

January 14, 2020

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 Miller. Commissioners Eckles, Milazzo, Pavone and Smock were in attendance. Also, present were: Jason Bobst; Sean Kilkenny, Esquire; Kathy Frederick; A. Dale Mabry; Michael Kelly; Donna Horn; Michael Valyo; Jon Dzedzy; T.J. Figaniak; and Erik Garton. There were twenty (20) people in the audience.

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting proceeded.

Announcements President Miller announced that the Board met in an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

Thereafter, Mr. Miller requested a moment of silence for the passing of Hank Cisco, "an intelligent, prominent advocate of the community", who passed away that morning.

Presentations: Beth Uhler of Cedarville Engineering presented the annual MS-4 status report on the implementation of the Township's Stormwater Management Program. Ms. Uhler showed a power point presentation of the Program and explained that the Program requires 5 year permitting reviews to monitor the reduction of sediment, which is required to be 20% in the five-year period. According to Ms. Uhler, the township is "ahead of the game" as it has already completed some projects and put others in place. Also, it was mentioned by Ms. Uhler that several MCMs (Minimum Control Measures) must be met, including public education and outreach, which the Township has achieved through the story map on the Township's website. Ms. Uhler concluded by stating that once the 5 year goals are met within the 5 year term, there will be no more action needed, but further requirements are yet to be determined by the DEP.

2020 Census Tricia Reedy Jones, Partnership Specialist for the Census Bureau, presented information on the 2020 Census which kicks off on 4/1/2020 - "Census Day". Ms. Reedy Jones highlighted the importance of the Census and the information gathered therefrom since the Census drives education funding and class size, effects employment as regards density and location, effects funding to local governments for roads, libraries, etc., among other things. According to Ms. Reedy Jones, there is funding of \$72M at stake in Pennsylvania. There are only nine (9) questions on the Census, and it is simple to response either by mail or electronically, per Ms. Reedy Jones. In response to inquiries by the Board, Ms. Reedy Jones noted that citizenship is not a question on the Census. In conclusion, Ms. Reedy Jones again stressed the importance of completing the Census completely and accurately and she encouraged an early response thereto.

Minutes Approval Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously passed by the Board were the minutes of its regular meeting of December 10, 2019.

Report of Bills
Approval of
checks

Ms. Horn read the Finance Committee Report and requested approval of: General Fund and Golf Club payroll checks in the amount of \$18,729.21; payroll vouchers in the amount \$249,908.82; and the Payment Approval Report in the amount of \$700,870.48.

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously agreed, the Report of Bills was approved.

Committee
Reports:
Administration
& Finance

Mr. Bobst enumerated and highlighted the Agenda items under New Business and announced the addition of an item to amend Section 3.5 of the Civil Service regulations to allow for applicants currently part of an Act 120 program to apply for a police officer position with the department, not just those that have completed an Act 120 program. Also, that, in accordance with the current police contract, tuition reimbursement for successful candidates to complete the Act 120 program will apply. Chief Mabry added that some larger departments in the County do not require completion of an Act 120 program since, from the time of completion until the officer is actually on the street, it takes about a year's time. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Miller, Chief Mabry stated that he believes that this is a positive move as it opens up the pool of qualified candidates.

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	9,245,435.29	9,088,269.45
PLGIT 10105000	87,552.40	76,182.18
PLGIT CD - SEWER	1,469,000.00	1,469,000.00
Golf Fund	26,653.65	14,512.90
Escrow Fund	603,747.65	585,220.66
Sinking Fund	6,218.42	6,226.29
Liquid Fuels	246,001.85	183,630.31
Capital Reserve PLGIT	21,203.50	21,297.56
Capital Reserve PLIGIT PLUS	29,321.77	29,359.58
Sewer Capital Acct	1,815,090.82	2,856,347.05
Vehicle Replacement Fund	613,780.50	606,734.47
Police Pension Citizens	192,959.92	14,241.66
Non-Uniform Pension Citizens	1,951.90	2,497.54
Grants, DUI	0.00	0.00
Grants, Misc.	116,292.49	116,371.52
Traffic Impact Fee	462,103.81	457,915.71

Public Safety

Chief Mabry highlighted the monthly public safety report.

Public Works & Planning

The highlights of the Public Works and Building-Plumbing reports were presented by Mr. Valyo who announced the beginning of planning of the five-year road paving program.

Recreation

The Recreation report was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Dzedzy who thanked all that were involved in the Holiday Decorating Contest and the Silver Circle Holiday Party, both of which were "great" events.

**Jeffersonville
Golf Club**

Mr. Bobst presented the year-end golf report which reflected revenues up \$120,000.00 over 2018's revenue, with the number of rounds up 6,000 from the same time period. Also, it was mentioned by Mr. Bobst that the course superintendent is taking a bee keeping course as it is the plan to have a bee colony on the course and a bee house.

Sanitary Sewer

The highlights of the monthly Sanitary Report of Gilmore & Associates were presented by Mr. Figaniak.

Engineer

The engineer's report of Gilmore & Associates was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Garton. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Eckles regarding the status of the plans for the short course, Mr. Bobst mentioned that Mr. Garton had to review the course for grading and topography.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously passed, the Department Reports were approved.

**Commissioners'
Comment**

Ms. Eckles commented that the firm of Remington Vernick was appointed traffic engineers at the work session, but she suggested that they be named "interim" traffic engineers so that due diligence can be performed on the firm and other possible firms. Mr. Kilkenney noted that a motion would be added to that effect under New Business.

Public Comment

L. James Watters, III of 1 E. Indian Lane commented on several items, including, but not limited to: concerns over extensive damage to the river due to pollution; gas leak on Whitehall Road called into PECO; thanks for putting up missing signs; and anxiously awaiting the bridge over Stony Creek to enhance the walking trail. Mr. Watters concluded by stating that he is looking for 2020 improvements.

Mary Ellen Moran of Port Indian Road, asked to clarify that the Township will be paying for educational expense of police officers that have not yet completed Act 120 program. Mr. Miller replied that \$7,000.00 tuition for the police academy is a small price to pay to have a minority or female able to apply that might not otherwise have the opportunity to do so.

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

Discussion

It was announced by Mr. Bobst that appointments to the remaining Board and Commissions positions will be made at the February meeting of the Board, and that applications

for open positions on Boards/Commissions are available on the website.

New Business

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board approved the advertising of the revised plan for the Betzwood Trail Project as the original plan and bid received exceeded budget.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board approved the payment of \$16,000.00 from the Emergency Services Budget for the payment of the 2019 Fire Call Credit to 32 members of the Jefferson Fire Company No 1.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board approved the two (2) year employment contract of Township Manager, Jason Bobst. The audience concurred.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board approved the Cost Sharing Agreement for Appraisal Services with NASD regarding the Barbados Island property. It was previously noted that the owner of Barbados Island is seeking an appraisal reduction of \$600,000.00 and that the Township's share of the appraisal cost will be approximately \$2,500.00.

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized the Solicitor to prepare a Resolution amending section 3.5 of the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission.

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles, seconded by Ms. Pavone and passed by a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Miller dissenting, the Board authorized the appointment of Remington Vernick as interim traffic engineers and the hiring of the law firm Hamburg, Rubin, at the current rate of the Township Solicitor, to gather at least two (2) other resumes of traffic engineers and conduct interviews.

Schedule of Meetings

Mr. Bobst announced that upcoming meetings are scheduled as follows: EAC on January 15th at 7:00 PM; Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board - None; and Human Relations Commission on January 23rd @ 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:25 PM, on motion of Mr. Smock and seconded by Ms. Pavone, the public meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Frederick
Assistant Secretary

