
REGULAR SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING

September 26, 2023

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 were Supervisors Prendeville, Lawless, Check, Nagle, Engineer Brien Kocher, Solicitor James Broughal, and Manager Finnigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle, seconded by Mr. Prendeville, the Board approved the agenda. Mr. Finnigan stated addition of a Resolution for Embassy Bank Signatures.

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

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle seconded by Mr. Prendeville, the Board approved the minutes from the meeting of the Board of Supervisors dated September 12, 2023.

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

Mr. Diacogiannis noted for the record the Board of Supervisors met for executive session for personnel matters at 6pm, prior to meeting on September 26, 2023.

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle seconded by Mr. Prendeville, the Board approved the list of bills and transfers dated September 26, 2023.

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

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

No one offered comments.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Mr. Diacogiannis stated the 2024 Budget Presentation given by the Treasurer will be a separate meeting on October 18th, 2023 at 7 pm. Budget Discussions will be at Board of Supervisors meeting on October 24, 2023, the Budget will be approved for advertising at November 14th meeting, with the idea the budget will be approved for adoption at December 19th meeting.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

Mr. Nagle had nothing to report.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

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

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

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

Ms. Lawless – Road District #4, had nothing to report. Ms. Lawless stated that there was a legal opinion letter regarding the tax ability of the properties to be built on the Majestic site. Ms. Lawless stated

she is employed by the law firm of Florio Perrucci Steinhardt Cappelli Tipton & Taylor LLC. She stated she is a contract partner, and her clients are not the Airport or Majestic. The opinion that was posted was published by a partner in her firm, Elizabeth Marcon, who is the solicitor for the LNAA. Ms. Lawless stated she wanted to give full disclosure to this, as she does not profit from the LNAA as they are not her client, and she has not let this cloud her judgment on her decisions. Ms. Lawless also stated her best friends brother works for the airport authority, she's flown out of the airport and her spouse is president and CEO of ArtsQuest and Mr. Uliana's firm is a consultant for ArtsQuest and they have not clouded her judgement either. She stated this is not personal this is business.

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

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – Mr. Nagle

PLANNING & ZONING – Ms. Lawless

DEVELOPMENTS – Mr. Check

Hindu Temple Society Land Development – MPC Deadline- Extension

Mr. Check moved the Board to grant the developer of Hindu Temple Society Land Development an extension to January 10, 2024, regarding the MPC deadline, per the developer letter dated September 22, 2023.

Mr. Nagle seconded the motion.

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

Muller Martini Corp. Building Expansion-Deferral of Land Development Plan Submission – Extension

Mr. Check moved the Board to grant the developer of Muller Martini Corp Building Expansion an extension to October 12, 2024, regarding the Deferral of Land Development Plan Submission deadline, per the developer letter dated September 25, 2023.

Mr. Nagle seconded the motion.

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

ADMINISTRATION – Mr. Prendeville

Resolution – Local Share Account – Northampton & Lehigh Counties Grant

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to adopt Resolution 23 – 31 requesting a Local Share Account- Northampton & Lehigh Counties grant of \$674,881.20 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used to construct a fieldhouse at First Responders Park.

Ms. Lawless seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Diacogiannis asked if we received the letters of support from our Legislators. Ms. Lawless asked who represents us for these letters. Mr. Diacogiannis stated Representative Steven Samuelson, Senator Nick Miller, and Representative Emrick are our legislators.

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

Trick or Treat Night

Mr. Prendeville noted for the record Trick or Treat will be held on Friday, October 27, 2023, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in Hanover Township.

Open Records – Appointments

Mr. Prendeville moved to appoint Kimberly R. Lymanstall as the Open Records Officer and to rescind the appointment of Christina M. Thomas effective immediately. The appointment of John J. Finnigan, Jr. as Deputy Open Records Officer remains in effect. The Pennsylvania Office of Open Records shall be notified of Ms. Lymanstall's appointment.

Mr. Nagle seconded the motion.

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

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

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to adopt Resolution 23 – 32 to update the signature cards with Embassy Bank.

Mr. Nagle seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC WORKS – Mr. Nagle

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Ms. Monica Beaky, 3625 Quincy Lane, asked if there is a place on website for the rules of the public hearing on October 10, 2023. Mr. Broughal said the Township doesn't have rules. The rules are under the Sunshine Act which are rules that govern all public meetings. Those rules would apply to a public hearing and public meeting.

Ms. Marguerite Georges, 4501 Susan Dr, asked the Board if they can ask Majestic to make the video of the August Meeting available to the residents. Mr. Diacogiannis stated that Majestic held the meeting, and they are the owners of the video and that the request should be asked to them. Ms. Georges compelled the Board to make the request on behalf of the residents since she did not get a response from Majestic. Mr. Diacogiannis stated that the request was made.

Ms. Jennifer Levins, 1370 Gaspar Ave, pleaded with the Board to hear the residents concerns and take them seriously. She said she understands the lot will be developed but to take the residents opinions seriously and to not roll over and give everything the developers ask for. Ms. Levins doesn't want to lose property value, and she is asking for a better option than 10 massive buildings.

Ms. Glynis Daniels, 1280 Gaspar Ave, read a WFMZ article that said the Airport will get more revenue if the Majestic Development text amendment gets approved. Why is it the resident's responsibility to provide more revenue for the airport? She stated this project will result in air pollution, noise pollution, increased traffic on roads, property values will go down, and township will recoup nothing from the project. Maybe they can pay for an increased need in the fire and police services needed for these buildings. Majestic is only in it for themselves, not the residents or the board. She stated she expects the Board of Supervisors to act in the best interest of the residents.

Mr. Broughal stated all the concerns heard tonight would be best heard at the Public Hearing on October 10, 2023.

Ms. Carol Kaufmann, 1138 Marble Dr, stated she has read the zoning amendment and has read many compliance documents over 20 years. Ms. Kaufmann stated she thinks the text amendment needs to be changed and improved. Ms. Kaufmann feels we don't have the best deal yet. She gave an example of the number of trees, height, and length of time for maintenance is reduced. She wants the Board to push back more on what they negotiate for the Township.

Mr. Salvatore Scibetta, 1850 Mark Twain Circle, stated he is a school bus driver for Catasauqua School District and the amount of traffic that has been brought to the area because of Fed Ex warehouses is not worth it to the community. Mr. Scibetta said the only thing the buildings do for the community is block out the sun.

Mr. Gennaro Landi, 4316 Greenfield Rd, thanked the Board for changing the website to reflect the current meeting, not meetings past. Mr. Landi said this should be a no brainer, and the Board should be representing the people of the township and not the people of Majestic. He stated he doesn't know of any supporters of the current plan. Mr. Landi feels the Public Hearing will just reiterate the same stuff and no support for the project and is asking the Board to go back to the drawing board to come up with a better plan.

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer – Mr. Kocher had nothing to report.

Solicitor – Mr. Broughal had nothing to report.

Recreation Director – Mr. Terenzio state Fall Fest is Oct 7th, 2023, from 2-5pm. Trunk or Treat is October 21st, 2023. Winter Events will be in December. Programs like Zumba, spin, and yoga are all getting good turnouts. There will be pickleball and volleyball tournaments coming up.

Public Works Director – Mr. Limpar stated they started preparations for leaf season. Two public works employees are going through Class A CDL training program. Finished all Road Markings through township. The handicap swing finally received parts and will be fixed soon.

Township Manager – Mr. Finnigan stated the H20 grant award deadline is pushed to October. It has been pushed a couple times and was pushed again. This grant is for Stormwater repairs to be made. Senator Miller and Representative Samuelson have been out to tour the area and are fully supporting the application. We are awaiting the outcome of the application to start the Chaucer/Lord Byron storm water project.

Upon motion of Mr. Nagle the Board adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Beth A. Bucko
Assistant Secretary