

6/11/26

Bethel Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting held May 14, 2026 6:00pm
Meeting was recorded

The Bethel Township Board of Supervisors met on May 14, 2026, in the Township meeting room. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Michael Graby, Jay Bicksler and Chairperson Robbi Greenfield. Also present were Township Engineer Alex Kauffman, Township Solicitor Elizabeth Magovern and Township Secretary Bobbi Westhafer.

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Greenfield called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes Of the Board of Supervisors meeting for March 12, 2026 was made by Supervisor Graby; seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Nothing at this time

ACTIONS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD April 14, 2026

Horst Poultry Houses - 241 S. Faust Road

WAIVERS/DEFERRALS:

Waiver - Section 3.04 – Requirement to provide the plan scale not exceeding 1" = 20' for land development plans.

- The plan is minor in scope limited to the construction of two agricultural barns
- The final size, location, and use of the buildings is known at this time.

Waiver - Section 4.03.C.1 – Requirement to provide the location map scale not exceeding 1" = 800' for land development plans.

- The property is a very large farm in the agricultural district where a larger scale does not detract from showing the information necessary to identify the farm.

Modification - Section 4.03.C.5.a. – Requirement to provide the plan scale not exceeding 1" = 20' for land development plans.

- The scale used on the plans is required in order to fit the entire property and project on one plan sheet.
- All text and details will remain legible at a greater scale.

Waiver - Section 4.03.C.9. – Requirement to provide a hydrogeological study if more than 2 EDUs are supplied by the proposed well.

- A groundwater recharge analysis has been provided, assuming 400 GPD of groundwater recharge per acre. The analysis demonstrates 71% remaining groundwater during peak consumption. This section requires a minimum of 20%.

Deferral - Section 4.03.E.2 & 5.11.C.10.B – Requirement to dedicate additional right-of-way to the township or state.

- This project is limit to an agricultural improvement plan.
- Vehicular traffic is limited to an average of 1 truck per day.
- No additional improvements outside of the driveway access is proposed with this project.

Deferral - Section 5.04.C.1 – Requirement to provide a visual barrier composed of a solid fence at least 8 feet high and at least 1 row of evergreen vegetation.

- The site is located in an Agricultural District and southeast of adjoining residents

Modification - Section 5.10 – Requirement for the proposed well to meet fire protection needs.

- Agricultural buildings represent a low risk for loss of life in the event of a fire.
- The poultry house is separated with enough distance to other structures to prevent a fire from spreading.

Deferral - Section 5.11.C.10.B – Requirement to improve existing streets abutting the project site.

- The project is limited to an agricultural improvement plan.
- The vehicular traffic is limited to an average of 1 truck per day.
- The driveway has been designed to allow for safe movements and to allow the wheel path to remain on pavement so it doesn't break up the edge of the road.

Deferral - Section 5.13.A & 5.13.B – Requirement to provide curbing and sidewalk.

- The project involves construction of a new poultry operation with no employees and the use is not changing. Expected traffic for the site is limited to 1 truck per week to supply the operation.
- No curbing or sidewalk currently exists in the immediate surrounding area of the proposed site.

Modification - Section 5.02.G– Requirement to construct the poultry barns within the proposed easement

- The stormwater facilities are privately owned.
- The running of pipes under the barn is typical with this type of proposal.

- The easement area is listed as an overall blanket area granting access for maintenance and inspection as there is no need to define areas on separate lots or for separate entities.

Motion to approve all waivers/deferrals/modifications after Steckbeck Review made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Motion to Conditionally approve Horst Poultry house plan made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Blue Mountain Business Center Subdivision.

WAIVERS/DEFERRALS:

Waivers:

1. Section 3.04.B – To allow the preliminary plan submission to be combined in a single preliminary/final application.

Relief is sought to allow the preliminary plan submission to be combined in a single preliminary/final application. The submitted subdivision plan will comply with all requirements for both preliminary and final plan requirements, which would therefore render a separate final plan review submission redundant. The applicant will provide a plan demonstrating compliance with the ordinance and all conditions of approval to the Township for review prior to recording.

2. Section 4.03.C.5.a – To allow the graphic scale of the plan to exceed 50' to the inch for a Major Subdivision Plan.

Relief is sought to allow for a larger scale on the Major Subdivision Plan of 1" = 100'.

3. Section 5.11.C.13.d – To allow the distance for the intersection of arterial streets to be less than 1,000-feet apart.

The location of the proposed street was determined based off the location of the future driveway that is to be constructed for the development to the east of the subject property. The distance between Daub Road and Brown Road is approximately 1,300 feet and therefore, it is not possible to locate the proposed street 1,000 feet from both existing streets.

Deferrals:

1. Section 5.09.A – To defer requirements for providing on-lot septic design.
This requirement is to be deferred to future land development applications.

2. Section 5.10 – To defer requirements for providing on-lot water supply design.
This requirement is to be deferred to future land development applications.

3. Section 5.11.C.10 – To defer improvements along Camp Swatara Road and Daub Road.
This requirement is to be deferred to future land development applications.

4. Section 5.21 – To defer dedication of open space and park and recreation land.

This requirement is to be deferred to future land development applications

Motion to approve all waivers/deferrals after Steckbeck Review made by Supervisor Graby.

Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Planning Commission recommends to the BOS conditional approval conditioned on addressing all of Alex's, Michelle's, Karen's and Brian's questions and concerns that may still be outstanding as it relates to this subdivision application.

Motion to Conditionally approve Blue Mountain Business Center major subdivision plan made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Next meeting is June 9, 2026 at 7pm

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Robbi Greenfield –

- a. Executive Session prior to the meeting regarding personnel

Motion to amend the agenda to remove the executive session made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

- b. Officer Steffy Motor Carrier Enforcement Training

Motion to amend the agenda to add SmrtGUYS quote up to \$2,000.00 made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

- c. Americas 250 celebration June 27, 2026 from 4-8pm Announcement

- d. Americas 250 celebration 10 custom designed pole banners for Frystown, Bethel, and Schubert village.
Total invoice \$575.58

Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Jay Bicksler –

Mike Graby –

- a. Swenson Hydraulic tailgate mounted rear cross conveyor quote 12,062.00 from Costars vendor E.M. Kutz, Inc. **Motion to approve quote made by Supervisor Bicksler. Seconded by Supervisor Greenfield. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

- b. Motion to hire part time applicant Mark Girton for road crew seasonal work at current cdl rate **Motion to hire Mark Girton Seasonally made by Supervisor Bicksler. Seconded by Supervisor Greenfield. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**
- c. Faust South Paving Project 2026. Motion to authorize Steckbeck Engineering prepare and advertise bid package **Motion authorizing Steckbeck by Supervisor Bicksler. Seconded by Supervisor Greenfield. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**
- d. Authorize Auctions International to provide a list of equipment to be sold on municibid.com as discussed at the PSATS Convention **Motion to approve quote made by Supervisor Bicksler. Seconded by Supervisor Greenfield. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Murphy

Detailed police statistics shared for April 2026:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT – Brian Blouch

- a. Motion to approve EMS/Fire/Police Dispatching Fees invoice in the amount of 57,354.08. **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mike Graby stated that the roadcrew is cutting trees. Replacing pipes and mowing.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Elizabeth Magovern

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Alex Kauffman

Engineer Steckbeck's report for May 14, 2026 will be filed with the minutes

- a. Time Extension 550/551 Brown Road until August 11, 2026. **Motion to approve time extension made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**
- b. Weiler Creek Farm final financial security release. \$20,000.00. **Motion to release financial security made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

PARKS AND REC

- c. Recreation Board discussion – **Motion to dissolve the Rec Board made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**
- d. 21 Ton Black Rubber Mulch from Myerstown Shed and Fencing motion to ratify the additional cost of \$4,008.00 for 7.5 tons at 548.00 a ton. Original cost was 607.00 a ton, since we ordered more than the initial request, we received a discount. Motion to ratify additional cost of \$4008.00. **Motion to ratify payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**
- e. Les Kegerreis Home Improvements LLC – Frystown Pavilion Brite White Steel Ceiling and soffit quote \$6,200.00 including labor and supplies. Motion to approve quote. **Motion to approve quote made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

LIBRARY BOARD STATS

4529 visitors to the library
1216 People attended
63 In-person events

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS-

Nothing at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General account, Capital Reserve, Traffic Impact and Street Light

Check# 2558-2606

- a. *General Fund – QuickBooks renewal billed by SMRTGUYS in the amount of \$1,546.06. Motion to approve payment to SMRTGUYS* **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

State Aid account – Liquid Fuels

- a. *American Rock Salt - \$20,646.01* **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

Open Space and Rec account –

- a. *Charlies Septic Service for Frystown and Bethel Park – \$160.00* **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

- b. *Met-Ed Park invoices \$23.74 Frystown, \$32.92 Bethel* **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

Street Light account-

- a. *Frystown Lights- \$416.22* **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**
- a. *Bethel Lights – \$566.64* **Motion to approve payment made by Supervisor Graby. Seconded by Supervisor Bicksler. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.**

RTK Officer report-December report

April Report

- Lisa Hassler – 3 requests
- Mark Zurada
- Beth Kohl
- Oshea Smith
- Bonnie Behney
- Sarah Hyser-Staub, Esq

MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Supervisor Graby made a motion to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Supervisor Bicksler the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Bonnie Behney – Rec Board dissolving discussion

Bobbi Jo Peiffer –Bonding Questions

Lisa Hassler – RTK questions

Gerald Bender – Frystown Park activities

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

Supervisor Graby made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bicksler and passed unanimously

Next Meeting will be held on June 11, 2026 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bethel Township Secretary

DRAFT