

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023
9:00 AM

Chairman Fredrick Shunk called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also in attendance were Supervisors August Neff and Russ LaFuria, Attorney Robert Jeffery, and Secretary Erica Carlstrom. Members of the public included Jean Spadacene, Craig Tolnay, Ann Kreider, Teresa Sculley, Paul Crowe, Bill Under, Dave Herman, Dennis Kirschner, Linda Byrnes, Kim O’Leary, Jody & Keith Tenhuisen, Kitty Maloney, Dick Locke, Fritz Holzhausen, and Mason Bennett.

Chairman Shunk asked for public comments or concerns, Dave Herman of Gristmill Drive stated that the Granite Ridge meeting that took place on May 11th has created more questions than answers from Jonathon Ehrenfeld the owner of Granite Ridge. Jean Spadacene said we as the Township should say No to all requests made by Granite Ridge so maybe they will get frustrated enough to go elsewhere. Theresa Sculley is worried that by approving their parcel subdivide it would allow them to lease to Culeman International. Kim O’Leary stated that she feels like North East residents are being gaslighted by Granite Ridge. Jody Tenhuisen asked the Supervisors with the Federal Government stepping in with the immigrant housing will we as North East residents have any say in things that are happening. Bill Unger, Director of Granite Ridge stated the purpose of the request for the subdividing of the parcel is for bank purposes. Mr Unger said that when the property was purchased it was a collateral requirement for the bank that holds the loan. He went on to state that any actions or future plans on the property would not circumvent any of the Townships zoning ordinances. Supervisor Fredrick Shunk assured the residents what Granite Ridge is asking for will do nothing to change the zoning in that area. The property is zoned R-2, which is a residential area and would not allow for a detention center. Fredrick went on to say their request meets all the Townships requirements per the subdivide ordinance and how can we go against our own rules and regulations. Russ LaFuria agreed and said I don’t see how we can say no. Township Solicitor Robert Jeffery commented that if it meets the requirements of the subdivision ordinance it should be approved by the supervisors, to not follow our rules would be counterproductive.

A motion from Fredrick Shunk to approve the minutes of the June 5th, 2023 meeting with a correction to be made regarding a notation of a residents address to reflect the correct road. The second motion to approve the minutes received from Russ LaFuria. Passed by unanimous vote. Bills were presented for June 1st – June 18th, 2023 for approval and payment as follows:

General Fund Checks	#2436-2483	\$ 92,723.41
General Fund Debits	Ach’s	\$ 911.43
Water Fund Checks	#2354-2380	\$ 29,672.58
Sewer Fund Checks	#2336-2352	\$ 14,767.01

Total approved by a motion from August Neff and the second from Russ LaFuria was \$138,074.43 and passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

Tabled from the April 3rd meeting was the subdividing of a parcel for Granite Ridge. With all requirements being met and approval from the Planning Board a motion was made by August Neff and seconded by Russ LaFuria. Passed by unanimous vote.

New Business:

Supervisors discussed using the ARP money to make improvements to Gravel Pit Park. Supervisor August Neff stated the money received from the American Rescue Plan he'd like to see used on something that will benefit all the North East residents. The improvements would do that as so many people use the park. August mentioned that he would like to pave the Gravel Pit and make it more handicapped accessible. Supervisor Russ LaFuria would like to see about possibly having an engineer help us to come up with a plan for the park before the paving as he doesn't want to see any of that destroyed if we renovate any of the pavilions. A motion was made by Fredrick Shunk for the approval of hiring Mark Corey as the engineer to help make a project design. The second motion was received from Russ LaFuria. All in favor.

The time off policy was reviewed. Supervisor Russ LaFuria made some revisions to the current policy. Fredrick Shunk stated that he had looked it over but would like some more time to review a little closer. He asked Attorney Bob Jeffery his thoughts on the adjustments made and he agreed he would want more time to review. A motion was made by August Neff to table the policy until everyone has had a chance to review and contribute their input. Fredrick Shunk made a second motion. Passed by unanimous vote.

Supervisor Russ LaFuria talked about the meeting he attended on June 6th that Erie County presented on the current EMS problem. They discussed two possible options, one being a joint municipal authority and the other being a countywide authority with regional service districts. Participants of the meeting were given a clicker to confidentially pick which option sounded like it would fit their municipality the best. The results showed that 80% had opted to not participate in either one and instead come up with a possible solution to the current crisis within their own municipality. Russ talked about the North East Public Safety Advisory Commission that he and some of the Borough Council members have been working on. The purpose of the commission would be to facilitate communication between the Governing Bodies and the Fire, EMS, and Police Departments.

Water and Sewer Supervisor Fredrick Shunk made mention that the water will be shut off at some point on Sunset Drive so they can replace the pressure regulators. Residents in the area will be notified prior to any work being done.

Supervisor August Neff reported on the Roads Department. Paving projects in the Township are done, but they will continue to do some light paving where needed.

After announcements, a motion to adjourn was received from Fredrick Shunk at 10:45 am. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Carlstrom, Secretary