



# BETHEL TOWNSHIP

**DELAWARE COUNTY**

**1092 BETHEL ROAD**

**GARNET VALLEY, PA 19060**

## **Board of Supervisors**

Michael J. Davey, Esq., Chairman  
Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman  
Giovanna Iacono, P.E., MBA  
Michael W. Schneider, P.E.

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## **BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS January 14, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at the John Myers Building, 1092 Bethel Road, Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania.

### **PRESENT:**

Michael J. Davey, Esq., Chairman  
Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman  
Michael W. Schneider, P.E., Supervisor  
Giovanna Iacono, P.E., MBA, Supervisor  
William Addison, Township Manager  
Michael Maddren, Esq., Solicitor  
Matthew Houtmann, P.E., Engineer

### **OBSERVERS:**

Approximately 27 citizens were in attendance.

### **The Regular, January 14, 2020, Board of Supervisors meeting convened at 7:30 PM.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Michael J. Davey requested everyone please silence all electronic equipment and announced the presence of a recording device for the purpose of minute taking. The recording will be deleted once the minutes are approved at the following meeting.

An Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

### **RESIGNATION OF SUPERVISOR:**

Michael J. Davey explained that the Board had received a letter of resignation from Brian Doherty. Brian Doherty is resigning from his position on the Board of Supervisors due to a change in policy at his place of employment regarding political activity.

**Motion:** On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Michael W. Schneider and carried unanimously, the resignation of Brian Doherty was accepted and approved.

Michael J. Davey stated the Board of Supervisors now has 30 days to fill its vacancy. Anyone interested in serving in this position should send a cover letter and resume to the Township Manager.

### **SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICER:**

Michael J. Davey recognized that he would need a motion to approve the hire of Johnathan Lazaro at a rate not to exceed \$18.75 per hour.

**Motion:** On a motion by Giovanna Iacono, seconded by Alex Giribaldi and carried unanimously, the hiring of Johnathan Lazaro at a rate of \$18.75 an hour, was approved.

The Honorable Wendy B. Roberts then swore in Johnathan Lazaro as the newest member of the Bethel Township Police Force.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Michael J. Davey asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting held on December 10, 2019.

**Motion:** On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Giovanna Iacono and carried unanimously, the December 10, 2019, meeting minutes were approved, as presented.

Michael J. Davey then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Annual Reorganization Meeting held on January 6, 2020.

**Motion:** On a motion by Michael W. Schneider, seconded by Alex Giribaldi and carried unanimously, the minutes from the Annual Reorganization Meeting held on January 6, 2020, were approved, as presented.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

No Presentations were provided.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Amanda Gattuso read the January 2020 Treasurer's Report. Details by fund are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

Michael J. Davey asked for a motion to approve the January 2020 Treasurer's Report and to pay all bills.

**Motion:** On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Michael W. Schneider and carried unanimously, the January 2020 Treasurer's Report and the payment of all bills were approved, as presented.

## **FINANCE/AUDIT/TAXES:**

Michael J. Davey read the December 2019 Tax Collector's Report. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection. Michael J. Davey then turned the floor over to the Tax Collector, Ed Plasha, who reported that the final tax information for 2019 will be submitted to the County next week. Additionally, 2020 real estate tax bills will be going out the first week of February. Michael J. Davey concluded that the 2019 Township Financial and Tax Collector audits are scheduled for the first week of February.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Police: Township Manager Bill Addison read the December 2019 Police Report. The report concluded that the Bethel Township Police Department responded to 197 calls for service during the month of December. The Department responded to fourteen (14) motor vehicle accidents and issued twenty (20) traffic citations. The Department also made two (2) arrests for DUI, one (1) arrest for aggravated assault, and one (1) arrest for five (5) counts of attempted homicide of a Police Officer.

Chief Sharp explained that the shooting incident on January 21<sup>st</sup> went very well, as there were no injuries or fatalities. The Department is currently working on the after-action reports with all those involved. The Township also had three cars stolen in the Trotters Lea development this month. All three cars were recovered: one at the scene and two in Wilmington, DE. The cars all had valet keys in the glove box. The Chief reminded residents to keep their cars locked and not to store spare keys in the glove box.

### Community Comment:

**Elizabeth Rakus**, 2067 Foulk Road, thanked all first responders for their involvement in the January 21, 2020, incident.

**Geri Crawford**, 1030 Bethel Road, also thanked first responders on behalf of Eileen Shomo, who lives near where the January incident occurred.

Bethel Hose Co. #1: Michael W. Schneider read the report for the month of December 2019. The Bethel Township Hose Company #1 responded to one (1) building fire, seven (7) motor vehicle accidents, nine (9) medical assist calls, seven (7) miscellaneous alarms, and eleven (11) mutual aid calls during the month of December.

Michael W. Schneider also reported that there was no major property loss or damage within the Township in 2019. Additionally, every year it gets harder to maintain volunteers; if anyone has the time or knows someone who can volunteer, please contact the Hose Company.

Fire Marshal Brett Small shared that a lifetime member of the Fire Department, Gerald Davis, recently passed away. Gerald was a member of the Fire Department for over 50 years. He was previously the President of the Fire Board, Chief of the Department, and Fire Marshal. Services will be held at the Pagano Funeral Home.

## **FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE:**

Highway: Michael W. Schneider read the December 2019 Highway Report. In December, the Highway Department replaced a leaking spinner motor on Truck 2, cleaned rust on dump truck bodies and applied undercoating, and replaced a leaking radiator hose on Truck 3. The Department also replaced a burned-out streetlight at Goodley and Bethel Roads, cleaned leaves off the roads throughout the Township, and replaced a stop sign at Naamans Creek and Zebley Roads.

Building & Grounds: Michael W. Schneider read the December 2019 Building and Grounds report. The report highlighted many maintenance items for the Police Station, including changing the air filters in the Police Station, repaired lights in their garage, and called EMSL Analytical, Inc. to do an air quality test for mold in different areas. Lastly, there will be no trash service on Monday, January 20, due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Frank Starr, the Roadmaster, did not have anything to add.

Township Manager, William Addison, added that the results have come back clean for the air quality test from EMSL Analytical, Inc.

## **INSPECTIONS:**

Plumbing: Alex Giribaldi read the December 2019 Plumbing Report. The report highlighted that six (6) mechanical permits and two (2) plumbing permits were issued in December. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

Building: Alex Giribaldi read the December 2019 Building Inspector's report. The report highlighted that thirty-nine (39) items were addressed in December, including four (4) building permits, four (4) electrical permits, five (5) occupancy permits, and three (3) zoning permits. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

Zoning: Alex Giribaldi read the December 2019 Zoning Officer report. The report highlighted that eight (8) items were addressed in December, including three (3) addition/shed/porch permit, two (2) miscellaneous permits, and three complaints. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

## **BOARDS:**

Parks & Recreation Board: Giovanna Iacono read the Parks and Recreation Board report from December 3, 2020. The Park report recognized that Christmas decorations were taken down and put away from the Community Park. Additionally, all Board Members are going to be returning for 2020.

Zoning Hearing Board: Alex Giribaldi read the Zoning Hearing Board report for the month of December. The Board had nothing on the agenda in December, and, at this time, there is nothing on the agenda for January. Alex Giribaldi then opened the floor to the Chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board, Garry Lanahan. Garry Lanahan stated there will be items on the agenda for February.

Planning Commission: Giovanna Iacono read the January 2020 Planning Commission Report. The report highlighted that Nolan-Fidale submitted plans to the Township Engineer in mid-November that were reviewed at the December meeting. The applicant submitted a revised final plan and satisfactorily addressed all previous recommendations by the Board and the Township Engineer. The Planning Commission made a unanimous motion to recommend final plan approval by the Board of Supervisors. The applicant's engineer was advised to contact the Board of Supervisors and submit final plans for approval consideration. Additionally, new revised final plans were submitted for Bethel Self Storage (PC 2017-20). The applicant will address all recommendations from the Township Engineer and submit updated plans at the next Planning Commission meeting.

Sewer Authority: Alex Giribaldi read the January 2020 Sewer Authority report. The report highlighted that the Sewer Authority Board met on January 2, 2020. Donna Vance was appointed as the Chair. Additionally, a force main broke near the Sharon Development off Zebley Road. The break was fixed, and they are currently working on the redesign of the force main. Additionally, a blockage was cleared along Robin Road, and they are investigating the cause of the blockage.

**Motion:** On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Giovanna Iacono and carried unanimously, Frank Starr was appointed to the Sewer Authority Board.

## **EDUCATION:**

Garnet Valley School District: Michael J. Davey read the Garnet Valley School District report for January 2020. The report highlighted that Kindergarten registration will be held from January 21 to January 31; full details can be found on the Garnet Valley School District website. Additionally, the Garnet Valley School Board will be holding its work session on January 21, and its regular meeting will be held on January 28 at 7:00 PM.

Junior Supervisor, Ramsey Smith, then read the report for Garnet Valley High School. Ramsey Smith reported that winter sports are currently underway. The Garnet Valley Cheerleading Team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state and will be going to Nationals in Disney. Additionally, the Garnet Valley Hi-Q team just set a Delaware County record for the most points in a single match. Garnet Valley Performing Arts is also preparing for their showing of Seussical the Musical which will be in March. Lastly, the Student Council will be hosting a MORP (Prom backwards) black light dance.

## Community Comment:

**Geri Crawford**, 1030 Bethel Road, asked Ramsey how the wrestling team is doing. Ramsey Smith responded that they are doing very well and are on track to win the Central League.

Rachel Kohl Library: Michael J. Davey read the January 2020 report for the Rachel Kohl Library. On Tuesdays in January the Library will be hosting a Block Party at 11:00 AM. This event is an hour-long free play session with wooden blocks and other toys for children ages 2-5.

## **TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Bill Addison read the December 2019 Manager's Report. Details are included within the attached report, which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Resolution 2020-06- Revised Professional Fees for 2020: Michael J. Davey stated he would need a motion to approve Resolution 2020-06 which amends Resolution 2020-05, setting the professional fees for 2020. He recognized that there was an error in the Resolution for the Health Inspector fee, as budgeted.

**Motion:** On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Michael W. Schneider and carried unanimously, approved Resolution 2020-06, as presented.

Authorized Signers for the Township: Michael J. Davey stated that he would need a motion to update the Township's authorized signers list to include Giovanna Iacono.

**Motion:** On a motion by Michael W. Schneider, seconded by Alex Giribaldi and carried unanimously, Giovanna Iacono was approved as an authorized signer for the Township.

Authorization to Advertise 2020 Board and Commission Meetings: Michael J. Davey explained that the Township would need authorization to advertise the meeting dates and times for all the Boards and Commissions for 2020, as they were approved in each Board's reorganization meeting.

**Motion:** On a motion by Giovanna Iacono, seconded by Alex Giribaldi and carried unanimously, authorization to advertise 2020 Board and Commission meetings was approved, as presented.

Foulk Manor Escrow Release: Michael W. Schneider explained that an escrow release was requested for the Foulk Manor development. This escrow release is largely related to paving projects. Township Engineer, Matt Houtmann, explained the details of the escrow release recognizing that the development will be submitting a proposal for dedication soon.

**Motion:** On a motion by Michael W. Schneider, seconded by Giovanna Iacono and carried unanimously, the escrow release for Foulk Manor was approved in an amount of \$132,387.95, as presented.

**Community Comments:**

**Alec Schwartz**, 609 E. Baltimore Pike, stated that he was a Broker representing the residents of 1531 Grand Oak Lane. He questioned the status of the Developer's Agreement, as they were told that it would be voted on tonight.

Township Solicitor Michael Maddren stated that it was not an item that had to be on the public agenda. Michael Maddren further explained that there was one more Supervisor to review the agreement, and once that review is completed, the Township will be ready to move forward. Michael Maddren stated that the Township hopes to have something back to the buyers tomorrow or the next day.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Giovanna Iacono and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Yurkovich