

**Bethel Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Meeting held February 9, 2023**

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors met on February 9, 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

Members of the public included Gerald Bender, Judy Apgar

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

The meeting continued with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AMENDMENT TO AGENDA**

***Motion to add 2023-19 Bobbi Westhafer as the Right to know officer***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to add the acceptance of Resolution 2023-19 to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0)*

***Motion to add 2023-20 Brian Blouch as the Alternate Zoning Officer***

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to add the acceptance of Resolution 2023-20 to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

*None.*

**ACTIONS FROM TAC DECEMBER 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 14<sup>th</sup>, April 11<sup>th</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM – Motion to ratify the advertisement of the PC workshops on March 14<sup>th</sup>, April 11<sup>th</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup>, April 11<sup>th</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup> 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 January 3, 2022, 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 January 26 and 30 for personnel reasons all three members were in attendance.

We are looking to assist the zoning officer Robin Royer with her duties and to save the township money by appointing EMC Brian Blouch as her assistant.

***Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept Brian Blouch as the Zoning Officer assistant. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).***

The motion to accept the resignation on Leigh Beamesderfer effect December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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

The motion to accept the resignation of Christy Flaherty as township effective February 9<sup>th</sup>,

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

The motion to accept Bobbi-jo Peiffer as assistant secretary at the rate of \$18.00/hr effective January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

***Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept Bobbi-jo Peiffer as assistant secretary/treasurer. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).***

Authorization for a bond for Bobbi-jo Peiffer.

***Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to allow the bonding of Bobbi-jo Peiffer secretary/treasurer. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).***

The motion to accept Bobbi Westhafer as secretary at the rate of \$25.00/hr effective February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

***Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept Bobbi Westhafer as secretary. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).***

355 club road property condition – Solicitors will be contacting Robin regarding the property.  
***Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to allow the solicitor to contact the zoning office about the referenced property. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).***

Supervisor Bicksler advised curbside recycling would be too expensive. Bobbi-Jo has reached out to Cogle’s Recycling. She has not heard back from them as of yet. Will advise once they respond.

Vice Chairman Graby advised there is a lot of Trash across the parking lot at Horning’s MKT, and Samsung and Amazon warehouse.

***Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to send letters to the locations for clean-up. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0)***

Vice chairman Graby said the township has a lot of accomplishments:

2 new police cruisers will be delivered in 2023.

The library renovation will be paid in full

The paving projects are paid in full every year.

The only loan currently is the Schubert Road loan with 5 years remaining.

The township is debt-free

501 intersections in Bethel square will be paved by PennDOT this year.

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

Chief Murphy read the January, 2023 Police Report as follows:

Mileage	5,247	Fuel	328.272 Gallons
Domestics	04	Thefts	04
Traffic Citations	87	Non-Traffic Citations	02
Warnings	20	Criminal Arrest	01
Phone Assignments	11	Parking Tickets	03
Residential/Commercial Alarms	05	Reportable Accidents	06
Non-Reportable Accidents	09	Reckless Driver Complaints	04
Motorists Assists	06	Traffic Stops	100
Fire & EMS Advisories	20	Other Law Agency Assists	16
Suspicious Situations	25	Disorderly Incidents	12
Miscellaneous Complaints	28	Court Appearances	05
Repos	01		

## **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:

Changed a few cutting edges on the plows  
A few more signs to hang  
A new sign is posted at the Airport Road Park

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

Brake retarder Ordinance is prepared.

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to advertise the ordinance per the solicitor’s request. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

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

### **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 intersections; there is no road widening proposed.

***Engine Brake Retarder permits*** - PennDOT approval received. Ordinance adoption underway with the solicitor. 3ft square signs and 8 locations for signs to start and 6 locations for them to end.

***Country Cottage*** - Waiting for the revised plan submittal.

***Central Logistics, West Run Lots 2 & 3*** - BCCD approved the revised NPDES permit. The revised Final LD plans are ready for township approval once received from Langan Engineers.

***550/551 Brown Road*** – awaiting revised plan submittal – BASE Engineering supplied us with a complete copy of the 115-page DEP/US Army Corp Chapte5 105 Joint Permit application. This will take many months to obtain, which will prolong time for the plan approval. Motion to approve a time extension per Jeff Steckbeck.

*Vice chairman Graby made a motion to approve the time extension. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***MB Investments*** – Route 645 Warehouse project – PennDOT Traffic Impact Study underway.

***RLP Martha*** – monitoring applicant’s completion of the 10 conditions of Final Plan Approval. From last report, they have only completed 2 of the 10 items.

***Flying J Subdivision*** – final minor subdivision – still under review. Zoning hearing required.

***R&L Carriers*** – review of LD plan is underway

***Charles*** – a stormwater management plan is being reviewed for a new dwelling and pole barn located along west side of Four Points Road, just south of Old Rt.22

***Musser Poultry Operation*** – we have completed our initial review of the land development plan application received from Nye Consulting Services.

***Airstate Group*** – we are in the process of review of the Final Land Development plan received last month.

***ACT 537 – Preparing a DEP Planning Module to expand the public sewer service area for the Route 645 corridor immediately north of I-78. This module will be an amendment to the existing Act 537 plan, at the request of Blue Rock Construction. Awaiting receipt of some environmental studies from the developers’ engineers. The planning module is approximately 95% complete and should be ready for adoption by the supervisors at the March meeting.***

## **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 underway.

The board has received 2 quotes from APR regarding the HVAC design totaling \$36,603.51. *Vice Chairman Graby made a motion for the board to approve the quote received to proceed with the HVAC system. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

## **RECREATION BOARD**

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

*Airport Road Park - I*

*Frystown Road Park*

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*EAC member Daphne Meyer would like to be reappointed.*

*Vice Chairman Graby made a motion to accept resolution 2023-18. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

*Motion to rescind the motion made at the reorganization meeting on January 3<sup>rd</sup> when Betty Martin as vacancy for chairman 2023. Vice chairman Graby made the motion. The motion was seconded by supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

*Motion appointing Calvin Maciejewski as vacancy board option. Vice Chairman Graby made the motion The motion was seconded by supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*None.*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Annual Planning commission report due in March*

*PA leadership donation. Vice Chairman Graby made the motion to approve to donation. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

### **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. Bender did ask when the speed limit in Frystown road would be addressed. Chairwoman Lane said they are working on a resolution to the issue.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

*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, March 9, 2023, at 6 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bobbi Westhafer*

Secretary, Bethel Township