**Bethel Township**

**Board of Supervisors**

**Meeting of January 3, 2023**

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors met on January 3, 2023, in the Township meeting room at 4:30 PM. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairwoman Robbi Lane, Vice Chairman Michael Graby and Supervisor Jay Bicksler.

Also present were Township Solicitor Elizabeth Magovern; Township Engineer Alex Kauffman; Police Officer Todd Szkwarek; and Township Secretary Treasurer, Christy Flaherty.

Members of the public included Gerald Bender, Judy Apgar, Tom Moorhead, Lisa Hassler, Harold Gruber, Donald Daub, Randy Behney, Dennis Seiverling, Mike Najarian and Gerald Bowman.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Lane called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

The meeting continued with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwomen Lane announced the Board met for an Executive Session prior to this afternoon’s meeting to discuss personnel matters.

**AMENDMENT TO AGENDA**

***Motion to add the acceptance of the RLP Martha, LLC time extension to the agenda***

*Chairwomen Lane made a motion to add the acceptance of the RLP Martha, LLC time extension to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***Motion to add authorization for Chairwomen to sign correspondence to DCED re: Library Grant***

*Chairwomen Lane made a motion to add the authorization for the Chairwomen to sign the correspondence to DCED with regards to the library grant to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

*None.*

**ACTIONS FROM TAC NOVEMBER MEETING**

**Midway Road Improvements – I-78 Ramps – South Side – Recommended adding to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan for an estimated cost of $375,000**

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to add the Midway Road Improvements (I-78 Ramps – South Side) to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan for an estimated cost of $375,000. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***Old Route 22 Bridge Replacement – East of Midway Road – Recommended adding to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan for an estimated cost of $470,000***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to add the Old Route 22 Bridge Replacement (East of Midway Road) to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan for an estimated cost of $470,000. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***Old Route 22 Bridge Replacement – East of Gravel Pit Road – Recommended adding to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan for an estimated cost of $470,000***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to add the Old Route 22 Bridge Replacement (East of Gravel Pit Road) to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan for an estimated cost of $470,000. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**ACTIONS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION**

***Pilot Travel Centers LLC Preliminary/Final Plan – Recommended accepting the time extension until April 13, 2023, assuming that it is received prior to the January 3, 2023 meeting***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept the time extension until April 13, 2023. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***West Run (Lot #3) Revised Preliminary/Final Plan – Recommended accepting the time extension until March 15, 2023***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept the time extension until March 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***DPIF 1 (Amazon Warehouse – 270 Midway Road) Revised Final Plan – Recommended granting Unconditional Final Plan approval***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to grant Unconditional Final Plan Approval. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***Request to advertise workshops on March 14th, April 11th and May 9th at 6 PM – Motion to ratify the advertisement of the PC workshops on March 14th, April 11th and May 9th at 6 PM to the 2023 meeting schedule; workshops were able to be advertised with the regularly scheduled meetings for 2023***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to ratify the advertisement of the PC workshops on March 14th, April 11th and May 9th at 6 PM. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***RLP Martha, LLC – time extension until April 11, 2023***

*Chairwomen Lane made a motion to accept the time extension until April 11, 2023. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Graby and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2022, Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**SUPERVISORS COMMENTS**

Chairwomen Lane and Vice Chairman Graby provided an update with regards to dates for the 2023 Township Appreciation Dinner, possible dates would be Saturday, January 28th or Saturday, February 11th. The Board agreed to hold the event on January 28th, the head count is needed by January 14th.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to hold the annual appreciation dinner at the Mt. Aetna Social Hall on Saturday, January 28th. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Supervisor Bicksler advised that he has nothing to be addressed at this time.

Vice Chairman Graby advised that he has nothing to be addressed at this time.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Robbi Lane**

Chairwomen Lane read the December, 2022 Police Report as follows:

Mileage 4,036 Fuel 294.137 Gallons Domestics 06 Thefts 07

Traffic Citations 43 Non-Traffic Citations 04

Warnings 18 Criminal Arrest 04

Phone Assignments 13 Parking Tickets 05

Residential/Commercial Alarms 05 Reportable Accidents 09

Non-Reportable Accidents 09 Reckless Driver Complaints 02

Motorists Assists 12 Traffic Stops 48

Fire & EMS Advisories 33 Other Law Agency Assists 12

Suspicious Situations 13 Disorderly Incidents 26

Miscellaneous Complaints 58 Court Appearances 03

Repos 02

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT – Brian Blouch**

*None.*

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Michael Graby**

Vice Chairman Graby informed attendees that the road crew has been working on the following projects:

* Routine vehicle maintenance
* Snow/Ice events
* Continues to replace street signs
* Help take down the Township Christmas Tree

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Elizabeth Magovern**

***Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-01; adoption of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code as Amended***

Solicitor Magovern update the Board with regards to advertisement/enactment of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code as amended.

Mr. Daub commented that the Board already adopted Resolution 2023-01 at their Reorganization meeting; noting this would be a second one and questioned if it is a correction. Solicitor advised that this is an ordinance relating to the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code, it has nothing to do with the resolutions previously adopted at the Reorganization meeting. The ordinance was advertised in the Reading Eagle newspaper and was authorized for advertisement at the December BOS meeting. Mr. Daub apologized for the confusion.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to adopt* ***Ordinance 2023-11****; adoption of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code as Amended. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**ENGINEER’S REPORT – Alex Kauffman**

Engineer Kauffman reviewed the Engineer Steckbeck’s report dated January 3, 2023.

***Airport Road & 501 intersection***

The PennDOT H.O.P. application is under review at the State. BCCD Erosion & Sediment Control Plan application has been submitted. It was clarified that the project only includes the realignment of the Airport Road and 501 intersection; there is no road widening proposed.

***Engine Brake Retarder permits***

The matter is still pending at PennDOT engineering office.

***Country Cottage***

Waiting for the revised plan submittal.

***Central Logistics, West Run Lots 2 & 3***

The revised SWM design for Lot 3 is pending with BCCD. A new set of drawings of Revised Final LD Plan are anticipated to be ready for Township approval after the BCCD approves the NPDES permit amendment, which may take a few months.

***Act 537 Plan Update – status report***

Still working to update the plan.

***Burger King – release of financial security***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to authorize the final escrow release of bond number LICX21210753 in the amount of $117,430.50 as per the Township Engineer’s review letter dated December 30, 2022. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**LIBRARY BOARD**

***Grant award status***

The matter was addressed under Engineer Steckbeck’s January report.

***Building renovation project***

The matter was addressed under Engineer Steckbeck’s January report; the project is expected to start in February.

***DCED Funding Commitment Letter – authorization for Chairwomen to sign***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion authorizing Chairwomen Lane to sign the DCED Funding Commitment letter. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**RECREATION BOARD**

***Airport Road Park***

The matter was addressed under Engineer Steckbeck’s January report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

*None.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

*None.*

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Board was provided the Treasurer’s Report for December, 2022 and a list of all checks written.

**MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS**

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to approve the payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Seiverling inquired as to what type of construction is being proposed on Midway Road and the two (2) bridges on Rt. 22. The Board advised that projects are in the beginning phases; noting that the Township Engineer could provide clarification. Solicitor Magovern explained that this process is to get the projects on the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan; noting that the expenses for the projects would come out of the Traffic Impact Fund. The Board offered the present public to review the proposals.

Mr. Gruber commented with regards to there being two (2) public meetings being held on January 4, 2023. Chairwomen Lane advised that the BTMA would be meeting in the back room.

**ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 PM. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**The next scheduled regular meeting is to be held on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 6 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christy Flaherty

Secretary, Bethel Township