

April 13, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of West Norriton Township was convened via ZOOM at 7:00 PM on the above date by President Miller. Commissioners Eckles, Milazzo, Pavone and Smock were also in attendance, as were: Jason Bobst; Sean Kilkenny, Esquire; Kathy Frederick; Michael Kelly; Stephen Morris; Donna Horn; Michael Valyo; Jon Dzedzy; Michael Housley; T.J. Figaniak; and Erik Garton. There were six (6) additional attendees on the ZOOM meeting.

Announcement

Mr. Miller announced that the quarterly donation of the Commissioners would be made to the Coffee Closet with Jake, a local coffee stand run by an autistic resident and housed in his family's business at 2121 W. Main Street. Mr. Miller introduced Angela McFarland to give a brief background of her son Jake's coffee business and its philanthropic efforts. Mrs. McFarland introduced us to Jake, a 2019 NASD graduate who has a passion for making coffee. Although Jake is autistic and suffers from anxiety, he makes and serves coffee Wednesday through Sunday beginning at 10:00 AM on a 100% donation basis. With those donations, Jake and his mother give back to the community and various need-based groups, with his most recent project being barista skills training of other similarly situated adults.

Mr. Miller thanked Angela and Jake for their good work and stated that the Board is thrilled to support local business and to assist people with help to get skilled. Ms. Pavone thanked Jake and Angela for being there.

It was mentioned by Mr. Valyo that the Jefferson Fire Company No. 1 had been a recipient of a donation from the efforts of Jake and Angela, and that in appreciation thereof, the JFC would also make a donation of \$150.00 so that Jake can purchase equipment and supplies from the Restaurant Store for his cause. Mr. Bobst added that the Township would make a matching donation.

Ms. McFarland concluded by announcing that on April 21st they are hosting an event at the store featuring an open dialogue about the autism spectrum and will include members of the West Norriton, East Norriton, Plymouth and Lower Providence police departments.

**Minutes
Approval**

Upon motion of Ms. Pavone, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously passed by the Board were the minutes of its work session of March 2, 2021 and its regular meeting of March 9, 2021.

**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 \$25,147.73; payroll vouchers in the amount \$318,807.74; and the Payment Approval Report of \$582,861.85

Bd. Of Commiss.

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously approved was the aforementioned finance report.

Committee Reports: Administration & Finance

Mr. Bobst highlighted the Agenda items under New Business and mentioned the following:

That the Township will hold a COVID vaccine clinic in conjunction with East Norriton Pharmacy on Sunday, April 25th from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM at the Jeffersonville Golf Club where 2,000 doses of the Pfizer COVID vaccine will be available. Mr. Bobst advised that there will be a registration component to the clinic, and that specific details, including a link for registration, will be advertised on the website and via flyers. Ms. Milazzo inquired if there will be hours set aside for senior citizens while Ms. Eckles asked if "walk-ins" will be allowed for those residents without internet access. Mr. Bobst replied that the logistics still need to be worked out, but that flyers will be distributed at the areas of more senior population, i.e., The Greens, Jefferson Apartments, etc.

Also, Mr. Bobst mentioned that we have a target of June to move to in-person meetings.

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>February 28th</u>	<u>March 31st</u>
General Fund	9,959,796.41	10,164,279.86
PLGIT 10105000	47,858.35	36,524.10
PLGIT CD - SEWER	1,497,556.24	1,497,569.99
Golf Fund	(7,289.24)	(42,718.73)
Escrow Fund	494,976.98	499,285.21
Sinking Fund	11,685.46	11,685.76
Liquid Fuels	255,171.46	233,808.96
Capital Reserve PLGIT	21,419.39	21,419.77
Capital Reserve PLIGIT PLUS	19,520.50	19,520.50
Sewer Capital Acct	3,579,308.32	3,579,968.48
WN 2020 Project Fund	1,318,651.56	1,135,657.16
Vehicle Replacement Fund	674,185.38	627,402.83
Police Pension Citizens	115,689.32	131,512.06
Non-Uniform Pension Citizens	4,478.27	3,712.88
Grants, DUI	0.00	0.00
Grants, Misc.	165,524.58	165,547.65
Traffic Impact Fee	408,773.63	408,849.99

Public Safety

Chief Kelly highlighted the monthly public safety report and mentioned that the promotion process has been completed.

Public Works & Planning

The highlights of the Public Works and Building-Plumbing reports were presented by Mr. Valyo who noted that there is a road closure at Burnside & Chestnut Avenues, and that branch pick-up will resume next Tuesday.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Eckles about sign skins, Mr. Valyo explained that skins are an overlay to the sign and are a much more cost-effective tool than purchasing a new sign, i.e., \$15.00 v. \$48.00.

Also, in response to an inquiry by Mr. Smock, it was stated the residents received payment for the taking of their ground for the intersection improvements.

Recreation

The Recreation report was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Dzedzy who updated that Board on the ongoing park projects. Also, thanks were given by Mr. Dzedzy to the sponsors and the Recreation committee for the successful Easter-themed drive-through event.

In response to inquiries by the board members, Mr. Dzedzy stated that dogs are not allowed in the Township parks and that no answer yet on the status of summer camp has been received from the NASD for use of their buildings for that purpose.

Finally, Mr. Smock commented that the new playground at Padden Park looks great.

Jeffersonville Golf Club

Mr. Housley presented the monthly golf report and mentioned that we have been going strong since we reopened on 3/11 and that we are looking to have an awesome year. It was also noted by Mr. Housley that the recent Mark Laverty Par 3 Tournament was a great day.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Miller, it was noted by Mr. Housley that there is little wait time as the course is playing at 10-minute intervals.

Mr. Housley commended course superintendent Rich Shilling and his crew for the excellent condition of the course, noting that "they are truly amazing at what they do".

Sanitary Sewer

The highlights of the monthly Sanitary Report of Gilmore & Associates were presented by Mr. Figaniak who mentioned the State grant opportunity for the Rittenhouse Pump Station Force Main Project. Mr. Figaniak replied to an inquiry by Ms. Eckles by stating that we would have to move forward with the project even if we don't get the grant since it is "important and necessary".

Engineer

The Engineer's Report of Gilmore & Associates was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Garton.

It was mentioned by Mr. Garton that opening of the rebids for the short course would be on 5/5 and "hopefully we will

have good news next month".

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

Public Comment Per Mr. Bobst, no written public comments were received prior to the meeting.

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

Commissioners' Comments Ms. Pavone announced that she toured the Jeffersonville Golf Club and it was "very enlightening". According to Ms. Pavone, it is apparent that we need to move forward with improvement projects at the facility as the old buildings are in dire need of attention. The course is "great" and a "real plus" to the Township, said Ms. Pavone, but we need to spend some money on it.

Ms. Milazzo commented on the West Norriton/East Norriton combined little league known as Norriton Little League and commended it on its three (3) COVID compliant opening day ceremonies. It was mentioned by Ms. Milazzo that we are sponsoring one of the teams.

Also, Ms. Milazzo questioned whether past due tax payments are costing us money since no one is able to pay last year's taxes until the tax collector's books are balanced. According to Mr. Bobst, not being able to receive the tax duplicate records was our only real issue, but we pleaded to get them and were successful in doing so. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Pavone about the tax collector's bond, Mr. Bobst stated that he could be removed from office if his bond is pulled and Mr. Kilkeny concurred and added that in that event someone would have to be appointed as interim tax collector. After discussion, Mr. Kilkeny stated that the County is monitoring the situation very closely and the tax collector has been given fair warning, and hopefully he has cleaned up the issues.

Discussion The suggestion of extending the tax due date was made by Ms. Eckles at the Board's work session. According to Mr. Bobst, we are only able to extend our township tax deadlines for discount period (4/30) and face period (8/30). Per Mr. Kilkeny, he heard debates on this issue in other municipalities, but they voted not to do it as it would cause confusion since the county taxes deadlines have not been extended and no movement to do so has been made. Since the tax collection numbers are the same as last year, it was agreed by the Board not to change due dates.

New Business Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 2021-750 re: Swimming pool Updates (copy attached).

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles, seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized advertising of Ordinance No. 2021-751 re: Road Signage for Markley Farms Phase 1.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized execution of Ground Lease Agreement for Cell Towers at Jeffersonville Golf Club. Per Mr. Bobst, the next step is to proceed to zoning in May, at the earliest.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board appointed Mary Anders to the Recreation Committee.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized staff to advertise the bid for the 2021 Road Paving Project.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized staff to advertise the bid for the Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) Project at Whitehall Road and Marshall Street.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized staff to advertise the bid for the Padden Park and Centennial Park Paving Projects.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Milazzo and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized execution of the Assessment Appeal Stipulation for 530 Foundry Road resulting in a reduction and a credit of \$559.00 per year to the owner for 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Schedule of Meetings

It was announced by Mr. Bobst that the following meetings are scheduled this month:

- Recreation Committee, May 5th @ 8:00 PM
- Planning Commission, April 19th @ 7:00 PM;
- Zoning Hearing Board, April 21st @ 7:00 PM (height restriction of house @ 43 W. Indian); and
- Human Relations Commission, April 22nd @ 7:00 PM

Comment

Thanks were expressed by Mr. Miller to Mr. Bobst and Mr. Valyo for "moving mountains" to get us vaccinated.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:16 PM, on motion of Ms. Milazzo and seconded by Mr. Smock, the public meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Frederick
Assistant Secretary

