

North Buffalo Township
March 17, 2021

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., March 17, 2021 with Supervisors Mike Valencic, Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin Crissman, Secretary Pam Bowser, Police Officer Jason Hufhand, Solicitor Scott Andreassi and approximately six citizens in attendance.

Mike Valencic called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence to honor those in service of our country. He then announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2021 Supervisors' Meeting. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to approve the bills as presented on the Bill List with General Fund checks #27375 through #27418 in the amount of \$32,011.19, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$19,974.89 and State Fund checks #780 through #783 in the amount of \$20,200.52. Mike Valencic seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, with Mike Valencic seconding the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Police Chief Jason Hufhand gave his monthly police report for North Buffalo Township and read the monthly fire report submitted by West Kittanning Fire Department. Township Fire Marshall Dave Orton from Ford Cliff gave their monthly response report.

Jennifer Matarrese then gave the Road Master Report. The road crew treated roads and plowed snow, replaced pipes on Wilson and Sisterville roads, fixed a pipe and water issue on Church Road Extension, filled potholes on various roads, took down dead trees on Wilson and began sweeping roads. They fixed the hitch for the plow and the hydraulic lines on the F550, cleaned out and washed trucks, put the repaired motor back on the John Deere broom, began getting trucks inspected for the year and worked on some older equipment that was replaced in order to sell it. Jennifer reported that the loan and paperwork has been completed for the paver and the paver was delivered. The road crew is scheduled to have a tele-conference regarding the functions and maintenance of the paver. She also reported that the loan has been approved and the paperwork is almost completed for the Massey Ferguson tractor with mounted boom mower. The closing for the loan is scheduled for April 1, 2021. Jennifer did a post inspection video on Quarry Road and the road bond will be released when final inspection fees are received. Jennifer reported that she has had some questions asked of her regarding road sign responsibility on non-township roads within the township. She received the following clarification from the township PennDOT representative: the township is responsible for speed limit signs of 35 mph or less on state roads and the State is responsible for signs of 45 mph and above on state roads; the township is not responsible for any signs, including road names, stop signs or speed limit signs, on any private road, street or alley – these are the responsibility of the property owner. The township, of course, is responsible for signs on township roads. Township Clean-Up Day will be held Saturday, March 27, 2021 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The next item under unfinished business were motions needed for loan approval for the Massey Ferguson tractor with mounted boom mower, which were as follows:

Mike Valencic reported that North Buffalo Township has been preliminarily approved for an equipment loan in the amount of \$136,892.45.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to approve the purchase of a new 2020 Massey Ferguson Model 5710 Tractor with mounted Tiger Bengal Boom Mower from Stephenson Equipment, Inc., Butler, PA for the purchase price of \$136,892.45, seeking finance through First National Bank of PA with Michael Valencic, Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin V. Crissman as signers for North Buffalo Township. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve financing for equipment through First National Bank of PA in the amount of \$136,892.45 for a term of 84 months (7 years) at a rate of 2.59%. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The first item of new business was awarding the seal project bid for Sisterville, Wilson, Belltop, Crane and Church Road Extension. The bids were opened and recorded earlier in the day at 11:00 a.m. Two bids were received as follows:

\$95,583.47 – Midland Asphalt Materials, Inc.

\$97,599.34 – Russell Standard Corp.

Mike Valencic made the motion to award the seal coat bid to lowest bidder Midland Asphalt Materials, Inc. in the amount of \$95,583.47. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. It was noted that Youngblood Paving arrived late with a sealed bid after the bid opening was adjourned. Their bid was not accepted as it missed the submission deadline.

Supervisor Jennifer Matarrese announced that North Buffalo Township received an insurance municipal safety dividend check for 2019 in the amount of \$7,662.53 from EMC Insurance Company through the John Graff Insurance Agency. A representative from EMC Insurance did a walk-around property inspection and gave the township a stellar review.

The supervisors then discussed issues regarding the second amendment of the Constitution of the United States about the right to keep and bear arms. Many municipalities are adopting resolutions stating that they support the second amendment and Armstrong County is adopting a proclamation supporting the second amendment as well. The supervisors were in agreement to adopt a resolution supporting the second amendment and supporting the County Proclamation. A resolution will be presented for adoption at a future meeting.

Supervisor Jennifer Matarrese reported that Ford City Borough contacted her regarding the expenses that the township shares with regard to the Ford City Bridge. North Buffalo Township, Manor Township and Ford City Borough have a gentlemen's agreement that the three will share equally the bridge expenses for electricity and the flags. It is now Ford City Borough's desire to have a formal agreement in writing. Solicitor Scott Andreassi suggested letting Ford City Borough write something up and submit it to North Buffalo Township for review. It was noted that two bridge flags were destroyed by the wind and that they will be replaced.

Jennifer Matarrese reported that Consolidated Cable contacted her regarding the upcoming expiration of their cable franchise agreement with North Buffalo Township. Being that there are no Consolidated cable customers within North Buffalo Township, they do not want to renew the agreement.

At the February 17, 2021 meeting, the supervisors made a motion and all agreed not to maintain Judson Alley located behind Flynn's Tire. Mike Valencic stated to the board that he found some additional information and he desired to revisit the matter. Both Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin Crissman agreed not to revisit the matter and agreed to let the motion stand to not maintain Judson Alley.

During public comment, township resident Ben Paustenbaugh, who lives on Winfield Road, posed a question to the board regarding a subdivision.

At 7:35 p.m. Jennifer Matarrese made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser
North Buffalo Township Secretary