
REGULAR SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING

November 22, 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 Check, Lawless, Diacogiannis, Prendeville, Engineer Brien Kocher, Solicitor Anthony Giovannini, and Manager Finnigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

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

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

Upon motion of Mr. Diacogiannis seconded by Ms. Lawless, the Board approved the list of bills and transfers dated November 22, 2022.

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

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

No one offered comments.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Nothing to report.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

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. Diacogiannis stated he attended the Citizens Police Academy which began at the beginning of September with weekly meetings.

Mr. Check – Road District #3, had nothing to report.

Ms. Lawless – Road District #4, had nothing to report.

Mr. Prendeville – Road District #5, had nothing to report. Mr. Prendeville reminded everyone of Shop with a Cop program.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

PLANNING & ZONING – Ms. Lawless

ADMINISTRATION – Mr. Diacogiannis

Colonial Regional Police Commission 2023 Budget

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board approve the 2023 Hanover Township Allocation of a maximum of \$2,398,741 towards the operation of the CRPD in compliance with Article V, Section B of the Colonial Regional Police Commission Articles of Agreement and to send a letter to the Commission informing them of the Board's actions.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

2023 Residential Waste & Recycling Fees

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to approve the 2023 Residential Waste & Recycling Fees as presented by the Township Manager.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

2023 Salary Increase Guidelines

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to approve the 2023 Salary Increase Guidelines as presented to the Board by the Township Manager to be used for employees effective with the 2022 reviews. With the following changes suggested by Mr. Nagle; the approved changes are the Meets Normal Requirements from 3.0% to 3.25% and Meets Some Requirements / Fails to Meet Some Requirements from 1.0% to 1.5%

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Authorize to Advertise Actuary for 2023

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board approve to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise that it is the Township's intent to appoint Foster and Foster as the 2023 Township Actuary.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Authorize to Advertise Certified Public Accountant for 2023

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board approve to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise that it is the Township's intent to appoint, Todd J. Bushta, CPA as the 2023 Certified Public Accountant.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Authorize to Advertise 2023 Meetings

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to authorize the Secretary to advertise the 2023 meeting dates.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Entech Engineering Proposal – Community Center HVAC Unit Replacement

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board authorize the Chairman to sign the proposal with Entech Engineering for the HVAC unit replacement at the Community Center. The Board approved the proposal and added the optional service of heat pump comparison.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance - Property Tax Penalty Waiver

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to adopt Ordinance 22-6 to implement Pennsylvania Act 57 of 2022, property tax penalty waiver provisions by amending Chapter 163 taxation, adding a new Article X, property tax penalty waiver provision to the code of codified ordinances, and repealing all ordinances inconsistent herewith.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Resolution – Commonwealth Financing Authority – H20 PA Grant

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to adopt Resolution 22 – 21 requesting a H20 PA Grant of \$1,539,964.60 (2/3 of the total estimated project cost) from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Chaucer Lane and Lord Byron Drive Storm Sewer Extension Project.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

Resolution – Embassy Bank Resolution of Lodge, Association or Other Similar Organization

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to adopt Resolution 22 – 22 to move Sanitary / Sewer funds to two 6-month Certificate of Deposit with an interest rate of 3.440% with an annual percentage yield of 3.50%. In addition, Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board authorize the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Manager, Secretary and Treasurer to sign the agreement.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

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

DEVELOPMENTS – Mr. Check

Farmhouse Village Subdivision – MPC Extension

Mr. Check moved the Board to grant the developer of Farmhouse Village Subdivision an extension to February 28, 2023, regarding the MPC deadline, per the developer letter dated November 11, 2022.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

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

6292 Hanoverville Road Subdivision – MPC Extension

Mr. Check moved the Board to grant the developer of 6292 Hanoverville Road Subdivision an extension to February 28, 2023, regarding the MPC deadline, per the developer letter dated November 11, 2022.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

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

200 West Macada Road – Site Plan

Mr. Check moved the Board to approve the conditional site plan for 200 West Macada Road, conditioned on the applicant addressing the comments noted in the Hanover Engineering review letter dated November 17, 2022.

Daniel Miller, Design Engineer, Keystone Consulting Engineers and Jessica Martinez, Architect were in attendance to answer any questions. Mr. Kocher stated this is a site plan for an expansion to a residential dwelling.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Pool Discussion.

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to accept the bid from Heim Construction Co., Inc. at the bid price of \$6,745,325.00 for the rehabilitation of the pool.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Erik Peterson, 3210 Harmor Lane stated family had great time and pool is missed.

Mr. Nagle explained that the discussion is related to the decision to accept the one bid.

Lucy Waldman, 5942 Monocacy Drive asked the consequences of accepting the bid. Ms. Waldman stated that the pool would be an asset for the children on the local swim team.

Mr. Nagle explained the loan has been taken and we can possibly bid it again. Ms. Lawless explained that we need to look at the fact that Heim Construction can do the project efficiently. Mr. Prendeville would like to rebid since the bid was 25% over the estimate and only one bid.

Eric Kocon, Mark Twain stated that there was another grant in the works for the Stormwater project. He stated that he researched Heim Construction a reputable company and does nice work. Invest in your youth.

Mr. Nagle explained that in the future there may be a tax increase.

Olek Nikolsko-Rzhevskyy, 5859 Monocacy Drive stated that the property values may increase because of the pool.

Joan Steinberg, 4417 Tracey Lane, asked why we have not asked David Jaindl for financial assistance as his projects are approved. The Board explained that is illegal. Ms. Steinberg would like to see other corporations in the Township donate to the pool. Ms. Steinberg wanted to know the consequences for holding on to the funds if we rebid. Mr. Nagle explained that the funds will be invested in certificates of deposit. Ms. Steinberg stated nothing will be cheaper and we have the funds.

Nina Powers, 1334 Stafore Drive explained due to inflation and rising costs of goods and labor the cost of the pool construction costs will not be decreasing. Ms. Powers has children on the Bethlehem Township Swim Team and would like the Board to accept the bid.

Ellen Denizard, 1317 Woodland Circle stated that it would be very nice to have a pool for her children to attend. Ms. Denizard children are on the Bethlehem Township Swim Team, and they cannot attend to Memorial Pool on weekends because too many people.

Michael Fina, 1271 Biafore Avenue stated are talking about spending \$6.7 million for a facility that will be open less than 90 days a year and approximately 20% of the residents in the Township. Mr. Fina stated the pool is a luxury and most homes in the Township have a pool. Mr. Fina asked that the project be re-bid.

Dale Traupman, 2612 Pioneer Road stated he was on the pool committee, and it is solid project based on the design and does not think prices will decrease.

Diana Kocon, 3629 Browning Lane stated the Community Center and facilities attract families to the area. Ms. Kocon stated this project is not only for children but also for the senior community. Ms. Kocon stated the bid should be accepted; costs will not decrease.

Jackie Dibase-Fortsch, 1140 Claire Street stated that if we go out for more bids, we will receive any or less expensive. Ms. Fortsch stated that there is a chance that if it does go back out to re-bid the pool will not get done.

Robert Cepin, 5443 Comfort Circle wanted to add that this vote will be for where you are seeing the future of recreation in the Township.

Susan Conrad, 5337 Mulberry Drive asked the Board to take a vote of the residents in attendance. Mr. Diacogiannis explained that is not how the meetings are operated. She asked that the Board bring back what we had.

Chris O'Hara, 4217 Gloria Lane stated they moved to the area because of the pool and asked if the pool operates at a loss can pool pass rates increase.

Dale Traupman, 2612 Pioneer Road stated the pool design includes an area than can be used for meetings and weddings to increase the use time to possibly six months.

Joan Steinberg, 4417 Tracey Lane, stated Mr. Prendeville wants to be fiscally responsible; she asked how he will explain when the bid comes in higher. Mr. Prendeville stated he would like to see more than one bid in the current economy.

Ms. Lawless stated that there is no rule that we cannot accept one bid.

Lucy Waldman, 5942 Monocacy Drive stated that residents with pools would use the community pool and for safety reasons asked that the bid be accepted.

Telly Diacogiannis, 1360 Bonnie Avenue stated that for the last 18 months this is highest attendance.

Mr. John Diacogiannis stated that the Board made the decision to move forward with researching the viable plan and he is in support of taking this bid since prices will not go down and the contractor needs to get the project done on time and with no increases.

Mr. Finnigan stated that you cannot compare the Stormwater project with the Pool project. One is public safety and the other is a nice to have. History will prove that once prices & wages increase, they have not significantly gone down. We have a contractor that is bonded, financing in place, and we are in a crazy economy. Mr. Finnigan stated pool pass rates need to be like Palmer Township's rates. We have been significantly underpriced historically. Mr. Finnigan stated we had a pool and need to move forward.

Mr. Check aye, Ms. Lawless aye, Mr. Diacogiannis aye, Mr. Prendeville nay, Mr. Nagle aye.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

No one offered comments.

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer – Mr. Kocher had nothing to report.

Solicitor – Mr. Giovannini had nothing to report.

Public Works - Mr. Milite gave an update on the leaf collection, email will go out to notify the residents when the last round is scheduled. Colonial Regional Police are doing Shop with Cops for the 16th year and donations need to be in by November 27, 2022. The event is scheduled for December 3, 2022. Tree lighting will be on Friday, December 2, 2022.

Township Manager – Mr. Finnigan stated Utilities, Inc. has installed four new fire hydrants; one is not yet functional. Utilities, Inc. will address once required parts are received. Mr. Finnigan asked for permission to discuss with Mr. Steven Kalamar investment options with Penn Community Bank. Board had no objection.

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle the Board adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Christina M. Thomas
Secretary