

BETHEL TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2022

Chair Robbi Lane called the Bethel Township Board of Supervisors meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

In attendance were Jay Bicksler, Michael Graby and Robbi Lane. Also in attendance were Solicitor, Elizabeth Magovern; Engineer, Jeffrey Steckbeck; and Township Secretary Treasurer, Jayne Seifrit; as well as several interested residents.

Hearing of Visitors

R & L Carriers – Ryan Armour and Stan Richards were present to go over the proposed project at Brown Road and Route 645. Stan Richards talked about the beginnings to current day. He spoke about what they are looking to do on the Bethel site (was a little different than what was stated at PC meeting), 4 lane fueling station (PC 3 lane) 8 bay maintenance garage (PC 6 bay), 70 trucks (PC 130 when completed). Mike Graby stated he does not want any truck traffic on Brown Road, he believes they should be using 645 to get to their site. A traffic light was discussed. Steve Burkhart suggested moving Brown Road north so it aligns with Bowman project and the traffic light. Jeffrey Steckbeck stated a traffic study would need to be done to see what is warranted. Jeffrey Steckbeck is going to cancel part of the Brown Road paving project (should be less than the allowed percentage per contract).

Public Comment on Agenda items

Dennis Seiverling asked why a letter wasn't sent to the residents when the meeting dates were changed. It was stated they were advertised and they are on the website.

Actions from Planning Commission

550 & 551 Brown Road Extension letter – Mike Graby stated he attended the Planning Commission meeting and it was brought up about the junkyard appearance of the property; will be discussed later. Mike Graby made a motion to accept extension until June 30, 2022, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Epler Subdivision – Randy Wright was present to go over the plan and brief review letter from SESI. Jay Bicksler made a motion to approve final plan, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Country Cottage Gardens – Mike Graby made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning to waive Section 3.04 prelim to final, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to approve recommendation from Planning to waive Section 5.04.C buffer but require plan note 12, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried. John Zook asked about a reduction to the TIF requirement fee. Jeffrey Steckbeck explained the calculation and pointed out it is already at a reduced number based on the 5/12 (using 5 months out of the year) calculation. Mike Graby made a motion to approve final plan condition on all items being completed on the SESI review letter dated April 11, 2022, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

David Martin Subdivision – Jay Bicksler made a motion to waive the review by Bethel Township and defer review to Tulpehocken Township as the impact is in Tulpehocken Township, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agree. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Graby made a motion to approve minutes from March 10, 2022, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to approve minutes from March 24, 2022, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Supervisors Comments

Robbi Lane – Robbi Lane stated Betty Martin has submitted a letter of resignation from the Vacancy Board. Jay Bicksler made a motion to accept resignation from Betty Martin from the Vacancy Board, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Robbi Lane stated the Board had two executive sessions on March 10, 2022 for personnel.

Robbi Lane stated the Board had an executive session for litigation prior to this meeting.

Jay Bicksler – nothing at this time

Michael Graby – Mike Graby stated the trash is bad at Dollar General, a certified letter needs to go there also.

Mike Graby stated Teen Challenge guys were out cleaning up at Martha Dr/Brown Rd. It looks much better. He believes a donation should be given. This item will be on next months agenda.

Police Department Report – Chief Ryan Murphy

Domestics	07	Burglary	00
Misc. Complaints	61	Traffic Citations	83
Non Traffic Citations	02	Court Appearances	05
Phone Assignments	11	Security Checks	02
Alarms	11	Reportable Accidents	09
Non-Reportable Accidents	05	Motorist Assists	12
Traffic Stops	96	Fire & EMS Advisories	34
Criminal Arrest	06	Other Law Agency Assists	16
School Zone	27	Suspicious Situations	13
Disorderly Incidents	11	Reckless Drivers	03
Warrants	00	Warnings	33
Parking Tickets	03	Vehicle Maintenance	00
Repos	00	Follow up investigations	00
Thefts	07		

Chief Murphy read over the report: 5292 miles were noted. Full copy of the report will be filed with the official minutes.

41 Martha Dr – Notice was posted, Police Department noticed it was cleaned up, they will keep an eye on it and cite as needed.

Emergency Management Coordinator – Brian Blouch

Alicia Nye stated they have partnered with the library to offer a program for the children titled “Touch a Truck”. It will be April 30, 2022 from 10 am – 1 pm.

Public Works Department Report – Michael Graby

Road Projects 2022 – Musselman Road, little section of Little Mt Road and Daub Road – Bids received from two vendors. H & K Group bid \$448,717.13 and Allen Myers bid \$418,572.00. Robbi Lane made a motion to approve Allen Myers for 2022 road project doing entire contract for \$418,572.00, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Grader - Mike Graby would like to place the grader on Municibid. Dennis Seiverling asked why they want to get rid of it. They have only used it a couple of times since it was purchased. Mike Graby made a motion to place the grader on Municibid and place an ad in Reading Eagle (stating it is on Municibid), seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby will get the details to the office for posting.

Legion Dr curbing – Mike Graby made a motion to have the curbing put in place for a cost of \$11,375.00, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Airport RoadR Land – Mike Graby stated there are still tree stumps sticking out, he doesn't want to ruin the mower. Mike Graby made a motion authorizing Jayne Seifrit to send the Recreation Board an email, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor – Liz Magovern

WRIT filed against Board of Supervisors – Liz Magovern stated Attorney Adair is reviewing and will advise at a later time.

Penn DOT Tolling Bridges – Liz Magovern stated Luzern County has filed a brief also.

American Rescue Plan Funding Resolution – Liz Magovern stated at the ARPF meeting it was decided to give the two fire companies and the ambulance \$12,000.00 each; Resolution 2022-29 is ready to be adopted. Mike Graby made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-29 allocating \$12,000.00 each to the Union Fire Company of Bethel, Community Fire Company of Frystown and the Bethel Community Ambulance Association, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Engineering – Jeffrey Steckbeck

Road Projects – Brown Road is set to start early May and Old Route 22 is June.

Central Logistics Park – nothing new to report

West Run – nothing new to report

Jake Brake usage – Jeffrey Steckbeck stated he is waiting for the mapping to be completed. Jayne Seifrit stated a call came into the office concerning increased jake brake usage on Old Route 22, may want to include Old Route 22 on mapping.

Library Renovations – Jeffrey Steckbeck

Jeffrey Steckbeck stated he needs to clarify with the attorney legality of doing design build plan being sure to comply with 2nd class Township Codes. Jeffrey Steckbeck stated an email went out with marked up plans to be reviewed by all that received them. Next month it should be ready for bidding.

Recreation Board –

Clarification of Pavilion and Walking Path from last month. The Board voted to do both projects. Pavilion for \$53,713.00 and the walking path for \$59,40.00. Alex Kauffman stated Dutchman is stating 4-5 week the projects will be completed from the start date; end of June beginning of July.

Walking Path and Gaga Pit – Calvin Maciejewski presented stone costs and gaga pit cost to the Board. He is also a Boy Scout leader and has two Scouts ready to do their Eagle Scout projects. These projects have been approved by the Scout Council. He is asking the Township to pay for materials, the labor will be free. The walking path is the area above where the paved path will be, in the woods. It will take approximately 135 tons of stone at a cost of \$3,073.95. The Gaga Pit is made from durable material requiring low maintenance. He priced an 18 foot 30-inch-high pit for \$4,362.87. The Board is in favor of both projects. Mike Graby made a

motion to approve expenditure for the stone and gaga pit, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Wedding Reception at Bethel Township Recreational Park and Trail – The Solicitor stated the liability to the Township is a burden. The parking is an issue, parking on Airport Road will not be allowed. Mike Graby made a motion to reject the use of a Wedding Reception at the park, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Appointments for 2022:

PC - Robbi Lane stated Betty Martin has agreed to serve on the Planning Commission. Mike Graby made a motion to approve the appointment of Betty Martin to Planning Commission, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Revisions to Ordinances – nothing at this time

New Business

Horning's Market, Harvey Burkholder – Harvey Burkholder is requesting 49 parking stops to be removed. He gave the Board a plan showing which stops are to remain and which stops they would like to remove. He stated the financial security is tied to the DIA and plans, and doesn't want to miss this step so when they are ready for the release of the FS it can be done. Jay Bicksler made a motion to allow for the removal of the 49 parking stops, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Tax Bill – There was a tax bill that was not delivered to the new owners of 40 Faust North Rd. It was not delivered back to Darlene Orendo, Tax Collector. The new owners have asked for relief of having to pay the penalty amount. Jay Bicksler made a motion to waive the penalty amount of \$14.26, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Birthday Party's at Frystown Park – Nicole Bahner filed an application and required paperwork to get permission to hold her daughter's 4th Birthday Party at the park on April 24, 2022 from 2-8 pm. Dominique Krow filed an application and required paperwork to get permission to hold her son's 1st Birthday Party at the park on May 8, 2022 from 11 am – 4 pm. Mike Graby made a motion to grant both applications, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

Vacancy Board – Robbi Lane stated she checked with the Solicitor to be sure one person can be appointed to two appointments. In this case it is legal, Robbi Lane wants to appoint Calvin Maciejewski to the Vacancy Board. Mike Graby made a motion to approve appointing Calvin Maciejewski to serve on the Vacancy Board, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agreed. Motion carried.

PSATS Conference – Information received for the Board, By-Laws, Resolutions, and Nomination for the state level.

Everest – Jayne Seifrit explained they are a company that purchases tower leases for a bulk sum. Robbi Lane asked for them to send information in writing. Not interested at this time.

610 Brown Rd and 550 Brown Road – The condition of the two properties is in violation of our ordinances. It was stated the newly adopted Nuisance Ordinance can be used for enforcement. Mike Graby made a motion authorizing the Office send certified letters, seconded by Jay Bicksler. All agree. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Payment of bills from the General fund, Capital Reserve, Traffic Impact and Street Light. Mike Graby made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Seconded Jay Bicksler. All agreed, motion carried.

Public Comment on non-agenda items

Dennis Seiverling asked when the rest of the shoulders are going to be filled in, there are still places where there are big drop offs. Jeffrey Steckbeck stated they will inspect.

Dennis Seiverling stated there are potholes on Old Route 22. Water is in there and the water cannot run off because the grass is on the shoulders higher than the road. Mike Graby stated they will be addressing.

Dennis Seiverling asked about why they are getting rid of the grader. Mike Graby stated the loader does as good a job and cleaner for creating a gutter along the road.

Dennis Seiverling stated there needs to be backfill places at the concrete at Big Lots. He stated there was dirt put in and it is gone - there needs to be stone. Jeffrey Steckbeck stated they will inspect.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mike Graby to adjourn the meeting. Second by Jay Bicksler. All agreed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne Seifrit
Secretary/Treasurer