

**TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HUNTINGDON, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING, THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022, 7:00 P.M.  
11279 Center Highway, North Huntingdon, PA 15642  
Presiding Officer – Zachary Haigis, President, Board of Commissioners**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Zona called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Stump	Present	Also Present:
Commissioner Atwood	Present	Harry Faulk
Commissioner Gray	Tele Conference	Solicitor Dice
Commissioner Zona	Present - President	Ryan Fonzi
Commissioner Wengrzn	Present	
Commissioner Gass	Present	
Commissioner Haigis	Tele Conference	

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CITIZENS INPUT**

\*There was no citizen's input.

**RESPONSE TO CITIZENS INPUT**

**Work Sessions Discussion Topics**

1) Comprehensive Plan.

Manager Faulk states there has been three proposals received to perform the 2023 Comprehensive Plan. The last plan was done in 2000. The three companies were Environmental Planning & Design at a cost of fifty nine thousand seven hundred ten dollars, HRG Engineering at a cost of ninety one thousand seven hundred forty dollars and DinoCrates Group at a cost of seventy three thousand six hundred dollars. Manager Faulk states staff reviewed the proposals and recommend Environmental Planning Design. Once the plan is awarded by the Board, the next step will be to approve a Resolution to submit for the municipal assistance program funding to cover fifty percent of the cost and DCED is awaiting the Township's grant application.

Carolyn Yeagle from Environmental Planning & Design gives her proposal for North Huntingdon's Comprehensive Plan which will take approximately eight to nine months to complete.

Commissioner Gass asks how long does the Township have these services for. Ms. Yeagle states based on the RFP would be Spring of 2023.

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Commissioner Stump asks how certain are we to get the fifty percent match. Manager Faulk states he is ninety percent confident to get the grant. Commissioner Stump asks if there is the option of waiting to approve the contract until certain grant money will be received. Solicitor Dice states he is not sure you can even make application for the grant unless the contract is valid.

2) Addendum to Contract for Waste Management.

Jim Queen from Waste Management states residents in rural areas are having some trouble with animals getting into their garbage, so it was decided that a black thirty five gallon can will be provided to residents who are on the senior bag program. This should be for twenty to forty residents in the outlying areas. Mr. Queen states if this addendum is approved he will order one hundred cans to start and go by case by case basis. The fee will go from five dollars per month for the senior one bag program to seven dollars fifty cents per month plus the recycling cart.

3) Recreation Advisory Board Appointment.

Manager Faulk states two letters of interest have been received and Dan Miller recommends the Board's approval for them to serve on the Recreation Advisory Board.

4) Code Hearing Board – Letter of Interest.

Manager Faulk states three members serve on the Code Hearing Board. There is one vacancy and is asking for approval to receive letters of interest.

5) 2023 Budget Goals.

Commissioner Zona states Manager Faulk asks the Board to come up with five priorities or goals for the upcoming budget. Commissioner Atwood states his priority is to have the budget as tight as possible as to not raise taxes and to see what the result of the comprehensive plan is.

Commissioner Zona agrees to avoid a tax increase, to attempt to pass a budget that leaves a surplus in the reserve, asks the Directors to look at their needs verses wants, focus on past outcomes, explore an incentive for senior employees and management to encourage retirement, to create a Financial Manager position to replace the Assistant Township Manager position, expand social media presence and beautification projects, and expand senior programs.

Commissioner Stump states she would like to see going after additional grant money to make the parks better than already are, some green energy opportunities, stormwater management / flood control.

Commissioner Wengrzyn states she wants to focus on the grant money as there is so much the States has available and also possibly hiring a consultant to help facilitate the grant money. She would also like to see more activities for seniors and teenagers.

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Commissioner Gass agrees with all the recommendations and to avoid any tax increase. He also would like to see the dispatchers stay and feels they are priceless and cannot be replaced. He would like to see a grant writer and to offer a universal day of celebration for Veterans and First Responders.

Commissioner Gray states he agrees with all the recommendations from the Board and feels nobody could disagree with everything they would like to do, however everything comes at a cost of money. Researching grant money has been done before and was told North Huntingdon would not qualify for a lot of grant money because it is too wealthy as a whole. While all would love to provide a senior / rec center and provide more services and beautification projects, that all costs money. He also states there are going to be some very hard decisions to be made with the next budget and feels there is going to be trouble providing the services we currently provide without a tax increase. Commissioner Gray states he would be happy with maintaining the services we currently have and to improve communications between the Board and residents but while he agrees all are great ideas, but have to be more realistic to not raise taxes.

Commissioner Zona clarifies that when he stated about creating a financial manager position wasn't to create a new position but rather replace the position of assistant manager when he retires.

Manager Faulk states being new to the position and working on the budget, at first glance, he feels next year a good bit of the goals can be attained as far as not raising taxes because of the AARPA money. He feels the main goal is to have a transition period.

**PLANNING / ENGINEERING TOPICS:**

**1) S-14-2022: Sulava Plan 1**

*\*Proposed subdivision on State Route 30 for a billboard.*

Director Fonzi states this is located at the Lighthouse Building at 11639 State Route 30. The owner would like to subdivide in the front solely for the purpose of erecting a billboard. This lot is zoned commercial one and because the signage requirements are based on road frontage the lot behind is left with no frontage so the owner is giving up all of his signage rights. The applicant still needs to go in front of the Zoning Hearing Board for special exception to have the billboard. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

**2) S-15-2022: Legends III Revision 4**

*\*Proposed consolidation in the Legends Plan.*

Director Fonzi states this is a two lot consolidation at the corner of Augusta Circle and Elliott Lane to make it 1.13 acres. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

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3) **S-16-2022: Willow Estates I Revision 5**

*\*Proposed consolidation and boundary line revision on Yorkshire Drive.*

Director Fonzi states this involves six existing lots. Initially the lots on the corner were supposed to be two, four unit townhomes. The developer found the market was not conducive to building the townhouses, so now he wants to consolidate four lots into two single family lots.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**FURTHER BOARD COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Commissioner Atwood  
Second: Commissioner Zona

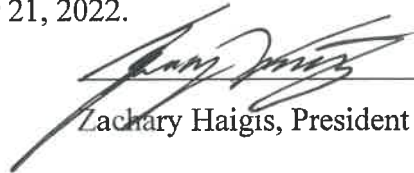
Motion to adjourn.

Motion carried 7 – 0 – 0 (8:00 P.M.)

- Special Meeting minutes of August 11, 2022 were approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 21, 2022.

  
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Harry R. Faulk, Township Secretary

  
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Zachary Haigis, President