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 Solicitor, Stephen Price, Engineer, Jeffrey Steckbeck and Township Secretary Jayne Seifrit. Several interested residents were in attendance.

Public Comment on Agenda

Judy Apgar expressed her frustration concerning the Bowman property and that the zoning has not been completed. She encourages the Board to vote against rezoning the Bowman property to IC. Her community deserve a buffer.

Marjorie Hix said there are trap meter ladies going around for cats. Marjorie Hix will get information to the township.

Actions from Planning Commission

Hearing of Visitors

Betty Martin read her comments. Copy given to the Township and will be filed with the official minutes.

Dean Klopp shared results of a survey he conducted on election day; 89% surveyed don’t want more warehouses, 96% want to protect farmland. Dean Klopp questioned the survey taken by the Bowmans. Jerry Bowman read the top of the paper people were signing (copy given to Township). Mike Graby asked how many meetings do we need? We have been holding meetings for a long time. Fred Bowman stated one more is needed as long all people that want to can participate. Spirited discussion ensued.

Jake Meyer stated we have a bunch of divisive people in this Township, that are out there making a glory event of this whole thing. It is blood sport to them. This issue is dividing our community, it is not the Bethel Township he grew up in. This is not a game.

Jeff Bukowski agreed this needs to be kept respectful. He represents property owners near the Bowman parcels. He is expecting a vote tonight to see which way the BOS go to move forward. He is asking the BOS to follow through tonight.

Bonnie Behney is asking the BOS to get pricing on audio and visual equipment for hosting meeting. It is unclear how long Covid-19 will last but it is something that can be used in the future. The BOS was quick to spend funds on an impound lot, please act just as quickly for improvements for virtual meetings for the residents to benefit the residents. Bonnie Behney shared her experiences while on Zoom, Jayne shuffling of papers, Jayne’s face (she was at the computer) and being muted during public comment. Bonnie Behney is asking for the BOS to make a motion tonight to get it moving. Mike Graby made a motion to gather information for audio/video equipment, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried. The office staff with gather information for the BOS.

Approval of Minutes

Robbi Lane made a motion to accept the October 19, 2020 minutes from the Zoning Ordinance/Map amend. Hearing, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried. Several residents were unhappy with the minutes as written and wanted changes. Stephen Price explained residents are not the ones to change the minutes. The Board of Supervisors are the ones to add/change the minutes. Stephen Price stated the residents can comment under public comment if they desire. A question was raised to her issue from last month was not reflected in the minutes, she was told it is on the last page on the Oct 19th minutes. Robbi Lane made a motion
to approve minutes as written for the meeting October 19, 2020, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Supervisors Comments**
- Robbi Lane – nothing at this time
- Jake Meyer – nothing at this time
- Michael Graby – nothing at this time

**Police Department Report** – Chief Ryan Murphy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Traffic Citations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alarms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Reportable Accidents</td>
<td>09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traffic Stops</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criminal Arrest</td>
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<td>Disorderly Incidents</td>
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<td>Vehicle Maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow up investigations</td>
<td>02</td>
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</table>

Chief Murphy read over the report: 5304 miles were noted. Full copy of the report will be filed with the official minutes.

Impound lot – Robbi Lane stated they are on the list to be scheduled.

**Emergency Management Coordinator** – Brian Blouch

Brian Blouch reported vaccine availability for first responders. He will be getting the numbers together and report to the Berks County EMA. Brian Blouch asked if Jayne Seifrit will contact the Municipal Authority; absolutely will be done.

Brian Blouch wanted to express his gratitude to Tulpehocken Township and EMA and Ambulance in getting personal protective equipment.

Brian Blouch stated there will be 3 Knox boxes activated.

**Road Master Report** –

Truck - Mike Graby said we didn’t vote on the purchasing of truck last month. Jake Meyer asked how long it will take to get vehicle. Not sure and unsure about going into the future amidst Covid-19. Jake Meyer made a motion to purchase the Kenworth Dump Truck, seconded by Robbi Lane. All agreed. Motion carried.

Jayne Seifrit asked the amount, it was stated for everything $190,000.00.

Legion Dr road project – Mike Graby stated they should be paving on Thursday.

Stop Bars – Mike Graby stated he has not heard back from them, or on the line painting.

John Brown asked about what truck was purchased. Mike Graby read specs.

**Solicitor** – Stephen Price

Second Amendment – Stephen Price stated he brought the document for the Board. Jake Meyer made a motion authorizing advertising the ordinance, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance and Map amendment – Stephen Price outlined the recommendation from the Planning Commission and what needs to be done going forward. Robbi Lane made a motion authorizing the Solicitor,
Engineer and Secretary to advertise for a hearing the proposed Zoning Ordinance and Map as amended for the January 2021 meeting, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Little Mountain Rd and No Parking on 501 amending Traffic Ordinance – Robbi Lane made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-05 amending Traffic Ordinance, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Engineering** – Jeffrey Steckbeck

Martin Forestry - Jeffrey Steckbeck gave the Board a letter stating he has inspected Martin Forestry and recommends the release of $144,041.00 and leaving balance until as-built plans received. Jake Meyer made a motion to release $144,041.00 as recommended by the engineer, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Helena – Jeffrey Steckbeck stated they need a Zoning Hearing. Application was made to the Township, Robin Royer stated that hearing may not happen until January.

Stephen Price stated he missed two items on the agenda.
Zoning Ordinance and Map amendment - What time would the Board like to hold hearing. It was stated 6:00 pm is preferred.

**Municipal Authority** –

Nothing at this time

**Library Board** – Jake Meyer

Jake Meyer stated Library received a letter stating the Keystone Grant was not awarded to the Library this year. The Library will be holding special meeting to see how to proceed.

**Recreation Board** – Jacob Meyer

Banners – The Recreation Board is working on finalizing results of email.

**Environmental Advisory Council** – Jake Meyer

Jake Meyer stated they are working with specialist in the wetland area. Assistance in native plants, invasive plants and what can stay. Funding was asked for. It was stated $2,600.00 was added to the 2021 budget.

**Unfinished Business**

Budget – Jayne Seifrit stated she had sent revised budget to the Board. It does need to be advertised and ready to adopt at the December 8th meeting. Robbi Lane made a motion authorizing advertising the 2021 budget, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried. Jayne Seifrit stated the budget number is $1,739,433.00 for 2021.

Recreation Board – still looking
EAC – still looking

**New Business**

Addressing Rehersburg Rd – Tulpehocken is asking for cooperation for an address on the road as Bethel Township has one property on the road. Robbi Lane made a motion to work with Tulpehocken Township for addressing Rehersburg Rd, seconded by Jake Meyer. All agreed. Motion carried.

Business License for Pesticide – Robbi Lane made a motion authorizing Chairman sign the form, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Brown Rd vacation – Jayne Seifrit stated Dan Naylor questioned the vacation of Brown Rd. Jayne Seifrit stated she cannot find documentation that it was done. She was thinking it might have had to do with the
right-of way from I-78 being larger and took up most of the vacated road. The Township will send Jeffrey Steckbeck documentation they have on the plan of when Penn DOT required the closing of Brown Road.

Terms coming up at the end of 2020:

PC - George Shollenberger, William Straw  
ZHB – Carl Kauffman Jr  
BTMA – John High  
REC - Darlene Orendo  
EAC - Opening from above

Payment of Bills

Payment of bills from the general fund from check 33446–33473, street light 219 and traffic impact check 153.

Mike Graby made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Second by Robbi Lane. All agreed, motion carried.

Public Comment

Lloyd Brubacker asked the Board if they ever lost their 401K, had their property devalued, if so, what would you do. The Board did not have a response beyond it has not happened to any of them. Stephen Price stated he can come to the hearing in January. Mark Hassler, we talk about preserving farmland, farmer works 7 days a week, strip value of farm by re-zoning, this Township is not farmer friendly any more.

Marjorie Hix issue on road. It is not in our Township; Solicitor will do another call to Tulpehocken Townships solicitor. Jayne Seifrit gave her a phone number for the State.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mike Graby, to adjourn the meeting. Second by Robbi Lane. All agreed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne Seifrit  
Secretary/Treasurer