

Moore Township Board of Supervisors
2491 Community Drive
Bath, PA 18014
April 5, 2022

The Regular Monthly Meeting for the Moore Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) was called to order on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 by Vice Chairman David Shaffer at 6:00 PM. The meeting was conducted at the municipal building. Members present were Vice Chairman David Shaffer, Supervisor Michael Tirrell, Township Manager Nicholas Steiner, Township Solicitor David Backenstoe, and Engineer Keith Lawler from Keystone Consulting Engineers (KCE).

The next meeting is Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 6 pm.

SUB-DIVISIONS AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

#22-05P/F Ronald White Lot Line Adjustment

The Planning Commission (PC) approved the conditional final approval of #22-05P/F Ronald White Lot Line Adjustment per the conditions set forth in Keystone's review letter dated March 21, 2022. Mr. Scott Steirer, attorney for Mr. Ronald White, explained the lots were subdivided in 1987 with a front lot on Bok Road, and a back lot that is almost landlocked. The subdivision was never recorded in 1987. On the eastern side of the property, there was a design for a cul de sac for the back lot to utilize. It was never constructed. There was a driveway ad hoc from the front of Bok Road that went from the front lot house to the back lot. The owner went to issue deeds and realized the plan was never recorded. In 2012, the Board told the owner it could only be recorded if they put in an easement for the back lot to have access, which they did. Mr. Ken Hahn did the easement, and it was recorded. The Township quick claimed the deed for the half cul de sac to Mr. White. Attorney Steirer noted these properties border Bushkill Township. Since then, Mr. John Teklinsky purchased lot 2. They want to do a lot line adjustment to clean up the angles. It benefits both of the property owners, and it benefits the Township as it will give twenty feet of frontage to lot 2 which currently has zero. There's no issue to Bushkill Township as those lots were bought and sold. Attorney Steirer said the PC suggested the plan be revised to show the front of the house is shifted. He thinks Mr. Mike Hahn has done this. Mr. Tirrell asked if the driveway easement is owned by lot 1 to get into lot 2. Attorney Steirer said the actual land is owned by lot 1, and lot 2 has an easement over it. As part of this lot line adjustment, lot 2 is going to own that strip outright making it almost a flag lot. Attorney Backenstoe said this subdivision approves the situation. Attorney Steirer noted this was approved in 1987 before the ordinance disallowing flag lots was approved. Attorney Backenstoe reviewed and approved of the plan. Mr. Shaffer asked Mr. Keith Lawler if he hand any additional information. Mr. Lawler said there hasn't been a new plan since the PC. The resolution includes a comment regarding the zoning set back where the front yard would be. Attorney Backenstoe agreed the PC gave the right direction in changing the front of the house as that is how it has been.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve #22-05 P/F Ronald White Lot Line Adjustment with conditions set forth in Keystone's review letter dated March 21, 2022

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

WAIVERS & DEFERALS

REGULAR BUSINESS

MINUTES

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve the minutes from March 1, 2022

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve the Financial Report

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to pay the bills

Mr. Steiner noted bills for the month from General Checking are \$161,845.58. The Liquid Fuels bills are \$18,868.56.

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

APPROVE PAYROLL

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve the payroll

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Thomas Roberts read the report for March 2022.

FIRE & AMBULANCE

Mr. Jason Harhart read the February 2022 report.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Craig Hoffman reported street sweeping will be done April 4-8 and April 25-28. They have roads selected to oil and chip. These roads will need some base repairs prior to the work being completed.

FIRST REGIONAL COMPOST AUTHORITY (FRCA)

Mr. Gable said the winter hours will remain the same for summer. First and third Saturdays from 8am to 1pm, and Wednesday and Friday from 8am to 4pm. They will start accepting grass clippings April 15 at the Weaversville site. It will cost a dollar per 32-gallon container. It needs to be dumped from the containers, and compostable bags are no longer allowed. No grass can be dropped at the Township sites. Residential drop off is by customers only. Anybody who comes with a pickup truck and says they're a resident will need to pay commercial rates. Yucca plants and ornamental grasses are no longer allowed at any of the sites as it doesn't grind up. All equipment is running, and they're processing mulch and making compost.

NAZARETH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Mr. Harhart said this month's meeting was cancelled. The Nazareth Regional Comprehensive Plan meeting will have their last meeting this month. The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) will give a presentation during the normal PC meeting at the Moore Elementary School this month. The LVPC is traveling to all the municipalities giving presentations on the comprehensive plan.

RECREATION COMMISSION

Mr. Tirrell asked Mr. Hoffman if the fields had been sprayed. Mr. Hoffman confirmed the first application has been completed. Mr. Tirrell continued, spring soccer started April 3 and baseball's opening day is April 23.

Mr. Steiner added they are looking into security at the Recreation Center noting there has been some vandalism. He asked anybody who visits the Recreation Center to keep a look out for any vandalism with Mr. Hoffman noting there was a lot of graffiti. A porta john needed to be replaced by the Township. The same person who installed security cameras at the municipal building will look at the Rec Center.

Mr. Steiner also looked into grants for the Recreation Commission. Livable Landscapes is a 50/50 county grant that supports open space conservation, trails, and park projects. He had a meeting in the morning with Ms. Sherry Acevedo of Northampton County to discuss whether the projects for the Rec Commission qualified. She said the Township would need a master site plan along with detailed budgets for each project. Mr. Steiner didn't have that information. In speaking with her, it was implied that if the Township didn't have the information, they shouldn't apply for this year's grant round. Ms. Acevedo brought up the idea of applying for funds to create plans these grants require. She suggested a Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan which would build upon the current Township open space plan while incorporating parks and recreation noting the law that expands the use of preservation funds is expected to pass. She offered to give a presentation in the form of a workshop meeting to discuss the idea between Land & Environmental Protection Board (LEPB) and Recreation Commission. The plan would help in applying for grants in the future. A survey would be part of putting this type of plan together. Mr. Steiner thinks it might be a good idea to update the open space plan and create an overarching plan for when the Township applies for these grants. Many Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grants look to see how a grant request complies with the state recreation plan as well. He noted there is more work to applying for a grant than just coming up with an idea. If they start this year to plan for next year's grant round, they can better take advantage of the grant opportunities. Mr. Steiner was unsure if grant funds were used for the first open space plan with Mr. Bob Romano and Mr. Gable saying it was paid for by Township funds. Mr. Romano said they couldn't spend any of the funds until they had the open space plan. Mr. Steiner also asked about how the Appalachian Park Stewardship Plan would fit. She indicated this would be a piece of the Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan. Mr. Romano asked confirmation this would involve one overall plan that would include both open space, and parks and recreation. Mr. Steiner said yes, the idea would be to help prioritize both preservation and general funds. It would help look at the bigger picture. Mr. Romano asked if by plan they mean the open space plan. That is Mr. Steiner's understanding with the addition of parks and recreation. He noted Ms. Acevedo would be the best person to explain the idea noting she and Ms. Maria Bentzoni recently spoke to the Lower Nazareth EAC.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mr. Tirrell said they are working on the flooring, walls, and doors at the school. Mr. Steiner was asked by the commission's vice chair, Mr. Jesse Longley, if the Board could meet the commission at the Edelman Schoolhouse. Mr. Steiner assumes they will want to go over the progress and plans for the

schoolhouse. The commission also plans to have their meetings from May to September at the Recreation Center pavilion. Mr. Hoffman is working on getting signs for the Graver School, Dieter School, Steckel School, Christ Church School, and Schall School.

LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD (LEPB)

Newsletter

The LEPB would like all articles by June 1. Mr. Romano said they want new articles. Mr. Shaffer said the same outfit is creating the newsletter. A lot is coming up in the fall time frame, and they're trying to take advantage of putting that information in the newsletter. They don't want to continue putting the same information in the newsletter especially since they issued the most recent one in late 2021. Mr. Tirrell asked when it would come out. Mr. Shaffer said it's about seven weeks from when they hand in the articles, so late July/early August. Mr. Romano said it will be good to let residents know of anything happening after that date.

Electronics Recycling Event

Mr. Romano and Mr. Shaffer reported an event is scheduled for August 6 from 9 to 11 am at the Recreation Center for Moore Township and Chapman Borough residents only. ID will be required. Mr. Shaffer noted there will be costs for certain items with information included on the flyer. RRS is the vendor, and the county is fully reimbursing the Township. The county stopped doing events and have asked townships to take these on. Mr. Jeff Ayers asked if they need volunteers to help with traffic. Mr. Romano said they will need fire police and signs. Mr. Shaffer said the police and Mr. Harhart are going to find a better way to funnel people in and out with Mr. Harhart noting it will be much easier. Mr. Romano thanked Officer Roberts for the idea noting they previously had it at the school.

Schiavone Pond Fish Stocking

Mr. Romano said they would like to stock the ponds at Schiavone Park. This will be paid from the preservation funds. It will be a combination of smaller bass, perch, and blue gill. They are also looking at a quantity of minnows so anything stocked has something to eat. They are also trying to place some cover in the ponds for the fish to have a place to hide. The cost will be between \$1,200 and \$1,500. They don't know what the delivery charge will be yet. He is looking for approval of an amount not to exceed \$2,000. Mr. Shaffer said with catch and release, these fish should grow. Mr. Romano said the ponds are being treated now and will eventually have some aeration with Mr. Shaffer noting that project has not been as easy as they thought.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve up to \$2,000 for fish stocking of Schiavone Park ponds

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

Appalachian Park Timber Harvest

Mr. Shaffer explained the Appalachian Park on Skunk Road has about a 155-acre wooded area that abuts state game lands and federal lands along the Appalachian Trail. In 2016, the Township had a stewardship plan developed with a grant for the park. One recommendation was a selective timber harvest. When trees grow together and don't supply sunlight to the forest floor, it does not have ground cover. Without ground cover, it will not have habitat for wildlife. Without wildlife, it won't have good hunting. As laid out in the stewardship plan, they want to create habitat for wildlife and improve access for hunters. A consulting forester would be hired. The forester would scope out the property and mark the trees deemed declining or on the verge of dying in addition to any valuable timber. The consulting forester either gets

20% of the value of the timber or \$130 per hour. The forester would provide a layout of the board footage from every tree marked and ask the Board if they're ok with it. They will ask if the Board wants more or less trees taken down. With this being a large parcel, he thinks the \$130 per hour would be a fair value. Until they have the number, they won't know. When they have the excel sheet, the forester will get sealed bids from loggers and would probably go with the highest bidder. Mr. Hoffman asked if the bidder will need to follow the same Township harvesting ordinances including bonding of the roads. Mr. Shaffer said that is correct. They follow every rule and regulation the Township already has. Mr. Tirrell asked where the money received from the harvest would go. Mr. Shaffer thinks if they plan to move forward with making improvements to the park, it could go to the park in some manner. He doesn't think it's set in stone as to where the money would go, and they can decide on it at another time. They may also not like the quotes that come back and won't do it at all. The first step would be for the forester to come back with the information and get quotes. Mr. Tirrell asked if the money upfront would come from General Fund or Preservation. Mr. Shaffer said if they decide not to go with anybody, it would need to be taken out of the General Fund as the property was not purchased with Preservation funds. Mr. Romano asked confirmation this isn't just about the dollar amount but good stewardship. Mr. Shaffer said this is all about good stewardship, access for hunters, creating habitat for wildlife, etc. Mr. Harhart and Mr. Shaffer noted this is common in the Township. Mr. Shaffer said it's preserving and creating better timber for the future as well noting they would want future work from the Township. This is selective harvesting not clearcutting.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion move forward with the Appalachian Park Timber Harvest Plan to hiring consulting forester

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

COMMUNITY DAYS COMMITTEE

Ms. Lois Kerbacher said the yard sale is Saturday with about 430 people interested in coming. It is at the Recreation Center football field. People can start setting up at 6 am, and the yard sale is from 7 am to 1 pm. They are up to 34 spaces and continue to receive calls.

ZONING AND BUILDING OFFICER

Mr. Harhart submitted his report for the month.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Schiavone Farm Sediment Erosion Project

Mr. Keith Lawler of KCE reported on behalf of Mr. Kevin Horvath. It was a mild winter on the farm. Reseeding and stabilization is to be completed as weather permits, hopefully within the next month.

Schiavone Farm HOP

Keystone staked out a drainage pattern and will close out the permit after the Township installs the channel. Once it's stabilized and PennDOT conducts a successful final inspection, they'll be able to close out the permit for Schiavone Farm.

Pool Road

Mr. Lawler thinks PennDOT is trying to decide on the best way to say no left turn. There's a difference of opinion between two people, and Keystone is waiting to hear from them. Mr. Steiner sent letters to the neighbors and a letter to PennDOT who came back with these corrections. Mr. Shaffer asked if any

neighbors reached out to Mr. Steiner. Mr. Steiner said the church called, and he referred him to Mr. Horvath. Mr. Lawler said as of April 1, Mr. Horvath had a call with PennDOT.

MS4 Projects

Mr. Lawler said letters were sent and thinks they received contact from all six properties. Mr. Steiner confirmed letters were sent to all the residents who would be directly impacted since these outlets are all on private properties. Between him and Mr. Horvath, he thinks they spoke to everybody. Mr. Horvath sent an email with criteria to Attorney Backenstoe to consider incorporating into an easement agreement. Attorney Backenstoe said they can, hopefully, get all the property owners to sign an agreement allowing the Township to go on the property to maintain those detention basins. Mr. Steiner said they didn't receive pushback in the initial calls. Once Attorney Backenstoe puts the agreement together, Mr. Steiner will schedule a time to meet with everybody where Mr. Horvath will explain the scope of the projects and agreements will be signed. Attorney Backenstoe will have the agreements done shortly. Mr. Steiner will forward his comments to Attorney Backenstoe.

Road Plan Update and 2022 Road Projects

Mr. Horvath, Mr. Sean Dooley of KCE, Mr. Hoffman, and Mr. Steiner have been working on road work to be bid out this summer. Mr. Lawler said they have a budget of \$118,000 for S. Cigar, Love Road, W. Beersville, and Sickle for double oil and chip this year. Mr. Steiner spoke to KCE about discussing the plan in its totality at a workshop. Given Mr. Piorkowski is out of town this month, they will have a workshop in May to go over the multi-year road plan. To get these projects out to bid for seal coat, they spoke with Keystone yesterday. These roads were decided because the Public Works crew did a lot of work on S. Cigar last year. They're trying to work on a different maintenance area each year. If they did major repairs on one road, they would oil and chip that road and surrounding roads. Love and Sickle may not need much repair work, but they'll be able to get longevity out of it. Beersville will need a lot of work. Mr. Hoffman said W. Beersville from the Township line to Hokendauqua has a lot of extensive work needed not just on the surface but with the replacement of cross pipes. Mr. Shaffer asked when they would get the paver. Mr. Steiner isn't sure when they'll hear about the grant. The Township applied for it on March 15. It's the first time the state is doing a statewide LSA, so he thinks Moore will be a lower priority because the Township qualifies for the Northampton County and Monroe County LSA programs. Based on conversations with one of the representatives, he gets the feeling they will prioritize those counties that do not have access to those county specific LSA funds. They are still awaiting the result of the county LSA applications. If they were approved for the statewide LSA right now, they wouldn't see the paver until a year from now. If they wait longer, they may not see it until 2024. They still plan to apply for it in the fall through the Northampton County and Monroe County LSA grants if the statewide LSA is not approved. Depending on whether it's approved and the increased cost of the paver, it may not be worthwhile to actually purchase the paver. However, he and Mr. Hoffman are still in early conversations with Keystone on that issue. Mr. Lawler said they would get a little over 2 miles for \$118,000 for double oil and chip. If they get into milling and overlay, that gets shorter. If they get into full reconstruction, shorter yet. The roads are grouped in a certain area because you're paying for a day rather than have them move all over the Township. Mr. Steiner asked to have S. Cigar Road, Love Road, W. Beersville Road, and Sickle Road out to bid for double oil and chip for an approximate cost of \$118,000. This would free up more money for the Public Works Department to pave. Mr. Lawler said they can turn around the bidding documents quickly.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve the 2022 road plan which includes double oil and chip of S. Cigar Road, Love Road, W. Beersville Road, and Sickle Road at about 2.3 miles

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

Agritainment/Agritourism Zoning Laws

Attorney Backenstoe explained farmers sometimes struggle, so municipal entities look for ways that farmers can augment income to continue farming. One of the concepts is Agritainment or Agritourism meaning agricultural involved events. Agritainment might include the use of farm facilities for private weddings or events. Agritourism would include pick your own products, wineries, wine tasting, corn mazes, petting zoos, and farming gardens. Last meeting, he was asked to provide drafts of different ordinances. Mr. Shaffer took time and thought into reviewing the North Whitehall ordinance to see how it might interpose with Moore's ordinance. Attorney Backenstoe thinks at some point the Board will send it to the PC to put together a draft ordinance, but some of the issues Mr. Shaffer brought up included signage and types of site plans. He thinks an engineer would have to do those site plans as they'd have to comply with their other site plan ordinances to know what's there and what's not there. Concepts including acreage, size of lots, number of employees, and how to regulate were good questions. He thinks those comments can be sent to the PC which traditionally would take on the project, review it, and have Attorney Backenstoe put a draft together for their approval which would then come back to the Supervisors for approval. The Board had a lot of input from residents the last couple meetings. The Board can decide to proceed or not proceed. Mr. Tirrell said Mr. Shaffer's comments were very good. He's in the air as to whether they need it or not. He would like to table it until Mr. Piorkowski is here before moving it. Mr. Shaffer is ready to move it to PC, but it isn't going to hurt if they choose to discuss more next month. The issue was tabled.

Miller Lot Consolidation

Attorney Backenstoe the county will not let a property owner consolidate a lot or lots until a township, borough, or city has reviewed the request and made a positive motion to allow it. The reason is it might look one way on paper but is very different in the field. Somebody might want to consolidate lots but there are reasons they shouldn't because it could create an impervious coverage problem for example. Moore Township requires a developer or property owner send a memo to look at it ahead of time. Attorney Piperato, on behalf of Doug and Craig Miller, sent an explanation indicating Doug Miller and his wife currently own 1130 Mink Rd which consists of 10 acres. Doug and Craig Miller own three other lots: 3240 Delps Rd, 3230 Delps Rd, and 3220 Delps Rd. They would like to consolidate all of them into one large track for family planning purposes. Mr. Harhart said the property owner wants to consolidate these lots to put them in preservation. Attorney Backenstoe sent it to Mr. Horvath as well who indicated he had no objections. Attorney Backenstoe asked Attorney Piperato to send a plan for review, which they did. If the Board is inclined to approve the consolidation, he will send a letter to the attorney indicating such. They can then go to the county and get a consolidation deed put together. Mr. Tirrell asked Mr. Romano if they spoke about preservation to him, and he said no.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve the Miller lot consolidation

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

Mr. Ayers asked how many acres the three lots are. Attorney Backenstoe said about twenty or more altogether. Mr. Harhart said it would be open space preservation.

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

Attorney Backenstoe asked for a brief executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss potential litigation.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

ARPA Funds

Mr. Steiner spoke with the consultant on how American Rescue Plan funds could be used if they considered a renovation or new building. The consultant explained that with the standard revenue loss created by the U.S. Treasury of up to \$10 million, the Township doesn't have to prove a loss up to that amount. Up to that amount could be used for General Fund revenue replacement which has a wider range of uses. The Township will receive over \$900,000. The consultant recommended transferring to the General Fund right away. When reporting, it should be reported as general revenue loss and used on pay and benefits. This would free up over \$900,000 in general funds which could then be used on a building. He would not transfer more than \$750,000 in a year because that would trigger a federal audit. If the Board is ok with this plan, he will transfer the funds from the ARP Fund to the General Fund. They would then be spending general funds on the MS4 projects and other items previously budgeted under the ARP Fund. He read what other municipalities are doing with their funds, and this is the only time he's heard of the idea provided by the consultant. He could also look into getting out of the deal with the consultant if the Board so chooses. They also help with reporting. If this idea is something the federal government doesn't like, he would turn to the consultant for assistance.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to transfer ARP funds to the General Fund not to exceed \$750,000 in a calendar year

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

General Code Update

It was decided about two years ago to codify the Township ordinances. All the ordinances were sent to General Code who reviewed, organized, and prepared a draft. They are now in the review phase. Mr. Steiner, Mr. Harhart, and Ms. Kerbacher have a meeting scheduled with General Code to go over the next steps and process to review. He thinks they would create a log in for Attorney Backenstoe, Mr. Horvath, and department heads to provide comment. This phase needs to be completed by August. Ultimately, they will need to adopt this ordinance which he thinks would replace the existing ordinances. If there are any changes to the law, including inconsistencies in SALDO and Zoning, this would be the opportune time to review and comment. Attorney Backenstoe said it makes a huge difference when the law is codified rather than looking at over 80 ordinances that have been drafted since 1960. It's easier to see inconsistencies and nuances that need to be tightened up. Mr. Steiner said when complete, there will be a link for people to view online making it easier to also search for specific topics.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

Resolution 2022-11 Agricultural Security Area – Mary Ellen Wetzel

The agricultural security area would be on Whitetail Deer Road. There are two parcels at about 84 acres.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-11 Ag Security Area for Mary Ellen Wetzel

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

Resolution 2022-12 America250PA

Mr. Steiner read part of the resolution. The resolution supports the planning, coordination, and commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026.

Mr. Tirrell made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-12 America250PA

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

OLD BUSINESS

Municipal Building

Last meeting, they spoke about a major renovation or construction of a new building in the future. Mr. Steiner told the Board he would reach out to the ARP consultant as well as Senator Scavello about the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) program. RACP is a grant program that would provide up to 50% of the costs of construction for a project. He thinks it would be 50% up to the amount applied for. Mr. Steiner reached out to Senator Scavello's chief of staff on the program and received a message from Senator Scavello that evening indicating Representative Flood's office would be reaching with more information to apply and get the project into law. Mr. Steiner explained how he thinks the program works. An entity would apply for the program. A capital itemization bill passed every year during budget season. A project under the RACP program must be listed in this bill and passed into law. When they authorize debt through a separate bill, they will work down the list of projects. When a project comes up, the entity has thirty days to sign off on the agreement. He and Mr. Hoffman reviewed old plans from twenty years ago to get an idea of square footage. Mr. Steiner also looked online at local major renovations or new construction to find funding amounts. He also spoke to Mr. Horvath about costs. They came up with a total amount of \$6 million. When applying for this grant, he applied for \$3 million on a \$6 million project. The request was worded in a manner that would give them the flexibility to renovate the existing building or construct a new building. After applying, Mr. Steiner was told it should be added in the next draft. He thinks it is currently with House Appropriations. If amended in the House and passed, it will need to pass through the Senate. He didn't intend to apply, but it's an opportunity to get on the list. If they get placed on the list, the worst case is their project comes up, and they would need to move on the project. He thinks the next step would be to create an internal building committee to come up with the operating needs. They would then need to hire an architect and someone to manage the project as well as a consultant to monitor the financing as they'd have to secure financing upfront to get reimbursed following completion of the project. It's more than what Mr. Steiner can handle on his own. They cannot use grants to provide the match with the exception of, he thinks, the county specific LSA grants. Up to \$1 million can be applied for an LSA grant. This could be another avenue for additional funds noting they're geared toward public safety and the Township would be constructing a Police Department. As this gets moving, they will need to begin putting a plan together.

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMOS

OPEN TO THE FLOOR

Mr. Ayers asked Mr. Steiner if there's a time period for starting after approval of the RACP grant. Mr. Steiner thinks once a project comes up, the state will draft a contract for review and signature within 30 days. He does not know about the time for completion of the project and asked if Attorney Backenstoe was aware of any based on his experience with other townships. Attorney Backenstoe described Lehigh Township's situation where they are waiting for prices to come down for a new Public Works garage. Mr. Ayers said if there is a timeframe, they need to start. Mr. Zachary Zeitner commented it was great

work on applying for the grant. Possibly getting \$3 million, maybe another \$1 million through a LSA for something that is clearly a huge need is awesome and a great step forward.

Mr. Tirrell said there's a lot of talk from Northampton School District about closing Moore Elementary. He asked if there's any thoughts to drafting a letter to the school district opposing any closure of Moore Elementary. Mr. Shaffer thinks Moore Township residents has made it clear to the school board and some of the directors this will put a hindrance on a lot of Moore Township families. As someone who is hoping to start a family in Moore Township, he understands it will be a hindrance on him as well. He knows it hasn't been set in stone, and there's a school board meeting next week. He's for sending a letter asking the board consider Moore Township residents when thinking about closing Moore Elementary. Mr. Steiner had a board member stop in the office to discuss another topic. The board member understands the hesitation and fear, and he said they haven't actually discussed closing the Moore Elementary building. It doesn't sound like they have enough votes for it as they are also considering future growth, but the Board could certainly draft a letter. The maintenance and fixing of the existing building would still be less than constructing a new building. Mr. Shaffer said the time for children to spend on the bus was forty-five minutes going to high school from Copella Rd. It was miserable. He couldn't imagine thirteen years of going to Northampton. Mr. Steiner said kids would probably be split between multiple schools, but regardless wouldn't be going to Moore. Mr. Ayers expressed concerns to a school board member noting population of children is cyclical. He and a lot of friends are empty nesters, but when the time comes he and all his friends will sell their houses possibly to people with kids. Ms. Savannah Brown noted Moore Elementary has an emotional support program through Colonial IU 20. Northampton borough didn't want to accommodate her son for his learning disability, so they sent him to Moore Elementary. She thinks it's a K-5 program. Mr. Harhart also expressed his support for a letter.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tirrell made a motion adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM

Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion

Public comment

None

Motion carried with all Supervisors present voting aye

The Board entered executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas C. Steiner
Township Manager

Not intended to be word for word, but a synopsis of the meeting.