

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
December 18, 2017**

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairman Jacob Meyer at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room, Bethel PA.

Attending the meeting were Jacob Meyer, Mike Graby and Carl Kauffman III. Also in attendance were Solicitor, Eugene Orlando Jr., Engineer, Gary Kraft and Township Secretary Treasurer Jayne Seifrit. Several interested residents were in attendance.

Public Comment on Agenda

Hearing of Visitors

Approval of Minutes

Mike Graby made a motion to approve minutes from November 20, 2017, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to approve minutes from December 13, 2017 Act 172 meeting, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Supervisors Comments

Carl Kauffman – Carl Kauffman stated several residents expressed they were thankful for the generator capability at the Traffic Light in Bethel. The recent powerline upgrades has caused outages and the light was able to operate with the generator.

Jacob Meyer – Jake Meyer read the Thank You note from a resident concerning the repair and opening up of the Little Mountain Road Bridge. He expressed his thanks to the Board and the Road Crew.

Mike Graby – nothing at this time

Police Department Report – Chief Ryan Murphy

Incidents Assigned	23	Misc. Complaints	46
Criminal Arrests	02	Non Traffic Citations	00
Traffic Citations	35	Parking Tickets	02
Follow Up Investigations	02	Phone Assignments	35
Non Reportable Accidents	05	Reportable Accidents	09
Motorist Assists	01	Traffic Stops	32
Fire & EMS Advisories	03	Other Law Agency Assists	08
Alarms	05	Security Checks	03
School Detail	33	Vehicle Maintenance	04
Court Appearances	02	Subpoena Service	00
Warrants	00	Warnings	03

2359 mileage was noted. Full copy of the report will be filed with the official minutes. Garage door replacement project has started.

Hire 2 Part Time Officers – Mike Graby made a motion to approve the hiring of two Part Time Officers, Officer Dronick and Officer Lerch starting January 2, 2018, seconded by Carl Kauffman. All agreed. Motion carried.

Emergency Management Coordinator - Randy Behney

Randy Behney stated he has signed up for a webinar on Emergency Road Closures scheduled for December 27, 2017.

Randy Behney stated he will let the Board comment on the meeting for Act 172.

Road Master Report – Pete Davis

Little Mountain Road bridge - Pete Davis stated the bridge is opened. Carl Kauffman made a motion authorizing the Chairman sign the paperwork for the bridge, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Pete Davis stated he has ordered two more loads of salt.

Pete Davis stated they have been replacing street signs.

Generator Plug for the 501 and I-78 traffic light – Carl Kauffman made a motion to contact C M High for the cost for a generator hook up at traffic light, seconded by Mike Graby. Jayne Seifrit stated we had gotten cost for both the Square and the 501 I-78 light but we only did one to see if it would be cost effective. It should be checked to see if the quote we have is still valid. Jake Meyer stated he believes it is worth installing one at the 501 and I-78 light based on comments from the residents for the light in town. Vote taken; all agreed. Motion carried. It was asked about a generator for the light. Carl Kauffman will contact C M High to see if the prior quote will work and to get pricing on a generator. It was stated one step at a time when it came to purchasing the generator.

Solicitor – Eugene Orlando Jr

Act 44 – Eugene Orlando stated the Act 44 Resolution was given out last meeting for the Board to consider. Carl Kauffman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-38 Act 44, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Jayne will get samples of additional form and documents to the Board.

Engineering – Gary Kraft

Musser – nothing at this time

JVI – Gary Kraft stated he was contacted by a presumed developer for a meeting with Township people, engineer and zoning officer to introduce concept plan. Does the Board want to proceed and require an escrow, if so how much? Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing Engineer and Zoning Officer attend meeting if they post an escrow of \$2,500.00 to cover cost, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Jake Meyer stated he would be interested in attending meeting as well.

Municipal Authority – Carl Kauffman III

Carl Kauffman stated there is nothing to report.

Library Board – Mike Graby

Mike Najarian stated they have had several Board members resign, Sherry Powell, Joan Schmehl, Rita Geesaman and Mary Martin. Several people have agreed to come on the Library

Board; Paul Stauffer and Michele Hammer effective immediately and Trish Stauffer January 1, 2018. Mike Graby made a motion to accept new members to the Library Board, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mike Najarian stated they have met with the new Architect. He showed the rendering to the Board. He is amazed at how fast the plans came back and with concept plans.

Recreation Board – Mike Graby

Mike Graby stated he attended the Tree Lighting and it was nice and well attended.

The Township received the letter from DCNR stating the grant application that was submitted will not be funded.

Environmental Advisory Council – Jake Meyer

Jake Meyer stated they spoke about the Spotted Lantern Fly at the EAC meeting. Mike Najarian stated it is coming, we don't have it in our area yet but it is coming. Mike Najarian stated the Berks Conservancy held their meeting and it was discussed there as well. Jake Meyer stated the surveyor will need to delineate the wetlands here for the project to move forward.

Unfinished Business

Welcome Sign – Jake Meyer stated he has had people ask where our facilities are located for all departments. He was thinking the sign in front of the library could be used to direct to all areas of the Township and the Library. Still need to decide if the Township wants to do welcome signs, how many, where and type.

Policy revisions – Jake Meyer stated they will be completed soon; he received another piece to include.

Act 172 – Jake Meyer stated after discussion it was decided to wait until next year to relook at the program.

Weidner Bridge – Jayne Seifrit stated Tulpehocken had authorized Ludgate Engineering to move forward and contact Penn DOT.

Rec Board Member – Jake Meyer made a motion to have Mike Graby contact Sherry Glass and have her attend a meeting, seconded by Carl Kauffman. All agreed. Motion carried.

Recycling – Jayne Seifrit told the Board, Bethel Township has issued two key fobs. Larry Schmehl and Corey Houser offered information on recycling. Jake Meyer asked if they would get information for the Board. Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing Larry Schmehl and Corey Houser put together information for a recycling program, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Act 209 – Meeting with Jodie Evans on December 20, 2017 at 9:00 am

Budget – 2018 Budget \$1,276,456.00, Carl Kauffman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-39 approving budget for 2018 for \$1,276,456.00, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Carl Kauffman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-40 setting tax rates and lowering the street light from 90 cents to 59 cents per road frontage foot, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Letter concerning truck traffic coming off of Route 645 - Jake Meyer stated there is not much to do.

Who's Who of Bethel Township – Board members still need to talk with people to see if they are willing to continue serving on committee, and new openings need to be filled. Jayne Seifrit explained the Board of Elections has certified a write-in candidate; however they must file

the paperwork by December 29th. The write in is Jason Kiwak. Jake will contact and asked Jayne to get the contact information. Jayne Seifrit gave the Board members the Ordinance that explains Flood Plain and in there it outlines the Administrative function. The State is mandating an administrator be appointed for Flood Plain program.

Sewer gases in Township Office – Jake Meyer stated there are still issues in the office. Carl Kauffman stated he has not been able to reach the plumber, he will continue to try.

New Business

Public Officials Day, January 10, 2018 – Jake Meyer stated he went last year and is intending to attend this time, Mike Graby stated he will also attend. Carl Kauffman made a motion authorizing Jake Meyer and Mike Graby attend the luncheon, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Donley Communications – Township received a letter that Donley Communications has been sold to Triangle Communications.

Municipal Tax Sheet – Carl Kauffman made a motion authorizing the Chairman sign the form and authorizes payment once received for the Township's portion of bill for printing and mailing 2018 notices, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Dates – Carl Kauffman made a motion to adopt meeting schedule as presented (filing copy in the official minute book) and authorizing advertising once approved by all Boards, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

CM High Preventative Maintenance – The Township received a preventative maintenance repair estimate for Route 501 and I-78 traffic light. The Wavetronix click 114 card does not work for phase 6, this will need to be repaired, and the Lancaster Ave sign is tilted and should be re-aligned. Carl Kauffman is going to check with C M High to see what is broken in phase 6 and how it affects the light. The Board is having the road crew fix the tilted sign.

Direct Energy – Our contract ends January 31, 2018 and the renewal is 3 cents higher than the rate Met-Ed has as the compare rate. Mike Graby made a motion to have the Chairman sign the cancelation form, seconded by Carl Kauffman. All agreed. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Payment of bills from the general fund from check 32080– 32113 and street light 184 Mike Graby made a motion to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

The Board of Supervisor meeting was suspended so the Planning Commission meeting could take place. Suspended meeting at 7:58pm.

Meeting came back in session at 9:11 pm.

New Business continued

Boltz Subdivision Sewage Planning Module – Carl Kauffman made a motion authorizing the Chairman sign the planning module, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer – Robin Royer

9555 Old Route 22 - Robin Royer stated she has not heard from the owner. She will be posting the property.

9190 Old Route 22 – Robin Royer stated she told them the parking area needs to be restored to what it was before it accidentally got expanded. It was stated there is a double wide that showed up on the property, and is now placed together to create a building. There is not a permit for the building. Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing Robin Royer to enforce compliance with zoning and the recorded plan, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

483 Airport Rd – Robin Royer stated she has spoken to the owner and he said it was dead trees that were removed. There were a few for timber. The owner does recall who did the timbering and does not have a receipt. Nothing to be done at this time except monitor

1069 Meckville Road – Robin Royer stated the letter will go out, it is ready to be sent.

550 Brown Rd – Robin Royer stated she was told a trailer a week goes out loaded with tires. It was stated the original plan needs to be looked at, because it appears the parking and trailer parking has expanded beyond what the plan shows. Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing Robin Royer to check on property issues and conformity to the recorded plan, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

8541 Old Route 22 – Driveway issue, Robin Royer stated she has spoken to the owner, she is not comfortable in determining whether he can adhere to the driveway ordinance, she feels it is more of an engineering determination. Mike Graby made a motion authorizing Gary Kraft to go out to look at the driveway and give the BOS his recommendations, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Actions from Planning Commission

NorthPoint Extension Letter - Mike Graby made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning Commission to accept extension until March 25, 2018, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Midway Industrial South – Jake Meyer made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning Commission to waive Section 4.03.C.2.a for wetland boundary data, seconded by Carl Kauffman. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to approve preliminary plan condition on compliance with all items on Kraft Engineering letter dated December 15, 2017, seconded by Carl Kauffman. All agreed. Motion carried.

Botlz Subdivision – Carl Kauffman made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning Commission to waive Section 5.02lot ratio, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Carl Kauffman made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning Commission to waive Section 5.11.C.10.b road improvements, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Blatt Subdivision – Jake Meyer made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning Commission to waive Section 5.11.C.10.b road improvements, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Carl Kauffman brought up about the road crew purchasing a tablet through the wireless phone company for their use for documenting projects. Jayne Seifrit stated there is a digital camera that was purchased for that purpose. Randy Behney stated the road crew and EMA have cameras for that purpose. Carl Kauffman made a motion authorizing Pete Davis to check with cell phone company about a tablet, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Public Comment

George Shollenberger stated there is trash on west side of road from Martha Drive entrance. The trucks are parking there and throwing their trash out.

Larry Schmehl stated the sign at the library was donated by a family just the Board is aware. Jake Meyer stated they are aware.

Larry Schmehl is suggesting the Township consider a cul-de-sac on the Brown Road side of Martha Drive, so the trucks can see they are not supposed to go that way and can turn around. The plans were designed for truck traffic to exit to Route 501. The Businesses need to enforce. Larry Schmehl stated what is on the plan needs to be enforced.

Larry Schmehl stated the plastic on the Samsung property is terrible. They need to clean up the plastic and not allow it to blow around.

Larry Schmehl stated the tire stack is growing at Midway.

Larry Schmehl stated the trash has started at Best Trucks. They should be contacted now so it doesn't grow.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mike Graby, seconded by Carl Kauffman to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jayne K Seifrit, Township Secretary