



BETHEL TOWNSHIP

DELAWARE COUNTY

1092 BETHEL ROAD

GARNET VALLEY, PA 19060

Board of Supervisors

Michael Davey, Esq., Chairman
Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman
Michael Schneider, PE
Trish Sharp
Jean Gallagher Stoyer, Esq.

Phone: (610) 459-1529
Fax: (610) 459-2921
www.twp.bethel.pa.us

BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS September 10, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at the Belmont Community Association Clubhouse, 1050 Belmont Lane, Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania.

PRESENT:

Michael Davey, Esq., Chairman
Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman
Michael Schneider, PE, Supervisor
Jean Gallagher Stoyer, Esq., Supervisor
Chenai Kaminski, Junior Supervisor
William Addison, Township Manager
Michael Maddren, Solicitor
Matthew Houtmann, P.E., Engineer
Peter Barsz, Treasurer

APOLOGIES:

Trish Sharp, Supervisor

OBSERVERS:

Approximately 14 citizens were in attendance.

Steve Manicini, President of the Belmont Homeowners' Association, welcomed the Bethel Township Board of Supervisors to Belmont. This meeting would be the Supervisors eighth year "on the road" at Belmont. The floor was then opened to Mike Davey, Chairman of the Bethel Township Board of Supervisors.

The Regular, September 10, 2019, Board of Supervisors meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Mike 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, personnel, and real estate matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mike Davey asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Supervisors' Meeting on August 13th, 2019.

Motion: On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Mike Schneider, and carried unanimously, the August 13th, 2019, meeting minutes were approved, as presented.

PRESENTATIONS:

No Presentations were given.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Peter Barsz read the August 2019 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.

Mike Davey asked for a motion to approve the August 2019 Treasurer's Report and to pay all bills.

Motion: On a motion by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, seconded by Alex Giribaldi, and carried unanimously, the August 2019 Treasurer's Report and the payment of all bills were approved, as presented.

FINANCE/AUDIT/TAXES:

Motion: On a motion by Mike Davey, seconded by Alex Giribaldi, and carried unanimously, authorization to advertise for the Special Meeting for the presentation of the 2020 preliminary budget was approved, as presented.

Mike Davey read the August 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.

Steve Mancini, 204 Half Mile Post S., added that Ed Plasha had made two visitations to Belmont during the month of August. The visits resulted in 41 taxes collected, which is around 20% of the homes in the community.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police: Township Manager, William Addison, read the August 2019 Police Report. The report concluded that the Bethel Township Police Department responded to two-hundred and thirty (230) calls for service during the month of August. The Police Department issued fifteen (15) traffic citations and twelve (12) warnings. The Department also made one (1) DUI arrest and one (1) arrest for retail theft. Lastly, the Department went on thirty (30) medical calls during the month of August.

The floor was then turned over to Chief Thomas Sharp. Chief Sharp recognized that phone scams are a continuing issue and offered handouts with more information about protecting yourself from scams. Chief Sharp also shared that the Police Department has been following buses in the morning and has already caught one car passing a school bus. Lastly, they have been sitting outside Bethel Springs looking for those who are speeding through the school zone.

Following the Police Report,

Motion: On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Mike Schneider, and carried unanimously, Police coverage for the Chadds Ford Historical Society from October 17th to the 19th was approved, as presented.

Bethel Hose Co. #1: Michael Schneider read the Bethel Township Hose Company report for the month of August 2019. The Bethel Township Hose Company #1 responded to two (2) motor vehicle accidents, ten (10) miscellaneous alarms, and six (6) mutual aid calls during the month of August. The Company reminded all residents to have an emergency plan in place this hurricane season in case of power outages. Additionally, the Company reminded residents to refrain from burning leaves and grass, as they produce a lot of smoke. Lastly, with school back in session, beware of children crossing the road at school bus stops.

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE:

Highway: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the August 2019 report. The Department cleaned many sewer drains and culverts in the month of August. A sink hole on Wendy Way was covered with a steel plate, until repair can be made. Finally, grass was cut along Kirk, Goodley, and Zebley Roads, and trees blocking the view of street signs were trimmed.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer recognized that the Township had advertised for bids for the 2019 Road Program following the last meeting. On September 5, 2019, the Township accepted bids for the project, with INNCON being the low bidder.

Motion: On a motion by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, seconded by Alex Giribaldi, and carried unanimously, INNCON's bid for \$103,247.30 was awarded, as presented.

Building & Grounds: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the Building and Grounds report for August 2019. The Department called DWD Mechanical to check on the high humidity in the Police Station; adjustments were made to the geothermal system and estimates to complete the work to fix the system were issued. The Department also called LowV Alarm Company to make repairs to the motion detectors in the office. The Department continued working on the warranty for replacement of the shingles on the Police Station roof. Finally, the Township will be hosting an E-Recycling Event on September 21st, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM; proof of residency is required.

INSPECTIONS:

Plumbing: Mike Davey read the August 2019 Plumbing report. The report recognized that eleven (11) permits were issued in August 2019: ten (10) mechanical permits and one (1) plumbing permit. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

Building: Mike Davey read the August 2019 Building Inspector's report. The report highlighted that fifty-three (53) permits were issued in August. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

Zoning: Mike Davey read the August 2019 Zoning Officer report. The report highlighted that twenty-one (21) items were addressed in August. Details are included within the report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

BOARDS:

Park & Recreation Board: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the August 2019 Park Report. The Corn Boil held on August 11th was a huge success. Jean Gallagher Stoyer thanked the Parks and Recreation Board, Police Department, Fire Department, Highway Department, and all volunteers for their hard work.

In the parks, the Highway Department has started working on the Community Park ball field, getting it ready for the upcoming sports seasons. Lastly, the fountain in John Adkinson Park shut down and will not restart. The growth in the pond is currently too great for the fountain to be removed from the pond, but it will be checked out as soon as possible.

The floor was turned over to the Parks and Recreation Chairperson, Donna Silvestri. Donna recognized that the next event will be Trunk or Treat, held at the end of October. The date is not yet set, as the event is run by the Garnet Valley Home and School Association.

Zoning Hearing Board: Alex Giribaldi read the Zoning Hearing Board report for August 2019. There were five items on the agenda in August: 2019-07, a request for a use variance at 1083 Darczuk Drive to have chickens was denied; 2019-08, a request to sell outdoor furniture at 1362 Naamans Creek Road (Booth's Corner) was approved; 2019-09, requesting a rear yard setback relief at 48 Overlook Circle will be continued at a later meeting; and 2019-10, a request for a rear setback relief at 47 Overlook Circle was granted; 2019-11, a request for an 8 ft x 8 ft shed at 316 Winterset Drive was granted. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 25th, at 7:00PM; there is one (1) item on the agenda.

Garry Lanahan, Chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board, recognized that 48 Overlook Circle was not voted on at the August meeting, as additional information was required from the applicant before continuing.

Planning Commission: Mike Davey read the Planning Commission report for August. There were two items of old business on the agenda: first, the preliminary plan for Project PC 2019-1, a parking lot expansion and driveway relocation at 3039 Foulk Road, is awaiting approval from PennDOT before discussions continue. Second, PC 2017-2, Bethel Self Storage Facility, is awaiting a Conditional Use Approval from the Board of Supervisors before discussions may resume. The next Planning Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 7:30 PM.

Sewer Authority: Mike Schneider read the August 2019 Sewer Authority report. Discussions continued for the dedications of several subdivisions in the Township. The next Sewer Authority meeting will be held on Thursday, October 3rd at 7:00 PM.

EDUCATION:

Garnet Valley School District: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the August 2019 report for the Garnet Valley School District. The report highlighted that school is back in session this month. On September 28th, the GVEA will be hosting its annual flea market in the Garnet Valley High School Gym between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM. Lastly, all schools will be closed on September 30th for the observance of Rosh Hashanah.

Bethel Township Junior Supervisor, Chenai Kaminski, read the Garnet Valley High School report. The report highlighted that Garnet Valley High School will be hosting a Back to School Night for parents on September 26, 2019. Additionally, a Financial Aid Night will be hosted on October 1st from 6:30-8:30 PM to discuss the financial aid process for college; parents of Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to attend with their children. All fall sports schedules can be found at digitalsports.com. Lastly, the next Garnet Valley football game will be a "gold out," held this Friday, September 13th. Chenai concluded her report by thanking the Board of Supervisors for providing her with the unique opportunity to serve as Bethel Township's Junior Supervisor.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer then awarded Chenai Kamaniski a plaque and thanked her for outstanding service as Bethel Township's Junior Supervisor. Chenai was also gifted an honorarium for her service.

Rachel Kohl Library: Alex Giribaldi read the August 2019 Library Report. The Library will be hosting Chair Yoga on September 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th at 10:30 AM (registration is required). Additionally, on September 11th at 1:00 PM, there will be a movie matinee for *The Hustle*. On September 16th, there will be a lecture on Theodore Roosevelt by Historian Roger Arthur. Lastly, on September 28th, Nemours will be hosting a discussion on child development.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Authorization to Advertise Conditional Use Hearing

Motion: On a motion by Mike Schneider, seconded by Alex Giribaldi, and carried unanimously, the Board authorized the advertisement for a Conditional Use Hearing for a Self-Storage Unit to be held at the Foxfield Community Association Clubhouse on October 8th at 7:00 PM.

2. Lease of 65" OneScreen Touchscreen for John L. Myers Building

Mike Davey explained that the Township had been considering the purchase of a 65" touchscreen through OneScreen to enhance presentations and interactivity with the public during Board Meetings.

Motion: On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the lease of a 65" Touchscreen through OneScreen at an amount not to exceed \$128 a month, as presented.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

1. George Lincoln, 1418 Deer Meadow Lane, recognized that trees in the public right of way continue to be an ongoing issue on his street; he asked if the Township has made any progress in notifying homeowners about the tree maintenance code. Chairman, Mike Davey, recognized that the Township has been trimming trees that are blocking street signs. Additionally, they are exploring the jurisdiction of PECO and Asplundh to trim trees over wires. The last step would be documenting trees that are out of compliance and then figuring out if there is an HOA that would be responsible for the maintenance or a private property owner, and finally, sending notification. Supervisor, Jean Gallagher Stoyer, added that the main priority for the Township is safety.

George Lincoln added that his road, Deer Meadow Lane, does not have wires, so the responsibility would not fall on PECO. He added that cars must drive in the middle of the road to avoid the trees, and fire trucks would not be able to get down the road in case of emergency. Additionally, the emergency vehicle entrance to Bethel Springs Elementary School located on Deer Meadow Lane is completely blocked with grown-in trees and branches. Mike Davey stated that the School District would be contacted and asked the Fire Marshall to visit the site and weigh in on what kind of maintenance would be required to allow a fire truck to fit.

2. Elizabeth Rakus, 2067 Foulk Road, asked the Board of Supervisors if the Township's leash law applied to dogs on private property. She noted that dogs in their own yard can still pose a danger by running into the road or at those passing by.

Township Solicitor, Mike Maddren, stated that he would investigate the existing ordinance and get back to her with clarification.

3. Steve Mancini, 204 Half Mile Post S, thanked Frank Starr and the rest of the Highway Department for all their help in setting up for the meeting at Belmont.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The next Bethel Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8th, 7:30 PM, at the Foxfield Community Association Clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Yurkovich
Assistant Township Manager