

North Buffalo Township
May 18, 2022

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., May 18, 2022 with Supervisors Mike Valencic and Jennifer Matarrese, Secretary Pam Bowser, Solicitor Scott Andreassi, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, and approximately 16 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 April 20, 2022 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 #27959 through #27999 in the amount of \$26,464.89, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$24,682.87 and State Fund checks #826 through #828 in the amount of \$24,098.92. Mike Valencic 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 Mike Valencic seconding the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Township Police Chief Jason Hufhand gave the monthly police report. Dave Orton from Ford Cliff Fire Department and Chris Beck from West Kittanning Fire Department gave their monthly response report. Chris Beck presented a proposal to the supervisors for placing their Attack Vehicle at the municipal building. Several of their firemen live close by and would respond on the truck from the municipal building location. The truck would need to be kept inside at a minimum of 50 degrees to prevent pumps from freezing. The supervisors reported that all bays at the township building are utilized with diesel trucks and equipment that cannot be stored outside, so there would be nowhere for the Attack Vehicle.

Jennifer Matarrese then gave the road master's report. The road crew is working on road preparation for the upcoming tar and chip project as the weather allows. They are also doing equipment maintenance as needed.

Mike Valencic reported that Supervisor Calvin Crissman has resigned and that there is the possibility that some township business would not be able to be decided upon until another supervisor is appointed.

The first item on the agenda under unfinished business was the Belltop Drive Agreement with East Franklin Township. Although the supervisors previously were all in favor of an agreement and to not change the liquid fuels map, Mike Valencic said that he is now not in favor of any agreement regarding the East Franklin Township portion of Belltop Drive and is in favor of changing the liquid fuels map and having the liquid fuels funds for the East Franklin Township portion of Belltop go back to East Franklin and therefore no longer maintain that small portion on the Freeport Road end. Jennifer Matarrese stated that she is not in favor of changing the map since North Buffalo Township gets liquid fuels funding for the entire length of Belltop to where it intersects with Freeport Road and North Buffalo has always maintained Belltop in its entirety. She feels that

townships need to work together as a team and help each other in such situations. This matter will be addressed at a later time since the remaining two supervisors on the board are not in agreement.

The next item of unfinished business was the adoption of Ordinance No. 22-3, which is in regard to the tap-in connection to public water. Mike Valencic made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-3. The motion died for lack of a second. The supervisors received a prior request from the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority to meet to discuss the matter and also received a letter from KSJWA Attorney Tyler Heller also requesting to meet with the supervisors to discuss the proposed ordinance. Supervisor Jennifer Matarrese stated that she is not in favor of adopting the ordinance until such a meeting with the water authority takes place. Supervisor Mike Valencic is not in favor of meeting with the water authority. This matter will be revisited at a later time.

Mike Valencic then made the motion to table the discussion on the police agreement between North Buffalo and East Franklin Townships. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The supervisors then discussed the police pension matter. Mike Valencic and the solicitor have been in touch with Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. PMRS is working on a proposal for the board's consideration. Mike Valencic made the motion to table the matter for further discussion. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Under new business, Mike Valencic made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-4, which is a revised fee schedule to add the solicitation permit fee. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to accept the resignation of Jeff Cox from his position as township representative to the West Hills Area Water Pollution Control Authority Board. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. The supervisors will look for someone to fill the vacancy. Jennifer Matarrese reported that Cody Martin left her know that he has moved from the township and will no longer be able to be on the township planning board. The solicitor suggested that he will need to submit his resignation in writing to the board. It was also reported to Jennifer Matarrese that planning board member Patrick Ritrosky has moved from the township. She asked Mr. and Mrs. Ritrosky, who were present, if that was in fact true. They said they live in the township part of the time and have dual residency. The solicitor said that they would have to receive mail at their address within North Buffalo Township to be considered a resident. They said that they do, so it is alright for Mr. Ritrosky to serve as a member of the planning board.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to accept the resignation of township supervisor Calvin Crissman. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried. Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to advertise for letters of interest stating qualifications to fill the vacancy for the supervisor position. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic reported that he had a call from Ford City Borough informing him that new flags would be purchased for the Ford City Bridge since the banners were ruined from winter weather. The new flags will only be displayed from Memorial Day through Labor Day. North Buffalo Township will pay a third of the cost, along with Manor Township and Ford City Borough.

During public comment, Pony Farm Road residents Kyle Bricker and Keith Rodgers inquired about reducing the speed limit along the portion of the road in front of their house numbers 483 and 493. They are concerned about children playing with traffic speeding there in excess of the current 45 mph. Road master Jennifer Matarrese will request a traffic study be completed at that location by PennDOT Traffic Unit. It is up to PennDOT to make a determination for the speed limit.

Another resident asked if burning tree branches was permitted in the township, to which the board replied that it is in fact permitted to burn brush and tree branches, but nothing hazardous.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser
North Buffalo Township Secretary