

North Buffalo Township
August 18, 2021

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., August 18, 2021 with Supervisors Mike Valencic, Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin Crissman, Secretary Pam Bowser, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, Wyant Road resident Richard Adams and approximately eight citizens in attendance.

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.

Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 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 #27590 through #27625 in the amount of \$23,496.37, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$17,195.40 and State Fund checks #797 through #799 in the amount of \$13,293.05. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

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

Township Police Chief Jason Hufhand gave the monthly police report. Fire Department monthly response reports were given by Chris Beck from West Kittanning and Brandon Harriger from Ford Cliff.

Jennifer Matarrese gave the monthly Road Master Report. The road crew finished prepping Belltop Drive for the tar and chip project, patched where pipes had sunk on Roundtop Drive, patched Bunker Hill, Johnston and Creek roads, and mowed brush on Creek, Johnston and Beckett roads. The tar and chip project on Sisterville, Wilson, Church Extension, Belltop and Crane was completed last week. The tar and chip must cure for a couple weeks on Belltop and Crane before the FOG seal can be applied. The FOG seal will be completed in a few weeks. New road signs were ordered for Beckett, Ruffaner and Northpointe. The Ford F-550 had an engine light on and was low on power. It went in for service, inspection and oil change. It needed calipers, slides, brake pads, hoses at EGR valve and front wheel bearings. The CAT mini excavator is gaining oil again. A call for service was made and they should be coming sometime next week. It is still under warranty and service agreement. A preliminary road work survey was done with the road crew.

Jennifer Matarrese reported, as a matter of record, some corrections to last month's Leader Times article. The article stated "burnouts from ATV's were causing road damage". Jennifer reported that the burnouts are not only from ATV's, but also from other vehicles. The article also stated in error that alcohol was involved. Jennifer stated that there is no way of knowing if alcohol plays a part in these incidents or not as no one has been caught in the act as of yet.

Under unfinished business, the “grandfather clause” for the zoning ordinance was presented with some further changes noted to the wording. Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve the wording of the grandfather clause as presented. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. The grandfather clause wording will be presented in the form of an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance at a future meeting for adoption.

The next item on the agenda under unfinished business was to further discuss the issue of Northpointe Boulevard in regard to the township boundary and road maintenance. Jennifer Matarrese reported that she spoke with the County, South Buffalo Township, County mapping office, Joyce Traister from 9-1-1 addressing and the PennDOT municipal representative. The liquid fuels map and the County map differ as to where Northpointe Boulevard (formerly Bable Road) ends within North Buffalo Township. An old “gentlemen’s agreement” in the form of a letter between North and South Buffalo Townships stating at what point each township would maintain was found by the PennDOT municipal representative. This agreement had the transition point for road maintenance further into South Buffalo Township across the township line. South Buffalo Township is in agreement with North Buffalo Township to each maintain their portion of Northpointe Boulevard to the township line instead of according to the old letter. Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to accept the township borders and lines as depicted on the Armstrong County map and in accordance to tax map numbers for properties and roads on Northpointe Boulevard, previously known as Bable Road in North Buffalo Township. This reverts a portion of the road and liquid fuels back to South Buffalo Township that PennDOT previously had mapped in North Buffalo Township. PennDOT will remap liquid fuels according to the County map. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Under new business, Mike Valencic reported that the supervisors held an executive session on August 2, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. for legal and personnel matters and also this evening, August 18, 2021, prior to the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

Next on the agenda was Wyant Road resident Richard Adams. Rick asked what the township is going to do about driveways coming out onto township roads. He is having a problem with mud and limestone washing out by his property. Jennifer Matarrese replied that the township would send a letter and a copy of the township driveway ordinance to gas well companies to remind them that they must comply with the driveway specifications and regulations of the ordinance.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 21-7, which provides for supplemental appropriations to the 2021 budget for the American Rescue Plan Funds received in the amount of \$151,194.68. This resolution is required in order to spend any of the funding received in 2021. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to open a new checking account at Nextier Bank exclusively for the American Rescue Plan Funds received. Two signatures will be required on checks and the signatories on the account will be Supervisors Michael Valencic, Jennifer L. Matarrese, and Calvin V. Crissman and Secretary/Treasurer Pamela L. Bowser. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to approve the contract between North Buffalo Township and Zelenkofske Axelrod, LLC, Certified Public Accountants to provide technical assistance and advice in relation to the policies, procedures and accountability of the American Rescue Plan funding program. Fees for this service will not exceed \$11,000 and this cost is permitted to be paid out of the American Rescue Plan funds received. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to accept Ty Shaffer's letter of resignation as a township representative to the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority Board. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The board then discussed utility companies placing pipes, markers, etc. within the township road right-of-way, which makes berming and mowing difficult and sometimes impossible. Jennifer Matarrese asked the board about the possibility of going ahead with drafting an ordinance for prohibiting the placement of utilities within the township right-of-way. The board was in agreement for such an ordinance. Mike Valencic suggested that it might be difficult to get the utility companies to move lines already in existence but that the ordinance should state if lines have to be repaired and replaced, they should then have to comply by moving them outside the right-of-way. Jennifer will work on drafting an ordinance.

The next item on the agenda was the township driveway Ordinance No. 08-3. Jennifer Matarrese recommended enforcing the driveway ordinance by informing gas well companies when they come in to apply for a road bond. This should help alleviate problems discussed earlier in the meeting.

After public comment, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. with Calvin Crissman seconding the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser
North Buffalo Township Secretary

