

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
February 17, 2020**

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, Robbi Lane and Michael Graby. Also, in attendance were Engineer, Jeffrey Steckbeck 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 zoning hearing January 20, 2020, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to approve minutes from meeting January 20, 2020, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to approve minutes from special meeting January 24, 2020, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Supervisors Comments

Robbi Lane – Robbi Lane stated a resident is concerned with trucks going north on 645 then missing turns and ending up on Spur Rd and Bashore St. They eventually end up blocking both lanes of 645. They are wondering what can be done. Police Department is checking to see if there are signs restricting truck traffic.

Robbi Lane stated the hot water takes ten minutes to get hot on the police side of the building. Jayne Seifrit stated it is that way on the Township Office side also. Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing Mike Graby to price instant hot water systems, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Jake Meyer – Jake Meyer stated he wanted to thank the first responders in the Township. They had a situation at his church on Saturday, the response was great from all.

Jake Meyer stated Brian Blouch has started doing assessments in the Township as the EMC. The Board has been thinking about making it a part time paid position as the updates haven't happened for eight years and it is a huge undertaking. Mike Graby made a motion to make the EMC a paid part time position, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to set hourly wage at \$15.00 per hour, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike asked about the deputy EMC. Mike Graby made a motion to have the deputy EMC a part time paid position, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Robbi Lane made a motion to set hourly wage at \$10.00 per hour, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Jake Meyer stated they asked Smrtguys for a quote for a laptop computer to be used solely by EMC. He stated it needs to be secure with encryption capabilities. Jake Meyer made a motion to purchase a 15.6-inch HP Pavilion Notebook not to exceed \$1500.00, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Michael Graby – nothing at this time

Police Department Report – Chief Ryan Murphy

Domestics	02	Thefts	00
Misc. Complaints	26	Traffic Citations	112
Non Traffic Citations	05	Court Appearances	01
Phone Assignments	31	Security Checks	07
Alarms	08	Reportable Accidents	03
Non-Reportable Accidents	10	Motorist Assists	06
Traffic Stops	118	Fire & EMS Advisories	25
Criminal Arrest	01	Other Law Agency Assists	24
School Detail	27	Suspicious Situations	12
Disorderly Incidents	06	Reckless Drivers	00
Warrants	00	Warnings	32
Parking Tickets	02	Vehicle Maintenance	00
Subpoena Service	00	Follow up investigations	00

5809 mileage was noted with 340 activities. Full copy of the report will be filed with the official minutes.

Robbi Lane stated the 2011 SUV has paint bubbling on the hatch. They would like to get it repaired. It is showing surface rusting. They will obtain quotes for repairing paint on hatch.

Emergency Management Coordinator – Brian Blouch

Road Master Report – Pete Davis not in attendance

Bashore Street Bridge – completed, bill is in to be paid at this meeting

John Deere Equipment quote – a quote did not come in from Case for a similar machine

Roadwork 2020 – The Township received the following bids:

H & K Group

Airport Rd	leveling	\$95.56 X 142 tons	=	\$13,652.12
	overlay	\$71.19 X 428 tons	=	\$30,469.32
Midway Rd	leveling	\$98.67 X 130 tons	=	\$12,827.10
	overlay	\$72.36 X 390 tons	=	\$28,220.40
School Rd	leveling	\$100.82 X 103 tons	=	\$10,384.46
	overlay	\$72.34 X 311 tons	=	\$22,497.74
Little Mt Rd	paving	\$61.22 X 1860 tons	=	<u>\$113,869.20</u>
	TOTAL			\$231,809.34

Construction Masters

Airport Rd	leveling	\$85.50 X 142 tons	=	\$12,141.00
	overlay	\$96.50 X 428 tons	=	\$41,302.00
Midway Rd	leveling	\$85.50 X 130 tons	=	\$11,115.00
	overlay	\$96.50 X 390 tons	=	\$37,635.00

School Rd	leveling	\$85.50 X 103 tons	=	\$8,806.50
	overlay	\$96.50 X 311 tons	=	\$30,011.50
Little Mt Rd	paving	\$78.35 X 1860 tons	=	<u>\$141,011.00</u>
	TOTAL			\$286,742.00

New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co. Inc

Airport Rd	leveling	\$79.50 X 142 tons	=	\$11,289.00
	overlay	\$82.80 X 428 tons	=	\$35,438.40
Midway Rd	leveling	\$81.00 X 130 tons	=	\$10,530.00
	overlay	\$88.40 X 390 tons	=	\$34,476.00
School Rd	leveling	\$80.35 X 103 tons	=	\$8,276.05
	overlay	\$86.00 X 311 tons	=	\$26,746.00
Little Mt Rd	paving	\$66.86 X 1860 tons	=	<u>\$124,359.60</u>
	TOTAL			\$251,115.05

Mike Graby made a motion to award road project for all roads in the contract for 2020 to H & K Group for \$231,809.34, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried. Jayne Seifrit can send out letters.

Solicitor – Stephen Price absent

Littering Ordinance – The Township received the Littering Ordinance. Mike Graby made a motion authorizing the Solicitor and Secretary to work together to get the ordinance advertised and if a hearing is needed hold it on March 16, 2020 at 6:45 pm, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Daub Rd and Bashore Street short sections – Stephen Price sent draft of quit claim documents, Jake Meyer was told descriptions from Engineer need to be obtained.

Deed of Dedication for Central Blvd and portion of Fort Motel Drive – A Resolution needs to be done.

Non-Uniform Pension amendment – nothing received.

McDonald and MacGregor letter – Township received a letter concerning Klens lawsuit. Jayne Seifrit forwarded it to Solicitor as it was last year in May. Stephen Price said to forward to the Insurance Company. There should be no action required as the Township was not involved.

Engineering – Jeffrey Steckbeck

Jeffrey Steckbeck stated the bid packet for the project on the Airport Road land has been advertised with letting March 16, 2020. Bids are to be returned March 10, 2020 and opened at 1:00 pm.

Duke Realty – Central Logistics Park escrow – Jeffrey Steckbeck stated they have done the inspections and recommends the release of the escrow and starting the 18-month maintenance period with escrow of \$475,611.74. Jake Meyer made a motion to release funds and start the 18-month maintenance period with escrow funds of \$475,611.74, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Municipal Authority – nothing to report

Library Board – Jake Meyer

Jake Meyer stated they are getting things in line for grant submittals.

Recreation Board –

Jake Meyer stated the Airport Road project bid was previously discussed. Jake Meyer stated the Joint Recreation venture with Tulpehocken and Marion Townships meeting is February 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Tulpehocken Township Building. Anyone can attend.

Environmental Advisory Council – Jake Meyer

Jake Meyer stated they discuss the wetlands next to the building, spotted lantern fly and the fact that Berks County is #2 in worst ozone in Pennsylvania.

Unfinished Business

Policy, Job Descriptions for EMC, Road Master and Maintenance – Jake Meyer stated the Board and Brian Blouch are working on revising the EMC description. Robbi Lane gave the other job descriptions with notes to Secretary.

Pensions – A Resolution needs to be adopted with a person designated as the contact. Robbi Lane made a motion to insert Chairman in Section 12, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Robbi Lane made a motion to insert Chairman in Section 14, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Mike Graby made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-22 Pension, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Jayne Seifrit stated we are working with PMPT for transitioning the pension to them and contacted prior administrator to receive 2019 information. More information has been given to PMPT.

Terms Up, end of 2019/Openings

Jake Meyer stated he is waiting to hear back from people who may be willing to serve on EAC and Rec Board. Mike Graby stated Carl Kauffman III would serve on the Vacancy Board. Mike Graby made a motion to appoint Carl Kauffman III on the Vacancy Board, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Thank you, Event, – The Schmehl's sent a thank you to the Board for hosting the dinner.

New Business

Municipal Dinner – It will be held at Stokesay Castle March 26, 2020. All three Supervisors plan on attending, Jayne Seifrit will make the reservations.

Boundary Changes – Mike Graby made a motion to have Chairman sign the form stating Bethel Township does not have any changes, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Pension, Bryan Jordan dates – The Board stated they could meet with Bryan Jordan February 28, 2020 at 9 am, or March 4, 2020 at 9 am. Jayne Seifrit will communicate with Bryan Jordan and the Board when set up.

Trash Complaint – The Township received an email concerning trash on Brown Road coming from 41 Martha Dr. Jake Meyer stated Larry Schmehl might like to go to discuss with PetSmart representative. Larry Schmehl stated he would if it is permitted for him to do so, the Township should check with the Solicitor. Jake Meyer and Mike Graby might make the first contact, depending on the advice from Township Solicitor.

PLGIT Sign Signature Cards – Robbi Lane made a motion to sign the signature cards, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

L S Bio Char – needs to be reaffirmed. Jayne Seifrit will check with the Recorder of Deeds office to see if anything changed to mark and record.

MRM and WorkWell – MRM works with WorkWell for WC claims if we want to also. WorkWell works with employee to get appointments with panel providers in a timely fashion. There is not a cost to the Township. Robbi Lane made a motion to work with WorkWell for WC claims, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Audit – Auditors have completed auditing 2019 accounts and records. They have a couple of recommendations regarding credit cards and overall spending. Jake Meyer stated the auditors are looking to lower the credit card limits, that being \$1,500.00 per card held by a Supervisor and \$500.00 for the custodian. Mike Graby made a motion to reduce spending limits on each card held by the Supervisors to \$1,500.00, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Jake Meyer stated the other recommendation was to limit spending to \$1,000.00, if the purchase exceeds \$1,000.00 it needs to be voted on by the Board of Supervisors for transparency. Robbi Lane made a motion to approve spending limit of \$1,000.00, with purchases exceeding being voted on by Board of Supervisors, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Payment of bills from the general fund from check 33112– 33136 and street light 210.

Mike Graby made a motion to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Actions from Planning Commission

Wolfe Lot Line Adjustments – has an extension until April 20, 2020, need to approve and sign.

Reber – Mike Graby made a motion to accept extension until May 12, 2020, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Bethel MAIT – Jake Meyer made a motion to accept extension until June 30, 2020, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Leonard Martin Poultry Plan – Mike Graby made a motion to approve final plan condition on all items on SESI letter dated February 11, 2020 completed, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Adam Martin Poultry Plan – Mike Graby made a motion to approve final plan condition on all items on SESI letter dated February 11, 2020 completed, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Public Comment from PC – Roman Bontrager stated speeding is an issue on Deck Dr, Amish children are on the road due to the school there. He is afraid someone will be hurt. The Board of Supervisors recommended the Police Chief go to the school to speak with them.

Public Comment

Carl Zimmerman – Carl Zimmerman asked if the Board found out anything yet concerning ArrowPoint Estates and agreements. The Board asked the Township Solicitor and Engineer look at documents for comments.

Dennis Seiverling stated there are potholes on Old Route 22 and the water is still running across the road. Mike Graby stated they got cold patch and will be filling holes this week. Dennis Seiverling asked why Midway South didn't have to do improvements to Old Route 22 when the other ones did. Mike Graby stated it was missed in planning.

Lisa Hassler stated the standing water in the retention ponds/basins and no fencing required is an issue. Bob Kessler stated this is getting ridiculous. It was stated they are designed to not hold water and if there is water the slopes are such that you can walk out.

Larry Schmehl asked if line painting will be done this year. He was told half the Township is budgeted to be done this year.

Larry Schmehl asked what is being done about the unlicensed four wheelers on Airport Rd. He stated he spoke to the Chief several times, but it is still happening. Robbi Lane said she will look into.

Larry Schmehl stated the police need to sit at the East bound off ramp at I-78 and 645. They are not stopping. Robbi Lane said there was enforcement there Saturday but then they stop when the police are sitting there. Also, the truck traffic coming off of I-78 and going into Flying J; it is like a parking lot on the road way, is there something they can be forced to do. It was stated the plan can be looked at to see if they are doing what was stipulated on the plan at the time.

Larry Schmehl stated accumulation of tires is still an issue on many properties within the township, Bowman's, Miller's, etc.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Robbi Lane, seconded by Mike Graby to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jayne K Seifrit, Secretary Treasurer