

North Buffalo Township  
July 20, 2022

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., July 20, 2022 with Supervisors Mike Valencic, Jennifer Matarrese and Jay Hogg, Secretary Pam Bowser, Solicitor Scott Andreassi, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, and approximately 14 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 June 15, 2022 Supervisors' Meeting. Jay Hogg 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 #28036 through #28081 in the amount of \$96,106.51 and General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$20,488.79. 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.

Township Police Chief Jason Hufhand gave the monthly police report. He also reported that the police car is ready to be picked up from the body shop, but needs a new battery to get it started. The damages repaired were from an accident where someone else hit into it. There was no cost to the township. Jason also informed the board that the police garage is infested with mice. Jennifer said that there were also mice in the shop, but the road crew set traps. Jason got an estimate from an exterminator for \$220 plus the cost of bait boxes with free refills. After discussion, Jay Hogg made the motion to get the exterminator. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Township Fire Marshall Dave Orton from Ford Cliff Fire Department reported that there were no calls for the month and also that the recent controlled burn permit went well with no issues.

Jennifer Matarrese then gave the Road Master's report. The prep is finished for the roads that will be tarred and chipped, which is scheduled to begin the week of August 15. East Franklin Township has been notified and has sent a copy of their meeting minutes approving the project for their portion of Wyant Road. Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority has been notified to put risers on where needed. The road crew has been mowing throughout the township, berming and sweeping Mountaineer Drive and completing equipment maintenance and inspections as needed. The hydraulic motor on the Tiger mower is not working. Stephenson Equipment cannot find an exact match based on the model number. The road crew would have to take the motor off and take it there to see what could work. The cost of a new motor would start around \$2,400. For SEI to send it out for a rebuild would take several months and the cost would be around \$950. A cost estimate for a rebuild by RJ Hydraulics would be approximately \$1,200 to \$1,400 and could be done in a few days. After discussion by the board regarding the repair, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to have RJ Hydraulics rebuild the motor. Jay Hogg seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese continued her Road Master report. The new Massey Ferguson tractor had a bolt break on the front counter-weighted wheel. Bolt replacements have been ordered. The warranty did not cover this; however, Stephenson Equipment agreed to cover the cost of the new bolts, nuts and washers. The Elsie Lane road sign was destroyed as stated in a township police report. A replacement has been ordered and will be installed upon receipt. The police report is filed in the Elsie Lane road file.

Under unfinished business, Mike Valencic reported that a volunteer is still needed to serve as a township representative to the West Hills Water Pollution Control Authority Board due to the resignation of Jeff Cox. No one has come forth with an interest in the position, but the supervisors will keep looking for someone.

Mike Valencic reported that the supervisors held an executive session regarding personnel matters along with a workshop to discuss the ongoing situation with KSJWA and the water tap-in ordinance on Monday, July 18, 2022. The supervisors have agreed to meet with KSJWA and will move on with the matter after this meeting takes place. The date and time has yet to be finalized. The supervisors and township solicitor discussed the water issue and addressed questions from residents in attendance regarding tap-ins and ordinances.

Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to accept the resignation letter submitted by Cody Martin from his position on the Township Planning Board. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss the road crew's duties after regular working hours. Jay Hogg stated that it is not necessary for the fire department to be called out for downed trees if the road crew can handle it. The fire departments have recently been getting called out for such emergencies. Currently Mike Valencic is the one receiving the calls from 9-1-1 and Jay Hogg feels it should be changed back to the road master getting the 9-1-1 calls. After some discussion, Road Master Jennifer Matarrese agreed to now take the 9-1-1 calls again. Jay Hogg will be called second and Mike Valencic will be called third if the previous listed supervisor can't be reached. The notified supervisor will then call the road crew in seniority order. If the road crew is not available, the supervisor will then notify 9-1-1 to send the fire department out.

Pennsylvania State Police Corporal Thomas Dubovi was in attendance and Mike Valencic gave him the opportunity to speak. Corporal Dubovi stated that he occasionally attends local municipal meetings to check in and gave the board and those in attendance the chance to ask him any questions.

During public comment, Shady Lane resident Lisa Brochetti addressed the board regarding her neighbor's house. The neighbor has abandoned the house and it is in a state of disrepair with moss growing on the roof and is an eyesore to the neighborhood. The owners do still mow the yard and pay the taxes on the house. The condition and appearance of the home is devaluing all of the neighboring properties. Ms. Brochetti asked what could be done about the situation. The supervisors, along with Police Chief Jason Hufhand and the solicitor, discussed various ordinances to come up with a solution, but the ordinances on file do not pertain. Chief Hufhand will send the property owner a letter.

There being no other public comment, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser  
North Buffalo Township Secretary