

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.

1) Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2) Roll Call.

After the Pledge of Allegiance Ms. Hannah called roll. Supervisors Payne, Ksiazek, Quirple, Hannah, and Kane attended the meeting along with the Township Manager Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Assistant Township Manager Nick Valla, Solicitor James Esposito, and Township Engineer Isaac Kessler.

Ms. Hannah announced that Chief Joseph Bartorilla, Director of Building and Zoning Jim Ennis, Director of Finance Mega Bhandary, Director of Parks & Recreation Paul Kopera, and Superintendent of Public Works Eric Gartenmayer were in attendance.

3) Announcements

a) Next Board of Supervisors Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

4) Special Items.

a) Local Government Month Proclamation.

Ms. Payne shared that Middletown Township hosted students from Herbert Hoover Elementary School last Thursday for Local Government Day. She added that Ms. Kane and Mr. Ksiazek participated in the day.

Ms. Payne read the Proclamation into the record.

b) Sergeant Michael Lubold Retirement Recognition.

Chief Joseph Bartorilla recognized Sergeant Lubold for 33.5 years with the Middletown Township Police Department.

He highlighted that Sergeant Lubold meant much more to the Department and community as a Patrol Officer and later as Sergeant. He also was a leader in the Police Department's traffic safety unit. Chief Bartorilla shared that Sergeant Lubold is one of the most skilled knowledgeable and talented accident reconstruction experts in the state of Pennsylvania. He added that his expertise is often called upon by the court in cases involving serious crashes.

- c) Officer Glenn McPherson retirement recognition from the Bucks County South Central SERT team.

Chief Joseph Bartorilla recognized Officer Glenn McPherson for 25 years after honorable and distinguished service to the Bucks County South Central Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) team. Chief Bartorilla reviewed in detail Officer McPherson's tenure with the SERT team.

- d) Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad (PMES) – Dr. Wydro.

Dr. Gerald Wydro provided a presentation about the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad (PMES) volunteer program. Dr. Wydro reviewed a series of slides that updated the Board Members and community on opportunities to volunteer.

5) Upcoming Events

- i) Community Clean Up Day – Saturday, April 22, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- ii) Earth Day – Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Core Creek Park

6) Public Comment. *Non-Agenda Items only.*

Carmine Carfagno, 637 Hillside Ave, requested information regarding stormwater management projects. Isaac Kessler, Township Engineer offered to discuss the issue with Mr. Carfagno and shared his contact information.

7) Consent Agenda Items.

- a) Consideration of authorizing payment of April 17, 2023, Bills List in the amount of \$1,242,921.90
- b) Consideration of approving the March 20, 2023, Minutes of the Public Meeting of Middletown Township Board of Supervisors.
- c) Consideration of approving Sewer Planning Module for 130 Middletown, LLC, proposed retail stores and restaurants located at 130 Middletown Blvd.
- d) Consideration of approving Payment Certificate #2 for the Woodbourne Rd and Swift Rd Improvements to Scott Building Corporation in the amount of \$110,311.24.

Action: Mr. Ksiazek made a motion to approve consent agenda items as A-D, seconded by Ms. Quirple. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

- 8) Consideration of awarding Road Program Bid to James D. Morrissey, Inc in the amount of \$1,140,667.00.

Mr. Kessler noted that the 2023 Road Program bids were received and opened on April 7, 2023. He added that the 2023 Road Program consists of the following Base Bid and Alternates: Base Bid - road resurfacing, road striping, drainage improvements on S. Flowers Mill Road, Frosty Holley Road, Pennhill Drive, and Rising Sun Avenue; Alternate Bid No. 1 - repaving of the North Station Firehouse Parking Lot; Alternate Bid No. 2 – reconstruction of the road Courts; along Frosty Hollow Road; Alternate Bid No. 3 – Firefighters Park Pickleball Courts; and Alternate Bid No. 4 – repaving of Firefighters Park Pickleball Courts Parking Lot.

Mr. Kessler shared that a total of two (2) bids were received, with James D. Morrissey, Inc. as the lowest qualified bidder coming in with a bid a total of \$1,140,667.00.

Action: Ms. Quirple Made a motion to award the Base Bid and Alternate Bid Nos. 1 through 4, for the 2023 Road Program to the total amount of \$1,140,667.00, to James D. Morrissey, Inc., seconded by Ms. Hannah. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

- 9) Consideration of authorizing replacement of office furniture at the Municipal Center.

Nick Valla, Assistant Manager, explained that the approved 2023 Budget included an allocation to replace much of the original furniture to better accommodate the functional needs of the current staff and to provide a more professional office space. He added that this furniture would accommodate approximately one-third of all office-based employees.

He noted that three COSTARS vendors were engaged over the last several months to price out furniture options, with the most affordable vendor being Lizell of Lansdale, PA. He added that Lizell had strong references from other municipalities in the area.

Mr. Valla recommended going forward with the project even though it's slightly more than the original total budget. He added that the Public Works staff will be helping to take down the existing furniture to control costs.

Action: Mr. Ksiazek moved to authorize purchase of office furnishings from Lizell of Lansdale, PA, in the amount of \$104,147.00, seconded by Ms. Quirple. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0

10) Consideration of authorizing purchase of recycling containers in an amount not to exceed \$66,905.00.

Christina Bernhardt, Special Projects Manager shared that during her last presentation to the Board, she and Patrick Graham, Parks & Recreation Program Coordinator explained that Middletown Township was awarded a 902 Municipal Recycling Grant Program Grant through the Department of Environmental Protection to distribute recycling bins to residents with a public education outreach component.

Ms. Bernhardt was pleased to announce that the registration of the recycling containers was incredibly successful and an overwhelming number of requests were received for the initial 2,500 bins. She noted that due to the high demand, the Township opened a waitlist for Additional residents who want to register to register for a recycling container. There are currently nearly 1,000 residents on the waiting list.

Ms. Bernhardt explained that valuable feedback has been received from residents that they are looking for larger recycling bins. She noted that she is seeking approval from the board to purchase up to 1,500 additional recycling bins from the COSTARS vendor, Toter, in an amount not to exceed \$66,905.

Mr. Ksiazek thanked Ms. Bernhardt and Mr. Graham for a great job organizing this program. He commented that through the recycling program the Township has learned that residents are strongly supportive of the larger toters, which is an additional positive that came from this program.

***Action: Ms. Quirple to authorize the purchase of 1,500 recycling containers from Toter, Statesville, NC, in an amount not to exceed \$66,905, seconded by Ms. Kane.
Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.***

11) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Report.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls, explained that Middletown Township was allocated \$4.7 million through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). In 2022, approximately \$2.5 million of this funding was allocated for technology and improvements to the meeting room, infrastructure, overtime cost and Fire Services expenses.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls noted that the remaining \$2.2 million of funding will need to be allocated and reported in 2023. She added that the staff is recommending that the Board of Supervisors consider allocating these funds toward the Public Works Winter Operations Project that is currently out to bid. She explained that consideration of this bid will be presented for Board consideration at the May 15th meeting and added that suggestions for any remaining funds include the Swift Road Intersection Improvement and Langhorne Gables Phase 2.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls explained that although there is no requested action at this time, staff is seeking board feedback and consensus.

Mr. Ksiazek confirmed that all proposed projects noted were included in the budget. Ms. Teoli Kuhls confirmed that was accurate.

12) Consideration of appointment of Jill Cammarata to the Human Relations Commission.

Ms. Hannah nominated Jill Cammarata to the Human Relations Commission.

Action: Ms. Quirple moved to appoint Jill Cammarata to the Human Relations Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2023, seconded by Ms. Payne. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

13) Other Business.

Mr. Esposito explained to the Board of Supervisors that there is an application that will appear at the Zoning Hearing Board that he wanted to bring to the Board's attention, as they may want to send Mr. Esposito.

Action: Ms. Payne made a motion to add to the agenda the review of the Zoning Hearing Board application of Pankaj Patel related to vacant land on Sunset Avenue, seconded by Mr. Ksiazek. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Esposito explained that Mr. Patel made a Zoning Hearing Board application to request a variance to build a new single-family home on vacant land on Sunset Avenue that is within the FEMA Floodplain and on an undersized lot. He added that after some discussion with the Township Engineer and Township Director of Building and Zoning there may be negative impacts on surrounding properties. He added that the Board should vote to send him to oppose the application and variances.

Action: Ms. Payne made a motion to send Mr. Esposito the Zoning Hearing Board meeting, seconded by Ms. Quirple. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0

Mr. Esposito announced that the Board of Supervisors held an executive session prior to this meeting to discuss litigation and labor matters.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls recognized the whole Township team for putting together such a great and fun Local Government Day experience.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls congratulated Sergeant Lubold on his retirement, noting his great attitude during his 33 years in patrol. She added that he has been a true public servant and acknowledged the sacrifices that he made for our community and the sacrifices of his family.

Ms. Kane thanked the residents that attended the first public meeting for Multimodal Improvement Plan. She reminded that the links have been posted on the website and recommends residents to complete the surveys.

Ms. Hannah reminded residents about Saturday's Community Clean Up Day.

Mr. Ksiazek thanked the Township staff for all their efforts on Local Government Day.

The Board of Supervisors congratulated both Sergeant Michael Lubold on his retirement from the Middletown Township Police Department after 33.5 years and Officer Glenn McPherson for 25 years on his retirement from the Bucks County South Central Special Emergency Response Team (SERT).

14) Adjournment.

Mr. Ksiazek moved to adjourn the public meeting of the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors public meeting at 7:35 p.m., seconded by Ms. Quirple. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.