

North Buffalo Township
June 16, 2021

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., June 16, 2021 with Supervisors Mike Valencic and Jennifer Matarrese, Secretary Pam Bowser, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, Wyant Road resident Rick Adams, Solicitor Scott Andreassi and approximately six citizens in attendance. Supervisor Calvin Crissman was absent.

Supervisor 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.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2021 Supervisors' Meeting. Mike Valencic 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 #27512 through #27547 in the amount of \$42,922.50, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$22,729.08 and State Fund checks #789 through #791 in the amount of \$24,716.80. Mike Valencic seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

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

Police Chief Jason Hufhand then gave the monthly police report. Fire Marshall Dave Orton from Ford Cliff Fire Department gave their monthly response report.

Road Master Jennifer Matarrese gave her monthly report on the roads. The road crew has been working on mowing and clearing brush from corners and road signs for visibility for traffic pulling out of intersections. They finished prepping, patching and reset a pipe on Sisterville and began the prep work for Wilson Road for the upcoming tar and chip project. New speed signs were put up on Glade Run Road in Skinall as per the recommendation of PennDOT to help the speeding problem there. There were maintenance service calls for the mini excavator and the John Deere tractor and they are now back in service. Jennifer met with Peoples Gas Company regarding their gas line markers on Church Road. They will move them out of the ditches. They suggested an ordinance, like other municipalities have in place, stating township requirements and guidelines for placements in or around township road ditches and right of ways going forward.

Under new business, Mike Valencic called upon Wyant Road resident Rick Adams to discuss his concerns about road conditions. Mr. Adams explained that there is water laying in the ditches on Toy Road and water was running out onto the roads from driveways and gas well roads. Road Master Jennifer Matarrese explained that a significant amount of rain fell within a short time period during recent storms, which caused some flooding because the pipes just couldn't handle that much rain coming down so fast. Mr. Adams also commented that Wyant Road needs work. Jennifer reported that Wyant Road is on the project list for next year.

Mike Valencic then made the motion to approve and sign the Veterans Bridge Agreement between Ford City Borough, Manor Township and North Buffalo Township. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. For years, the cost of electric for the bridge lights and the cost of the veterans' flags on the bridge have been divided three ways equally and paid by Ford City Borough, Manor Township and North Buffalo Township. Ford City Borough asked for the agreement just to have something more formal in writing agreeing to pay and split the costs three ways.

The supervisors then discussed the duties of the North Buffalo Township Planning Board. Lately the Planning Board members have been stepping outside of their authority by discussing and working on issues such as road conditions as noted in their minutes. Road issues should be directed to the Road Master. The current Planning Board members are all new, never having served before. The supervisors decided it would be a good idea to put some guidelines together for the Planning Board members regarding their duties.

The supervisors briefly discussed the proposed "grandfather clause" to amend the zoning ordinance. Solicitor Scott Andreassi will continue to review it and the supervisors will continue to work on it as per the solicitor's guidance.

The supervisors discussed regulating solar panels through the zoning ordinance. There are some concerns that the sun glare from the panels would be blinding to traffic. This concern may already be covered under the lighting portion of the zoning ordinance. The board will continue to look into the matter.

The supervisors discussed whether or not permits should be required for an even exchange of antennas mounted on cell towers, or at least requiring a letter from the company verifying that the equipment is an even exchange. The current regulations in place do not require anything if a company is just swapping out same equipment. The supervisors will continue to look into the matter.

Supervisor Mike Valencic asked the board whether or not they thought a "blanket" township permit covering everything that is now permitted would work better than an individual permit for each item. It was decided that an individual permit for each of the different situations would be better.

After public comment, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with Mike Valencic seconding the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser
North Buffalo Township Secretary