

January 10, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of West Norriton Township was convened at 7:00 PM on the above date by President Smock. Commissioners Eckles, Milazzo, Miller and Pavone were in attendance. Also, in attendance were: Jason Bobst; Sean Kilkenny, Esquire; Kathy Frederick; Michael Kelly; Stephen Morris; Donna Horn; Michael Valyo; Allan Booz; Jon Dzedzy; T.J. Figaniak; and Ed Brown. After the pledge of allegiance was recited, the meeting proceeded.

Presentation Martin Sheehan, Township Tax Collector, appeared before the
Tax Collector Board to update it on the collection of real estate taxes for 2022 and announced that approximately \$4.2M has been collected, or 99.5%. According to Mr. Sheehan, of the 6,300+ total parcels in the Township, only 130 parcels remain unpaid and are going to collection. Mr. Sheehan added that PA Act 57 applies to new homeowners that fail to receive their tax notice the first year of ownership. It was also stated by Mr. Sheehan that he is looking into setting up a temporary or satellite office to collect taxes in areas where it may be difficult for the residents to come to the Township, "The Greens" for example. Mr. Sheehan concluded by thanking the taxpayers and the Township staff who have been patient with him during his first year as Tax Collector. In response to inquiries by Mr. Miller and Ms. Eckles regarding the tax collection rate, Mr. Bobst suggested that perhaps the on-line billing capability contributes to the robust collection rate.

Minutes Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and
Approval unanimously passed by the Board were the Minutes of its work session of December 6, 2022 and regular meeting of December 13, 2022.

Report of Bills Ms. Horn read the Finance Committee Report and requested
Approval of approval of: General Fund and Golf Club payroll checks in the amount of \$31,430.60; payroll vouchers in the amount of \$485,105.19; and the Payment Approval Report of \$1,093,277.20. Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously approved was the aforementioned finance report.

Committee Mr. Bobst highlighted the agenda items under New Business
Reports: and added that Naomi Crimm of the Montgomery County
Admin & Finance Planning Commission will be in attendance at next month's work session to discuss the Main Street Corridor and text and zoning map amendments. Mr. Bobst added that Chris Drummond of Plaza Flowers is requesting a contiguous zoning of C as opposed to the PB, R & C zoning currently on this property. Also, an update on the dog park was provided by Mr. Bobst wherein he mentioned that the check presentation was made, the documents will be executed in the next few weeks and that the project will be moving forward after that.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Smock regarding the TLC project, Mr. Bobst mentioned that they are coming in for

staff on January 18th and that the traffic review letter will be provided to the Board. Ms. Pavone inquired about a projected finish date for the intersection work at Whitehall Road & Marshall Street which, according to Mr. Brown, should be before spring.

Treasurer Horn did not present her report at the meeting; however, she has submitted her summary which shows cash balances in the various funds as follows:

	<u>November 30th</u>	<u>December 31st</u>
General Fund	11,248,972.64	10,509,513.81
PLGIT 10105000	86,329.62	77,379.01
PLGIT CD - SEWER	1,514,372.83	1,519,457.80
Golf Fund	18,005.26	14,792.40
Escrow Fund	459,897.32	463,945.61
Sinking Fund	4,188.24	4,188.31
Liquid Fuels	557,583.43	199,046.28
Capital Reserve PLGIT	21,677.64	21,751.54
Capital Reserve PLIGIT PLUS	19,673.39	19,673.39
Sewer Capital Acct	3,339,943.70	3,329,022.98
WN 2020 Project Fund	2.74	2.74
Vehicle Replacement Fund	545,655.89	543,224.17
Police Pension Citizens	77,081.99	92,680.96
Non-Uniform Pension Citizens	12,021.69	13,146.96
Grants, DUI	0.00	0.00
Grants, Misc.	3,132.95	3,137.34
Traffic Impact Fee	395,645.20	380,953.48

Public Safety Chief Kelly highlighted the monthly public safety report and statistics on citations, arrests, accidents, calls, etc.

It was added by Chief Kelly that the written test was given for police officer candidates and that 96 applied to the Township. According to Chief Kelly, once the top 10 are determined, after completion of physical and oral testing, interviews will be scheduled. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Smock, Chief Kelly noted that only testing is given when there is an open position in the department.

Public Works & Planning The highlights of the Public Works & Planning report were presented by Mr. Valyo.

Mr. Valyo mentioned that this evening's meeting is on YouTube, but not Facebook and that he put a message on Facebook to that effect.

Building & Permitting Mr. Booz presented the highlights of the Building & Permitting report.

An update on the JGC Banquet Facility Project was given by Mr. Booz wherein he noted that three-quarters of the concrete for the footers have been poured and that the concrete for the first wall would be poured on Friday.

Recreation

The Recreation report was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Dzedzy who mentioned that the 2023 schedule of events is on the website. Mr. Dzedzy added that that Silver Circle group will be meeting for Bingo on January 18th from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM at the Jefferson Fire Company No. 1.

Jeffersonville Golf Club

Mr. Bobst presented the monthly and year-end golf report of the revenue and rounds of the course and the revenue and expenses of The Paddock. According to Mr. Bobst, the 2022 revenue was in excess of \$1.86M which is \$340,000.00 over budget, and that 2023 and 2024 are shaping up to be great.

Sanitary Sewer

The highlights of the monthly Sanitary report were given by Mr. Figaniak who acknowledged the assistance provided by Mr. Valyo in working with Pa American Water Co. on the water connection at Jeffersonville Golf Club. It was added by Mr. Figaniak that a memo would be provided next week on the Rittenhouse Force Main Project.

Engineer

The Engineer's Report of Gilmore & Associates was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Brown who noted that the Jeffersonville Golf Club Banquet Facilities Project started this week. Mr. Brown also noted that the signal work at Marshall & Whitehall will pick up as Miller Bros. started work on Monday. Also, it was added by Mr. Brown that a new submission was received from TLC and it is under review.

The Committee reports were approved by motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed by the Board.

Commissioners' Comments

Ms. Milazzo commended the Jeffersonville Golf Club for its ranking by "Golf Week" of 9th public course in the state. Also, Ms. Milazzo announced that a non-perishable food collection for Martha's Choice, a distributor of food to the needy, will be held on Saturday from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the meeting room of the Township building.

It was mentioned by Ms. Eckles that a concert by the Academy of Vocal Arts will be held on Sunday, 2/5 at the United Ascension Church with the admission charge of \$5.00 being donated to the church.

Mr. Miller recognized and congratulated Mr. Bobst for the completion of his Master's degree in Public Administration at Syracuse University.

Public Comment

L. James Watters, III of 1 E. Indian Lane requested a "Private Road" sign for E. Indian Lane. Mr. Watters gave a verbal report card to the Township where the grade of A+ was given by him for categories including no tax increase for 7 years, fixing flooding on Port Indian Road, signage, road paving, street lights, dog park, no power outages, etc. In conclusion, Mr. Watters stated that "you can't ask for more than a safe, clean, well-lit community".

Aurora Costello requested clarification of the "non-perishable goods" to be collected at the drive on Saturday.

There being no further public comment, that portion of the meeting was closed upon motion of Ms. Eckles and seconded by Mr. Miller.

Discussion

Per Mr. Bobst, the Township has approximately \$1,039,000 in American Rescue Act funds to utilize and he is looking to the Board for their opinions on where to use those funds. Additional sewer credits, stormwater work, home renovation work for low-income residents were all suggestions being considered by the Board according to Mr. Bobst. Ms. Pavone added that the County is looking into implementing a similar home renovation program. Mr. Smock requested Mr. Bobst to prepare a memorandum of suggested uses of the funds, specifics on such use and suggested amounts for the Board's perusal.

New Business

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution #23-1697 implementing Property Tax Penalty Waiver Provisions per Act 57 of 2022. Tax Collector Sheehan clarified that this applies to new property owners only.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously agreed, the Board accepted the resignations of Ed Lincul from the Zoning Hearing Board and Matt Newell from the Recreation Committee. Mr. Miller thanked Messrs. Lincul and Newell for their time and service to the Township.

Upon motion of various Board members, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board appointed members to the Township's Boards and Commissions as indicated on the Appointments to Boards and Commissions list (copy attached). Mr. Kilkeny added that appointments to the Township's Zoning Hearing Board are required to be made by Resolution and will be done so at the Board's February meeting.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board approved the Settlement of Assessment Appeal of 1401 W. Lafayette Street. According to Mr. Bobst, this settlement results in an increase in property assessment and taxes.

Schedule of Meetings

Mr. Bobst announced the upcoming meeting schedule of the Township's Board and Commissions as follows: EAC - February 8th @ 7:00 PM; West Norriton Academy - January 11th @ 6:30 PM re: EAC; Recreation Committee - January 11th @ 7:00 PM; Planning Commission - January 16th @ 7:00 PM re: Comprehensive Plan; ZHB - None; and HRC on December January 26th @ 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:47 PM, on motion of Mr. Miller and seconded by Ms. Eckles, the public meeting was adjourned.

*Kathy Frederick
Assistant Secretary*