, #20-1, and #20-2 required execution after the meeting.

11.5. Appoint Public Works Employee: Ms. Bradley requested appointment of Louis Gentner as a new Public Works Laborer at an hourly rate of \$18.50 per hour. Mr. Gentner was scheduled to begin work on January 20, pending background check and pre-employment physical and drug screen.

MOTION: Upon motion of Mr. Cotton, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously approved hiring of Louis Gentner as a Public Works Laborer at a rate of \$18.50 per hour with full non-uniform benefits.

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

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 December 31, 2014 for \$199,247.11, paid in Fiscal Year 2014:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Jones, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated December 31, 2014 for \$199,247.11.

15.1. Bills List dated December 29, 2014 for \$1,334.40, paid in Fiscal Year 2014:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cotton, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated December 31, 2014 for \$1,334.40.

16. Adjournment:

MOTION: There being no further business or comment, a motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Bodden, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Helen B. Haun, Chair

William B. Jones, III, Vice Chair

A. James Scanzillo, Member

John A. Bodden, Sr., Member

Robert V. Cotton, Member

Attest: _____
Eileen M. Bradley
Secretary/Manager