
REGULAR SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING December 15, 2020

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Hanover Township, Northampton County, was called to order by Chairman John Diacogiannis at the Hanover Township Municipal Building, 3630 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA, 18017 at 7:00 P.M.

Present via virtual Zoom meeting were Supervisors Nagle, Lawless, Warren, Prendeville, Diacogiannis, Engineer Brien Kocher, and Solicitor Jim Broughal.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle, seconded by Ms. Lawless the Board approved the Agenda.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle seconded by Mr. Warren, the Board approved the minutes from the meeting of the Board of Supervisors dated November 24, 2020.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle seconded by Ms. Lawless, the Board approved the list of bills and transfers dated December 15, 2020.

Mr. Nagle aye with the exception of General Fund Payment #76, that benefits himself, Ms. Lawless aye with the exception of General Fund Payment #76, that benefits herself, Mr. Warren aye with the exception of General Fund Payment #76, that benefits himself, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Sharon Blaufarb spoke about the Holiday Light Display and questioned why only Christmas was being represented?

Mr. Diacogiannis stated there was no intention of excluding or including any religion. He advised that the displays that were brought to the Board's attention were immediately taken down.

Mr. Finnigan stated he advised the Board that moving forward the display will be completely secular and there will be no representation of religions.

The Board had a brief discussion on how they might move forward with the display.

Mr. Nagle apologized on behalf of the Board to anyone that was offended by the display as it was not the intention of the Board.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Diacogiannis spoke about the donations that came in for the light display and thanked everyone for their involvement and for everyone who drove through. Mr. Diacogiannis stated he hoped to expand the display in the future.

Mr. Diacogiannis noted for the record, the Board received a petition from the Traditions of America regarding traffic issues. He advised this has been turned over to the Engineer and Administration for possible comment.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

Mr. Prendeville had nothing to report.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Nagle – Road District #1, had nothing to report.

Mr. Diacogiannis – Road District #2, had nothing to report.

Mr. Warren – Road District #3, Mr. Warren wished everyone a safe healthy holiday season.

Ms. Lawless – Road District #4, Ms. Lawless wished everyone a healthy holiday season.

Mr. Prendeville – Road District #5, Mr. Prendeville wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Shade Tree Appointment

Mr. Prendeville moved to appoint Gamini Vedage to the Shade Tree Advisory Board effective January 4, 2021 for a four-year term expiring January 6, 2025 and to notify the Shade Tree Advisory Board of the Board's action.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Shade Tree Alternate Appointment

Mr. Prendeville moved to appoint William M. Glose, IV & Mary Ellen O'Connell as Alternate members of the Shade Tree Advisory Board effective January 4, 2021 for a four-year term expiring January 6, 2025 and to notify the Shade Tree Advisory Board of the Board's action.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

There was brief discussion on the appointments, it was advised correction would be made at the reorganization meeting.

Appointment of Emergency Manager Coordinator

Mr. Prendeville moved to appoint John J. Finnigan, Jr. as Emergency Management Coordinator, subject to the approval of the County Emergency Management Agency and PEMA, effective December 15, 2020.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Appointment of Emergency Management Staff

Mr. Prendeville moved to appoint Joshua L. Peters to the Hanover Township Emergency Management Agency subject to the approval of the County Emergency Management Agency and PEMA, effective December 15, 2020.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

PLANNING & ZONING

Authorization to Advertise – Proposed Ordinance – Chapter 185 Permitted Uses and Conditional Use in AFHBD

Ms. Lawless moved the Board authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise proposed ordinance amending the Text of the Hanover Township Zoning Ordinance Chapter 185 to provide for new permitted uses and a new conditional use in the ADHBD-Aircraft Flightpath Highway Business Zoning District.

Mr. Nagle seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Zoning Hearing Board – 702 Outlook Drive

The applicant is seeking a variance from the setback provisions of the Ordinance to construct concrete patios. The Board will not be sending representation.

ADMINISTRATION

Community Center Update

Mr. Warren stated we are in the severe outbreak status and the Community Center will not be able to open during at the current time. Mr. Warren stated he is looking forward to open the community center when it is safe to do so.

Proposed Ordinance – Vehicles and Traffic Chapter 172, Section 172-31 Violations and Penalties

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Ordinance 20 – 5, amending Chapter 172 Vehicles and Traffic of the code of Ordinances of the Township of Hanover, Northampton County, Pennsylvania by amending section 172-31 of the code of ordinances and repealing all sections inconsistent therewith.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Authorize to Advertise Approval of Actuary for 2021

Mr. Warren moved the Board approve to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise that it is the Township’s intent to appoint Beyer-Barber Company as the 2021 Township Actuary.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: Adoption of 2021 General Fund, Capital Reserve, State Fund and Recreation Budget

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20-21 adopting the 2021 Township Budgets and to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign the resolution.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Authorize to Advertise Adoption of 2021 Budget

Mr. Warren moved the Board authorize the Township Secretary to advertise the Adoption of the 2021 Budget.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: Approval of 2021 Tax Rate

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20 - 22 setting the 2021 Tax Rate and to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign the Resolution.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: Approval of 2021 Tax Rate for 611 Taxes

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20 - 23 setting the 2021 Tax Rate for Act 611 Taxes and to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign the Resolution.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: Declaration of Disaster Emergency Continuance

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20 – 24 continuing the Declaration of Disaster Emergency.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: 2021 Fee Schedule

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20 – 25 establishing the schedule of fees for Hanover Township effective January 1, 2021 and authorize the Chairman and Township Secretary to sign the Resolution.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: Approved Towing and Storage Companies

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20 – 26 establishing the certified list of licensed and approved Towing and Storage Companies.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Resolution: Condemnation of Land for Ingress and Egress to Bella Vista Acres

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Resolution 20 – 27 authorizing preparation and submission of a declaration of taking and related documentation for the condemnation of land for ingress and egress to Bella Vista Acres.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Proclamation: Marcia M. Hahn

Mr. Warren moved the Board adopt Proclamation 2020 – 5, honoring the Honorable Marcia M. Hahn on her retirement from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Authorize to Advertise Re-Organization Meeting, all January 2021 Meetings, and Re-Organization Meeting for Board of Auditors

Mr. Warren moved the Board authorize the Township Secretary to advertise the Re-Organization Meeting, all January 2021 meetings, and the Re-Organization Meeting for the Board of Auditors.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Authorize to Advertise Approval of Certified Public Accountant for 2021

Mr. Warren moved the Board approve to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise that it is the Township's intent to appoint, Todd J. Bushta of Accountancy Firm of Bushta & Company as the 2021 Certified Public Accountant. I further move the Board authorize the chairman to sign the Certified Public Accountant Services Agreement with Accountancy Firm of Bushta & Company, LLC.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

Budget Amendments 2020

Mr. Warren moved the Board approve the year end budget amendments for 2020, as presented by the Township Treasurer.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

DEVELOPMENTS

6292 Hanoverville – MPC Deadline

Mr. Nagle noted for the record the developer of 6292 Hanoverville Rd. granted the Township, in their letter dated December 9, 2020, an extension to June 30, 2021 to review the plans.

4098 Bath Pike – Improvements Extension

Mr. Nagle moved the Board grant the developer of 4098 Bath Pike, per their request letter dated December 9, 2020, an extension to March 18, 2021 to complete the improvements.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

LVCC II Lot 13 – Improvements Extension

Mr. Nagle moved the Board grant the developer of LVCC II Lot 13, per their request letter dated December 9, 2020, an extension to June 11, 2021 to complete the improvements.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Mr. Nagle aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Warren aye, Mr. Prendeville aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye

PUBLIC WORKS

Pool Update

Mr. Prendeville advised there are several questions for Terracon, the draft document from Terracon points to several voids and more explanation is needed.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Joan Steinburg asked when discussions will start about the next holiday display and will any of the committees be involved in those discussions?

Jermone Smith inquired if the pool review document was available for public review?

He was advised the document is currently a working draft and once it is an official document it will be available.

Dale Traupman thanked the Supervisors and the Township for trying to bring some brightness to 2020 with the holiday display.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Kocher – Engineer – nothing to report and wished everyone a safe and healthy end of 2020.

Mr. Broughal – Solicitor – nothing to report and wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Mr. Diacogiannis noted for the record the Board met in executive session on December 15, 2020 at 6:00 and ending at 6:45, regarding litigation.

Mr. Milite – Public Work Director – Mr. Milite stated the Public Works department is prepared for the snowstorm.

Mr. Finnigan – Township Manager – Mr. Finnigan advised the Township office will start limited lobby hours. There has been increased sanitizing. It has been recommended by the County to have 90 -100-day supply of PPE. Mr. Finnigan stated that a neighboring Township has reached out for assistance with snow plowing as their Public Works department is quarantined due to COVID. Mr. Finnigan thanked the Supervisors for their support in 2020. Mr. Finnigan acknowledged the staff and praised them for their hard work during the Pandemic. Mr. Finnigan thanked the businesses that donated towards the holiday display.

Mr. Prendeville thanked Mr. Finnigan for reaching out and working with the businesses to get the donations to make the holiday display possible.

Mr. Diacogiannis thanked Mr. Finnigan for his leadership during the year.

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle the Board adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Elizabeth D. Ritter
Township Secretary