

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
AUGUST 7, 2017**

Chairman Ronald J. Heintzelman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. In attendance were Supervisors Steve Pany, and Mark Hills, Attorney Lisa A. Young, Manager Jeff Bartlett and Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Norder.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meeting of July 10, 2017 were approved. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. In order for the township staff to attend the Annual Summer Convention of the Lehigh County Association of Township Officials on Friday, August 11th, Township offices will be closed.
2. The Township Offices will be closed Monday, September 4th for the Labor Day Holiday. Due to the holiday, the Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on Monday, September 11th.
3. Boy Scout Dominic Morabito, from Troop 57, attended the meeting as a requirement toward earning the Communication merit badge.
4. Atty. Young noted that an Executive Session was held prior to the start of this meeting to discuss the collective bargaining agreement.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Mark Hills, the July Treasurer's report was approved as presented and the Treasurer was authorized to disburse checks # 12228-12328. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Mark Hills discussed the following Old Business items regarding Emergency Services: Property Maintenance Ordinance; Property & EIT Tax reduction for active firefighters; and amending the Burning Ordinance. All items require the input from the 4 fire chiefs before the township can proceed with the issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

75th ANNIVERSARY PROCLAMATION

NEFFS VOL. FIRE CO.

The Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation in honor of the 75th anniversary of the Neffs Volunteer Fire Company as a tribute to the dedicated community service of its' members. Chief Jim Steward and President Eric Minnich accepted the proclamation on behalf of the fire company. A 75th Anniversary Open House will be held August 20, 2-6 PM, at the fire company.

WELL ISOLATION DISTANCE EXEMPTION & GROUNDWATER STUDY WAIVER REQUEST

Sewage Enforcement Officer, Scott Bieber submitted a request, to the Board, requesting a well isolation distance exemption and groundwater study waiver for the following property is granted:

4530 Daisy Avenue

Upon motion by Mark Hills, seconded by Steve Pany, the Board granted the well-sewage system isolation distance exemption and groundwater waiver request. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

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REFUND OF TAXES

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Mark Hills, the Board approved the request from the Lehigh County Assessment Office and authorized the Treasurer to refund Township taxes based on a revised assessment, on the following property: 2445 Bellview Rd 2011-2016 \$45.56 total
Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

EXONERATION OF TAXES VETERAN'S EXEMPTION ANFUSO

Upon motion by Mark Hills, seconded by Steve Pany, the Board approved the notice from the Lehigh County Assessment Appeals Office, on behalf of Anthony Anfuso, for exoneration from collection of his Real Estate property tax. Mr. Anfuso was a qualified applicant for Disabled Veterans Real Estate Property Tax Exemption. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

WAIVER REQUEST CRYSTAL SPRING FARMS

Audrey Marsteller, Gary Sell and Scott Sell appeared before the Board to request a waiver from the recreation fee for their subdivision since no construction will occur. Atty. Young noted that the Ordinance stipulates the fee whenever a new lot is created. Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Mark Hills, the Board waived the fee requirement. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes.

- Bruce Stettler, Steeple Chase Dr., Schnecksville, suggested the Board make a motion to amend the Ordinance stating that no fee should be assessed when there is no new construction.

MOTION - Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Mark Hills, the Board approved the motion that the Recreation fee ordinance be reviewed to better define how it should be applied. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

CONTINUED HEALTH COVERAGE

MOTION - Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Mark Hills, the Board approved the motion that the Manager should investigate continued pre-65 retiree medical coverage. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes. No public comments on this item.

ILLEGAL DUMPING AT YARD WASTE AREA

Supervisor Heintzelman noted that there has been an increase in dumping of illegal items at the yard waste center. He urged residents to watch for illegal dumping and report it to the office. He stated that if it does not stop the center will be closed down.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bartlett presented the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 08-07-2017 TRAIL CROSSING

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Mark Hills, the Board approved Resolution 08-07-2017. Resolution 08-07-2017 adopted the trail crossing agreement between Lehigh County and North Whitehall Township. The new crossing will be established at the Geiger Bridge and the old crossing will be abandoned. Roll call: Mark Hills - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany - yes.

- Dan Nemeth, Clearview Rd., Coplay, asked if the sight distance problem had been addressed.

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- Mr. Bartlett noted that the 2016 financial audit has been completed and reviewed. There were no findings.
- He also reminded residents of the following: grass clipping cannot be discharged onto the roads when mowing; the use of ATVs and 4-wheelers on private property must stay 50 feet from any property line and must obey the noise restrictions.
 - Jim Morris, Riverview Rd., Slatington, commented that the township is mowing land adjacent to drains too close which causes erosion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – No report.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non-agenda items):

- Ronald Roth, Rt 309, Schnecksville, stated the township should use cameras to catch the illegal dumpers and ban those who violate the rules not the whole community. He also commented that the press should have taken pictures of the proclamation presentation, the boy scout, and the farm family requesting the waiver, for the newspaper.
- Doug White, Creekside Dr., Coplay, discussed an on-going drainage issue in his back yard and his request to connect to a township stormwater pipe to alleviate the problem.
- Ronald Roth, Rt 309, Schnecksville, suggest amending the Burning Ordinance to include an exemption for small farms or residents with many acres, to allow them to burn personal papers.
- Robert Hoppes, asked the Board for clarification of waivers he received for the Crystal Spring Plan at the July meeting.
- Renee Hamm, 4737 Rt. 309, Schnecksville, complained to the Board regarding the junk condition of the property adjacent to her property.
- Janice Masonheimer, 4714 Kovalchik Dr, Coplay, inquired as to what could be done to stop a tractor trailer truck from parking in front of her house.
- Heather Skrinko, 1848 Clearview Rd, Coplay, informed the Board that a rumor is circulating that Mr. Patel is planning on going through with the over-65 community development.
- Ronald Roth, Rt 309, Schnecksville, inquired why a part-time Zoning officer has not been hired.
- Dan Nemeth, Clearview Rd., Coplay, asked if negligent homeowners could have their property liened after receiving and ignoring 3 warnings to clean up the property.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary/Treasurer