BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES May 17, 2021

A Regular Work Session Meeting of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, May 17, 2021, at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, PA, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Present were Supervisors: Chair Gregory T. Hood, Vice-Chair Helen B. Haun, Members William B. Jones, III, Cynthia M. Jones, and MaryBeth McCabe, Esq. Also present were Township Manager Matt West, Assistant Manager Michael Walsh, Township Engineer Craig Kennard, and Township Solicitor Peter Nelson, Esq.

- 1. Call to Order: Mr. Hood called the Meeting to order.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Hood led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Announcements: Mr. Hood announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this Meeting to discuss personnel issues, land acquisition, and litigation. Mr. Hood stated the Board would be going back into Executive Session at the end of the public meeting to discuss litigation.
- 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 May 3, 2021:

MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Haun, and unanimously approved to accept the May 3, 2021 Minutes, with a correction to the 4. Public Comment.

- 6. Departmental Reports:
- **6.1.** Code Department Report for April 2021: Mr. Walsh presented the Code Department Report for April 2021.
- **6.2. Police Department Report for April 2021:** Chief Scafidi presented the Police Department Report for April 2021.
- **6.3. Public Works Department Report for April 2021:** Mr. West presented the Public Works Department Report for April 2021.
- 7. Consideration of Old Business: There was no Old Business at this time.
- 8. Consideration of New Business:
- 8.1. 84 & 114 Curley-Mill-Road/Trozzi Lot Line Change; Waiver of Land Development: Appearing on behalf of the applicant was Mark Cappuccio, Esq. from Eastburn & Gray.

Mr. Nelson stated this was a simple exchange of land and no development was being proposed as part of the application.

Mr. Kennard asked Mr. Cappuccio if the applicant was aware this waiver did not exempt the property from the Township's subdivision and land development requirements for improvements to the property in the future. Mr. Cappuccio stated the applicant is aware the waiver does not exempt the applicant from the Township's subdivision and land development requirements for future improvements to the property.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Mr. Jones, and unanimously approved a Waiver of Land Development for 84 &114 Curley Mill Road/Trozzi Lot Line Change.

9. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Ms. McCabe, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Agenda items: Escrow Release #6 for Hallmark Homes-Mill Ridge LLC for the Mill Ridge Subdivision in the amount of \$28,391.85, leaving \$442,116.50 remaining; Execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Michael and Julie Duffey for 522 Ferry Road, TMP #26-014-017, with corresponding legal and engineering escrow of \$5,000.00.

10. Board of Supervisors' Comments: Mrs. Haun stated there was an interesting article in Township News magazine about a 17-story warehouse she wanted to bring to the other Board members' attention.

Mr. Hood asked for an update on the damaged dugout at North Branch Park. Mr. Walsh stated conversations were still ongoing.

Mr. Hood stated he would like the Board to consider creating a policy to encourage public/private partnerships within the Township, especially as it relates to needed improvements within Township parks.

11. Township Administration Comments:

11.1. 2021 Road Program Authorization for Advertisement: Mr. West presented the proposed 2021 Road Program. He asked for approval from the Board to move forward with bidding out contracts.

The Board discussed the 2021 Road Program and the future of the Road Program.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. McCabe, seconded by Mrs. Jones and unanimously carried, to authorize advertisement of New Britain Township's 2021 Road Program.

11.2. July 4th Tri-Municipal Parade Update: Mr. Walsh stated Lou Vitola a World War II Veteran would be this year's, Parade Marshall. He stated Park & Recreation Committee was requesting the Board approve the expenditure of \$2,250 to hire the Aqua String Band, a mummer's style band.

A discussion took place by the Board.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Jones and unanimously carried, to authorize Township staff to expend no more than \$2,250 to hire the Aqua String Band.

- 12. Solicitor and Engineer Comments: There were no Solicitor or Engineer Comments at this time.
- 13. Public Comment: There was no Public Comment at this time.
- 14. Other Business:

14.1. Current Commercial Climate Presentation – Michael Borski, Jr.: Mr. Nelson introduced Mr. Borski, Jr., who was present to discuss the current commercial real estate climate.

Mr. Borski, the Board of Supervisors, and Township Staff & Professionals discussed the current trends in the commercial real estate market as it pertains to vacant properties, current trends, and potential for changes in the current trends moving forward.

The Board thanked Mr. Borski for his time.

15. Payment of Bills:

15.1. Bills List dated May 10, 2021 for \$2,163.26:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Haun, seconded by Ms. McCabe, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated May 10, 2021 for \$2,163.26.

15.2. Bills List dated May 12, 2021 for \$130,566.43:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Jones, the Board unanimously approved the Bills List dated May 12, 2021 for \$130,566.43.

16. Adjournment:

MOTION: There being no further business or comment, a motion was made by Mrs. Jones, seconded by Ms. McCabe, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

The Board went back into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gregory T. Hood, Chair

Welen B. Haun, Vice Chair

William B. Jones, III, Member

Cynthia Jones, Member

Mary Beth McCabe, Esq., Member

Attest // //// Matt West

Secretary/Township Manager