

North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors July 7, 2016

The meeting of the North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Municipal Building, 2051 Spring Road, Carlisle PA on July 7, 2016. Chairman James Hare called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Vice Chairman Harry Kelso, Supervisor Robert Reisinger, Supervisor Pat McDowell, Solicitor Mark Allshouse, Manager Deborah Ealer, Police Chief Doug Reitz and Recording Secretary Lori Coleman. Supervisor David Smith was not in attendance.

Visitors: see attachment.

Public Comment / Hearing of Visitors

Vincent DiFilippo- Cumberland County Presentation

County Commissioner Vince DiFilippo said the commissioners were visiting various municipalities to recognize individuals that went above and beyond the call of duty this January during the snow storm. Mr. DiFilippo was present to recognize Zachary Zook as recommended by Supervisor McDowell. Mr. DiFilippo noted Mr. Zook is an employee and resident of North Middleton. He oversees the Public Works Department that consists of 6 full time and 6 part time employees. Even with the large amount of snow, the township roads were cleared the next day. Numerous residents called the township to commend the road crew on the outstanding snow removal job. Mr. DiFilippo said all the employees of the public works department should be congratulated, however Mr. Zook planned and directed the staff to complete the work. He also prepared and completed all the paperwork related to the storm. On behalf of the Cumberland County Commissioners, Mr. DiFilippo presented Mr. Zook with a certificate of special recognition. It stated the Board of Commissioners recognize and congratulate Mr. Zook for his efforts during the 2016 snow storm. Mr. Zook worked tirelessly to clear roads during the snow storm. Mr. DiFilippo added the public works department is the backbone of many municipalities and many do not realize all the work involved.

Fire Chief Shawn Brickner

Fire Chief Shawn Brickner shared an article with the board from the Daily American concerning the amount of time fire police spent for traffic control incidents. Chief Brickner discussed his concern directing traffic for public utilities during all hours of the day and under various weather conditions. He noted many times work trucks show up with no flaggers, and expect the fire police to flag until they complete their jobs. Chief Brickner referenced the Rt. 74 incident and the amount of time spent until the accident was cleared. Chief Brickner voiced his concern with companies not providing the appropriate flagger coverage which ends up falling on the shoulders of the fire police. He asked if there was anything the township could do to assist with the problem. Supervisor Hare asked if he had discussed the issue with other fire chiefs. Chief Brickner mentioned other departments face the same problem. Chief Brickner added manpower was getting limited, and members are not showing up for various reasons.

Robin Shotto noted current members were getting older and have health issues so it is very difficult to work in the heat for an extended period of time. She noted many times PP&L will show up, check the site, then leave for a few hours until before returning with the necessary crew and equipment. They then expect the fire police to remain until the entire job is completed. Supervisor Hare suggested the township write a letter to the local legislators with the concern. Chief Brickner noted it could be addressed with the local utility companies who can provide flaggers, but

sometimes private contractors are used and they do not have personnel to flag. Chief Brickner asked if an ordinance could be passed requiring companies to provide flaggers if the incident requires more than an hour repair process. Solicitor Allshouse mentioned an ordinance could also be a deterrent from providing services because of the extra overhead needed to hire flaggers. Chief Brickner felt companies would not turn down business since they have bills to pay. Ms. Shotto had no problem with covering for a utility company for a few hours until they got situated, but covering all day is extreme. Supervisor Reisinger said this is the first time he has heard about this problem and asked if there was a lack of communication. Chief Brickner noted the issue has really increased in the last few weeks. Supervisor Reisinger verified this was not a standing problem, but rather they were bringing it to the board's attention. Chief Bricker agreed. Supervisor Reisinger asked if a problem existed with members not showing up. He noted reviewing the regular reports from the fire department and did not see any 10-hour time frames. Chief Brickner said the time of coverage varies by the incident. Supervisor Reisinger asked if they have tried to bill any of the companies for coverage. Chief Brickner said they do not have the right to bill for volunteer labor. In addition, Chief Brickner noted they can bill for tools and items used, but many times they would not receive any funding from the insurance companies. Chief Brickner discussed various situations that have occurred over the past year in which the fire police had to cover for downed wires. The board thanked Chief Brickner and Ms. Shotto for the information.

Consent Agenda

- a. Meeting Minutes: 06/02/16 Action Meeting**
- b. Payment of the bills: 06/13/16; 06/27/16**
- c. Tax Collector Reports: 2016 Report 12-13; May Summary**
- d. Green Light Go Grant**
- e. Time extension: Brubaker Subdivision Plan- October 31, 2016**
- f. Acceptance of 2 LeTort Authority Member Resignations**
- g. Acceptance of Police Chief Resignation as of July 15, 2016**

Supervisor Kelso moved to approve the consent agenda items a through g, and Supervisor Reisinger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Business of Township Officials

Township Manager

- a. June Report**

Ms. Ealer presented her June report.

- b. Financial Report**

Ms. Ealer presented the financial report to the board.

- c. Hoy Road Grant Application**

Ms. Ealer said the drain pipe under Hoy Road has needed replaced for several years. When the grant program was announced, Mr. Zook submitted the project to the county. The county has approved the application for \$11,573.00 which covers the materials, cost and equipment rental to replace the pipe. The township will use in-kind contributions such as stone, labor, backhoe, and truck for a total of \$3247.00. Supervisor Reisinger moved to approve the Hoy Road grant and Supervisor McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Police Chief

- a. June Report**

Chief Reitz presented his report to the board. Supervisor Hare noted the board accepted his resignation with a lot of reluctance. The board was sorry that he was leaving but wanted to

wish him well going forward. Chief Reitz said he enjoyed serving the citizens of North Middleton. He completed a lot of thought and deliberation before making a final decision, but in the end it was a great career opportunity that he could not pass up. He thanked the board for the all the opportunities they had given to him.

Solicitor's Report: Mark Allshouse

Solicitor Allshouse presented his report to the board.

Supervisors

Rt. 34 & Cavalry Road Intersection

At the Planning Commission meeting, Supervisor Kelso noted an inquiry if the timing of the light was changed. Ms. Ealer said sometimes it is periodically changed. Supervisor Kelso mentioned the traffic being backed up, and vehicles entering through the Rite Aid parking lot. Ms. Ealer noted it constantly occurs. She added the light will be eventually fixed with the Green Light Go grant. Ms. Ealer will complete a follow-up to see if the timing was changed.

New Business

No items were discussed.

Old Business

a. Safety Manual Update

Supervisor McDowell offered a few changes to the manual. On page 15, he suggested changing toolbox/tailgate talks to after action reviews. On page 20 of accident investigation, he recommended adding an additional step: to review the record of after action reviews. Ms. Ealer noted the record is reviewed by the safety committee.

b. Green Light Go Grant

Supervisor Hare asked if the township had to do anything. Ms. Ealer noted the township will move forward with the project. Supervisor Hare would contact PennDOT to see if there are any plans to fix the intersection. Supervisor Hare felt a left turn lane was needed.

Executive Session

An executive session was held following the meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ealer
Township Secretary

Lori Coleman
Recording Secretary