

North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors January 2, 2018

The meeting of the North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Municipal Building, 2051 Spring Road, Carlisle PA on January 2, 2018. Chairman Harry Kelso called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Board members present were Vice Chairman Robert Reisinger, Supervisor James Hare, Supervisor David Smith, Supervisor Denise Gembusia, Manager Deborah Ealer, Police Chief Gary Carver and Recording Secretary Lori Coleman. Solicitor Mark Allshouse was not in attendance.

Visitors: see attachment.

Public Comment / Hearing of Visitors

Fire Chief Shawn Brickner presented the board with a request to hire a 24/7 part time fire truck driver. He was seeking funding to try and fill the position with a regular hourly rate. Currently, the fire department utilizes 7 CDL drivers that are required to drive the two engines and the ladder truck. Out of the 7, two are qualified to drive all the equipment. The fire department will be facing challenges in the next few years as volunteers begin to age out. Chief Brickner discussed obstacles many fire departments are facing with the decrease of volunteers. Supervisor Hare asked about the drivers they are currently utilizing. Chief Brickner noted the drivers are paid an hourly rate with no benefits. The fire department does have a paid driver program in which a driver is available Monday through Friday from 6am to 5pm for 50 hours a week at a rate of \$11.08/hour. The department is seeking to hire a part-time person to cover hours from 5pm through 6am and weekend shifts. Supervisor Reisinger noted the budget was already completed for the 2018 year. Had the board known about the request, the board could have adjusted the tax rate on the Fire tax. He felt the board was not in a position to grant the request. Supervisor Hare noted all fire companies face the same hurdles in reference to volunteers, and asked how many new volunteers the department gained in 2017. Chief Brickner stated the department had 3 volunteers but unfortunately one just left to new employment. Supervisor Hare asked if the department had a program to recruit. Chief Brickner said the information is listed in the mailing that is sent to all households in the township. They also work with local schools to try and recruit junior volunteers. Many do not finish the program. Supervisor Smith asked if any joint efforts were being pursued with neighboring departments. Chief Brickner referenced a grant the Borough of Carlisle received for recruitment and advertising that did not yield any additional volunteers. Chief Brickner noted the amount of time it takes for training tends to deter participants. Supervisor Smith asked about other fundraisers the department was completing. Chief Brickner referenced the aging volunteers and how hard it was to raise funds. Supervisor Smith felt the department should try to explore other fundraising ventures.

In addition, Supervisor Smith noted the department will be coming to the supervisors seeking additional funding for upgrades to the aging buildings. Chief Brickner noted the North Middleton Road fire house was an antiquated building. On another note, Supervisor Reisinger asked Chief Brickner what he knew about the Middlesex fire tax. Chief Brickner stated they approved it and was unsure of the funding amount. Supervisor Smith felt the fire department should share their 10 year plan with the board, so the board could plan for future expenditures. Since taking the position, Chief Brickner felt the request for a driver was very important so he took the initiative to present the request to the board. Supervisor Smith agreed it was a nationwide issue and they

need to start brainstorming on ways to recruit volunteers either through job fairs, a live in program through Dickinson, etc. Chief Brickner noted churches and local organizations like Project Share face issues with volunteers but the fire department requires training and certifications, so volunteers have the skills required to perform the job. Supervisor Kelso noted the fire tax was a good start to provide funding for the department. Chief Brickner said it is hard to keep volunteers that don't burnout. Change in generations and economics are some of the challenges the department is facing. Supervisor Reisinger felt they were all on the same page and thanked Chief Brickner for all the work he has done. Chief Brickner inquired about the funds from Middlesex Township. Ms. Ealer had no information at this time since the funds are allotted to each of the participating fire departments that provide coverage. Supervisor Reisinger recommended having two supervisors work with Chief Brickner to get a clear overview of the needs of the fire department. Supervisor Gembusia and Supervisor Smith volunteered to meet with Chief Brickner and other fire department representatives.

Consent Agenda

- a. Meeting Minutes: 11/30/17 Workshop Meeting, 12/14/17 Meeting**
- b. Payment of the bills: 12/11/17; 12/22/17; 12/26/17**
- c. Tax Collector Reports; 25-28, October and November monthly reports**
Supervisor Reisinger moved to approve the consent agenda items 7a through 7c.
Supervisor Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Business of Township Officials

Township Manager

- a. Financial Report**
Ms. Ealer presented the financial report.
- b. LEMC Resignation- Pat McDowell**
Supervisor Smith moved to regretfully accept the resignation of Pat McDowell from the Local Emergency Management Coordinator position. Supervisor Hare seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Supervisor Hare recommended sending a letter of thanks from the board to Mr. McDowell. Supervisor Kelso felt the board should search for a new person. In the absence of a LEMC, all the paperwork and information will flow to Ms. Ealer so nothing will fall through the cracks.
- c. Jody Lane drainage issue**
Ms. Ealer referenced a meeting with John Madden, Doug Brehm, and Supervisor Reisinger regarding a drainage issue at 1925 Jody Lane. The resident has water issues that are flowing onto her property and damaging her home. Ideas were discussed to get water off her property and channel it to the stormwater drain system. Ms. Ealer reviewed a map with the board. Supervisor Reisinger noted an existing stormwater inlet is available, and a request was made to run water in the direction of the inlet. Ms. Ealer noted the inlet does require some work. Supervisor Reisinger discussed the potential to run a drainage pipe from the end of the resident's property under the road over to the inlet. He noted it would be at the resident's expense. Supervisor Reisinger noted the township indicated they would support the construction but would not complete the work. Supervisor Gembusia verified there would be no effect to the neighbors. Ms. Ealer commented it would actually help them.

d. NMA Letter of expansion of water lines on Longs Gap Road

Ms. Ealer referenced Lee Koch's December 6th letter. She noted NMA did send out a survey to residents located along Longs Gap Road and the adjacent side streets from Channel Drive to East Slate Hill Road regarding public water. The overwhelming response was opposed to the project. Within the surveyed area, there was a short section of 5 properties located between Creek Road and Bellaire Avenue that expressed a desire to have public water service. It made sense for the Authority Board to look into providing water service to this short section, consisting of 425 feet of 6" ductile iron pipe connecting onto an existing water valve at the intersection of Longs Gap Road and Creek Road. The 6" mainline pipe would be installed along the east side of Longs Gap Road and end at the intersection of Bellaire Avenue and Longs Gap Road. A fire hydrant would be installed along with two gate valves for future extensions.

Staff looked at two ways to handle the project: (1) hire a contractor or (2) construct the system using Authority staff. The less expensive was to use Authority staff. At the NMA November board meeting, the board recommended moving forward with the project for the 5 homeowners. The Authority would send a letter to each of the five property owners describing the project and the proposed costs. Ms. Ealer noted the Authority was seeking support from the Township. Supervisor Reisinger stated letters did not go out to the property owners yet. The Authority would be doing an assessment and the Board of Supervisors must be notified. Supervisor Hare asked what happens if not all the property owners agree to public water. Supervisor Reisinger noted it was all or nothing participation for the project. Thus, Supervisor Reisinger moved to authorize the assessment for the Long's Gap Road water line extension project for the five properties, and Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e. 2018 Waste Contract

Ms. Ealer mentioned using Pennbid for the waste contract. The township received bids from three waste haulers. Mr. Zook handled the opening of the bids and forwarded the information to Solicitor Allshouse for review. Ms. Ealer reviewed the options available, and noted the contract begins on April 1st. She discussed the toter size, recycle toter, bulk item and leaf pickup. Supervisor Smith supported Option #2 for Advanced Disposal. Thus, Supervisor Gembusia moved to accept the 2018 Advanced Disposal bid option #2 for 5 years with recycling and leaf pick up contingent upon final approval and review by Solicitor Allshouse. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

f. Executive Session

Ms. Ealer requested an executive session to discuss a potential litigation issue. No vote was required.

Police Chief**a. December Report**

Chief Carver noted the policy manual was complete. Supervisor Smith asked about Corporal Peterson. Chief Carver noted he was starting physical therapy. Supervisor Kelso inquired when the cameras would arrive. Chief Carver noted he had not placed the order yet, since they were having issues with the in car cameras. Chief Carver requested to begin the process to hire a part-time officer. The board supported proceeding forward with the process.

Solicitor Allshouse: Mark Allshouse

Supervisor Kelso presented the Solicitor's report.

Engineer's Report

No report presented.

New Business

a. North Middleton Authority December Manager's Report

Supervisor Kelso presented the report.

b. North Middleton Authority November Minutes

Supervisor Kelso presented the minutes. Supervisor Reisinger noted the board changed the meeting dates from the 3rd Monday of the month to the 3rd Thursday of the month at 3pm.

Old Business

a. Liberal Leave Policy Redraft

Ms. Ealer made the updates and presented the redraft to the board.

b. Distracted Driving Policy Redraft

Ms. Ealer reviewed the updated changes to the policy. Supervisor Gembusia asked about the usage of the cell phone as a GPS. Supervisor Smith noted the policy goes by the PA Distracted Driving law. Ms. Ealer noted this policy is for nonuniform. Uniform has a separate policy that mirrors the state law. Ms. Ealer would incorporate the changes into the current policy and update with a resolution.

Executive Session

An executive session would be held following the meeting to discuss a potential litigation issue. No vote would be taken.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ealer
Township Secretary

Lori Coleman
Recording Secretary