

**Bethel Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting held July 11, 2024
Meeting was recorded**

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors met on June 13, 2024, 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 Matthew Fessler; Township Engineer Alex Kauffman; Chief Murphy; Township Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Bobbi-Jo Peiffer and several interested residents.

CALL TO ORDER

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

The meeting continued with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS Nothing at this time

ACTIONS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION A motion was made to approve sewage facilities application, Transmittal and Statement of intent Survey. Salem Lutheran Church will be subdivided from the west lot of Green Alley. Plans for future development are indefinite at this time. Planning Commission did accept the plan for review at the July 9th meeting. Motion to approve was made by Vice Chair Graby, seconded by Supervisor Bicksler, all agreed and the motion carried (3-0).

A motion was made by the PC to approve a time extension request for 550/551 Brown Rd until October 21, 2024. The BOS made a motion to approve the extension. Vice Chair Graby made the motion and was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler, all agreed and the motion carried (3-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to approve the minutes from June 13, 2024 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 June 13, 2024 at 5:30pm for personnel reasons all three members were in attendance.

Frystown fire company paid off their loan.

R&L has been contacted about their weeds. Alex Kauffman said he will reach out to them.

Supervisor Bicksler:

A motion was made by Vice Chair Graby to approve the quote received from CM High for all 3 traffic lights in the amount of \$470.00 and seconded by Chairwoman Lane, all agreed and the motion carried (3-0).

A motion was made by Vice Chair Graby to approve the repair estimate #3050 in the amount of \$984.98 for the pedestrian countdown and faded signs on 78 and 501, it was seconded by Chairwoman Lane, all agreed and the motion was carried (3-0)

A motion was made by Vice Chair Graby to approve repair estimate #3009 in the amount of \$1,335.89 for pedestrian countdown on Legion and seconded by Chairwoman Lane, all agreed and motion carried (3-0).

Vice Chair Graby:

A motion was made by Supervisor Bicksler to approve the pavement markings quote from A-1 Traffic Control Products for \$1546.00 and including up to \$2500.00 for 501 for lines, arrows, and crosswalks and seconded by Chairwoman Lane, all agreed and motion was carried. (3-0) Resident Dennis Seiverling asked if they would be painting the stop bars on old 22.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bicksler to fix sections of sidewalks missing and seconded by Chairwoman Lane, all agreed and motion carried. (3-0)

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Murphy

Email was sent about truck build.

Chief Murphy read the June 2024 Police Report as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Mileage | 3649 | Fuel | 272.903 Gallons |
| Domestics | 06 | Thefts | 03 |
| Traffic Citations | 40 | Non-Traffic Citations | 04 |
| Warnings | 19 | Criminal Arrest | 03 |
| Phone Assignments | 12 | | |
| Residential/Commercial Alarms | 03 | Reportable Accidents | 02 |
| Non-Reportable Accidents | 15 | Reckless Driver Complaints | 03 |
| Motorists Assists | 07 | Traffic Stops | 43 |
| Fire & EMS Advisories | 35 | Other Law Agency Assists | 17 |
| Suspicious Situations | 08 | Disorderly Incidents | 13 |
| Miscellaneous Complaints | 53 | Court Appearances | 03 |
| Repos | - | School Zone | 00 |
| Follow up | | Security Checks | - |

Chief Murphy made an announcement that the Police truck is being built.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT – Brian Blouch

Nothing at this time

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Michael Graby

Vice Chair Graby informed that there was a complaint about a tree and Longs Tree service removed it for \$650.00. It was under the threshold and posed a safety risk. He also informed that they are on their second cutting for the year but having trouble with the mower.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Matt Fessler *Nothing at this time*

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Alex Kauffman

Duke /Vesper at Berks- Release \$220,000.00 financial security required by paragraph 4 J of the January 15, 2019 Developers Improvements Agreement. Motion needed to release LOC at FNB. No motion needed-already paid out.

Engineer Steckbeck's report for July 11, 2024

1) Roads & Transportation Capital Improvements Plan

- a) *Route 501 & Airport Road Intersection Realignment Project* – Traffic engineer ELA Group, is working on responses to PennDOT's tedious comments. Still under review.
- b) *Midway Road improvements on south side of I-78* – Project was awarded to Minichi. Township has received all contract documents. Currently coordinating a brief construction meeting with Mike and Jeff.
- c) *2024 Paving Projects* – Projects include asphalt overlay on Brown Rd, Kline Rd, Frantz Rd, Stauffer Lane and Myer Dr. and base repair on Brown Rd. Project was awarded to New Enterprise. Township has received all contract documents. Work may begin once manhole risers are obtained. Expected July 29th and will take 4 days.
- d) *Schubert Road Chip Seal & Crack Sealing*- Project was awarded to Martin Paving. Township has received all contract documents. Work schedule has not yet been provided by contractor.
- e) *Frystown Road speed control project* – Application was previously submitted to PennDOT. Review comments were received today (July 11). Comments are minor, except for an issue raised about the road ROW and potential need for a sign easement from abutting landowner(s). We will review this matter with the Solicitor's office to determine if the 2nd Class Township's defacto 33-foot ROW for roadways covers this issue. Once the permit is received, SESI will request an updated quote from Traffic Logix for the speed display signs. Comment was made that the speed sign could go on an existing sign or utility pole.

2) Bridges

- a) *Old Rt 22 bridge east of Gravel Pit Road* – SESI survey work has been completed. Geotech consultant, ECS, has completed their fieldwork and report. Wetlands study completed. Design drawings are in process.
- b) *Old Rt 22 bridge, east of Midway Road* – SESI survey work has been completed. Geotech consultant, ECS, has completed their fieldwork and report. Wetlands study completed. Design drawings are in process.

3) Drainage – No updates

4) Zoning

- a) We continue to work with Zoning officer, Karen Brown, 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

- a) *Country Cottage Gardens* – Previously received updated plan and cost estimate from applicant's engineer. Owner Jon Zook has complied with the enforcement notice from the Zoning Officer. Township has received the required Financial Security and Traffic Impact Fee checks. They have complied. Do not know if there are plans to start work or if developers agreement will be signed soon.
- b) *550 & 551 Brown Road* – Revised plan was reviewed, and a comment letter was issued on April 11, 2024. The Zoning Officer issued a review letter which necessitates engineering revisions. A time extension until October 21, 2024 was approved the Planning Commission on July 9. A comment was made by Supervisor Bicksler that he thinks this should be the last extension. It was mentioned that Karen Brown from zoning should look into how many trailers he is permitted to have on the property. Vice Chair Graby said he should be made to comply before given another extension. Resident Judy Apgar made mention that it should be considered a junk yard.
- c) *MB Investments (Route 645 warehouse project)* – PennDOT Traffic Impact Study comments received from PennDOT. Applicant's traffic engineer, Stacey Jensen, is working on revisions. Ms. Jensen attended the Planning Commission meeting on May 14th to give a presentation on the traffic study, including an explanation of the recommended traffic signal at the intersection of Route 645 at Central Boulevard and other highway improvements. No further updates
- d) *RLP Martha* – Still monitoring Applicant's completion of the 10 conditions of Final Plan Approval. Applicant has received plan approvals from the water and sewer authorities. PennDOT permit application to extend the sewer line has been filed. Delays are due to DEP's requirement for the developer to complete special geologic studies to support their proposed spray irrigation SWM design.
- e) *R&L Carriers* – Applicant is preparing to submit a new application with new filing fees. The BCCD issued approval of the Chapter 102 NPDES permit and GP-4 permit. No further updates
- f) *2300 Camp Swatara Road (Bowman)*-Preliminary deemed approval as of 9/15/2021. No updates.
- g) *Musselman*-Preliminary approval as of 8/26/2013. No updates.

7) Subdivision / Land Development Inspections

- a) *Central Logistics West Run* – Maintenance bond reduction to \$15,000. Repair work is 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. Owner is contemplating a change in building size and location. This would necessitate a drainage pipe relocation.
- c) *Airstate Group* - Construction is underway, approximately 95% complete. We are awaiting a request for a final inspection and bond reduction in the near future.

- 8) *Musser Ag (Bordner Road)*** – Site work is substantially completed. Awaiting receipt of as-built drawing and request for financial security reduction or release.

9) Recreation, Parks, Open Space

- a) *Airport Road Park* – Clearing of area for construction of pickle ball courts is pending. We are coordinating this work with the Rec board.

b) *Frystown Park* – Pavilion roof replacement work was awarded to the company from Mike's quote.

10) Library Project

Project is complete and closed out. The Library Committee has paid the contractor's final bills in full.

11) Act 537 - Sewer Planning

a) We request the Board of Supervisors to instruct us whether to include residential properties east of the R&L site along Brown Road and Daub Road. If desired, SESI will amend the plan. Otherwise, we will proceed with finalizing the planning module for adoption via Resolution.

LIBRARY BOARD- A motion was made for the first half of the yearly donation in the amount of \$7,500.00 by Vice Chair Graby and seconded by Supervisor Bicksler, all agreed and motion carried. (3-0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS- Frystown Park Rental- Friday July 26, 2024 from 8:30am-1:30pm for a Graduation Party. 30-40- anticipated guests. A motion was made by Vice Chair Graby and seconded by Supervisor Bicksler, all agreed and motion carried. (3-0).

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board was provided the Treasurer's Report for July 11th 2024 and a list of all checks written between meetings also.

RTK Officer report-June report

Matt Hassler-Any complaints of our property along with names of complainants-all documents. This open record was denied.

MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Vice Chair Graby made a motion to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Supervisor Bicksler, all agreed and motion carried. (3-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS Gerald Bender asked about the asphalt on Frystown Rd as to why it doesn't go sidewalk to sidewalk. Alex Kauffman reached out to the number that was given to him but heard nothing. He added that the township may have to finish that. Gerald responded that it is a state road. Vice Chair Graby stated they won't be coming back. Alex Kauffman replied he'll look into it.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

Vice Chair Graby made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).

The next scheduled regular meeting is to be held on Thursday, August 8th, at 6 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Bobbi-Jo Peiffer