
REGULAR SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING

April 26, 2022

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

Present were Supervisors Warren, Lawless, Diacogiannis, Prendeville, Engineer Brien Kocher, and Solicitor Jim Broughal.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Upon motion of Mr. Warren, seconded by Ms. Lawless, the Board approved the agenda.

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

Upon motion of Ms. Lawless seconded by Mr. Warren, the Board approved the minutes from the meeting of the Board of Supervisors dated March 22, 2022.

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

Upon motion of Ms. Lawless seconded by Mr. Warren, the Board approved the list of bills and transfers dated April 12, 2022.

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

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Lawrence Fox, 2610 Oakside Circle, spoke about the lack of fire protection in parts of the Township. He stated there is a deflection of responsibility by the Township. Mr. Fox distributed a letter to the Board. Mr. Fox requested a proactive report be supplied on what is being done to fix the water pressure issue.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Mr. Nagle advised he attended the PSATS conference with Mrs. Kutz, Mr. Warren, Mr. Finnigan, and Mr. Limpar.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

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

Mr. Diacogiannis – Road District #2, Mr. Diacogiannis reported on the Colonial Regional Police meeting. He advised there were several awards presented. Mr. Diacogiannis spoke about the District Attorney leasing part of the 248 building.

Mr. Warren – Road District #3, Mr. Warren spoke about a Pennsylvania's Electric Vehicle Roadmap training provided at PSATS. Mr. Warren stated the Township should start looking into a plan regarding electric vehicles and charging stations.

Ms. Lawless – Road District #4, Ms. Lawless spoke about on the April 21st Planning Commission Board of Supervisors joint meeting. Ms. Lawless requested the Board supply her with any changes to the draft comprehensive plan.

Mr. Prendeville – Road District #5, Mr. Prendeville had nothing to report.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Mr. Finnigan addressed the Board and presented his notification of retirement.

“April 26, 2022

Mr. John D. Nagle, Chairman
Hanover Township Board of Supervisors
3630 Jacksonville Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017-9302

RE: Notification of Retirement

Dear Chairman Nagle:

In 1999 when I ran and was elected to the Board of Supervisors, never in my wildest imagination would I have envisioned a twenty-two year run. In 2020, when cleaning out my home office, I found a campaign brochure from 1999. In it I listed the following priorities:

Sound, Responsible Economic Development

The remaining acres in Hanover need to be developed for the benefit of the entire community. All plans need to be reviewed not for their short-term affect, but 20-25 years down the road. How the development will affect the Township from an infrastructure, tax basis, water, sewage, public safety, and quality of life standpoint are some of the questions that need to be answered before development is approved.

Airport Noise & Expansion

Local pressure needs to be placed on the airport administration to expand only after the existing issues are resolved. The installation of an Instrument Landing (ILS) and Noise Monitoring System are necessary to improve the Quality of Life of the residents of Hanover Township and the safety of all travelers using L.V.I.A.

Regional Cooperation in Planning & Zoning

Hanover needs to take the LEAD in this effort. Our physical location makes it critical to work with surrounding municipalities in developing a “joint comprehensive plan.” If we are not pro-active, developments in the surrounding municipalities will have a dramatic effect on Hanover Township. Vehicles attempting to avoid congestion on Airport Road (S.R. 0987) and Bath Pike (S.R. 0512) will cause traffic to increase as they seek alternative routes on Township streets.

Maintaining the Tax Rate

Maintaining the tax rate is part of the responsibility of evaluating proposed developments. But it goes further than that! Reviews need to be made of all policies and procedures to make sure they are up to date and reflective of today’s environment. Do we need to continue previously established practices, or can they be streamlined or eliminated? Is there something that will work better? Similar questions to those being asked by businesses today.

My time as a member of the Board of Supervisors, and subsequently as the Township Manager, allowed me to address those priorities. Hanover is a better place to Live, Work and Play than it was in 1999. Government has worked for the

residents and business community. We addressed and have provided the core competencies and responsibilities of local government. Municipal government needs to focus on maintaining its road, parks, and municipal assets. Included in that responsibility is snow plowing, road maintenance (including paving & sealing), as well as outdoor space for healthy activity.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the Township staff that I've had the honor & privilege to work with, and interact with, since moving to Hanover in March of 1997. They are second to none, and I'd put them up against any other community. They are what makes this Township tick, day in and day out, 24-7-365. Whether it's coming in to plow at 2:00 a.m. or filling a sinkhole at 2:00 a.m. or 8:00 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday. When other municipal offices are closed because of inclement weather, this Township does not miss a beat. Office staff comes in and gets the work done.

The Township staff's three greatest attributes are dependability, adaptability, and a sense of teamwork. Those attributes were never challenged more than they were starting in March of 2020 when COVID became a way of life and a daily nuisance! Work hours had to be modified and adjusted. Employees' wellness and lives were given a priority, while always maintaining public health, welfare, and safety.

Teamwork, cooperation, and longevity due to the Board's support and commitment to the Township staff has allowed Hanover to be very unique among employers in today's environment. On December 31st, 2021, the Public Works Department, including leadership, had a combined average of fifteen years - three months of experience and longevity. The administrative staff as of the same date had an average of eleven years – two months.

I have also been fortunate to have great leadership at the Community Center since 2005, up to and including our current staff. These individuals, and others, have made it the valuable asset it is to the Township.

After careful consideration, I have made the decision to retire in order to enjoy leisure while continuing to devote time to community efforts and to spend time with family and friends. Therefore, please accept this as formal notification of my retirement from the position of Township Manager pursuant to the Employee Handbook. My last day of work will be August 31, 2022.

Working for our residents, business community and Board has been most rewarding and gratifying. I believe I've had a positive impact on our community and take leave with a sense of pride and humility.

I wish the residents, business community, Board and Township Staff continued success.

Sincerely,

John J. Finnigan, Jr.

Copy to: Board of Supervisors"

The Board acknowledged Mr. Finnigan's retirement and thanked him for dedication to the Township.

PLANNING & ZONING – Ms. Lawless
Zoning Hearing Board – 5300 Braddock Ct.

The applicant is requesting relief from the setback provisions of the Ordinance to construct a garage addition that will encroach into the side yard setback.

The Board will not be sending representation.

Zoning Hearing Board – 4519 Virginia Drive

The applicant is requesting relief from the maximum lot coverage provisions of the Ordinance to construct a roof structure over existing patio.

The Board will not be sending representation.

Hold Harmless – 5112 Barbary St.

Ms. Lawless moved the Board authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign the hold harmless agreement for the installation of a fence on the property located at 5112 Barbary St. Bethlehem, PA 18017. The proposed structure will encroach into the ten-foot Township drainage and utility easement located in the side and rear yards of the Premises.

Mr. Warren seconded the motion.

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

ADMINISTRATION – Mr. Diacogiannis

Auditor's Report

Mr. Todd Bushta presented the Audit Financial Statement from 2021.

Proclamation – Police Officer Week

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board adopt Proclamation 2022 – 5, recognizing National Police Officer Week 2022 and to honor the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Proclamation – Public Works Week

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board adopt Proclamation 2022 – 6, recognizing National Public Works Week 2022 and to highlight the commitment & dedication of the Hanover Township Public Works Department.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Proclamation – Eagle Scout

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board adopt Proclamation 2022 – 7, applauding and recognizing Adam Sylvan Wenrich on his Eagle Award. The Board of Supervisors congratulates him for his dedication and devotion in preserving the finest virtues of America life as set forth by Scouting principals. Hanover Township proclaimed May 3, 2022 as Adam Sylvan Wenrich Day in Hanover Township. Adam was presented with a copy of his proclamation.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

License Agreement – Basketball Camp

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign the license agreement between the Township of Hanover and Lorie Kahalil for the use of the Hanover Township Community Center gymnasium.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Hanover Township Fire Company #1 Agreement

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board authorize the Chairman to sign the Memorandum of Agreement to Provide Fire Protection Services between the Township of Hanover and Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company #1 of Northampton County.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Traffic Impact Fee Advisory Committee

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board approve to reconvene the Traffic Impact Fee Committee.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

DEVELOPMENTS- Mr. Warren

Schoenersville Site LLC Medical Office Building

Mr. Warren moved the Board of Supervisors approves the Revised Preliminary/Record Land Development Plan for Schoenersville Site, LLC – Medical Office Building, dated as last revised April 12, 2022, upon the conditions numbered 1 – 10 in Hanover Engineering’s letter dated April 21, 2022, I further move, that the granting of the conditional Revised Preliminary / Record approval of this Plan recognizes that the Township is agreeing to the items numbered 1 - 11 in Hanover Engineering’s letter dated April 21, 2022. Mr. Warren further moved, that the Township Secretary be authorized to notify the Developer of the Board’s action.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Pool

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer – Mr. Kocher had nothing to report.

Solicitor – Mr. Giovannini had nothing to report.

Recreation Director – Ms. Ritter, Assistant Recreation Director, advised the Egg Hunt was a success. The Brunch with Bunny was sold out. Ms. Ritter spoke about the Spring programming and updated the Board on the upcoming Golf Tournament.

Public Works Director – Mr. Finnigan advised the Safety Audit was completed through KMIT. Mr. Finnigan advised he distributed the Road Analysis document to the Board. Mr. Finnigan distributed the asset replacement schedule.

Director of Administration – Mrs. Ritter advised there were 6 viewers on the live stream.

Township Manager – Mr. Finnigan gave an update on Mr. Milite.

Upon motion of Ms. Lawless the Board adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Elizabeth D. Ritter
Secretary