

MANAGER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

Basketball Sub-Committee of the Recreation Board

Attended the Basketball Sub-Committee on Sunday, March 11, 2018 where I learned of a physical altercation between a parent of a player on our team and a referee on the court. The player was being harassed by a player from the Alpha team. The Alpha player was profanity and rude hand gestures to the Bangor parents and even to her own mother, according to witnesses. After the Alpha player tripped our players who lay crumpled in a ball, the referee appeared to be looking at the incident but did not call a foul and moved down court with the play, away from the injured child. The child's father went onto the court and grabbed the referee and pushed him, while yelling and arguing. The parent was escorted out of the gym.

The referee may press charges but the committee is hopeful the parent will apologize, but that parent was asked to attend the basketball committee but did not show up. We will keep a close watch on this and provide further updates.

Liberty-Water Gap Trail

The Liberty Trail Alliance held their organizational meeting on February 21, 2018. Your manager, Rick Fisher was voted in as Chairman for the year 2018. This was also the quarterly meeting held in the evening at Portland Borough Hall.

There was good discussion about reviewing and setting our goals for 2018. Those goals are written in the feasibility study. We plan to invite April from Rep. Cartwright's office to our April meeting.

County Economic Development Committee

On Saturday, March 1st Supervisor DeFranco and I made the LERTA Presentation to the Northampton County Economic Development Committee. After our presentations and a brief question and answer period, the committee voted unanimously to recommend to County Council that Northampton County approve our LERTA program.

Open Space Advisory Board- Name Our Preserve/ Our Fishing Ponds Contest

Attended the Open Space Advisory Board meeting on February 18th where a good number of topics were discussed. Mostly they would like to have a name the preserve. Name the fishing pond contest. Would the Board allow such a contest and choose the winner?

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The Nor'Easter of March 2nd

This was a devastating storm that impacted every resident in our township. We were the hardest hit township with over 3400 homes and businesses without power, cable, and phone for several days.

Even our Emergency Operations Center was negatively impacted when trees that fell on Route 611 took down all the wires leaving the fire hall to rely on its generator with no phone, no internet, and for the trucks no radio except as a walkie talkie.

Using our cell phones and Chris Finan and I established a solitary method of communication using our smart phones. I utilized a social media strategy that I had learned when I responded online to the Joplin tornado and assisted loved ones with emergency services and Joplin City Hall through twitter.

The EOC made it our goal to get as much update information out there on Facebook as we could find. As our number of followers increased, so did the level of assistance from the public until we were able literally have eyes everywhere- we knew where repair trucks were working, and were able to convey that information to citizens on those streets.

We also assisted the Ladies Auxiliary with running the shelter and with the serious and steady help of the fire companies and our amazing road crew, closed roads, rescued ailing residents and gave them a place to use their oxygen, rest, stay warm, and have food to eat.

Donations flooded in from folks who would have thrown out their defrosting food in their freezers.

This is what community means- when we all come together to assist each other in order to survive.

I am proud of so many people and thankful for the opportunity to serve.

Storm Costs Exceed the Budget

The repeated storms will have exceeded our budgeted amount for materials and we are now exceeding our overtime for the same period as last year. With three months of potential winter weather at the end of the year, we will need to keep our costs close to the vest.

Thankfully, February was a quiet month with few major expenses and even after budget transfers of over \$235,693.34 out of the general fund we still managed a modest increase in retained earnings of \$26,261.61 for the period of January 1 through March 9, 2018. This erases a \$210,796.79 deficit between January 1 and February 7, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Fisher

Township Manager