

## **North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors June 29, 2017**

The meeting of the North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Municipal Building, 2051 Spring Road, Carlisle PA on June 29, 2017. Chairman Robert Reisinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Vice Chairman Harry Kelso, Supervisor James Hare, Supervisor Pat McDowell, Supervisor David Smith, Solicitor Mark Allshouse, Manager Deborah Ealer, Police Chief Gary Carver and Recording Secretary Lori Coleman.

Visitors: see attachment.

### **Visitors**

#### **a. Linda Figueroa- Fair Districts PA – Cumberland County**

Linda Figueroa and Marcy Douglass of North Middleton were before the board on behalf of the Fair Districts, PA which is a newly formed citizens' group with members throughout Cumberland County. The group is interested in the way the state changes the redistricting. Ms. Figueroa said they are urging the General Assembly to amend the PA constitution to provide a nonpartisan, independent commission that would be responsible for both the state and federal redistricting that occurs every 10 years. She also provided the board with a copy of a resolution, adopted by the Cumberland County Commissioners, in support of the amendment. They were seeking support of the resolution or for the board to adopt a similar one. Ms. Figueroa has been interested in this particular issue for a long time since Pennsylvania does not have its own form of government for citizens to become involved. They felt a more organized system should be available. Ms. Douglass became involved because she felt it was an important issue with the current technology and data mining available. She noted districts could be created to vote in a particular way. The resolution requests the creation of an eleven member commission to create districts rather than the legislators. Supervisor Reisinger verified it would be by an amendment to the constitution. Ms. Douglass agreed. Supervisor Reisinger noted his concern with changing the PA constitution. Supervisor McDowell verified the people on the commission would be appointed. Ms. Figueroa said the commission would be selected by registered voters of all 3 parties (4 Democrats, 4 Republicans and 3 Independents). Ms. Figueroa felt if there was an opportunity to improve the process it should be explored. Supervisor Reisinger agreed the system needs to be changed but was 100% against modifying the state constitution. He suggested a balance of the number of voters in each district based on demographics. Ms. Figueroa said the technology part of the change is not hard, it's rather the people. Ms. Figueroa inquired about the board's next step. The board said they would review the information before making a decision. Ms. Figueroa recommended emailing her or Ms. Douglass with any questions. The board thanked them for the presentation.

#### **b. Linda Blackburn- Feral cats**

Linda and George Blackburn of Elm Drive were before the board to discuss the feral cats in their neighborhood. They did contact the Codes Department about their problem and were advised they could trap the cats and get a voucher from the Police Department to take the animals to the Humane Society. Ms. Blackburn's concern was she would be responsible for purchasing the traps. She proposed the Township purchase the traps, and

loan them out to the residents for about a month at a time. She provided the board with information on the cost and sizes of the traps from Lowes and Agway. She suggested the Township require a deposit so the traps will be returned, and recommended purchasing 10 traps since it was an ongoing problem. Chief Carver noted the Humane Society is a no kill site so the cats are neutered or spayed and then returned to the original location to be let go. If it was the best case scenario, Ms. Blackburn was satisfied that the cats would at least not be able to reproduce. Supervisor Kelso inquired if someone was feeding the cats. Ms. Blackburn was unsure. She added the animals are destructive and none have collars. She thanked the board for hearing their concern.

### **Subdivision and Land Development**

No plans were discussed.

### **North Middleton Authority**

#### **a. June Manager Report**

Supervisor Reisinger presented the Manager's report.

#### **b. May Minutes**

Supervisor Reisinger presented the May minutes. He noted the survey to extend water to Crestview Elementary and neighboring properties was complete. The Authority has decided to not pursue the project.

### **Solicitor**

Solicitor Allshouse stated the Nobue Sheller Spring Road property recently sold, so the township will get the lien money back. Secondly, as a fire fighter, he indicated to the board that he was placed on the 30 day call list to go to Utah.

### **New Business**

#### **a. Manager**

##### **1. Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Ms. Ealer reviewed an email from Justin Miller, Recycling Coordinator for Cumberland County Recycling & Waste. He indicated a Household Hazardous Collection Event was scheduled for August 19, 2017. Mr. Miller was seeking a donation from local municipalities to assist with covering the costs. Ms. Ealer asked if the board was willing to participate. She noted the drop off point was at the Allen Road facility. Supervisor Kelso added it was a good way to get rid of old items. Supervisor McDowell recommended donating \$1000. The board agreed with the recommendation. The item was added to the consent agenda.

##### **2. 817 Newville Road Time extension request- expires 07/30/17- extension to 10/31/17**

Ms. Ealer presented a time extension request from Tin Cup Land Development for 817 Newville Road. They were seeking to extend the plan to 10/31/17. The item was added to the consent agenda.

##### **3. Mountain View Estates Phase II – expires 07/31/17- extension to 08/31/17**

Ms. Ealer presented a time extension request for Mountain View Estates Phase II from 07/31/17 to 08/31/17. The item was added to the consent agenda.

**4. Mountain View Estates Phase I reduction request**

Ms. Ealer reviewed a bond reduction request for Mountain View Estates from James Halbert for sidewalk work completed. Bill Green has inspected the request and recommended the release of \$19,156.50. Solicitor Allshouse said he was contacted by Bill Green to reiterate the following: “Until the wearing course has been placed over the Phase I streets, we believe that any future reduction requests be closely evaluated to assure that the Township holds adequate security to complete the remaining work itemized in the Construction Costs Estimate”. Solicitor Allshouse said the construction cost estimate is a year old and the wearing course has not been completed. Mr. Green wanted to bring the item to the board’s attention so that further reduction requests should not be granted until the wearing course is completed. Solicitor Allshouse noted the board may have questions as they evaluate Phase II with regard to connection and construction. Ms. Ealer mentioned two different developers one for Phase I and one for Phase II. The item was added to the consent agenda.

**5. Fire Company**

Ms. Ealer referenced a meeting with the Fire Chief. Cumberland County is having a problem filling the full time driver’s position. The local fire chiefs have discussed pulling together and hiring some full time drivers. Ms. Ealer noted the Chief was seeking approval from the board to pursue gathering information for a full time driver. Supervisor McDowell asked if the driver would have to be a fire fighter. Solicitor Allshouse noted the person would have to be certified as a first responder. The board agreed to authorize Ms. Ealer to write a letter permitting the Fire Chief to begin gathering information.

**6. Act 172 of 2016**

Ms. Ealer explained Act 172 would permit municipalities to offer a tax credit on earned income tax or real estate tax to volunteer fire fighters. The basis was to try and keep volunteer fire fighters. The decision was up to the municipality, and the credit is only on municipal taxes. The real estate credit is limited to 20 percent of the municipal real estate tax liability for residential real property owned and occupied as the domicile of an active volunteer. Ms. Ealer and the Fire Chief would develop criteria to determine an active fire fighter. Supervisor Reisinger inquired how the discount is applied. Ms. Ealer said the resident fire fighter would pay their full tax bill in which the fire chief would verify they are active. Then, the township would issue the refund. Supervisor Kelso noted the resident would have to own a home to get the benefit. Supervisor Reisinger inquired why a stipend is not offered. Ms. Ealer noted the person would be considered paid, and referenced a previous lawsuit. Ms. Ealer said the Act would have to be passed via ordinance. After some discussion, the board requested Ms. Ealer gather additional details. Supervisor Hare suggested it be considered for next year, not this year.

**7. Bleacher Request**

Ms. Ealer noted the Carlisle Area Little League will be hosting the Intermediate Division State Tournament. Teams will be coming from across the state. With all the visitors and fans, the Carlisle Area Little League was requesting to borrow the bleacher seats from Village Park. They would need them from July 11-17. The board supported granting the request. Solicitor Allshouse mentioned the liability issue.

**8. Mountain View Estates extension**

Supervisor Kelso asked why the extension request was for only one month. Ms. Ealer did mention the issue to Lee Bothell. Supervisor Kelso noted they are going to have to ask for another extension.

**9. Stormwater proposal**

Supervisor Hare asked for an update on the stormwater proposal. Supervisor Reisinger said a meeting was slated for July 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Ealer felt a public meeting would be scheduled for August.

**10. Trash Contract**

Supervisor Kelso asked for an update. Ms. Ealer noted she was contacted by two vendors inquiring about the 6 month period. Supervisor Smith asked if the township would have a separate contract. Ms. Ealer said yes, and the township would get a better price by bidding with another municipality. Solicitor Allshouse noted it was the same idea as using a franchise agreement.

**Police Chief**

**a. Draft Quartermaster List**

Chief Carver noted working with Officer Johnson to develop the list of items. Supervisor Smith asked Chief Carver various details of the contract. Supervisor Hare asked for clarification on the \$200 CVA funding. Chief Carver provided some examples of how the funding is utilized. Discussion occurred on the uniform and equipment provided on the list. Supervisor Hare asked for an update on Officer Sease. Chief Carver noted she was making good progress in her recovery.

**Board**

**a. July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting**

Supervisor Hare said he would not be present for the July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Engineer**

No report presented.

**Old Business**

No items were discussed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ealer  
Township Secretary

Lori Coleman  
Recording Secretary