

**WORCESTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING  
WORCESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY HALL  
FAIRVIEW VILLAGE, WORCESTER, PA  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020 – 7:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Chair DeLello at 7:30 PM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ATTENDANCE**

PRESENT:	RICK DELELLO	[X]
	STEVE QUIGLEY	[X]
	LOU BETZ	[X]

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- Tommy Ryan, Township Manager, announced this evening’s Business Meeting was being video-recorded for rebroadcast.
- Mr. Ryan noted the Board had met in Executive Session on October 30, November 12 and November 18 to discuss a matter of personnel, in specific the procedures to appoint an individual to a vacant position on the Board of Supervisors, and the general qualifications of candidates for this position. Mr. Ryan noted the Members did not select or appoint a candidate, and the Members did not interview any candidate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- There was no public comment.

**OFFICIAL ACTION ITEMS**

- a) Consent Agenda – Chair DeLello asked if any Member wished to remove an item from the consent agenda. There were no requests to remove an item from the consent agenda.

Supervisor Quigley made a motion to approve a consent agenda that includes (a) the Treasurer’s Report and other Monthly Reports for October 2020, (b) bill payment for October 2020 in the amount of \$974,210.32; and, (c) the October 21, 2020 Business Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Chair DeLello.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

- b) appointment – Chair DeLello commented on the process under State Law whereby a Township appoints an individual to a vacant position on the Board of Supervisors.

Chair DeLello commented on the individuals who expressed interest in serving on the Board, his discussions with these individuals, and information provided to these individuals. Chair DeLello noted all possessed the qualifications to serve in this position, and he thanked all for their willingness to serve our community. Chair DeLello noted his preferred candidates.

Supervisor Quigley commented on the individuals who expressed interest in serving on the Board, and on the importance of the services provided at by local government and local government officials. Supervisor Quigley noted a conversation had with a previous Worcester Township Manager regarding Township Supervisor qualifications. Supervisor Quigley thanked all candidates for their willingness to serve our community. Supervisor Quigley noted his preferred candidate.

Chair DeLello and Supervisor Quigley encouraged all with interest in serving on the Board of Supervisor to consider running to the six-term year to be elected in 2021.

Supervisor Quigley made a motion to appoint Lou Betz to the position of Township Supervisor, to a term to expire on January 3, 2022. The motion was seconded by Chair DeLello.

Jim Mollick, Worcester, commented on Executive Session procedures, Mr. Betz's experience, and former Township Supervisor Caughlan. Wini Hayes, Worcester, commented on the vacancy appointment process, former Township Supervisor Caughlan, public comment by Dr. Mollick, and on public comment permitted at public meetings.

Supervisor Quigley commented on public comment permitted at public meetings.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

Supervisor Betz took the oath of office, administered by Wendy McKenna, Township Solicitor, and notarized by Nicole Quagliariello, Licensed Notary.

The meeting was recessed at 8:02pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:05pm.

- c) 2021 Budget – Mr. Ryan provided an update on the 2021 Budget. Mr. Ryan noted the draft budget does not include an increase in taxes and does not include new taxes.

Mr. Ryan noted the budget does not propose the hire of additional employees.

Mr. Ryan provided an overview of primary receipts. Mr. Ryan noted the budget assumes stable Earned Income Tax receipts. Mr. Ryan noted the budget assumes a modest increase to Real

Estate Transfer Taxes and to building permit receipts, due to increased construction activities at the Whitehall Estates and Reserve at Center Square developments.

Mr. Ryan noted the budget assumes no increase to health care expenses, thanks to the Township's positive claim experience with the Delaware Valley Health Trust.

Mr. Ryan noted the budget provides a 5% increase in operating contributions to the Norristown Public Library and Worcester Volunteer Fire Department, and an additional \$100,000 capital contribution for the Fire Department. Mr. Ryan noted the budget continues to provide a monthly stipend to Township employees who volunteer with the Fire Department during the work week, the time of the week that volunteer firefighters are in most need.

Mr. Ryan commented on proposed capital improvements, including the replacement of Public Works vehicles and equipment that have reached the end of their useful life – which includes a 1994 loader, a 2008 mower, and a 2009 dump truck.

Mr. Ryan noted the Capital Fund also provides for a storm sewer system extension in the Adair neighborhood, and various bridge and roadside safety improvements.

Mr. Ryan noted the Capital Fund provides \$876,000 for the Township's annual Road Program, which is in addition to dollars budgeted for program design, bidding and inspection, and which is likewise in addition to funding for smaller roadway fixes to be made throughout the year.

Mr. Ryan commented on Sewer Fund operations, and efforts made by Township staff and the contracted sewer operator to lower system expenses. Mr. Ryan noted the draft budget includes a 1% increase to sewer service fees, which equates to an approximate \$0.44 increase per month for each home connected to the Township's sanitary sewer system.

Mr. Ryan commented on the State Fund, and on the 2021 estimated Liquid Fuels allocation, which is estimated to decrease by 9%, due to decreased fuel sales attributable to the pandemic.

Mr. Ryan noted the budget is ready to be advertised for public inspection, before its consideration at the December 16 Business Meeting.

Supervisor Quigley commented on the enhanced in-house abilities of the Township's Public Works Department, and on the Township's efforts to deliver consistent services to all residents.

Supervisor Quigley made a motion to authorize advertisement of the proposed 2021 Budget for public inspection. The motion was seconded by Chair DeLello.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the Board adopted the motion to approve.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- No other business was discussed at this evening’s Business Meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Dr. Mollick commented on public comment permitted at public meetings, former Township Supervisor Caughlan’s legal representation of Township residents, and Township efforts to improve transparency.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business brought before the Board, Chair DeLello adjourned the Business Meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Tommy Ryan  
Township Manager