

MINUTES SEPTEMBER 6, 2017
UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Mike Rinker.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board members present were: Mike Rinker, Robert Disbrow, Scott Sylvainus and Richard Mann. Donna Hirst was absent.

Also present were Township Manager, E.J. Mentry, Township Solicitor, Gary Asteak, and for Township Engineer, Sean Dooley.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nothing at this time.

APPROVALS

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve the agenda. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve the meeting minutes of August 2, 2017. Motion carried by a vote of 3-0 with Mr. Mann abstaining as he was not present at the August 2, 2017, meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

The July 2017 Financial Report was presented.

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Sylvainus to approve the July 2017 Financial Report and the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Mr. Disbrow stated that earlier in the month of August a program similar to National Night Out was initiated. Mr. Disbrow explained that several Supervisors, in conjunction with the Police Department and the Fire Department, went door to door contacting residents, introducing themselves, handing out emergency contact information and just speaking with the residents in general. Mr. Disbrow stated that this was well received by the residents, with several commenting how this had never been done before in the Township. Hoping to schedule more.

Mr. Disbrow brought up the subject of Act 172, which Governor Wolf signed last year, allowing municipalities to extend tax breaks, either Earned Income Tax or Property Tax, to volunteer firefighters that live within your municipality. Mr. Mentry stated that Real Estate Property Tax relief can be given up to 20%. Earned Income Tax credits would be a flat amount, and again, this relief is

only given to volunteer firefighters that live within your municipality. Mr. Mentry stated that the Board would have to enact an ordinance giving this relief to the volunteer firefighters ensuring that certain criteria is met for the firefighter to receive such a credit. Mr. Mentry indicated that there are sample ordinances available and that further research needs to be conducted in order to determine what impact this would have on the Township and will be brought back to a Board meeting in the future.

Mr. Disbrow mentioned an accident that occurred earlier in the day in Franconia Township that claimed the life of a public works employee and critically injured another. Mr. Disbrow brought this up to just stress the importance of safety.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Mr. Dooley presented a request from Kay Builders for a reduction to their Letter of Credit. Based on an inspection that was performed recently, it is his recommendation to reduce the Letter of Credit from the current \$1,059,704.95 to \$745,901.90.

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Rinker to approve the reduction in the Letter of Credit for Kay Builders to \$745,901.90. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mr. Mentry stated that a letter was received from Duke Realty informing the Township that the improvements for Lot 1 of the Chrin development are now complete. The engineer will have 30 days to conduct an inspection of the completed improvements and provide a report to the Township and the developer.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

Nothing at this time.

MANAGER

Mr. Mentry requested approval of the Fair Housing Resolution #17-12A. This resolution was approved at the last meeting, however, new language pertaining to guide animals was required to be added shortly after the August 2, 2017, Board meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve Fair Housing Resolution #17-12A. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mr. Mentry requested approval to now advertise Resolution 17-12A and the Fair Housing Officer as mandated by the HOME Program guidelines.

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded Mr. Sylvainus to approve advertising Resolution 17-12A and the Fair Housing Officer as provided in the HOME Program Guidelines. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mrs. Parrish presented the 2018 Police Pension MMO to the Board for approval. The Township is required to fund the MMO regardless of the amount of State Aid received.

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve the 2018 Police Pension MMO. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mrs. Parrish presented the 2018 Non-Uniform MMO to the Board for approval, stating that the Township is required to fund the MMO regardless of the amount of State Aid received.

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve the 2018 Non-Uniform MMO. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mr. Mentry requested approval to transfer budgeted funds into the Supplemental Police Pension Fund in the amount of \$11,447.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve the transfer of \$11,447.00 into the Supplemental Police Pension Fund. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mr. Mentry requested approval for the Fall Newsletter at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00 for the newsletter itself and up to \$550.00 for postage. Deadline for submission will be September 22.

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve the Fall Newsletter at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00 for the newsletter itself and up to \$550.00 for postage. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mr. Mentry informed the Board that the new alarm system installation was completed last week and that training was given to the office staff.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Sylvainus to approve the Fire, Zoning, Police, and Public Works Department Reports as submitted. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

PLANNING & ZONING

Mr. Mentry stated that MorningStar had submitted a Revised Preliminary Plan and a Phase 2 Final Plan for Heritage Village for review by the Planning Committee at the September 14, 2017 meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Shupe asked the Board to approve spending up to \$15,000.00 on a bucket truck that has been advertised on Municibid. Mr. Mentry stated that Municibid is used by many municipalities and has a very good program. Mr. Sylvainus asked if Mr. Shupe had seen the vehicle. Mr. Shupe responded, no, he wanted to get feedback from the Board prior to making the trip to look at the truck. Mr. Disbrow stated that both the lift and the vehicle would need to be inspected to be sure that they are sound.

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve spending up to \$15,000.00 on Municibid for the purchase of a bucket truck. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

RECREATION

Mr. Mentry stated that the Community Day this year was expanded to a two day event with real carnival rides and expanded food options. Mr. Mentry informed the Board that the feedback from the community was very positive, with the highlight of the event again being the Saturday night fireworks show. Mr. Rinker issued a thank you to everyone that participated in the event.

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Sylvainus to approve a donation of \$400.00 for the Nazareth Ambulance for their attendance at Community Day 2017. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Mr. Mentry stated that he had received a phone call from a gentlemen with the Nazareth Football Booster Club requesting to use Tuskes Park for a Haunted House Fundraiser on October 21, 2017 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Mr. Mentry stated that an event like this required Board approval due to the fact that the park closes at dusk and this would require having the park open beyond dusk. The Board asked Mr. Shupe to get further information about this event from the Booster Club. This request was tabled until further information is presented.

PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Cope requested approval to turn the decommissioned police vehicle over to the Public Works department. Police Chief Cope stated that the department also has another vehicle that needs a new engine, and requested input from the Board for the disposition of that vehicle. The Board asked Chief Cope to get information as to what the Township would receive if we were to scrap the vehicle. Another option would be to turn it over to the Fire Department for training purposes.

Motion was made by Mr. Sylvainus and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to approve turning over the operational decommissioned police vehicle to the Public Works Department. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mr. Rinker informed the Board that there was one response to an oil and tar flow that led to a drainage pipe and drainage swale at the end of Mitchell Ave. Mr. Rinker stated that it took about 6 hours to clean the area. Mr. Rinker stated that a formal report will follow.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

It was mentioned that earlier in the year discussion took place with regard to a tree lighting ceremony. It was stated that if the Township is going to move forward with this event, then it should be advertised in the Fall Newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Rinker and seconded by Mr. Disbrow to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Motion carried by all voting aye. (4-0)

Next meeting will be September 20, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Betty Parrish
Recording Secretary*