

North Buffalo Township
March 16, 2022

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., March 16, 2022 with Supervisors Mike Valencic, Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin Crissman, Secretary Pam Bowser, Solicitor Scott Andreassi, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, Dutch Hollow Road resident Mark McCall and approximately 12 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.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2022 Supervisors' Meeting. Mike Valencic seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Calvin Crissman made the motion to approve the bills as presented on the Bill List with General Fund checks #27882 through #27916 in the amount of \$27,456.34, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$22,112.76 and State Fund checks #816 through #819 in the amount of \$6,992.85. Jennifer Matarrese 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. Chief Hufhand told the board that the police AED unit needs a new battery. The supervisors agreed to have him get a new battery. Dave Orton from Ford Cliff Fire Department gave their response report.

Jennifer Matarrese then gave the Road Master report. The road crew treated roads for snow, had call outs for downed trees and to assist the fire department for ice management at a house fire in the township. They patched roads, fixed a part of Bunker Hill Road, did equipment and garage maintenance and began truck inspections. Jennifer reported that she spoke with Asbury Graphite about their deliveries. Complaints were coming in from Ferne Drive residents that Asbury's delivery trucks were turning into Ferne Drive instead of Linde Road, which was causing damage to personal property and the road. Asbury said that they would discuss this internally and contact their delivery companies to alleviate the problem. Jennifer reported that she talked to PennDOT about getting millings from upcoming projects on state roads within the township. This will save on using stone if the millings can be obtained. The blacktop bin has been extended to hold the bulk blacktop that was negotiated for free delivery.

The first item on the agenda under unfinished business was the vacancy on the Township Zoning Hearing Board. Jennifer Matarrese reported that she spoke with Charles Henry and he was interested in being reappointed but was unable to be present at the meeting. Mike Valencic then made the motion to appoint Karen Valencic to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2024 since Mr. Henry was not in attendance to accept. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to increase the zoning permit fee for anything new on a cell tower from \$300 to \$1,000. The motion died for lack of a second.

The solicitor is not yet finished writing the Belltop Drive agreement; therefore, this agenda item was tabled.

The next item under unfinished business was the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority ordinance review. A discussion took place between the supervisors, residents and the solicitor. Mike Valencic made the motion to proceed with the ordinance and approve the ordinance as presented for proper advertising. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion. Mike Valencic and Calvin Crissman voted in favor and Jennifer Matarrese was not in favor. The motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to appoint Patrick Ritrosky to be a member of the Board of the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Tyrone Shaffer for the completion of the resigned term to expire on December 31, 2025. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Under new business, Dutch Hollow Road resident Mark McCall addressed the board regarding the requirement of a 15-inch pipe when installing a driveway. He asked the board if he could use a 12-inch pipe instead because he has a 12-inch pipe already available and the driveway location is on the crest of a hill where there is no water flow. The road master and the road crew looked at the site and determined a 12-inch pipe would be adequate. The supervisors agreed to allow him to use a 12-inch pipe at that location.

The board then discussed the upcoming trash day to be held Saturday, March 26, 2022. Atkinson Roll-Off does not have enough dumpsters available. Jennifer Matarrese called other companies and the only other dumpsters available for that day are from McCutcheon. McCutcheon is very restrictive on the items they will accept. The board decided to get two dumpsters from Atkinson and the rest from McCutcheon. Jennifer reported that the cost of the dumpsters went up significantly. The board concluded that there may need to be changes made for trash day next year.

Mike Valencic made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-2, which adopts written procedures governing the procurement of professional services contracts for pension plans in order to comply with Act 44 of 2009 and the Auditor General's recommendation. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to approve the agreement between North Buffalo Township and East Franklin Township to furnish and receive aid and assistance in police protection from and with each other. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. The agreement as presented has a few typographical errors and needs to be adopted by resolution. The secretary will retype the agreement and type a resolution for adoption and have the solicitor review it to be ready for signing at the April meeting.

The next item on the agenda was a proposal for a pension plan for the township police department. The matter was discussed by the supervisors and the solicitor. Supervisors Jennifer Matarrese and Calvin Crissman voiced their concerns of the township being able to afford a police pension. Jennifer stated that the road budget was already reduced for 2022 and she would not want to see the road budget reduced further in the future and not be able to maintain the roads. Mike Valencic stated that he personally would rather see a pension for the police than tarring and chipping roads. Mike Valencic instructed the solicitor to research the matter further and get some cost numbers for the pension. The board will continue to discuss the police pension once they get the cost figures.

After public comment, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Calvin Crissman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser
North Buffalo Township Secretary