

**PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
APRIL 13, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at the Plainfield Township Municipal Building, which is located at 6292 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth, PA 18064. The meeting public notice was duly advertised in the January 4, 2022 issue of the *Express-Times* newspaper.

Chairman, Glenn Borger, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

ROLL CALL:

The following Supervisors answered roll call: Chairman Glenn Borger, Vice-Chairman Stephen Hurni, Supervisor Jane Mellert, and Supervisor Donald Moore. Supervisor Randy Heard was excused from attending the meeting.

Also present were Township Manager Thomas Petrucci and Solicitor David Backenstoe. Township Engineer Jeff Ott was excused from attending the meeting.

I. TOWNSHIP SECRETARY– THOMAS PETRUCCI:

1. Consideration of Approval – March 9, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes (DRAFT):

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve the March 9, 2022 regular meeting minutes.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

2. Consideration of Approval – March 24, 2022 2nd Regular Meeting Minutes (DRAFT):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the March 24, 2022 second regular meeting minutes.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

3. Presentation – Pen Argyl Area School District Character Education Program:

Two (2) students from the Pen Argyl Area School District Character Education Program were in attendance at the meeting. Zoe Edmonds, who is a Junior at Pen Argyl High School and the President of the Pen Argyl Area School District Character Education Program, provided a presentation to the Board of Supervisors. She also reported that Waste Management had given a donation of \$80,000.00 to the program. The four core ethical values promoted by this program are: 1). Protect Integrity; 2). Accept Challenges; 3). Honor Diversity, and 4). Salute Kindness. Examples of the actions occurring as a result of this program include the following: 1). Establishing a food pantry at the high school for disadvantaged students; 2). Spreading the word of leadership and good character; and 3). Incorporating these concepts into class curriculum.

No specific action was requested of the Board of Supervisors concerning this matter.

4. Notification of Receipt – Grand Central Sanitary Landfill/Waste Management Minor Permit Modification Application Notification – Boundary Revision to Cells 18 and 19:

Grand Central Sanitary Landfill, Inc. (GCSL) is applying for a minor permit modification to Permit No. 100265 to revise the shared boundary between two proposed cells in the Southern Expansion, resulting in a transfer of approximately 0.62 acres of Cell 19 to Cell 18. The permit modification is proposed to maintain access to the active portion of the landfill through Cell 18, without impeding Cell 19 construction later. The cell area to be transferred is proposed for access purposes only and will cause insignificant change to the overall airspace between Cell 18 and Cell 19.

Township Manager Petrucci reported that minor permit modifications does not require local municipal approval- only approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). Joe Statile, who is the District Manager of GCSL, explained that this minor modification is necessary to correct an identified issue with the sloping/grading of Cell 18 and Cell 19. If this work is not completed (following approval of the minor permit modification), there will be an issue with driving trucks across the ramp when it is time to line Cell 19.

Supervisor Hurni inquired if PA DEP will have identify issues when reviewing this minor modification application, and Joe Statile responded that he did not foresee any issues.

Supervisor Moore will attend the monthly meeting that Township Manager Petrucci typically holds with Adrienne Fors and Joe Statile on third Monday of every month.

No specific action was requested of the Board of Supervisors concerning this matter.

5. Notification of Receipt and Approval of Official Action- Forks Township Comprehensive Plan Update – Public Hearing Date is May 19, 2022:

Township Manager Petrucci reported that Plainfield Township had formally received a copy of the Forks Township Comprehensive Plan Update (dated January, 2022 and received March 28, 2022). He provided the following options for the consideration of the Board members:

- a. The Board of Supervisors can submit its own written comments.
- b. Delegate the transmittal of written comments to Plainfield Township administrative personnel.
- c. Delegate the transmittal of written comments to the Plainfield Township Planning Commission (there is sufficient time to include this on the May 16th Planning Commission agenda prior to the May 19th public hearing).
- d. Submit no comments.

Supervisor Mellert inquired if Township Manager Petrucci was prepared to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors concerning the listed options. Township Manager Petrucci responded that he would recommend delegating the task of submitting written comments concerning the Forks Township Comprehensive Plan Update to the Plainfield Township Planning Commission.

ACTION: Motion was made by Donald Moore and seconded by Stephen Hurni to delegate the task rendering written comments concerning the Forks Township Comprehensive Plan Update to the Plainfield Township Planning Commission.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

6. Notification of Receipt and Possible Official Action – 2022 Proposed Bylaws Changes, Nominations Report, and Resolutions – Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors – State Convention (April 24-27, 2022):

Supervisor Mellert is the appointed voting delegate for Plainfield Township for the upcoming State Convention. The purpose of placing the proposed Bylaws Changes, Nominations Report and Resolutions on the April 13, 2022 Board meeting agenda is to give Supervisor Mellert direction as to how she should vote on some (or all or none) the items, if the governing body is inclined to do so.

No specific action was taken by the Board of Supervisors concerning this matter.

7. Consideration of Approval of Extension of Time – Gall Farm Preserve Land Development Conditional Approval – Extension of Time to December 12, 2022:

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Donald Moore to authorize an extension of time for the Gall Farm Preserve Land Development until December 12, 2022 and to authorize the Township Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

II. TREASURER – THOMAS PETRUCCI:

1. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 General Fund Disbursements (\$250,274.17):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the March, 2022 General Fund Disbursements in the amount of \$250,274.17.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

2. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Highway Aid Fund Disbursements (\$0.00):

No disbursements to approve.

3. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Host Retro Agreement Fund Disbursements (\$0.00):

No disbursements to approve.

4. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Capital Reserve Fund Disbursements (\$61,346.70):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the March, 2022 Capital Reserve Fund Disbursements in the amount of \$61,346.70.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

5. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Recreation Fund Disbursements (\$0.00):

No disbursements to approve.

6. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Environmental Fund Disbursements (\$0.00):

No disbursements to approve.

7. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Open Space Fund Disbursements (\$0.00):

No disbursements to approve.

8. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Refuse Fund Disbursements (\$100.00):

No disbursements to approve.

9. Consideration of Approval – March, 2022 Treasurer’s Report:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the March, 2022 Treasurer’s Report.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

10. Consideration of Approval – Real Estate Tax Refunds for 757 W Pen Argyl Street (\$32.93); 2012A Delabole Road (\$15.16); 509 School Road (\$118.68):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve Real Estate Tax Refunds for 757 W Pen Argyl Street (\$32.93); 2012A Delabole Road (\$15.16); and 509 School Road (\$118.68).

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

11. Consideration of Approval – 2022 Donation to Blue Mountain Community Library - \$10,000.00 (General Fund Budget Line Item 456.540):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the 2022 donation for the Blue Mountain Community Library in the amount of \$10,000.00, in accordance with the 2022 Approved Budget.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

12. Consideration of Approval – Nationwide Brokerage Account for Ameriprise Non-Uniform Pension Holdings:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve opening up a Nationwide Brokerage Account to transfer certain Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) Ameriprise Non-Uniform Pension Holdings to Nationwide, which is the custodian bank for the Township’s Non-Uniform Pension Plans (Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution).

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

13. Consideration of Approval – Open Space Fund Distribution (40.09 acre farm) - \$197,666.20 (2022 Open Space Fund Budget Line Item 461.710):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve a distribution out of the Open Space Fund in the amount of \$197,666.20.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

14. Consideration of Approval – 1st Quarter 2022 Payments:

- Fire Company Donation - \$25,000.00
- Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) Defined Benefit Contribution Pension Plan - \$9,574.75
- Emergency Management Coordinator Stipend - \$600.00

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Jane Mellert to approve the 2022 1st Quarter payments as set forth above.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

III. TOWNSHIP ENGINEER – JEFF OTT, P.E.:

There were no agenda items requiring Township Engineer Ott to attend the meeting.

V. TOWNSHIP MANAGER – THOMAS PETRUCCI:

1. Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan – Monthly Update:

During the Wednesday, April 6, 2022 Plan Slate Belt Steering Committee meeting, the Plan Slate Belt Centers and Corridors Map/Materials (DRAFT) were reviewed. Township Manager Petrucci had sent correspondence to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) earlier in the day in order to request additional information concerning the maps and to request additional time to submit comments to the LVPC.

Plan Slate Belt Steering Committee member Terry Kleintop stated that the LVPC utilized PennDOT traffic counts to develop these maps. He explained that the intent of the maps is to review the Centers and Corridors through the lens of both a short-term and long-term basis. In other words, the Township should attempt to visualize the Centers and Corridors from the standpoint of ten (10) years into the future.

Terry Kleintop and Supervisor Mellert reported that a portion of the Wednesday, April 6, 2022 Plan Slate Belt Steering Committee meeting was dedicated to discussing the River Pointe Logistics project currently proposed in Upper Mount Bethel Township. Communities expressed concerns with the traffic impacts of the development, and it was stated that Becky Bradley, who is the Director of the LVPC, recommended that now is the time to negotiate concerning traffic improvements for this development. However, no specific solutions were proffered by LVPC staff concerning this matter. The River Pointe Logistics project should be reviewed as part of a comprehensive look at the new total traffic impacts (similar to how Plainfield Township submitted the traffic counts for the 550 Male Road Warehouse and the Green Knight Industrial Park II land developments and additional comments during the review of the PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit for the proposed CRG Warehouse Land Development). Plainfield Township officials will submit comments concerning the Plan Slate Belt Centers and Corridors Map/Materials (DRAFT) upon further review by Township officials.

The next Plan Slate Belt meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

2. Plainfield Township MS4/Stormwater Management Program – Monthly Briefing:

Streambank Restoration- MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plan Status – Township Manager Petrucci reported that Plainfield Township is on track to complete all ~1,800 ft of streambank restoration work required for the MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plan this year (one year ahead of the 2023 required completion date). ARM Group and Wildlands Conservancy are currently in the process of obtaining all required PA DEP General Permits, which are now starting to be approved/received. So long as PA DEP continues to review and issue the permits in a timely manner, the Township will remain on track to bid out the project and complete it this year.

3. Public Hearing: Ordinance No. 412 – Amendment to Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance – Digital Plan Sets and Revised Paving Specifications:

A public hearing was held pursuant to the requirements of the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC).

The proposed amendment to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to be considered by the Board of Supervisors requires that all sketch plan, subdivision, and land development applications be provided to the Subdivision Administrator in digital format (one PDF) on a USB flash drive, CD-ROM, DVD, file sharing service, or other similar technology approved for use by the Township.

In addition, the proposed amendment to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance revises the Street Construction Standards to the following:

The pavement shall be placed on a well compacted and prepared subgrade as follows: Eight (8) inches 2A modified stone (subbase), four (4) inches bituminous concrete base course and one and one-half (1- ½) inches wearing course for local and collector streets. Five (5) inches bituminous concrete base course shall be used for arterial streets.

No comments were received during the public hearing.

4. Consideration of Adoption: Ordinance No. 412 – Amendment to Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance – Digital Plan Sets and Revised Paving Specifications:

ACTION: Motion was made by Donald Moore and seconded by Stephen Hurni to adopt Ordinance No. 412.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

5. Consideration of Approval of Advertisement – 2022-2023 Winter Season De-icing Salt Bid:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to advertise the 2022-2023 Winter Season De-Icing Salt Bid.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

6. Consideration of Approval of Resolution No. 2022-10 – 2022 Liveable Landscapes Grant Program (Due April 14, 2022) – Community Park Pavilion:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the following Resolution:

Resolution 2022-10

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, recognizes that Plainfield Township contains natural and recreation open space areas that contribute to the quality of life and economic health of our community which are worth for preservation and/or restoration; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Council adopted Ordinance #603-2015, titled, “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING “THE LIVABLE LANDSCAPES – AN OPEN SPACE PLAN PROGRAM FOR NORTHAMPTON COUNTY AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 21st CENTURY OPEN SPACE INTIATIVE” on January 7, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the program provides for funding grants that may be used by the municipality to acquire land to protect significant natural areas and rehabilitate degraded and underutilized lands that are important examples of Northampton County’s natural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Plainfield Township wishes to participate in the Livable Landscapes Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, Plainfield Township has committed the required matching funds in the amount of **\$149,993.13** for a total estimated project cost of **\$299,986.25**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, as follows:

1. All “WHEREAS” clauses are incorporated herein as though more fully set forth at length.
2. That the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township hereby approves the filing of an application for funds under the Livable Landscape Grant Program.
3. That Township Manager Thomas R. Petrucci is hereby authorized and directed as the official to execute and file the appropriate forms with the Northampton County Open Space Coordinator, as required in order to successfully obtain the grant.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

7. Consideration of Approval of Resolution No. 2022-11 – West Bangor Memorial Association Committee of the Recreation Board:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2022-11

WHEREAS, in the year 1998 Plainfield Township took ownership of real property located at Northampton County Tax Map Parcel Identification Number D9SW4 7 1A 0626E, which is known locally as the site of the Plainfield Township West Bangor Veteran’s Memorial (“Memorial”); and

WHEREAS, the West Bangor Memorial Association was incorporated on September 22, 1964; and

WHEREAS, the West Bangor Memorial Association has held a Memorial Day Services Ceremony at the Memorial since on or about the incorporation of the organization; and

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Township Recreation Board (“Recreation Board”) operates in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1 (Administration and Government), Article 3 (Commissions, Board and Organizations), Part B (Recreation Board) of the Code of Ordinances of Plainfield Township, as amended; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of ensuring that the Memorial and the annual Memorial Day Services Ceremony are maintained and operated efficiently and effectively, it is necessary and appropriate for the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania to form the West Bangor Memorial Association Committee of the Recreation Board, to designate a group of individuals to serve on said Committee, and to identify tasks that the Committee shall perform on an annual and ongoing basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

1. All “WHEREAS” clauses are incorporated herein as though more fully set forth at length.
2. That the Board of Supervisors hereby establishes the West Bangor Memorial Association Committee of the Recreation Board, effective immediately.
3. That the West Bangor Memorial Association Committee of the Recreation Board shall consist of the following members:
 - a. The current members of the Plainfield Township Recreation Board, as appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

- b. Three (3) individuals as designated by the West Bangor Memorial Association to report to the Recreation Board and Board of Supervisors.
4. The West Bangor Memorial Association of the Recreation Board shall perform, among other things, the following tasks:
 - a. Complete the administrative, planning and scheduling tasks that are necessary to coordinate the annual West Bangor Memorial Association Memorial Day Services Ceremony. These tasks shall include, but are not necessary limited to, scheduling entertainment and promoting the Memorial Day Services Ceremony. The Township Manager and the Board of Supervisors shall assist with these tasks whenever feasible and appropriate.
 - b. Attend at least two (2) Recreation Board public meetings each year (specifically the March and May meetings), as scheduled and advertised by the Board of Supervisors in accordance with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, in order to render recommendations and report to the Recreation Board on the status of the tasks that are required to hold the West Bangor Memorial Association Memorial Day Services Ceremony.
 - c. Submit recommendations to the Recreation Board and Board of Supervisors concerning any required maintenance and/or beatification of the Memorial property prior to the West Bangor Memorial Association Memorial Day Services Ceremony on an annual basis.
 - d. Submit budgetary recommendations from time to time to the Recreation Board and the Board of Supervisors concerning long-term capital improvements (including preservation and rehabilitation efforts) at the Memorial property.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

8. Consideration of Approval of Resolution No. 2022-12– 2022 Lehigh Valley Greenways Grant (Due April 21, 2022) – Plainfield Township Recreation Trail Knitter’s Hill Trailhead Design Plan:

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2022-12

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors recognize that the Township should provide its residents and visitors with park and recreation facilities that contribute to the overall quality of life and economic health of the Township community; and

WHEREAS, the Plainfield Township Recreation Trail is included within the scope of the regional trail network of both the *Two Rivers Greenway Implementation Plan* as well as the *Two Rivers Area Greenway & Trail Implementation Study*, both of which conceptualize a regional, inter-connected 18-mile trail corridor from the City of Easton to the Appalachian Trail; and

WHEREAS, the *Gall Farm Preserve and Plainfield Township Recreation Trail Master Site Development Plan*, dated August, 2019 and prepared in conjunction with Northampton County, Plainfield Township and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), recommended certain improvements for the Plainfield Township Recreation Trail Knitter’s Hill Road Trailhead, including accessibility and increased parking spaces.

WHEREAS, in consideration of the foregoing “Whereas” clauses, Plainfield Township is proposing to engage a professional planner consultant in order to accomplish the following tasks:

- Develop a conceptual design and construction plan for the Plainfield Township Recreation Trail Knitter’s Hill Road Trailhead.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

5. All “WHEREAS” clauses are incorporated herein as though more fully set forth at length.
6. That the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County duly approve submitting a **2022 Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape Mini-Grant** request in the amount of **\$10,000.00** for a total estimated project cost of at least **\$20,000.00**.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

In response to a question from Stephen Hurni, Township Manager Petrucci clarified that the grant is for the necessary design work (ex. wetlands review, accessibility review, etc.) only. It is recommended to hire a professional consultant for this design work due to the fact that this is a heavily used public facility.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

9. Consideration of Approval of Resolution No. 2022-13 – American Rescue Plan Act Funds – Confirmation of Standard Allowance:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2022-13

WHEREAS, Congress adopted the American Rescue Plan Act in March 2021 (“ARPA”) which included \$65 billion in recovery funds for cities across the country; and

WHEREAS, ARPA funds are intended to provide support to state, local, and tribal governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 in their communities, residents, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Recovery Funds provides for \$19.53 billion in payments to be made to States and territories which will distribute the funds to non-entitlement units of local government (NEUs); and

WHEREAS, the ARPA requires that States and territories allocate funding to NEUs in an amount that bears the same proportion as the population of the NEU bears to the total population of all NEUs in the State or territory; and

WHEREAS, \$652,298.52 has been allocated to Plainfield Township (Northampton County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) pursuant to the ARPA; and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ensures that governments have the resources needed to fight the pandemic and support families and businesses struggling with its public health and economic impacts, maintain vital public services, even amid declines in revenue, and build a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery by making investments that support long-term growth and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, in May 2021, the US Department of Treasury (“Treasury”) published the Interim Final Rule describing eligible and ineligible uses of funds as well as other program provisions, sought feedback from the public on these program rules, and began to distribute funds; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2022, Treasury issued the final rule. The final rule delivers broader flexibility and greater simplicity in the program, responsive to feedback in the comment process; and

WHEREAS, the final rule offers a standard allowance for revenue loss of up to \$10 million, allowing recipients to select between a standard amount of revenue loss or complete a full revenue loss calculation; and

WHEREAS, recipients that select the standard allowance may use that amount, in many cases their full award, for government services, with streamlined reporting requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

1. All “WHEREAS” clauses are incorporated herein as though more fully set forth at length.

2. That the Board of Supervisors hereby elects the standard allowance available under the revenue loss provision of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the full amount of the ARPA grant, which is **\$652,298.52**, to be used for the general provision of government service.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Berger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

10. Consideration of Approval of Resolution No. 2022-14: Support of Pennsylvania Department Environmental Protection Environmental Quality Board Public Water Regulations- PFAS and PFOS:

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2022-14

WHEREAS, per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been used since the 1940's to make products resistant to water, heat, oil, and grease, such as carpets, furniture fabrics, clothing, adhesives, food packaging, non-stick cooking surfaces, the insulation of electrical wire, and more; and

WHEREAS, many PFAS, including perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), are a concern because they do not break down in the environment, can move through soils and contaminate drinking water sources, and build up (bioaccumulate) in fish and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Quality Board has proposed stricter limits for PFOS and PFOA, compared with federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) limits; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania rule would set a maximum contaminant level of 18 parts per trillion for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and 14 parts per trillion for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Both are stricter than the U.S. EPA's ruling of 70 parts per trillion for both; and

WHEREAS, this rulemaking not only would protect our environment from elevated levels of contamination and pollution but also protects the public health of Pennsylvanians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

1. All "WHEREAS" clauses are incorporated herein as though more fully set forth at length.

2. The Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors strongly supports the new, stricter regulations proposed by the Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Quality Board which will not only protect the environment from elevated levels of contamination and pollution, but also protects the public health of Pennsylvanians.
3. The Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors strongly supports a maximum contaminant level of 18 parts per trillion for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and 14 parts per trillion for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).
4. The Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors requests that this Resolution be accepted by the DEP as the township’s official public comments.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

11. Consideration of Approval of Contract Award – 2022 Bituminous Asphalt Materials – Bid for Letting of April 7, 2022:

The bid tabulation is provided for reference as follows:

Bidder Name	Item Number	Approximate Quantity-More or Less	Description	Remarks and/or Delivery Dates	Unit Price FOB Plant	Total (FOB)
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.	1	1,500	Supervpave 9.5mm, PG 64-11, Wearing Course, 0.0 to 0.3 million ESAL's, SRL-M	MORE OR LESS	\$72.10	\$108,150.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.	2	500	Supervpave 9.5mm, PG 64-22, Wearing Course, Any ESAL, Any SRL	MORE OR LESS	\$65.20	\$32,600.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.	3	500	Supervpave 25.0mm, PG 64-22, Binder Course, Any ESAL, Any SRL	MORE OR LESS	\$53.10	\$26,550.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.	4	1,000	Supervpave 19.00mm, PG 64-22, Binder Course, Any ESAL, Any SRL	MORE OR LESS	\$55.95	\$55,950.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.				TOTAL		\$223,250.00
<i>Supplemental Required Items</i>						
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.	Bid Bond- 10%- Y/N					YES
						Lowest Bid Item
						Lowest Overall Bid

Township Manager Petrucci noted that New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. was the lowest total bidder for all of the contract items. The lowest bidder for 9.5mm wearing course SRL- M was Highway Materials, Inc. The Board has the option to award the contract in the total aggregate to the lowest bidder, or to separate the bid for the lowest bid individual items. Township Manager Petrucci had clarified with the Road Department that there are no issues with obtaining the asphalt out of the Bath New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. plant.

Supervisor Mellert questioned if there will be any delays in receiving the materials- noting that the New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. plant is located farther away than Highway Materials plant. She questioned if the Township will end up spending more on the lower bid. Township Manager Petrucci stated that it is possible, and the Township could re-bid the project. He also noted that there are times when Highway Materials is very backed up, and that this adds delays. The Township also utilizes COSTARS pricing as a back-up to the primary bituminous asphalt bid.

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to award the 2022 Bituminous Asphalt Materials Bid to New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. for Item Numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 Freight-on-Board (FOB) only in the total contract amount of \$223,250.00. In the event that New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. does not accept the corrected total amount of the contract award following receipt of a Notice of Contract Award sent by the Township, the contract award shall be rescinded.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

12. Discussion/Possible Official Action – Amendment to the Environmental Advisory Council Establishing Ordinance – (Article 3- Commission, Boards and Organizations- D- Environmental Advisory Council- §1-331 to §1-338):

The Board of Supervisors had tabled this matter during the March 9, 2022 regular Board of Supervisors meeting. The ordinance as advertised had lowered the number of Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) members from seven (7) to five (5) members. Additionally, the ordinance had clarified that the EAC can select its own Chairperson and that the number of Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors members serving on the EAC cannot constitute a quorum.

The Board of Supervisors discussed various options as to how to proceed with this ordinance, including advertising the ordinance as written without including the provision to lower the number of EAC members from seven (7) members to five (5) or tabling the ordinance.

Supervisor Moore recommended Board members should attend an EAC meeting. Supervisor Mellert concurred with that recommendation.

Supervisor Moore had contacted EAC members to gauge their thoughts concerning the ordinance. The two (2) members both expressed an opinion that having seven (7) members would allow the EAC to have a better chance of having experienced members serving on the EAC. Supervisor Moore opined that the EAC members come

up with their own agenda items at times, unlike agencies such as the Planning Commission, which rely on application submissions. He also stated that the EAC needs representatives that have experience in networking with the members of other municipal EAC's and environmentally focused organizations. Supervisor Moore opined that Plainfield Township's EAC had lost that networking experience when a long-standing member of the EAC elected to step down from the EAC.

Supervisor Moore reported that a committee of the Board of Supervisors (including Donald Moore, Jane Mellert and Tom Petrucci as Township Manager) had interviewed Meghan Uliana and Joseph Colosi for EAC positions, and the Board had resolved to appoint Mr. Colosi. Following the interview with Meghan Uliana, Supervisor Moore remarked that he and Township Manager Petrucci had indicated that he felt Meghan Uliana would be an asset to the EAC- specifically stating that Township Manager Petrucci had commented that she would bring a level of energy to the EAC. Supervisor Moore expressed a concern with tabling the ordinance when there are interested individuals desiring to serve on the EAC to bring it to the full complement of seven (7) members.

Supervisor Mellert responded that the interview with Megan Uliana was conducted via Zoom, and that she was experiencing technical difficulties with the audio during the virtual meeting. She stated that the three (3) members of the committee had never got together to meet to discuss the candidates. Supervisor Moore responded that the three (3) members of the committee had resolved to have each member of the committee contact Township Manager Petrucci. Supervisor Moore had recalled that he had spoken directly with Supervisor Mellert, and she had offered the opinion that Stan Shelosky and Megan Uliana would be acceptable to serve as members of the EAC. Supervisor Mellert offered a different version of these events, and recalled that she had indicated that was still reviewing everything at that time. She stated that the content of conversations are being reported out of context.

Supervisor Moore recommended that this matter should be discussed at a future second regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

ACTION: Motion was made by Donald Moore and seconded by Glenn Borger to advertise a revised version of the previous draft EAC Ordinance amendment with the provision concerning the reduction of number members from seven (7) to five (5) members removed.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Supervisor Mellert commented that she is a little confused because Supervisor Moore had started out saying that the Board members should attend an EAC meeting and formulate their own opinions on relevant next steps.

Supervisor Moore responded that was only one (1) option that he had offered, and he feels that the other revisions in the ordinance are important enough to move forward.

Motion failed. Vote 2-2, with Supervisors Moore and Borger voting “yes” and Supervisors Mellert and Hurni voting “no”.

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Stephen Hurni to table the EAC ordinance agenda item.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Resident, Meghan Uliana, informed the Board of Supervisors that she would no longer like to be considered to serve as a member of the EAC. She stated that she never envisioned that an appointment to a volunteer position would be handled in this manner.

Supervisor Moore commented that he had talked to other former members of the EAC, and that they did not want to participate as members of the EAC once they had heard about the desire to move from seven (7) members to five (5) members, as it was their opinion that the EAC would not be restored to its former level of high productivity and competency.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

13. Consideration of Approval of COSTARS Purchase Order – Picnic Benches for Municipal Park Pavilion (Recreation Fund Budget Line Item 451.601):

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Donald Moore to approve a COSTARS purchase order with George Ely Associates, Inc. for seven (7) picnic benches (including one ADA-compliant bench) for a total price of \$10,966.00. The selected color for the recycled plastic planks shall be cedar.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Stephen Hurni commented that he had a conversation with Township Manager Petrucci about whether or not these picnic benches need to be anchored. The response was that the benches do not need to be anchored, in his opinion, because they are so heavy that it is highly unlikely that the benches will be stolen. He also stated that you would not want to bolt the benches into the concrete pad- damaging it. He also noted that there are cameras present on the premises of the Municipal Complex.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

14. Review and Consideration of Approval – Design Plan Option 4A for Community Park Pavilion:

Township Manager Petrucci stated that he is looking for direction from the Board of Supervisors concerning the proposed design for the Community Park Pavilion. Design Plan Option 4A includes one (1) men's restroom, one (1) women's restroom, and two (2) gender neutral restrooms. Both Colliers Engineering (the project civil engineer) and USA Architects (the project architect) need the Township to select a final design for the pavilion to move the project forward.

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the proposed Design Plan Option 4A for the Community Park Pavilion.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Supervisor Moore questioned how many restrooms the pavilion design had before the change to add the gender neutral restrooms. Township Manager Petrucci stated that there were two (2) large restrooms, and that the Recreation Board had submitted comments recommending that the Township add more urinals to the men's restroom. Township Manager Petrucci stated that it is a recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Society to have gender neutral restrooms available to the public for new public parks/recreation facilities.

Additional comments concerning this matter and summarized as follows:

- Township Manager Petrucci confirmed that the facility as currently designed is meant for usage only during the spring, summer and early fall months. The facility does not have insulation or heat. The sub-committee of the Recreation Board (Township Manager Petrucci, Supervisor Glenn Borger, and Recreation Board member Tony Borger) had discussed this matter with the architect, and it was decided to proceed with a three (3) season facility. However, he noted that if the Board of Supervisors has an issue with this approach, it is ultimately the final decision of the Board members.
- Township Manager Petrucci provided an overall summary of the facility as proposed. He noted that there is an outdoor pavilion that could be rented out to organizations or individuals. There is an indoor meeting room that would accompany the outdoor pavilion area. The kitchen area would serve both the indoor/outdoor pavilion areas. A snack stand is attached to the kitchen area; the snack stand would be used by the local athletic organizations that utilize the fields at the park. The pavilion also has a designated maintenance/utility area, as well as a storage area for maintenance equipment. The facility also includes the four (4) aforementioned restrooms.

- In response to a question from Supervisor Moore, it was clarified that it is the intention to have individuals/organizations rent out the meeting room area along with the outdoor pavilion, if so desired by the Township. The area is served by two (2) roll-up garage doors. The Township has not finalized the decision concerning the rental areas to date.
- Resident Millie Beahn stated that she was not aware that there was a sub-committee of the Recreation Board assigned to handle this matter. She thought that the Recreation Board itself was reviewing the draft designs. She questioned whether a study was conducted as to how many people will utilize the facility- questioning whether or not there is a need for the facility. She also questioned how the facility will be maintained (and who will be responsible to maintain it).
- Township Manager Petrucci stated that there was an identified need for a dedicated smaller sub-committee of the Recreation Board to review the draft plans/designs and report back to the Recreation Board and Board of Supervisors. Many of the sub-committee meetings were conducted virtually because they were held during the COVID-19 pandemic. Wrong or right- this is what had transpired.
- Township Manager Petrucci stated that the original need for the facility was laid out on a Community Park Master Site Plan, which originally included the pavilion and many other amenities for the site. Due to cost concerns, the Community Park Master Site Plan concept was whittled down to only the pavilion at this juncture. A survey for the future use of Community Park was sent out to residents, and there was an overwhelming majority in favor of having a pavilion at Community Park. It was the intent of the Township to implement one element of the Master Site Plan to give the park a sense of permanency.
- Supervisor Mellert questioned how many people will the meeting room hold, and Tom Petrucci responded that it was thirty-five (35) people. Supervisor Mellert noted that the outdoor pavilion holds ninety-six (96) people.
- Supervisor Mellert remarked that a restroom should be directly connected to the meeting room facility to enable people who are renting it out to have a restroom for their use.
- Township Manager Petrucci reminded the Board of Supervisors that the reason that this project was delayed was due to the fact that the original septic drainage area that was not supposed to be compacted was in fact compacted during the construction phase of Community Park. Before finalizing the

pavilion design, an alternate drainage area site needed to be identified and approved by PA DEP. The Township has now confirmed that the agricultural field next to the walking path can be utilized for the septic drainage area.

- Resident, Kelli Grim, stated that she lives along Gap View Road and has viewed the current level of activity at Community Park. She questioned how the current Community Park facility will be able to handle the parking needs that will be created by the addition of a new pavilion to the existing site. She stated that the cost of the project is expensive, and she would feel better about the project if it were being expanded into the adjacent farmland next to Community Park. The site only currently provides only one (1) location for egress and ingress, and the existing driveway may not be sufficient to handle the amount of traffic. Township Manager Petrucci stated that the consultant assigned to this project did not recommend additional parking spots.
- Supervisor Mellert questioned the members of the audience if they were going to rent an indoor facility, would they prefer to go out through the garage doors to get to the restrooms, or would they prefer to have the restroom accessible from the meeting room itself? It was identified that there are no doors from the meeting room to get to the outside restrooms. You have to pull open one (1) of the two (2) roll-up garage doors.
- Resident Meghan Uliana questioned if the restrooms will be open to the public all of the time. Township Manager Petrucci stated that the intent was not to have the restrooms open all of the time due to the risk of vandalism. However, he stated that the Board of Supervisors could now decide to proceed in a different direction, if so desired. Meghan Uliana also questioned the timeframe for construction, and Township Manager Petrucci responded that it would be over the next two (2) to three (3) years- especially factoring in grant contract requirements (if grant funding is in fact awarded).
- Supervisor Mellert stated that the architect created a beautiful building, but the configuration could have been thought out more.
- Resident Terry Kleintop questioned the main objective of the sub-committee of the Recreation Board for the meeting room area. Township Manager Petrucci confirmed that one of the main objectives of the meeting room area was to have a place for athletic teams to meet for team sign-ups or coaching strategy sessions. Another identified objective for the use of the meeting room included a place to hold municipal events (for example, public meetings), if so desired by the Board of Supervisors.

- Supervisor Moore recommended that two (2) regular entry doors should be added to the meeting room.
- Township Manager Petrucci stated that the intent for this facility is to have the rental fees that are collected to pay for the necessary seasonal help that will be required to maintain the facility.
- Township Manager Petrucci stated that he did speak to the engineer/architect prior to tonight's meeting, and he had confirmed that if the Board is inclined to shift the restroom closer to the meeting room (in accordance with Supervisor Mellert's suggestion), the change would not add to the overall facility construction cost. It will result in a change order for the architect, however. Some reconfiguration of the design would need to occur.
- Resident Chuck Piazza stated that this project has been budgeted for at least three (3) fiscal years, and has been talked about for even longer. He opined that the costs of the project are increasing exponentially with these delays. Chuck Piazza opined that he has observed the Board members talk about the same issues over and over, and he recommended that the Board members should make a decision. While the Board may not be able to address everything to make it perfect, the Board should proceed with a final decision because the costs are significantly increasing with these delays to the project.
- Supervisor Mellert stated that she did not have the opportunity to adequately address her identified concerns with the pavilion design at previous meetings held at both the level of the sub-committee and Board of Supervisors.
- Supervisor Moore again brought up the point of adding two (2) entry doors to the meeting room.

Supervisor Borger rescinded his motion. Supervisor Moore rescinded his second to the motion.

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to approve the proposed Design Plan Option 4A for the Community Park Pavilion conditioned upon adding two (2) regular entry doors at the location of the meeting room.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Supervisor Mellert stated that she requested to meet with the architect six (6) months ago, and she never had the opportunity to adequately express her concerns. She also

stated that the sub-committee of the Recreation Board should have consulted a female opinion for the use of the facility.

Motion approved. Vote 3-1, with Supervisors Borger, Moore and Hurni voting “yes” and Supervisor Mellert voting “no”.

15. Review and Consideration of Approval – Revised Slate Belt Regional Police Commission Charter Agreement:

Township Manager Petrucci reported that the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission has forwarded an amended Charter Agreement for the review of the three (3) member municipalities (Plainfield, Pen Argyl and Wind Gap). The process was extremely laborious and time consuming, and included the input of the Commission members and the three (3) municipal managers from Plainfield, Pen Argyl and Wind Gap. The intent of this amendment is for each member municipality to advertise an ordinance, adopt the ordinance, and then adopt a resolution to implement the final Charter Agreement. In this way, the Charter Agreement can be amended in the future via resolution instead of having to adopt each amendment via an advertised/adopted ordinance. Township Manager Petrucci stated that both the Commission members and the municipal managers had done an excellent job concerning this project.

In response to a question from Supervisor Borger, Township Manager Petrucci clarified that only certain items must come back to the Board of Supervisors for approval. For example, the acquisition of real estate, major expenditures (leasing or purchasing) over \$50,000.00, borrowing of funds over \$100,000.00, and the adoption of the annual budget must be approved by all three (3) municipal governing bodies.

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to approve official action to confirm the agreement of the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors with the proposed Charter Agreement language text revisions as submitted (with a date of March 16, 2022), with the understanding that the three (3) municipalities comprising the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission must subsequently advertise and adopt ordinances to formally revise the Charter Agreement.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Resident Terry Kleintop questioned the threshold for a major expense, and Township Manager Petrucci clarified that it is \$50,000.00 for personal property. It was also clarified that the sale of police services must always be approved by the three (3) governing bodies of the member municipalities, regardless of the dollar amount.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

16. Continued Discussion – 2022 Refuse/Recycling Billing Cycle (Effective July 1, 2022 – Invoice Mailing Date of July 15, 2022); Possible Use of Refuse Fund Accumulated Balance:

Following discussion (including comments received from both the Board members and members of the public) on a number of possible options utilize the accumulated Refuse Fund balance, the Board of Supervisors directed Township Manager Petrucci to obtain COSTARS price quotations for the following:

- Twenty (20) gallon recycling containers with Township logo and delivery options;
- Thirty-five (35) gallon recycling totes with Township logo and delivery options.

ACTION: Motion was made by Donald Moore and seconded by Stephen Hurni to table this agenda item until such time that the Township Manager can obtain additional information for the review of the Board of Supervisors.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Berger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

17. Discussion/Consideration of Approval of Advertisement – Revision to Planning Commission Application Submission Deadline – Amendment to Chapter 22 (Subdivision and Land Development) of the Code of Ordinances:

There are ongoing concerns at the level of the Planning Commission concerning a lack of time to examine the review letters that are generated by Township staff and consultants for plan submissions/applications. A possible suggested course of action was discussed, identified as follows:

1. Amend the number of days required for plan submissions to twenty-eight (28).
2. Have the PC Secretary complete the consultant/staff meeting packet as one PDF in sequential order with the agenda.
3. As a policy, all consultant/staff reviews shall be due no later than eleven (11) days before the PC meeting.
4. The PC Secretary sends out the PC consultant/staff meeting packet no later than ten (10) days before the meeting.

The April Planning Commission meeting outlined with the above scenario was discussed as follows:

- Planning Commission Meeting Date- **Monday, April 18, 2022**
- Application Submission Deadline- **Monday, March 21, 2022**
- Consultant/Staff Review Letters Due- **Thursday, April 7, 2022** (gives consultants/staff 17 days to complete the review letters)
- Planning Commission Secretary Sends PC consultant/staff meeting packet to Planning Commission- **Friday, April 8, 2022** (giving the Planning Commission a total of ten (10) days to review the materials prior to the meeting)

Township Manager Petrucci prepared a draft amendment to accomplish the above-described option.

ACTION: Motion was made by Donald Moore and seconded by Stephen Hurni to advertise the draft Subdivision and Land Development Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) which revises the application submission deadline for all subdivisions, resubdivisions, sketch plans and land developments from twenty one (21) days to twenty eight (28) days prior to a regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Resident Kelli Grim expressed a concern with the draft ordinance amendment. In her past experience as a former Planning Commission member (in another state), she noted that there was a concern with the length of a review timeframe for pending land development applications. She expressed the opinion that the review timeframe should be longer to ensure that the reviews are conducted properly. Township Manager Petrucci stated that what is being contemplated with this proposed ordinance amendment is a separate issue from the application review timeframe. He confirmed that the Municipalities Planning Code gives the Township ninety (90) days to review a pending application, unless an applicant agrees to an extension of time. The issue being discussed tonight is referring to the timeframe from when the applicant submits the application until the time that the review letters generated by the Township's consultants and staff are received by the members of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission members would like to have more time prior to the date of the Planning Commission meeting to examine said review letters.

Supervisor Mellert stated that there will still be times when the twenty-eight (28) timeframe will cause overlaps. There will be months of the year when there will be an overlap. Supervisor Mellert stated that the Board of Supervisors should also ask for additional time to review monthly meeting packets, as the material for Board meetings is also quite voluminous.

Supervisor Moore questioned Solicitor Backenstoe as to whether or not there is the possibility discretionary exceptions to the general rule. Solicitor Backenstoe confirmed that the statute must be uniform, clearly written, succinct and consistently applied/enforced. However, there are situations which are unique that may necessitate a different timeframe on a case-by-case basis (for example, assisting an applicant with the approval of a minor lot adjustment). These instances are rare, but it would be ridiculously burdensome, in his opinion, not to allow for these types of unique situations.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

BOARD AND FIRE COMPANY AND AMBULANCE REPORTS:

1. Planning and Zoning Report- March, 2022
2. Road Department Report- March, 2022
3. Fire Company and Ambulance Report- March, 2022
4. Recreation Board Report- March, 2022 (NONE)

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve the March, 2022 reports as listed and presented.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

SLATE BELT REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

1. Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report- March, 2022:

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve the March, 2022 Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report as listed and presented.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Supervisor Moore called the attention of the Board of Supervisors to the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission minutes from February 17, 2022, which were included in the March, 2022 Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report. The approved minutes show that Supervisor Mellert had opposed the motion relating to the mortality table of the Slate Belt Regional Police Department pension plan, and he asked for additional information concerning this matter. Supervisor Mellert explained that she was in favor of the mortality table change, but not the reduction to the interest rate. Because the motion included both items, she was originally going to vote “no”. She ultimately did not vote against the motion- noting that the minutes were subsequently revised. She explained that the interest rate was lowered because the plan is currently well funded due to the fact that the plan’s investments had performed well last year (when the stock market was up). Supervisor Mellert explained that she is concerned with lowering the interest rate at this time, because the action has the effect of increasing the overall actuarial accrued liability for the pension plan. This in turn will cause the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to increase in the future- especially if the investments do not perform as well in the future (for example, if the stock market goes down).

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

CITIZEN’S AGENDA/NON-AGENDA:

1. ***Kelli Grim, Resident:*** Kelli Grim addressed the Board of Supervisors concerning multiple issues. She expressed a concern with the fact that the Nazareth Borough Municipal Authority (NBMA) was able to purchase the Hower Farm without notifying the Board of Supervisors. She also expressed a concern with the fact that the NBMA purchased a property that is planned for the land application of biosolids outside of their service area. Kelli Grim questioned if the Board of Supervisors have a liaison to its committees. Supervisor Mellert stated that she is the liaison to the Environmental Advisory Council. Township Manager Petrucci stated that he attends every Planning Commission meeting. He mentioned that while he is not an elected official, he does work for the Board of Supervisors.

With respect to the NBMA matter, Kelli Grim requested that the members Board of Supervisors identify whether they are for or against the group of citizens that have formed to oppose the NBMA’s planned use of the Hower Farm. Kelli Grim indicated that she will be back at subsequent meetings of the Board of Supervisors to suggest possible actions for the consideration of the Board members.

Kelli Grim also brought up the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission projections for population which indicate that the Township is projected to experience residential growth of forty-five percent (45%), which would be approximately two-hundred seventy-five (275) to three-hundred (300) new homes per year for the next twenty (20) years. Township Manager Petrucci stated that Township officials do not agree with those projections, as they do not factor in the high acreage of land that is already preserved or

the Township's strict zoning regulations. Kelli Grim indicated that she will be reviewing the Township's regulations for possible loopholes.

Kelli Grim also stated that the Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Regulations is directly partnered with Synagro. There have been lawsuits filed against Synagro for the spreading of biosolids. Kelli Grim is asking to partner with the Township to devise solutions to this local, regional and federal issue. She noted that the NBMA will likely purchase other properties in Northampton County aside from the Hower Farm, and that all governmental organizations should be prepared.

Supervisor Mellert stated that the Township is attempting to move forward a Resolution at the level of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors to request formal support for legislation that would give local municipalities the authority to adopt local biosolids regulations. The Township has also hired Hanover Engineering (Jason Smith) to conduct baseline testing of the downstream properties from the Hower Farm. Additionally, the Township has hired environmental legal counsel (Attorney John Embick) to assist the Township with the review of any materials that are submitted by the NBMA. It is the opinion of Supervisor Mellert that the Township has been proactive concerning the NBMA matter.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

1. ***Stephen Hurni, Vice-Chairman-*** No report.
2. ***Jane Mellert-*** Supervisor Mellert stated that she had asked Township Manager Petrucci to inquire with the office staff for their opinion on the pavilion restroom issue; she expressed a concern that this information had not been given to the other Board members for their review.
3. ***Donald Moore-*** Supervisor Moore reported that he had met with residents along Engler Road to discuss the stormwater issues that are occurring along the roadway. When he was on-site, he noted that there were erosion issues with the culvert that is located at the intersection of Weiss Road and Engler Road. Recent storms have now worsened this erosion issue. Township Manager Petrucci had recently reported that the culvert located at the intersection of Weiss Road and Engler Road will require an emergency permit to be issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) to repair the erosion/washout occurring to the headwall of the culvert. Specifically, this issue was exacerbated as a result of the heavy rain storms that occurred on Thursday, April 7, 2022 and Friday, April 8, 2022. The headwall of the culvert and the gabion baskets (installed ~twenty years ago) are beginning to erode and could eventually impact the stability of the roadway. Ott Consulting, Inc. will provide a narrative and rough sketch in order for the Township to obtain the PA DEP emergency permit. The gabion baskets will need to be repaired and extended to the head wall to stabilize the bank itself and the area between the bank and the roadway.

Supervisor Mellert noted that she had recently visited Engler Road, and she expressed her surprise with how the water was running freely on the south side of Engler Road- but not the north side of the road. Terry Kleintop explained that the spring on the north side of the road had just recently stopped running.

Supervisor Moore stated that he is currently attending the LVPC's zoning course, and he expressed the sentiment that the members of the Zoning Hearing Board should attend this course.

4. *Randy Heard*- Not in attendance.

5. *Glenn Borger Chairman*- No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- DAVID BACKENSTOE, ESQUIRE:

Solicitor Backenstoe stated that he did not have anything to report in addition to what was already discussed or acted upon by the governing body already during the course of tonight's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, a motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Donald Moore to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Petrucci
Township Manager/Secretary
Plainfield Township
Board of Supervisors