
REGULAR SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING

November 12, 2024

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

Present were Supervisors Lawless, Prendeville, Gross, Versteeg, Diacogiannis, Township Engineer Brien Kocher, and Township Solicitor James Broughal.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville, seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board approved the agenda. Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board approved the minutes from the meeting of the Board of Supervisors dated October 22, 2024. Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville, seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board approved the list of bills and transfers dated November 12, 2024. Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Ms. Lawless reported that the Monocacy Watershed Association held a meeting on October 28, 2024, at Nitschmann Middle school regarding the permit for Keystone Cement Company in Bath to burn toxic chemicals as fuel. They are renewing the permit and the proposal is to transport the material by rail and truck. If there are any concerns about the quality of the rail system, since its proximity is close to the Monocacy Creek, email your comments and questions to the DEP by November 15, 2024, to rbellas@pa.gov. Ms. Lawless reminds residents to be careful with the drought conditions.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

Ms. Versteeg cautioned about the dry conditions due to the drought and reminded residents to not park on leaves. There will be road closures due to the storm water project. Check the Township Website and Facebook for updates.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Diacogiannis – Road District #1, had nothing to report. Mr. Diacogiannis stated the Colonial Regional Police Department is on their final evaluation for reaccreditation. If you would like to donate for the Shop with a Cop event, the donations will be accepted at the Colonial Regional Police Department.

Ms. Versteeg - Road District #2, had nothing to report.

Mr. Gross– 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.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – Mr. Diacogiannis

PLANNING & ZONING – Ms. Versteeg

Zoning Variance – 5413 Nala Drive

The applicant at 5413 Nala Drive is requesting relief from the setback provisions of the Ordinance maximum allowed land coverage. Does the Board wish to send representation to the Zoning Hearing Board meeting on December 5, 2024?

The Board does not wish to send representation.

Zoning Variance – 90 Highland Avenue

The applicant at 90 Highland Avenue is requesting relief from the height provisions of the ordinance for the PIBD district. Does the Board wish to send representation to the Zoning Hearing Board meeting on December 5, 2024?

The Board does not wish to send representation.

DEVELOPMENTS – Mr. Prendeville

ADMINISTRATION – Mr. Gross

Resolution 2024 - 28 Towing and Storage Fees of Vehicles

Mr. Gross moved the Board adopt Resolution 2024-28 establishing the 2025 Towing Fees.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

Ordinance 2024-05 Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company Property Tax Credit

Mr. Gross moved the Board to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise Ordinance 2024-05, updating section 163 Incentives for Township Volunteer Fire Companies.

Mr. Hudson explained there is a set standard that the volunteers must meet for the year: number of fires attended and volunteer hours put in. If a volunteer meets the requirements, they're eligible for two credits a real estate property tax and an earned income tax. The real estate property tax credit was 20% and has been increased up to the newly allowed 100%. Any volunteer that qualifies will be able to receive 100% of the discount rate on their Hanover Township, Northampton County, real estate tax bill. If they pay their taxes during the face or late payment period, they will have to pay the difference between those and the discount rate. In 2024, approximately \$700 in credits were paid. This only pertains to volunteers that are residents of the Township.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

First Responders Park Grant for Restrooms

Mr. Gross moved the Board to authorize Hanover Engineering to prepare plans for a new restroom, concession, and pavilion building for First Responders Park.

Glynnis Daniels: shared her concerns regarding the restrooms and would like to see other attractions come into the Township other than sports.

Ms. Lawless explained the application is to attract tournaments and larger gatherings. Restrooms are needed rather than porta potties. Ms. Daniels asked if the Township wanted to attract tournaments. Mr. Terenzio explained that the Bethlehem Soccer Club is the main renter of the park, and they are a sponsor of the community center. Hundreds of kids play on the fields. Other organizations such as lacrosse and football also utilize the fields.

Joan Steinberg: thinks the restrooms and pavilion are a great idea.

Mr. Hudson explained the pavilion and restroom design concept and location.

Monica Beaky: asked if the bathrooms will be open year-round or seasonal. Mr. Hudson answered that the bathrooms will be seasonal.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

Establish BMP Operations and Maintenance Fund at Embassy Bank

Mr. Gross moved the Board to authorize the Chair, Vice Chair, Township Manager, Township Secretary, and Treasurer to execute the BMP Operations and Maintenance Fund Agreement with Embassy Bank of the Lehigh Valley.

Mr. Hudson explained when a developer comes in to do a development, part of the requirement of the Stormwater Maintenance Agreement is a contribution to the BMP fund which is held by the Township and if they do not complete their yearly inspection, the Township can use that money to do the inspection. The inspection is to make sure the stormwater installations are functioning properly. The money is held in an escrow.

Mr. Prendeville seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross aye, Ms. Versteeg aye, Ms. Lawless aye.

PUBLIC WORKS – Mr. Diacogiannis

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer – Mr. Kocher had nothing to report.

Solicitor – Mr. Broughal had nothing to report.

Recreation Director – Mr. Terenzio reported the Tukey Bowl will be Saturday, November 16 starting at 9:00am. Registration is still open, and it is a free event. Each game will go on for about one hour starting with the youngest age group. Thursday, December 5 is Bingo and the beneficiary is the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company. On Friday, December 6, is the Tree Lighting event from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, and on Saturday, December 7, Breakfast with Santa will begin at 9:00am and again at 10:45am. The cost for Breakfast with Santa is \$6 for kids, \$12 for adults. Mr. Terenzio thanked the Hanover Elementary PTA for their bake sale at the community center during election day.

Public Works Director – Mr. Limpar reported that the big dip on Stoke Park Road will be getting fixed and paved in the next few days and there will be detours in that area. The stormwater project is nearing completion. Public Works will be collecting leaves until December.

Township Manager – Mr. Hudson reported that the staff is working on the update and redo of the Township website.

Ms. Lawless noted the next Board of Supervisors meeting will be Tuesday, November 26, 2024.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville the Board adjourned at 7:30pm.

Kimberly R. Lymanstall
Township Secretary