

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
MEETING  
MONDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2023  
7:30 PM

Chairman Fredrick Shunk called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, in attendance were Supervisors Russ LaFuria and August Neff, Attorney Robert Jeffery, and Secretary Erica Carlstrom. Members of the public included Lee Ellsworth, Dave Herman, Tom Anderson, Ann Kreider, Chas Wagner, Jody Timer, Richard Timer, Paul Crowe, Jim Mazza, Henry Kaizer, Gary Slagle, Ruth Jensen, Scott & Nancy Pierson, Howard Chesley, Michael Yori, Mike Dunlavey, Barb Hanes, Chris & Kayla Skrekla, Mark Porter, Jake Banta, Charlene Kerr, Matt Putman, Aaron Jelley, Dave Jelley, Jake & Heather Jones, and Dan Adamus.

Chairman Shunk asked for public comments or concerns, none were received. A motion from August Neff and the second from Russ LaFuria approved the minutes of the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting as presented and passed by unanimous vote. Secretary Erica Carlstrom presented the Treasurer's report for the month of October 2023 and by a motion from Russ LaFuria and the second from August Neff was accepted as presented and passed by unanimous vote. Bills were presented for October 16<sup>th</sup> – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 for approval and payment as follows:

General Fund Checks	# 2746-2783	\$ 88,465.70
General ACH's		\$ 1,194.25
Water Fund Checks	# 2520-2534	\$ 317,380.14
Sewer Fund Checks	# 2461-2475	\$ 149,309.00

Total approved by a motion from Fredrick Shunk and the second from August Neff was \$556,349.09 and passed by unanimous vote.

*Correspondence:*

North East Residents Lee Ellsworth and Chas Wagner are asking for the Townships help in making sure the roads from Gibson Park to the North East Cemetery will be clear of snow on Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> as they will be doing a ceremony for Wreaths Across America. Supervisors agreed this would not be an issue and would make sure it is done prior to them leaving the park. Supervisor August Neff did tell them for safety reasons he does not want anyone to park across from the cemetery and walking across Route 20. Chas Wagner assured him he will make sure that does not happen.

*Old Business: None*

*New Business:*

The Township reached an agreement with Erie County for the lease of the office located at the Township building. A motion to approve and sign the 6-year lease agreement was made by August Neff with the second motion from Fredrick Shunk. Passed by unanimous vote.

State Representative Jake Banta spoke to the Supervisors about forming an authority in an attempt to take ownership of the North East Marina. Jake has been working with Dan Adamus, member of Fuller Hose Fire Company, to get the authority formed. They are proposing

the Authority be constructed of a representative of North East Township, North East Borough, Fuller Hose Co. #1, and 2 members of the community for a total of 5 members. The purpose of the authority would be an attempt to keep the Marina operational and to get the repairs and improvements needed accomplished. Currently the Marina is owned and operated by the Fish and Boat Commission, but with rising costs of materials they are not able to make the much-needed repairs. The Fish and Boat has discussed that for the 2024 season they will not be putting the slips back in the water as they are not financially able to make the repairs to the electric. They will however still have the boat launch accessible for boaters to utilize. Mr Banta went on to say that they have been conducting research and doing their due diligence to work with Fish and Boat to learn all the requirements to own and operate the Marina. Jake stated that the Marina is a “diamond in the rough” that we cannot afford to lose. At this point he asked meeting attendees if they had any questions on the forming of the Authority. Dan Adamus said the proposed bylaws that they have would be a starting point for the Authority, and they are trying to be inclusive to everyone. Township Solicitor Bob Jeffery stated that if the Authority is formed the bylaws would need to be created by the formed Authority. Supervisor Russ LaFuria told Jake and Dan that he appreciated the work they’ve put into the Marina but is worried about the risk it could potentially put on taxpayers' money. He further stated grants are great but money from that will eventually run out. Dan stated they would ensure that the Marina would become self-sufficient through successful business practices, efficient facility management, proper and timely maintenance, and continued capital improvements, as well as continuous pursuit of grant funding. North East resident Bob Mazza said he supports the Authority but has 3 issues. The first being the 15 million in grant funds that Dan said would be given to the Authority from the Fish and Boat Commission are those funds guaranteed, next was the movement of sand and the dredging that would need to happen the expense of it, and last was will they be able to obtain the needed permits from DEP to do the sand movement and dredging that is done on an annual basis. Mr Mazza also questioned why is Fuller Hose involved in the Authority. He does not feel they should be entitled. Resident Dan Lindsey stated he feels money has been wasted by the Fish and Boat by not keeping up on the maintenance needed at the marina. Supervisor Fredrick Shunk said he would like to see some true numbers on paper with proposed costs of running and maintaining the marina. Heather Jones, a member of the North East Borough Council stated that at the Borough’s meeting earlier that night they had approved a public hearing to form the Authority if the Township was also in agreement. Township Solicitor Bob Jeffery stated the approval of holding a public hearing to form the authority would be premature at this point. He went on to state a representative from the Township should reach out to the Borough to discuss and make sure they are all on the same page prior to the approval of the hearing. A motion was made by August Neff to appoint Russ LaFuria as the Township’s representative on setting up a meeting with the Borough. The second motion came from Fredrick Shunk. Passed by unanimous vote. Supervisor Russ LaFuria will reach out to the North East Borough to get a meeting set up.

### *Mylars:*

James Bartlett of Catholic Cemetery Road is looking for a final approval for the subdividing of his property. After reviewing the plans Supervisor Russ LaFuria made a motion to approve and sign the mylars. A second motion was received from August Neff. All in favor.

Gary Beckman of North Dill Park Road is looking for a final approval for the subdividing of his parcel. Supervisors reviewed the Mylar plans. A motion made from Fredrick Shunk to approve and sign the plans and a second motion received from August Neff. Passed by unanimous vote.

At this point the Supervisors and Solicitor Bob Jeffery entered into an executive session to discuss a matter of litigation.

Administrative Supervisor Russ LaFuria reported that proposed 2024 budgets would be read, and a motion made to advertise at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. He also stated he would be meeting with Borough Manager Pat Gehrlein later this week.

Water and Sewer Supervisor Fredrick Shunk stated the Water and Sewer Department had received a check for the GAP funding that was approved by Erie County. They also had submitted a loan application for a PennVest loan.

Roads Supervisor August Neff asked Bob Jeffery to work on making up an agreement for a 2004 OshKosh truck from Greenfield Township in trade for road millings. Bob stated he would work on that and get it back to him for approval at a future meeting.

After announcements and with all business concluded, a motion to adjourn at 9:00 PM was received from Fredrick Shunk. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Carlstrom, Secretary