

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
August 21, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, August 21, 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, Vice Chair John A. Bodden, Sr., Members Helen B. Haun, Gregory T. Hood and William B. Jones, III. Also present were Township Manager Eileen M. Bradley, Township Solicitor Stephen Kramer, Esq., and Township Engineer Janene Marchand.

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.

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

4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: Mrs. Cynthia Jones of Circle Drive asked when the Nolen Subdivision (former Acme Property) would be on the agenda. Ms. Bradley stated that the Township had only received plans two weeks ago, and they were still under engineering review. The project was tentatively scheduled to go before the Planning Commission in late September.

5. Approval of Minutes:

5.1. Minutes of Meeting of July 17, 2017:

MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously approved to accept the July 17, 2017 Minutes as written.

6. Departmental Reports:

6.1. Code Department Report for July 2017: Ms. Bradley presented the Code Department Report for July 2017.

6.2. Police Department Report for July 2017: Chief Scafidi presented the Police Department Report for July 2017. Chief Scafidi reported that the Department was up and running on its new E-Ticketing system. Ms. Bradley stated that the delay in getting the system operational was due to the State.

6.3. Public Works Department Report for July 2017: Ms. Bradley presented the Public Works Department Report for July 2017.

7. Consideration of Old Business:

7.1. Metro Storage Land Development Approval Resolution #2017-16: Ms. Bradley stated that the Board had reviewed the Metro Storage application on several occasions. Remaining issues were the amounts of fees-in-lieu, to which the Applicant had agreed. Ms. Bradley reviewed the required contribution amounts for various categories: \$75,814.11 for road improvements, \$33,440.00 for park and recreation improvements, \$2,257.50 for stormwater fee, and \$9,500.00 for Stormwater BMP Maintenance fee.

Ms. Bradley recommended approval of Resolution #2017-16 as drafted.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Bodden and carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution #2017-16, granting Final Land Development Approval and setting the terms and conditions for the Metro Storage Land Development Plan.

8. Consideration of New Business:

8.1. PUBLIC HEARING: Increase in Indebtedness Ordinance #2017-08-08: Mr. Scanzillo called the Public Hearing to order at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Kramer informed the Board that the proposed ordinance would increase the debt of the Township by \$3,000,000. Ms. Bradley stated that the new debt would pay for the New Galena Road Bridge replacement, numerous culvert repairs throughout the Township, and other possible capital improvements.

Mr. Shon Weldon of Willowood Drive asked what was the Township's current debt situation. Ms. Bradley stated that the Township currently held debt of \$1.6 million for construction of the Public Works building.

MOTION: There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously, to close the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously approved Ordinance #2017-08-08, authorizing the Increase in Indebtedness of \$3,000,000.

8.2. Authorize Advertisement of the Proposed Intergovernmental Agreement and Cooperative Recycling Grant Ordinance: Ms. Bradley stated that the proposed ordinance was required by recent legislation to allow municipalities to jointly apply for DEP 901 Recycling Grant funding. She stated that six other Central Bucks municipalities would pass identical ordinances. Ms. Bradley asked the Board to authorize advertisement of the Intergovernmental Agreement and Cooperative Recycling Grant Ordinance.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously authorized advertisement of the Intergovernmental Agreement and Cooperative Recycling Grant Ordinance.

8.3. Resolution #2017-18 Authorizing Donation of Unclaimed Property: Ms. Bradley stated that the Township was in possession of a surplus of unclaimed bicycles, of which would be difficult for the Township to sell or dispose. Per the Second Class Township Code, the Township could donate unclaimed and damaged bicycles to a 501(c)3 service organization, such as the Chalfont VFW Post No. 3258. The VFW would refurbish the bicycles, and donate them to needy families, or sell them and use the funding for their charitable works.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board unanimously approved Resolution #2017-18, authorizing donation of unclaimed property.

8.4. Resolution #2017-21: Opposing HB1469 and SB663, Related to UCC and Third-Party Inspections: Ms. Bradley stated that House Bill 1469 and Senate Bill 663 before the Pennsylvania General Assembly would cause damaging alterations to the Uniformed Construction Code; specifically, remove control of inspections and permit pricing out of the hands of municipalities and under control of third-party inspection companies. These bills could open up the construction market to collusion and other illegal acts. Ms. Bradley asked that the Board pass this resolution in opposition to the two bills, so that it could be forwarded to our State Legislators.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Hood, seconded by Mr. Bodden, the Board unanimously approved Resolution #2017-21, opposing HB1469 and SB663, related to UCC and Third-Party Inspection, and directing the Manager to forward the Resolution to elected State Legislators.

8.5. Discussion: Act 172 Tax Credit for Active Volunteer First Responders: Ms. Bradley stated that Act 172 of 2016 was designed to assist in the recruitment and retention of volunteer first responders, such as firefighters and EMS providers by providing them with real estate or earned income tax credits for their service. She stated that she had been reviewing multiple methods of implementing the tax credit with a number of different agencies.

Ms. Bradley stated that the real estate tax credit was difficult to implement, was not equitable to all volunteers, and produced minimal return for the volunteers. An earned income tax credit posed similar equity issues with unemployed, underemployed and retired volunteers. A third strategy was a flat Township-paid stipend for meeting established benchmarks, paid to the fire company for distribution under the stated policy. Ms. Bradley stated that this scenario could be the most effective method administratively for the Township and the most equitable to the volunteers, but was outside the guidelines of Act 172. Ms. Bradley stated that if the Board wished to implement such an incentive program, action would need to be taken in the near future. She sought direction from the Board on how to proceed.

Mr. Hood stated that he was in favor of an equitable system, and asked if fire police and auxiliary members were addressed in Act 172. Ms. Bradley stated that all fire companies she had talked with had written criteria to meet in order to be considered an "Active Member" which was the status indicated in Act 172. The fire company would be required to annually submit the written criteria and a certified list of Active Members. If the individual company considered that fire police fulfilled the written criteria to be Active Members, then so would the Township. Ms. Bradley added that any stipend or tax credit would be paid by the resident municipality.

Mr. Hood asked that since it involved multiple municipalities, would each contribute a flat fee to a pool of money for the stipends. Ms. Bradley stated that each municipality would chose to enact a policy under Act 172, an alternate policy, or to not act at all. While uniformity across the County would be beneficial, it would be nearly impossible with 54 separate municipalities just in Bucks County. In the case of a stipend, however, contributions could be based on a per capita served basis, similar to how insurance is currently shared with Chalfont and New Britain.

Mr. Hood said he would be in favor of an incentive program and the other Board members agreed. Ms. Bradley stated that she could present them with a draft policy and preliminary cost figures for the next meeting.

9. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Bodden, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Agenda items: Execution of a Sewer Installation Agreement for MDG, LLC for installation of a sanitary sewer line for TMP #26-005-077, the Frost Tract at Upper State Road and Pickertown Road, with corresponding financial security escrow of \$25,000.00; Escrow Release #4 for \$88,182.00, Lot 20-2 Realty LP (SkyZone), leaving \$189,125.00 remaining; Escrow Release #4 for \$184,895.70, Estates at Julius Farm (Maurer Tract) leaving \$729,855.88 remaining; Execution of a Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement with Brian T. and Katherine M. Freedman for TMP #26-003-113-002, 9 Elaines Lane, with corresponding permanent Maintenance Guarantee Fee of \$343.50; Escrow Release #1 for \$1,115,219.20, New Britain Woods Project/Toll PA XIII, LP, leaving \$922,131.67 remaining; Escrow Release #4 for \$13,466.2, Holy Properties, LLC, for Clauser Tree Service Property,

leaving \$100,875.88 remaining; Payment Application #2 for \$121,296.96, DESCCO Design and Construction, Inc. for New Galena Road Bridge Replacement Project, leaving \$492,891.35 remaining.

10. Board of Supervisors' Comments: Mr. Bodden stated that he had visited the New Galena Bridge Project site and that work was moving along. He stated that the undertaking was quite impressive. Ms. Bradley asked the engineer to be kept apprised of when the beams were being installed, so that photographs could be taken of the work.

11. Township Administration Comments:

11.1. Adoption of 2018 Police Pension MMO Resolution #2017-19: Ms. Bradley stated that in order to keep the Township's two pension funds healthy and sound, the Township was required to annually pay into the Police Pension Fund and the Non-Uniform Pension Fund a Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO), as outlined in the proposed Resolutions before the Board. Based on the 2015 Valuation Reports of the actuary, The 2018 MMO would be \$133,914 for Police Pension Fund, \$38,925 for the Non-Uniform Pension Fund, for a total 2018 MMO of \$172,839.

11.2. Adoption of 2018 Non-Uniformed Pension MMO Resolution #2017-20:

MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Hood and carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution #2017-19, the 2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation requiring a payment of \$133,914 to the Police Pension Fund; and to adopt Resolution #2017-20, the 2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation requiring a payment of \$38,925 to the Non-Uniform Pension.

12. Solicitor and Engineer Comments: Mrs. Marchand stated that Gilmore was working on completing the New Britain Township TMDL/PRP MS4 permit application. The public comment period was ending, and that residents should provide input before the comment period ended.

Mr. Weldon asked if the Permit was a State requirement. Ms. Bradley stated that these permits were government regulations set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that require municipalities to reduce sediment and phosphorous within the Neshaminy Creek watershed. She stated that the TMDL/PRP Plan outlined the Township's plan to meet these mandates over the five-year life of the permit.

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 August 3, 2017 for \$6,698.09:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated August 3, 2017 for \$6,698.09.

15.2. Bills List dated August 9, 2017 for \$405,701.75:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated August 9, 2017 for \$405,701.09.

15.3. Bills List dated August 21, 2017 for \$235,220.57:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Hood, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated August 21, 2017 for \$235,220.57.

16. Adjournment:

MOTION: There being no further business or comment, a motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hood, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.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