

North Buffalo Township
February 16, 2022

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., February 16, 2022 with Supervisors Mike Valencic, Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin Crissman, Solicitor Scott Andreassi, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, and approximately ten 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 January 19, 2022 Supervisors' Meeting and the January 19, 2022 Supervisors' Hearing. 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 #27834 through #27881 in the amount of \$47,509.49, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$22,886.60 and State Fund checks #812 through #815 in the amount of \$9,398.13. Calvin Crissman 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.

Township Police Chief Jason Hufhand gave the monthly police report and also the report for West Hills Fire Department. Dave Orton from Ford Cliff Fire Department gave their response report.

Jennifer Matarrese gave the Road Master report. The road crew has been busy with snow treatment on the roads and working in the garage on equipment maintenance. The Peterbilt and International were throwing warning lights. They were taken in for diagnostics. The Peterbilt needed the DEF sensor replaced and the International's computer needed reset. The Ford F-550 power steering was fixed and the replaced rims were put on and tires remounted. It was also losing antifreeze. The Ford garage assumed it was the head. They gave a ballpark quote of between \$10,000 and \$15,000 since the entire cab needs removed for any engine work for this particular model. The truck was taken to H&M in Butler for diagnostics and pressure testing. They found that it was a coolant line issue and fixed it for a cost of \$171.00. Jennifer reported to the board that the road salt that was being delivered through Compass Minerals had solid, hard clumps in it. It was coming in wet, late and some of it was unusable. Compass Minerals was notified to no longer bring us salt from the Neville Island location. The last load delivered was from New Castle and was much better. COSTARS and Cory from PennDOT were notified of the issues. The road crew built a rack to sift out salt clumps so they wouldn't ruin the spinners on the back of the trucks. The rack was built from scrap metal on hand at the township with no cost. Jennifer then discussed the issue of residents' requests for the township to plow driveways or to take anti-skid. As per the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code the township is not permitted to maintain driveways, private lanes or alleys. When the township used ash, residents were permitted to take some for

their driveway. The township was turned in to DEP which in turn ended the use of ash. The cost of anti-skid is much more than ash. Also, in the past, people were caught taking truckloads of anti-skid from the township pile. For these reasons, the township will not be giving any materials out nor plowing anything deemed private.

Under unfinished business, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to appoint Patricia Shearer and Brenda Beckett to the positions of auditor. Both will be for a two-year term to expire January 2024. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. It was reported that the auditors met and conducted their reorganization meeting.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to appoint Ken Lazan as township representative to the West Hills Area Water Pollution Control Authority Board to fill the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2022 left vacant by the resignation of Ken Grey. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The next item of business was the vacancy on the township zoning hearing board. This was tabled as there has not been anyone willing to serve in this position.

Revision of the township fee schedule for cell tower zoning permits was also tabled.

Under new business, the board discussed which roads to include in the 2022 tar and chip project. Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve that Wyant, Sportsman, Boarts, Cemetery, Bypass and Simcik roads be included in the 2022 tar and chip project. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The supervisors' then discussed the issue with the end of Belltop Drive at the intersection with Freeport Road, which is located in East Franklin Township. The supervisors agreed that the liquid fuels map would not be revised and that the solicitor will draft an agreement between North Buffalo and East Franklin townships regarding the maintenance of the end of Belltop.

Township Solicitor Scott Andreassi then held a discussion with the board regarding the Sunshine and Right-To-Know laws.

The next item on the agenda was the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority ordinance review. Pat Ritrosky presented a letter and copies of bills he received from KSJWA for the supervisors' review. This matter was tabled until the issue can be further researched.

The supervisors' then discussed the American Rescue Plan Funds received. No action was taken on this matter.

During public comment, Elsie Lane residents Darwin and Nadeen Miller addressed the board asking for a new garage to be built five feet from their property line instead of the required setback of ten feet. The supervisors told them that they would need to apply for a variance and explained the proper procedure for the paperwork to do so.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese
North Buffalo Township Assistant Secretary