

May 12, 2020

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of West Norriton Township was convened electronically via ZOOM 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; Michael Housley; T.J. Figaniak; and Erik Garton.

**Minutes
Approval**

Upon motion of Mr. Smock, seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously passed by the Board were the minutes of its work session of April 7, 2020 and its regular meeting of April 14, 2020.

**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 \$28,702.31; payroll vouchers in the amount \$272,558.12; and the Payment Approval Report in the amount of \$800,596.48.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, 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. Also, it was noted by Mr. Bobst that a draft false alarm Ordinance will be presented in June, and that we are working through the 2019 audit.

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>March 31st</u>	<u>April 30th</u>
General Fund	8,713,034.23	9,569,923.34
PLGIT 10105000	49,107.11	34,798.35
PLGIT CD - SEWER	1,469,000.00	1,469,000.00
Golf Fund	(49,167.75)	(137,234.30)
Escrow Fund	529,464.61	524,573.26
Sinking Fund	6,247.45	6,252.55
Liquid Fuels	606,584.15	605,976.46
Capital Reserve PLGIT	21,375.70	21,375.70
Capital Reserve PLIGIT PLUS	29,458.75	29,478.23
Sewer Capital Acct	2,598,627.52	2,599,192.57
Vehicle Replacement Fund	579,403.89	537,016.37
Police Pension Citizens	30,948.03	37,849.23
Non-Uniform Pension Citizens	3,909.74	4,474.09
Grants, DUI	0.00	0.00
Grants, Misc.	132,075.83	132,112.38
Traffic Impact Fee	450,020.96	450,113.25

Public Safety

Chief Mabry highlighted the monthly public safety report and noted that police calls are down by approximately 200 due to business closures for COVID.

In response to inquiries from Ms. Eckles and Ms. Pavone, Chief Mabry stated that Part 1 crimes are less serious than Part 2 crimes, that there has been a drop in domestic calls since COVID and that no calls for social distancing violations have been received.

Public Works & Planning

The highlights of the Public Works and Building-Plumbing reports were presented by Mr. Valyo. It was mentioned by Mr. Valyo that PECO will be working on replacing the transformer outside of the Township building and that tree limb pick-up will resume next week (3rd Tuesday of the month).

Recreation

The Recreation report was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Dzedzy who announced the various cancellations due to COVID, including, but not limited to Community Day, summer camp, WNLL, and Silver Circle and the closure of the Township park facilities. Mr. Dzedzy noted; however, that the use of the walking trails is allowed.

It was noted by Mr. Dzedzy that bids were recently received for the Betzwood Trail project with the low bid in the approximate amount of \$366,000.00. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Milazzo, Mr. Garton noted that last year there was 1 bidder, but this time 7-8 bidders, and that since paving projects are low, it is his recommendation not to approve or deny the bids in the event that more money is saved from the various paving projects going on in the Township.

Jeffersonville Golf Club

Mr. Bobst presented the monthly golf report and mentioned that the course is in good shape and that it is reopened and busy for single rider carts, which carts are cleaned after each use, with 15 minutes between tee times. Also, according to Mr. Bobst, the Streambank Restoration Project is going on and the fencing contractor will be out tomorrow to extend the height and length of the fencing along School Lane.

Mr. Housley added that the year started out fantastic and that the phones are now "ringing off the hook" for tee times and that we are adhering to COVID guidelines, including the use of safety cups where the ball hits the cup, but no hands go in the cup to retrieve the balls. Finally, it was mentioned by Mr. Bobst that the course was closed one day last week when an auto accident knocked out power in the area.

Sanitary Sewer

The highlights of the monthly Sanitary Report of Gilmore & Associates were presented by Mr. Figaniak who mentioned that we are working on a possible solution to the force main issue.

Engineer

The Engineer's Report of Gilmore & Associates was prepared and highlighted by Mr. Garton who also stated that bids

were received on 3 of the 4 paving projects and all are at or below estimates, and that the bids for the Regents Park paving project will be opened on June 3rd.

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

Commissioners' Comment

Mr. Miller encouraged all to complete the 2020 Census and announced that 71.1% of West Norriton Township residents have done so vs. 61.1% of residents statewide.

It was stated by Ms. Milazzo that the requested rate increase by PA American Water Company is a "bad move" at this time and she encouraged her fellow Commissioners to oppose such requested rate increase. Ms. Pavone agreed and inquired if there is anything else that we can do to support the effort of opposing the increase. It was mentioned by Mr. Bobst that he would post information on the website informing residents how they can also oppose PA American Water's requested rate increase.

Public Comment

There was one public comment submitted via email, which comment came from Kim Haymans-Geisler, 1810 Ardin Drive, in opposition to the construction of the "short course" at the Jeffersonville Golf Club. Ms. Milazzo responded to the comment by stating that she appreciates Ms. Haymans-Geissler's concerns about the economy and that the Board appreciates her advice; however, that without knowledge as to costs, options, etc. an informed decision cannot be made. It was added by Mr. Bobst that we are looking to do due diligence to get numbers together, but that lighting is off the table as the cost is too high.

Mary Ellen Moran of Port Indian Road inquired via telephone about houses built in a floodway vs. those built in a floodplain, and she thanked the Board for always taking her questions and comments.

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

New Business

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution #20-1656 Extending Real Estate Discount and Face Period on Municipal Taxes as a Result of COVID-19 (copy attached).

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Miller and unanimously agreed, the Board adopted Resolution #20-1657 Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property on Municibid (copy attached).

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles, seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously agreed, the Board awarded the bid for the Alexander Drive Basin Retrofit Project to Bencardino Excavating for \$226,000.00.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board awarded the bid for the 2020 Road Paving Project to John A DiRocco General Contractors for \$191,591.40.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously agreed, the Board awarded the bid for the Sewer Paving Project to DiRocco Bros for \$112,255.20.

Upon motion of Ms. Eckles, seconded by Ms. Pavone and unanimously agreed, the Board awarded the bid for the WNT Municipal Parking Lot Improvements to Delaware Valley Paving for \$79,731.76.

Upon motion of Ms. Milazzo, seconded by Ms. Eckles and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized staff to draft a letter to the PUC in Opposition to PA American Water's Request for a Rate Increase.

Upon motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Smock and unanimously agreed, the Board authorized staff to issue and RFP for 2020-2022 Towing Contract. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Miller, Chief Mabry stated that the current towing company is DiLeo's and that the police department is happy with the work they provide and that DiLeo's is a great support of the township.

**Items for
Future Meeting**

It was mentioned by Mr. Bobst that a presentation will be made in the next few months by John Larson on the proposed capital improvements for the Norristown Municipal Water Authority.

**Schedule of
Meetings**

Mr. Bobst announced that a meeting of the Planning Commission via ZOOM is scheduled for May 18th @ 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:20 PM, on motion of Ms. Eckles and seconded by Ms. Milazzo, the public meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Frederick
Assistant Secretary

