

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
September 25, 2018**

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairman Jake Meyer at 7:34 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room, Bethel PA.

Attending the meeting were Jake Meyer, Mike Graby and Lee Groff. Also, in attendance were Solicitor, Christopher Garrell, Engineer, Gary Kraft, Zoning Officer, Robin Royer and Township Secretary Treasurer, Jayne Seifrit. Several interested residents were in attendance.

Public Comment on Agenda

Hearing of Visitors

Kate Durso – LERTA request for the Midway Industrial South site. Kate Durso stated the Board had tabled the issue last month and they provided additional information for the Board to consider. Lee Groff stated the approvals for the warehouses are in the works. He does not want to see empty warehouses. Herb Zechman stated he believes the Township should not approve a LERTA. Mike Graby said we have enough warehouses he believes we should be helping small businesses. Kate Durso stated it levels the playing field to attract high quality tenants. Larry Schmehl said once they are built the taxes are still assessed, he doesn't care if they sit empty. Mike Graby made a motion to not approve LERTA for the Midway Industrial South property, seconded by Jake Meyer. Mike Graby and Jake Meyer voted yes, Lee Groff voted no. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer – Robin Royer

Robin Royer stated the Board members were present during the Planning Commission meeting and heard her report summary. Robin Royer wanted to know if the Board wanted her to take action for compliance to driveway ordinance for 8541 Old Route 22. Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing Robin Royer enforce driveway ordinance, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Robin Royer stated Tricon Ceiling – Michael Yob would like to install driveway at 9177 Old Route 22. She said they are in the middle of the Land Development process currently. Jake Meyer asked Gary Kraft if things are moving forward sufficiently with that process. Gary Kraft stated they are. Lee Groff made a motion to allow Robin Royer to issue the driveway permit, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Lee Groff asked if there is something that can be done with the properties we have been talking about for a while without compliance, like Samsung and 491 Frystown Rd. Robin Royer stated there is a Property Maintenance Code that has more teeth in it then the Safe Structure Safe Property Ordinance Bethel Township currently has. Robin Royer will get the Board examples of Property Maintenance Ordinances she works with from other Townships.

Supervisors Comments

Lee Groff – Lee Groff stated he would like to report on the Rec. Board meeting. The Rec Board would like the public works assistance on putting up the tree at noon on November 17, 2018 for decorating. The tree lighting event will be on November 25, 2018 with a rain date of

December 2, 2018. Lee Groff reported they are still looking at the light pole. Lee Groff reported a year or so ago Darlene Orendo approached Mr. Fahnestock (Martha Klahr estate) about the 2-acre property next to the Township property, donate to the Township for Recreation use. It might be worth checking to see if he is interested in donating or selling to the Township at this time. Jake Meyer will contact Darlene Orendo for Mr. Fahnestock's contact information. Lee Groff said the Viking team will fill out a use form for the field use for next months meeting. Lee Groff also stated the GTRP Grant application has been turned down. He said we will try again next year. Lee Groff stated he will be attending a Grant writing seminar November 1, 2018 in Camp Hill.

Jacob Meyer – nothing at this time

Mike Graby – nothing at this time

Actions from Planning Commission

None

Solicitor – Christopher Garrell

Christopher Garrell stated he will take information from the meetings back to Mr. Orlando.

Engineering – Gary Kraft

Unfinished Business

Crossing Guard – Back up to the Crossing Guard is still needed.

Budget Dates – Monday October 29 and November 5, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Mike Graby made a motion authorizing the advertising of the budget meeting dates, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

330 Bordner Rd, Noah Sauder – A brief discussion on the issue of widening the Township roads so he can back his trucks around ensued. It was determined the trucks turning around should occur within his property. We don't want breaking away of our roadway/shoulders. Jake Meyer said he will contact Mr. Sauder. He asked Jayne for contact information; will check file.

New Business

Ready Set Read Berks Co – Jake Meyer made a motion to place the information received concerning program in an email blast and on the Township website, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Herb Zechman said thank you for filling in the crater on Old Route 22. He also pointed out the road is heaving at places. If the Township is going to shave off those spots, please don't stop at 419 go to the Township line. There are several lifted areas in the section from 419 and heading east to Township line.

Larry Schmehl believes the Township should enforce unlicensed trailers on properties. Along Brown Rd it is becoming an issue. Larry Schmehl also reported a rig parked on Route 501 overnight. There should be no parking signs.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mike Graby, seconded by Lee Groff to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jayne K Seifrit, Township Secretary