

**TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HUNTINGDON, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
11279 Center Highway, North Huntingdon, PA 15642
Presiding Officer – Zachary Haigis, President, Board of Commissioners**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Haigis called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Stump	Present	Also Present:
Commissioner Atwood	Present	Jeffrey Silka
Commissioner Blasko	tele-conference	Solicitor Dice
Commissioner Zona	Present	Mike Turley
Commissioner Bevan	Present	Ryan Fonzi
Commissioner Gass	Present	Dan Miller
Commissioner Haigis	Present	Chief Rizzo
		Rich Albert

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER

Moment of silence.

CITIZENS INPUT

Brian Charney - 2616 Robbins Station Road - states he has a concern that he reached out to the Township Engineer and Planning & Zoning Department. He states there is a subdivision being built behind his house on Veronica Lane with eight houses. He states dirt and mud and debris from the properties are coming down through his property. He states that he has a swell on his property along with two French drains but the debris is still going past that into his swimming pool and ponding on his back porch. He states the response was that it is his financial responsibility to divert the water. He shows the Board some pictures and states during construction there was construction materials blowing into his yard that did not do any damage to his yard or property but still needed cleaned up. He states he has quite a big expense of an investment in his yard being told now he has to invest more money to fix it. The runoff has flooded his barn and now starting to wash out his driveway and now is worried about water coming into his basement as well.

RESPONSE TO CITIZENS INPUT

Manager Silka states this complaint came in this week and Bob Robinson has been working on it. There are some problems with the development and Bob is having them increase their E&S controls. He states the grass still needs to take in and is working closely with the developer.

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Commissioner Gass states clearly he has already sustained damage.

Manager Silka states it is not Township water or Township pipe and if there would be financial recourse it would be on the developer.

Solicitor Dice states he could also take his claim to small claims court.

Commissioner Gass states then it would be a civil matter.

Mr. Charney states there is a pipe coming off the road that when it rains gushes out. He does not know when the pipe was installed. He states he has a lawyer on retainer and he looked over Township ordinances and has given Mr. Charney the steps to take first contacting the Township, next would be to attend the Board meetings, after that would be to contact Westmoreland Conservation District, then contact the media and finally would be a civil lawsuit.

Commissioner Atwood asks if there is anything the developers are required to do to mitigate the water while they are developing.

Director Fonzi states this plan was approved with individual on-lot stormwater systems that was reviewed by Bob Robinson, Paul Christner as did the Conservation District however it is the responsibility of each builder and the developer to put the erosion controls in on each lot. There have been some heavy rain events over the last week so if the silt-fences aren't installed properly and the grass hasn't taken yet, then you will get some sheet flow down the hill.

Commissioner Atwood asks if there are any plans to send anyone out to take a look at the drainage.

Director Fonzi states Bob Robinson and Tom McGuire were out this week to look at it and are still doing some investigating.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Commissioner Zona
Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve. (Special Meeting 5/13/21)

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

Motion: Commissioner Zona
Second: Commissioner Gass

Motion to approve. (Regular Meeting 5/19/21)

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion: Commissioner Stump
Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

STAFF REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Rich Albert states the Public Works crews are working diligently to get the roads ready for the paving program even with a few weather set-backs.

PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Director Dan Miller states several months ago there was an Eagle Scout member to inform the Board of an Eagle Scout project he was working on. The project was developed and is now complete. Shane Hornicak asked Dan to express his thanks to all for their support of that project and also Commissioner Gass, Commissioner Zona, Commissioner Atwood and former Commissioner Rich Gray. Also, thanks Bruce Dice & Associates for their contribution. Shane could not be here tonight as he is presenting to the Boy Scout Conference that project. Mr. Miler states this is a major contribution to Lions Park and he would like to set up a small ribbon ceremony in mid-July to dedicate the bridge to Shane. Dan also thanks Commissioner Blasko who is on tele-conference.

Commissioner Atwood states he and other Commissioners are very proud to have been involved in as it was very well planned and executed. He welcomes other projects to be brought to the Board.

Dan Miller states this truly was a labor of love and states the project was approximately a six thousand dollar cost where to have a private contractor would have been much more.

Mike Turley states it was an excellent project and provides a nice entrance to Lions Park. He states Shane really learned a lot to how to develop a project and this project was very functional, practical and elegant too. He states the dollar amount does not capture the value of community participation.

Dan Miller states he would send the information to the Board inviting them to the ribbon ceremony and dedication.

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POLICE REPORT

Chief Rizzo states day three of five was just completed for the Junior Police Academy. It was full with all twenty five spots taken. River Rescue, K9 and ERT were all involved. Plans of expansion are already being discussed for the next year.

Commissioner Gass asks if they can attend graduation. Chief Rizzo states it will probably be around 2pm on Friday but will confirm with the Board.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Bob Dippolito states there have been some recent equipment failures but are working on that. He states member Jeff West will be resigning and also another member will be moving to Arizona. He states training is going well and he appreciates the Boards support.

ENGINEERING REPORT

FIRE OFFICIAL'S REPORT

There are no Board comments.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REPORT

- 1) SP-02-2021: Urban Properties, Logan Road, SR30, C-1 Zoning**
**Action to approve a major land development at the intersection of Route 30 and Logan Road.*

Motion: Commissioner Zona
 Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 2) SP-04-2021: Legacy Place Multi-Tenant Building, Country Club Drive, C-1A Zoning**
**Action to approve a major land development located on Country Club Drive.*

Motion: Commissioner Bevan
 Second: Commissioner Stump

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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3) S-13-2021: Willow Estates IV, Lot 4143 Consolidation, Windsor Rd, PRDZoning
****Action to approve a lot consolidation involving three contiguous lots on Windsor Rd.***

Motion: Commissioner Zona
 Second: Commissioner Gass

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Solicitor Alexander

There are no action items.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER’S REPORT

- 1) Action to approve the May check register.

Motion: Commissioner Stump
 Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 2) Budget Report – May 2021 Report.

- 3) Action to approve a Separation from Employment and Resolution of Heart and Lung Benefits for Edwin Anthony.

Motion: Commissioner Zona
 Second: Commissioner Gass

Motion to approve.

Motion carried 7 -0 – 0

- 4) Action to approve the advertisement of an ordinance amending Ordinance 2244, tobacco use in parks by adding a fine section consistent with First Class Township Code.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood
 Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.

Commissioner Gass asks Manager Silka to explain to the residents what this is. Manager Silka states in 2019 an ordinance was passed banning the use of tobacco products in the parks and recreation areas, however as complaints are made, there are no enforcement mechanism other than politely asking the people to leave, so if they don't leave there is no recourse other than the police escalate the situation to provide a trespass or public disturbance. What this ordinance will do with a First Class Township Code allows to issue fines up to six hundred dollars for violations.

Commissioner Gass asks if there will be signs. Manager Silka states there are already signs.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0
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- 5) Action to approve the advertisement of an ordinance prohibiting through traffic in the Townhouse parking lot.

Motion: Commissioner Gass Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 6) Action to contact PADot to request “No Left Turn” be posted for the intersections of Route 30 and Cherry Lane, Soltis Lane and Shrader Lane due to inadequate sight distance.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Zona

Abstain: Commissioner Stump

Motion carried 6 – 0 - 1

- 7) Action to approve a request from St. Agnes Church to erect a banner on Route 30 at township center from July 26 thru August 10, 2021.

Motion: Commissioner Zona Motion to approve

Second: Commissioner Gass

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 8) Action to approve a request from the Penn’s Woods Civic Association for fireworks on July 4, 2021.

Motion: Commissioner Gass Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Stump

Motion carried 7 – 0 - 0

- 9) Action to approve the release of the grading bond for Cleaveland / Price, 14000 Route 993, Trafford, PA 15085, in the amount of \$145,000.00 upon the recommendation of the Interim Township Engineer.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Bevan

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 10) Action to approve the release of the performance bond for Lincoln Corner Inc., in its entirety upon the recommendation of the Interim Township Engineer.

Motion: Commissioner Zona Motion to approve.

Second: Commissioner Bevan

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Commissioner Blasko states he has a concern regarding the landscaping along Route 30 and from the retaining wall down to Route 30 has weed overgrowth and can they be held liable for maintaining.

Manager Silka states this is the remaining twelve thousand dollars as waiting for as-built plans as the landscaping plan has already been approved and released, but can contact the developer to ask them to spruce it up a bit.

Commissioner Stump states she is still opposed to that because of the road condition.

Manager Silka states Thompson Lane is on the paving program and will be taken care of.

Commissioner Atwood states even though it is on the paving program, a lot of the road deterioration is due to the large amount of trucks that have been going through there.

Manager Silka states the reason this was not bonded is because we were waiting to do that until the project was done, so it was anticipated to have the road torn up during the construction.

Solicitor Dice asks if there is a maintenance bond in place.

Manager Silka states there will be a fifteen month maintenance bond.

Solicitor Dice states under the maintenance bond may be able to get them to spruce it up.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Stump – NO
 Commissioner Atwood – NO
 Commissioner Blasko – YES
 Commissioner Zona – YES
 Commissioner Bevan – YES
 Commissioner Gass – NO
 Commissioner Haigis – YES

Motion carried 4 – 3 – 0

- 11) Action to accept the resignation of Janet Salamon from the Parks and Recreation Board.

Motion: Commissioner Zona
 Second: Commissioner Stump

Motion to accept.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 12) Action to accept the resignation of Jeffrey West from the Emergency Management Committee.

Motion: Commissioner Stump
 Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.
 Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0
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- 13) Action to hire Aaron Bowen for the seasonal position of Park Laborer at the budgeted rate conditioned upon successful pre-employment drug and alcohol testing.

Motion: Commissioner Stump
 Second: Commissioner Bevan

Motion to approve.
 Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 14) Action to hire Christopher Costa for the seasonal position of Park Laborer at the budgeted rate conditioned upon successful pre-employment drug and alcohol testing.

Motion: Commissioner Stump
 Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion to approve.
 Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 15) Action to hire Aiden McLaughlin for the seasonal position of Park Laborer at the budgeted rate conditioned upon successful pre-employment drug and alcohol testing.

Motion: Commissioner Stump
 Second: Commissioner Bevan

Motion to approve.
 Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- 16) Action to add to the agenda an easement reduction for Bill Viola at 1242 St. Niccolai Drive and also to appoint Paul Diegelman to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood
 Second: Commissioner Zona

Motion to add both items to the agenda.
 Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

There was no public input.

- 17) Action to approve an easement reduction for Bill Viola at 1241 St. Niccolai Drive.

Motion: Commissioner Stump
 Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to approve.

Commissioner Haigis asks Manager Silka to give an overview of the easement reduction. Manager Silka states for some reason when this lot was developed the storm sewer easement was put into a thirty three foot easement which is basically a road easement not an utility easement. So what this does is reduce the easement thirteen feet to twenty feet and then he can install an inground pool.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

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- 18) Action to appoint Paul Diegelman to the vacant term for the Parks and Recreation Board.

Motion: Commissioner Zona
Second: Commissioner Atwood

Motion to appoint.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

FURTHER BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Zona
Second: Commissioner Atwood

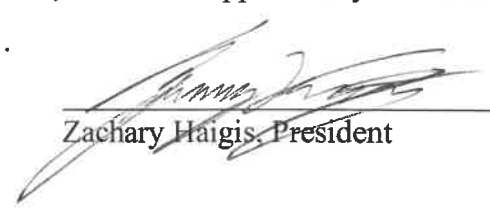
Motion to adjourn. (7:33 P.M.)

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0

- Regular Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2021 were approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 21, 2021.



Jeffrey Silka, Township Manager
/jjm



Zachary Haigis, President

