

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016  
7:30 PM

Chairman August Neff called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also in attendance were Supervisors Fredrick Shunk and Robert Mazza, Attorney Robert Jeffery, Engineer Clay Fails and Secretary Karen Ahlgrim. Members of the public included, Jim Williams, Al Arment, Cheryl Spacht, Julia Gorniak, Fritz Holzhausen, Julie Creed, Joan Bemiss, Matt Putman, Chris & Lisa Braun, Sally Griffin, Ann Kreider and Aime Szymanski.

Chairman Neff asked for public comments or concerns and none were stated. A motion from Robert Mazza and the second from Fredrick Shunk approved the minutes of the April 4th, 2016 meeting as presented and passed by unanimous vote. Secretary Karen Ahlgrim presented the Treasurer's report for the month of April 2016 and by a motion from Fredrick Shunk and the second from Robert Mazza was accepted as presented and passed by unanimous vote. Bills were presented for April 1st through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 for approval and payment as follows:

General Fund Checks	#15463-15530	\$ 158,262.73
General Fund Debits	#J2334,2337,2338,2342,2343,2348, 2353,2354,2355,2357,2358	\$ 11,697.45
Water Fund Checks	#4402-4422	\$ 338,678.83
Sewer Fund Checks	#3540-3553	\$ 144,990.36

Total approved by a motion from Fredrick Shunk and the second from Robert Mazza was \$653,629.37 and passed by unanimous vote.

*Correspondence:*

Supervisors acknowledged an invitation to attend the annual ECATO Yearbook/Scholarship Dinner being held on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Edinboro-McKean VFW. Supervisors, Secretaries, Zoning Officers, Solicitors, Tax Collectors, Engineers and Spouses are invited. The cost is \$26.00 per person and a motion from Fredrick Shunk and the second from Robert Mazza approved participation by officials, passed by unanimous vote.

Supervisors addressed a request from the 2016 QUAD Run coordinator to hold their event on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> starting at Gibson Park and involving Township roads, Orchard Beach, Martin, Dill Park and Middle. They have insurance in place and will be contacting Terry Thomson, EMC. A motion to approve was received from Robert Mazza and the second from Fredrick Shunk and passed by unanimous vote.

National Grape has requested use of the Meeting Room on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> for a preboard meeting with approximately 40 people from 6-9 PM. A motion to approve was received from August Neff and the second from Robert Mazza and passed by unanimous vote.

*Old Business:*

Supervisor Fredrick Shunk addressed the tabled item from the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting concerning a major water leak at Mr. Al Arment's house on Clark Road. He read the policy set concerning such events from 2013 which took on the "no forgiveness policy" stating, to change this would require a whole new policy to be put in effect. Attorney Jeffery noted that the Water/Sewer Authority did discuss Mr. Arment's situation at their meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> and are sympathetic to Mr.

Arment however no decisions were made, and it will be addressed at their next meeting. August Neff asked if the Water/Sewer Authority normally addresses these types of issues and Attorney Jeffery noted that a policy is set, and that was done because the Township has to pay the Borough regardless. Robert Mazza noted he understands that a policy is in place and our hands are tied but he is also sympathetic in this situation, he asked if we could make an adjustment to the policy to just collect the costs to the Township in these situations. Mr. Arment stated that he is just hoping not to pay the profit to the Township; this current bill is 5 years worth of his normal usage. Robert Mazza feels we should table and see how the Water/Sewer Authority feels; he noted to Mr. Arment that the Township knows he was not being negligent. Matt Putman noted that it was said previously that the Borough reads meters monthly, could we do that? Fredrick Shunk stated that our water department consists of only two men. A motion to table this item until the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and after the Water/Sewer Authority has met again was received from Robert Mazza and the second from Fredrick Shunk and passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Chris Braun of 10982 Monticello asked the Board about North East Township selling a lot in his neighborhood which was deeded to the Township from the developer. Mr. Neff explained that the Township has done nothing yet to sell the lot; it is still in the discussion phase. Mr. Braun explained that he opposes the sale and he wants the property deeded over to an association or a foundation which he would personally operate, he strongly objects to a private sale.

*New Business:*

Supervisor Neff reviewed the 2016 Seal Coat Bid results from April 14<sup>th</sup>, noting 10 or so townships went together bidding out 850 square yards to receive a better price for all. Suit-Kote Corporation was the low bidder coming in at .996 for a total of \$99,600.00 for our 100,000 SY. A motion to accept the low bidder Suit-Kote and proceed was made by Robert Mazza and the second from Fredrick Shunk and passed by unanimous vote.

Supervisors discussed Mercyhurst University's desire to bring back the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks to the North East area, but they need help from the community, to date \$5000 has been raised toward the \$12,500 they are looking for. Robert Mazza noted it's a nice event and it's important to support, but he feels \$500 is enough from the Township. Fredrick Shunk noted it would have been nice to be able to budget for, maybe next year, he agrees with the \$500. A motion to donate \$500 was made by Robert Mazza and the second from August Neff and passed by unanimous vote.

*Mylar:* Cheryl Spacht of 12030 Middle Road wishes to extend the property line between her lot and the lot to the west (Merle Spacht). A motion to sign and approve was made by Fredrick Shunk with the second from Robert Mazza and passed by unanimous vote.

Recently a request was made to Penndot to perform an engineering and traffic study on Route 89 from the Borough line to I90, August Neff read the results received April 20<sup>th</sup>, (1) summarized as the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, that is the speed at which 85% of drivers are traveling at or below averages 53 mph and 68% are exceeding the current 45 mph speed limit (2) the actual rate is lower than the statewide average crash rate for similar rural, two lane highways (3) the roadside development includes homes, but the extent of this development and the roadway geometrics are similar to many other areas with 45 mph speed limits. Based on these criteria they feel 45 mph is the most appropriate speed limit and that no further reduction is warranted. Also on the request for a brake retarder prohibition in the same area they note the location does not meet the established criteria for a brake retarder prohibition, the roadway exceeds the maximum allowable 4% grade as defined in the governing regulations.

Dennis Kershner of 4919 Station Road noted that the reason brake retarders are needed is because of the hill, he will continue to pursue this for himself and his neighbors, he feels trucks could tone it down with today's technology, he does not want a traffic light at the intersection of Law Road and Route 89. Supervisor Neff noted maybe the Township could place a sign addressing truckers (no jake brakes) he will address at the Road Tour on May 13<sup>th</sup> with PennDOT. Robert Mazza noted too many signs in a small area can be an issue also and questioned the 4% grade, Mr. Kershner asked why the signs are in many other towns and areas with hills. Matt Putman asked about a lane expansion (turn lane) on Route 89 and August Neff noted no lane expansion is planned; no study has been done for that yet. Mr. Kershner noted that Route 89 is a problem, it needs much more attention to all of its issues, August Neff reminded residents that Robert's would have to pay for an impact study to be performed as a possible condition on their permit when applied for. Robert Mazza noted that Roberts received PennDOT approval for their driveway and Mr. Kershner noted that more buildings were added afterward.

Discussion on the intersection of Orchard Beach Road and Middle Road brought several comments following another recent accident there. Residents are asking for a 4-way stop and asking about the process involved. Attorney Jeffery agrees that the topography and the shrubs on the south east corner are bad. August Neff asked the resident to remove the hedges or trim them down to 3 feet high. Julia Gorniak noted that 3 feet can still be too high with smaller shorter cars. Matt Putman noted a similar situation at Belle and Depot Roads in Harborcreek, which Harborcreek Township went in and removed the shrubs'. Engineer Clay Fails noted an engineering study would be required following protocol then recommendations to the Board and yes Hill Engineering could perform the study. A motion to proceed with a traffic study by Hill Engineering if the price quoted is within the budget was made by Fredrick Shunk and the second from Robert Mazza and passed by unanimous vote.

August Neff gave a preliminary clean up days report from April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. 20+ Tons of metals and rebar recycled, over 600 tires, 40 appliances and 30 pallets of e-cycle items, total income to date \$4,606.33 total costs to be determined after payroll and garbage invoices received.

Allison Smith has resigned from the Rec Commission because she is moving to the Borough; we have received two letters of interest to serve from Julie Creed and Halli Reid. Julie Creed will withdraw so that Halli Reid may take the post, noting Halli's past experience on the Board. A motion to appoint Halli Reid to fill the slot left by Allison was made by Fredrick Shunk and the second from Robert Mazza and passed by unanimous vote.

Fredrick Holzhausen asked if there were any updates on the Borough's sewage discharge plan, Clay Fails noted that plans are to meet with the Township for a coordination meeting. Mr. Holzhausen is concerned about sewage monitoring; Robert Mazza noted that he will be able to follow the Borough's proceedings.

After announcements and with all business concluded a motion to adjourn was received from Fredrick Shunk and the second from Robert Mazza at 8:45 PM. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Ahlgrim, Secretary