

**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2015**

PRESENT

PAT MALLON, CHAIRPERSON	}	
H. GEORGE LEONHAUSER, VICE CHAIR	}	
DREW KREILING, SECRETARY	}	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
THOMAS GALLAGHER	}	
WILLIAM OETTINGER	}	
STEPHANIE TEOLI KUHL, TOWNSHIP MANAGER		
JOSEPH PIZZO, ESQ., TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR		
LARRY YOUNG, P. E, TOWNSHIP ENGINEER		

1. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.

Mr. Mallon called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Kreiling called roll. All Supervisors were in attendance along with many interested citizens.

2. Announcements, correspondence, awards and reports.

Mr. Mallon announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this evening's Public meeting to discuss personnel issues, no decisions were made.

- a. Next Board of Supervisors Meeting – **Monday, October 5, 2015 @ 7:30 p.m.**
- b. Upcoming Events
 - Veteran's ID Event – Thursday, October 1, 2015 – Township Building from 3-7 pm
 - Shredding Event – Saturday, October 3, 2015 – 9 am to 11 am in the Middletown Municipal Center parking lot
 - Art at the Barn – Fall Festival, Saturday, October 3, 2015 – 10:00 am
 - Middletown Community Foundation, Reedman-Toll 5K Run, Sunday, October 4, 2015 – Neshaminy High School-Register on line @www.middletowncf.org

3. Public Comment. *Non-Agenda Items only.* (Maximum 30 minutes)

There was no Public Comment.

4. **Consent Agenda Items.**

- a. Consideration of authorizing payment of September 21, 2015 Bill List in the amount of \$1,991,779.50.
- b. Consideration of approving the September 8, 2015 Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors.

- c. Consideration of reappointing Bee Bergvall & Company, CPAs as Independent Auditors for the year ending December 31, 2015 in the amount of \$27,000.

ACTION: MR. KREILING MOVED TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-C AS LISTED ABOVE. MR. LEONHAUSER SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

5. Consideration of approval of Grant Resolutions for application to the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority Municipal Grant Program as follows:
 - o Resolution #15-14R - 9 Police Vehicles
 - o Resolution #15-15R - 2 Public Works Vehicles
 - o Resolution #15-16R - 1 Fire Marshal Vehicle
 - o Resolution #15-17R - 15 In-car Computers for Police
 - o Resolution #15-18R - Fire & EMS Radio Funding
 - o Resolution #15-19R - Township Radio Funding
 - o Resolution #15-20R - William Penn Fire Truck
 - o Resolution #15-21R – Penndel Middletown Ambulance

ACTION: MR. GALLAGHER MOVED TO ENACT RESOLUTIONS #15-14R THRU #15-21R AS LISTED ABOVE RELATING TO RDA GRANT SUBMISSION. MR. KREILING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

6. Presentation of the 2016 Minimum Municipal Obligation to the Township Pension Funds.

Dennis Penko, Finance Director presented the 2016 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Township Pension Funds. State Law Act 205 requires the pension plan sponsor to contribute a minimum amount each year to the Township pension plan called the Minimum Municipal Obligation, (MMO). The MMO is prepared by the Township's actuary and is based on the January 1, 2013 actuarial valuation.

The MMO for the upcoming year (2016) for each plan must be certified to the Municipality's governing body by September 30th of each year. This presentation is for information only; no action is required of the Board.

For the non-uniformed pension plan the annual financial requirement for 2016 is \$451,000. Member contributions that are anticipated in the amount of \$140,000 are deducted and bring the MMO to \$310,500. After estimated state aid of \$166,500, the Township's MMO requirement is \$143,975 which is about \$5,000.00 less than the 2015 estimate

For the police pension plan the annual financial requirement for 2016 is almost \$2,641,600. The member contributions that are estimated come in at \$291,000 reducing the MMO down to \$2,350,510. Estimated state aid is \$333,000 bringing the Township's net MMO requirement in at \$2,017,460; which is roughly about \$75,000 over the 2015 estimate.

Summarizing the variances from 2015 to 2016, we are looking at the police pension plan increased by \$74,000 and the non-uniformed pension plan decreased by \$5,000. The net variance therefore, 2015 to 2016 is a net increase of \$69,000. The key drivers to the cost variances – the police plan increase is due to the estimated payroll increase. The non-uniform plan had a decrease and that

decrease is primarily due to estimated state aid increased per unit for the active plan participants for 2015.

Mr. Mallon inquired what the projected rate of return is being used. Mr. Penko said the pensions assume a projected rate of return of 7.5% for both plans.

7. Consideration of executing the Employment Contract for Joseph Bartorilla, Chief of Police of Middletown Township.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls advised that the Chief is coming upon his one-year anniversary, September 22nd, and will have completed his one-year probationary period. By all accounts everyone agrees that Chief Bartorilla is doing an excellent job leading the men and women of the Police Department.

ACTION: MR. LEONHAUSER MOVED TO EXECUTE THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR JOSEPH BARTORILLA, CHIEF OF POLICE OF MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP. MR. KREILING SECONDED.

Mr. Mallon congratulated the Chief and said all Board members agree with Ms. Teoli Kuhls comments. Mr. Mallon said the Chief is doing a great job and said to keep up the good work and the Board appreciates his commitment.

MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

8. Consideration of authorizing advertisement of an ordinance establishing the Middletown Community Service Corps.

Mr. Pizzo advised that the Board had previously requested that the preparation of this ordinance to help to ratify and codify the creation of the Middletown Community Service Corps. This group is being created to help to service senior citizens and disabled persons of the community who may be in need of some services from time to time and will allow seniors to "age in place" and also aid disabled persons.

The types of services that may be required would be raking leaves in the fall, helping to cover and store patio furniture, changing lightbulbs that might be somewhat out of reach inside of the home are just some of the activities the Service Corps will identify. In order to bring this plan to fruition, the ordinance would provide for the creation of the Middletown Service Corps Advisory Council. That council as proposed would be made up of seven (7) individuals, four (4) of whom would be residents of the Township, two (2) of those four (4) residents would be residents who are over 50 years of age. In addition to the four (4) residents, the Chairman of the Township's Disabled Persons Advisory Board, Director of the Middletown Senior Citizens Association and the Director of the Township's Community Services would make up the balance of the Board. The expectation being that those three (3) individuals; Middletown Senior Citizens Association, Director of Community Services and the Chairperson of the Disabled Persons Advisory Board would obviously have dealings that are directly in concert with the group of individuals with whom we are trying to provide these services. The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors would be an Ex Officio member of the council.

The Council members would be appointed by the Board of Supervisors as is true in the case of the Township's other Boards and Commissions on an annual basis. Once appointed it will be the task of the advisory council to then make up all of the program details, rules, policies, regulations, etc. that would pertain to the operation of the Middletown Service Corps. The Service Corps would be

maintaining a running list of those people that would be in need of services so they can be handled in a timely fashion.

Mr. Mallon said this is something that has been in the works since the beginning of the year and the genesis for him is taking care of two elderly parents; his mother and mother-in-law. We have a situation in Middletown where we have an aging population that in many cases want to stay in their homes and should staying in their homes and studies have shown that as long as they can stay in their homes safely and maintain their independence they will be healthier both mentally and physically.

Mr. Mallon said several meetings have been held with members of the Middletown Senior Center and various clergy and also the Director of the Middletown Senior Center who is going to run points on collecting information. Mr. Mallon continues to get positive feedback from residents that are interested in participating. Anyone in the Township that is interested in being part of the Service Corps, please submit an application to the Township so that when we move forward with this cause you would be considered as part of this group.

ACTION: MR. MALLON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE ADVERTISEMENT OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY SERVICE CORPS. MR. KREILING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

9. Other Business.

Chief Bartorilla provided an update on the upcoming Papal Visit to Philadelphia on Saturday, September 26th and Sunday, September 27th. Chief Bartorilla said he has received the final numbers from SEPTA today and 2,551 train tickets sold for Saturday and 3,311 sold for Sunday. Out of the five (5) train stations in Bucks County, Woodbourne Train Station sold the second most to Warminster.

The plan is to close a small stretch of Woodbourne Road at 4:00 a.m. on Saturday from the Oxford Valley Road to Wood Lane and will remain closed until the last train goes downtown on Saturday at noon. The reason the road will be closed is to allow people to walk safely from the Oxford Valley Mall to the Woodbourne Train Station. SEPTA will have 200 parking spaces at the train station for handicap parking only. There will be shuttles for wheelchair bound train passengers if they happen to park at the mall. Just in case shuttle buses are needed, Woods Services has donated shuttles for the day and nighttime trips.

Chief Bartorilla said we have had some great partners working with us throughout the process: St. Mary Medical Center, Oxford Valley Mall and Woods Services. As a recap, Saturday and Sunday Woodbourne Road will be closed from 4:00 a.m. to noon and will reopen and will close again from 5:00 p.m. to roughly midnight – 1:00 a.m. until the passengers return from the city. Flyers have been passed out throughout the area including all of the businesses.

Chief Bartorilla explained that SEPTA will have line ambassadors at the train stations and the purpose is to organize the passengers so that it is easier to board the trains. There will be fifteen (15) line ambassadors and four (4) SEPTA police officers at Woodbourne Train Station and also a SEPTA incident commander.

Mr. Mallon thanked the Chief for his foresight in calling for a state of emergency. There were negative comments directed at the Chief and the Township, but now everyone else is jumping on the bandwagon including some of the surrounding communities.

Mr. Kreiling congratulated the Chief on a great job and everything he has heard has been great.

Mr. Mallon cautioned our residents to expect some level of inconvenience this weekend, please bear with it as it is a once in a lifetime event. We are as prepared as we possibly could be in Middletown and Mr. Mallon is sure we are in good hands under the direction of Chief Bartorilla.

10. Other public comment. (Only applicable if initial Public Comment period exceeds the 30 minute time limit.)
11. Adjournment.

ACTION: MR. MALLON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AT 7:57 P.M. MR. KREILING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.