

**Bethel Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Meeting held May 11, 2023**

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors met on May 11, 2023, in the Township meeting room 6:00 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 Jeff Steckbeck; Chief Murphy; Township Secretary Bobbi Westhafer, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Bobbi-Jo Peiffer

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Lane called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

The meeting continued with the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion allowing the agenda be amended. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to amend the agenda to correct the date from May 10<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** Nothing at this time

**ACTIONS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION**

Motion to approve the recommendation from the Traffic Advisory Committee to add Martha Drive Reconstruction to the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan. Authorize engineer to prepare bid documents, advertise and schedule bid opening for this project to be constructed later this year.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to approve the TAC meeting recommendation from the Planning commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

## **SUPERVISORS COMMENTS**

Chairwoman Lane advised there was an executive session held on for personnel and litigation reasons all three members were in attendance.

Chairwoman Lane requested the rehire of part time officer Christopher Miller,  
*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to approve the rehire of officer Miller. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Vice Chairman Graby asked for a letter to be sent to R&L carriers for excessive weeds and mowing.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion authorizing secretary Bobbi Westhafer prepare and send the letter to R&L carriers on 645 and brown road to mow weed and vegetation. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Murphy**

Chief Murphy read the April 2023 Police Report as follows:

Mileage	4629	Fuel	217 Gallons
Domestics	01	Thefts	04
Traffic Citations	115	Non-Traffic Citations	07
Warnings	29	Criminal Arrest	03
Phone Assignments	06	Parking Tickets	01
Residential/Commercial Alarms	08	Reportable Accidents	02
Non-Reportable Accidents	12	Reckless Driver Complaints	07
Motorists Assists	04	Traffic Stops	105
Fire & EMS Advisories	34	Other Law Agency Assists	18
Suspicious Situations	09	Disorderly Incidents	16
Miscellaneous Complaints	32	Court Appearances	06
Repos	00	School Zone	18
Follow up	06		

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT – Brian Blouch**

Nothing at this time

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Michael Graby**

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

PennDOT cleared Brown Road reopening for Emergency Use only

Mowing season has begun  
Flags have been replaced

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Elizabeth Magovern**

Enactment of Burning Ordinance 2023-02. *Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to enact burning ordinance 2023-02. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

PC Recommendation for authorization for Solicitor to research authority to tax Short Term Rentals. *Vice Chairman Graby made a motion authorizing the Solicitor to research authority to tax Short Term Rentals. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT – Jeff Steckbeck**

#### **Engineer Steckbeck's report dated May 11, 2023.**

#### **1) Roads & transportation capital improvements plan**

- a) Route 501 & Airport Road intersection re-alignment project - PennDOT H.O.P. application is still under review.
- b) Midway Road improvements on south side of I-78: survey work scheduled for coming month.
- c) Bids for 2023 paving projects were opened today for the following roadways.
  - i) Bordner Rd From Lancaster Ave. to Border Rd
  - ii) Martin Dr. From Bordner Rd. to Lancaster Ave
  - iii) Edris Dr. From Lancaster Ave to Frystown Rd.
  - iv) Mays Dr. From Camp Swatara Rd. to Frystown Rd.
  - v) Seymour Dr. from Frystown Rd. to Camp Swatara Rd.
  - vi) Meckville Rd from Frystown Rd to intersection of Little Mt./Meckville Rd.
  - vii) Daub Rd - (dirt section) Brown Rd to last house on Daub Rd.

A bid tabulation was sent to the Township via e-mail. The low bidder is Pennsy Supply Company at a bid amount of \$386,370.20. Pennsy is a responsible and reputable contractor. The bid meets the criteria of the Instructions to Bidders. We recommend award to Pennsy Supply Company.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept the awarded bid by Pennsy Supply. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

- d) The Transportation Advisory Committee met on March 9<sup>th</sup> and unanimously recommends that reconstruction of Martha Drive should be added to the Transportation Capital Improvements Project list.
- e) We request Supervisors to authorize us to prepare bidding documents and schedule a bid opening prior to the June meeting for the Martha Drive Reconstruction project.  
*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to prepare bidding documents and schedule a bid opening for Martha Drive. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

- f) We contacted PennDOT to request that the speed limit in Frystown be reduced. The request was rejected. The state's position is that this is an enforcement issue to be addressed by the police.

## **2) Bridges**

- a) Old Rt 22 bridge east of Gravel Pit Road: SESI survey work has been completed. Geotech consultant ECS has scheduled site investigation drilling and soil sampling for May 18th & 19th.
- b) Old Rt 22 bridge, east of Midway Road: SESI survey work has been completed. Geotech consultant ECS has scheduled site investigation drilling and soil sampling for May 18th & 19th.

## **3) Drainage**

We prepared a Stormwater Drainage Easement exhibit for the solicitor for the Leslie Burkholder property at 523 Brown Road. Springs seep up out of the ground in this area and send water out onto the Roadway which is a safety hazard during freezing temperatures. The Road Superintendent intend to install drain tile lines to divert the water to the nearby stream.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion authorizing the Solicitor to procure the drainage easement. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Supervisors should authorize the Solicitor to procure the drainage easement, and SESI to perform necessary engineering for installation of the drain tile lines.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion authorizing SESI to receive quotes on the drainage easement. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

## **4) Zoning**

- a) Work with Robin when she consults with SESI.

## **5) Conditional Uses and Hearings**

- a) No active conditional use applications or hearings.

## **6) Subdivision / Land Development Applications Under Review**

Flying J Subdivision – final minor subdivision – still under review. Zoning hearing required. Applicant's engineer has withdrawn the plan from consideration, and Supervisors should vote to accept the withdrawal.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion accept the subdivision withdraw. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

- a) Country Cottage – revised Final Plan was conditionally approved. Waiting on applicant to comply with conditions; sign Agreements and provide financial security.
- b) 550/551 Brown Road –revised plan was accepted for further review by the Planning Commission on May 9th.

- c) MB Investments – Route 645 warehouse project – PennDOT Traffic Impact Study underway.
- d) RLP Martha – monitoring applicant’s completion of the 10 conditions of Final Plan Approval. BCCD approval of NPDES permit still pending. BTMA approval still pending.
- e) R&L Carriers – PennDOT site meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> resulted in R&L’s agreement to divert all site traffic to the new driveway access onto Route 645. Brown Road will no longer be used for employee site access. We are awaiting revised drawings. Supervisors will need to receive a time extension from the applicant prior to the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, or if none is received, the Supervisors should plan on voting to reject the plan at that meeting.
- f) Musser Poultry Operation – plan was Conditionally Approved at April meeting. Financial security has been provided. Once signed Developer and SWM Agreements are received, the plan may be released for recording.
- g) Airstate Group – plan was approved at the April meeting. Agreements and financial security were received and the plan has been recorded.

#### **7) Subdivision/Land Development Inspections**

- a) Central Logistics West Run – Maintenance bond reduction to \$15,000. Repair work still pending for one section of depressed concrete apron in roadway.
- b) Helena Ag – site work is approximately 99% complete. Awaiting as-built and request for release of financial security.
- c) Bethel Business Park Lots 4 & 5 – warehouse is complete. Anticipating receipt of as-built drawings and request to release financial security.
- d) Hoover Well Site – construction work underway. DEP permit application for new well pending.

#### **LIBRARY BOARD**

##### ***Building renovation project -***

Roofing is currently underway.

#### **RECREATION BOARD**

*The matter was addressed under Engineer Steckbeck’s April report. Alex Kauffman reported*

*Airport Road Park – Electric is connected at the park. Ceiling needs installed and walking path cleared.*

*Frystown Road Park – Public Bidding for the pickleball court came in and the lowest bidder was Construction Masters in the amount of \$78,800.00. Motion to award bid made by Vice Chair Graby. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler all agreed and the motion carried. (3-0)*

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- c) Old Rt 22 bridge east of Gravel Pit Road: SESI survey work has been completed. GES is scheduling the geo-technical drilling and sampling.
- d) Old Rt 22 bridge, east of Midway Road: SESI survey work has been completed. GES is scheduling the geo-technical drilling and sampling.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept the engineering study. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0)*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Board was provided the Treasurer's Report for May, 2023 and a list of all checks written between meetings also.

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

Motion to approve the payment for the Library Project – Contractor Invoice #3 in the amount of \$99,844.43.

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

Motion to approve the payment for the Airport Road Recreation Area – Dutchman Contracting LLC invoice in the amount of \$2000.00.

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

### **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**

Possibly diverting more traffic out of town. Engineer Steckbeck will speak to the gentleman after the meeting.

Calvin asked if its possible to get an account statement every month for the Rec Board.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

The website is factual news.

Facebook page Bethel Township News is not run by the township. Some items posted have not been correct. We do not own a single drone in the township. There is no comingle of funds within the township. Please seek the township website and not the Facebook page.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**The next scheduled regular meeting is to be held on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 6 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bobbi Westhafer  
Secretary, Bethel Township