

North Buffalo Township  
October 11, 2023

The North Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors met at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., October 11, 2023, with Supervisors Jennifer Matarrese, Jay Hogg and Mike Valencic, Secretary Pam Bowser, Police Chief Jason Hufhand, Zoning Officer Vince Venturino, township resident Karl Swigart and approximately fourteen citizens in attendance.

Jennifer Matarrese called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence to honor those in service of our country. She then announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Mike Valencic made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023 Supervisors' Meeting and the September 13, 2023 Bid Opening. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to approve the bills as presented on the Bill List with General Fund checks #28614 through #28658 in the amount of \$37,655.42, General Fund electronic debits in the amount of \$20,203.31, and State Fund checks #851 through #852 in the amount of \$88,568.20. Jay Hogg 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 then gave his monthly police report.

No one from any fire departments was present; however, Dave Orton had called saying they were unable to attend the meeting and that they didn't have any responses for the month to report from Ford Cliff Fire Department.

Jennifer Matarrese then gave the road master report. The road crew fixed some culverts, patched cross pipes, cut brush, trimmed trees and did some mowing. The road name signs from Miller Lane and Sportsman Road have been stolen once again for the second time within a year. New signs have been ordered. A stop sign was also replaced. Repairs were made to the John Deere tractor and the Massey Ferguson tractor. The road crew also did equipment and garage maintenance. Anti-skid has also begun to be ordered.

Under unfinished business, Mike Valencic made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-3, which vacates unnamed township road TR441 located off of Chechak Road. Jay Hogg seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese announced that Trick-Or-Treat night will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, from 6 to 8 p.m. and also that the Budget Workshop will be held on October 26, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

Under new business, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to distribute the Foreign Fire Insurance Fund money equally between the fire departments of West Kittanning, West Hills Emergency Services (formerly East Franklin), Worthington-West Franklin, Ford City Borough, Ford Cliff and South Buffalo. The total amount received was \$15,044.39, which would give each fire department \$2,507.40. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mike Valencic made the motion to give a donation of \$500 each to the fire departments that do not charge the township for a portion of their workmen's compensation insurance, which are West Kittanning, West Hills Emergency Services, South Buffalo, Ford Cliff and Ford City. Jennifer Matarrese seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Previously at the July meeting, the supervisors set the fee for short-term rental permits at \$200 but decided to revisit this decision. Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to rescind her previous motion to set the fee for both short-term rental permits and renewals at \$200. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion carried. After further discussion on the matter, Mike Valencic made the motion to set the fee for both short-term rental permits and renewals at \$250. Jay Hogg seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was township resident Karl Swigart, who presented a petition to the board of supervisors requesting them to enact an ordinance to legalize driving ATV's on township roads. The petition has approximately 88 township resident signatures. Mr. Swigart reported that he found out the signage is free through DCNR if they are picked up in Harrisburg. He volunteered to go to Harrisburg to pick up the signs. He obtained four copies of ordinances from other municipalities to use as samples and gave those to the board also. The residents in attendance discussed the matter and posed questions to the supervisors and township police officer Jason Hufhand. The board of supervisors opted to table deciding on the matter until they can do further research and have more discussions at future meetings.

The supervisors met with PennDOT representative Cory Shaffer to discuss possibly obtaining a multimodal grant for paving. Supervisor Jay Hogg explained that every year, PennDOT offers multimodal grants that townships can apply for. PennDOT pays for 70% of the cost and the County will pay for 50% of the township's 30% portion, which leaves the township paying for 15% of the project. The project would be put out for bid. The road would be milled and then two inches of 19 mm would be applied. A year later, they would come back and tar and chip over that. The township chooses a road for paving and PennDOT measures it and estimates the cost. They chose Church Road and McHaddon Road from Church Road to the bottom of the hill. The cost for this amount of road came in at \$600,891. They then decided to do a portion of Church Road from Freeport Road to the overpass along with McHaddon to the bottom of the hill. This estimate came in at \$358,705. A resolution stating the estimated cost of the project for the multimodal grant must accompany the application. Jay Hogg made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-4 for the multimodal grant stating the project cost at \$358,705. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion carried.

Jennifer Matarrese announced that the township has been approved for a grant for \$70,000 through the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road program to be used for improvements on Patland Ranch Road.

After public comment, Jennifer Matarrese made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Mike Valencic seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion carried.

Pamela L. Bowser  
North Buffalo Township Secretary