



Board of Supervisors

Mark C. Koehler, Chairman
Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman
Mike Davey, Esq.
Trish Sharp
Jean Gallagher Stoyer, Esq.

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BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
March 12, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at the John Myers Building, 1092 Bethel Road, Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania.

PRESENT: Mark C. Koehler, Chairman
Mike Davey, Esq., Supervisor
Trish Sharp, Supervisor
Jean Gallagher Stoyer, Esq., Supervisor
William Addison, Township Manager
Michael Maddren, Solicitor
Matthew Houtmann, P.E., Engineer
Peter Barsz, Treasurer

APOLOGIES: Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman

OBSERVERS: Approximately 13 citizens were in attendance.

The Regular, March 12, 2019, Board of Supervisors meeting convened at 7:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Mark C. Koehler 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mark C. Koehler asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Supervisors' Meeting on February 12, 2019.

On a motion by Mike Davey, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the February 12, 2019, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

PRESENTATIONS:

No Presentations were given.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Peter Barsz read the February 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.

Mark C. Koehler asked for a motion to approve the February 2019 Treasurer's Report and to pay all bills.

On a motion by Mike Davey, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the February 2019 Treasurer's Report and the payment of all bills were approved as presented.

FINANCE/AUDIT/TAXES:

Mike Davey read the February 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.

The floor was opened to Township Tax Collector, Edward Plasha, who explained that they began holding in-person tax collection hours last week, and they will be holding hours two nights this week. Mr. Plasha will also be going to Foxfield for two nights and Belmont for one night and one morning for collection over the next couple of weeks. Mike Davey thanked Mr. Plasha for his work and his outreach efforts.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police: Mark C. Koehler read the February 2019 Police Report. The report concluded that the Bethel Township Police Department responded to 323 calls for service during the month of February. The Department also conducted 19 traffic enforcement details which resulted in 76 traffic citations being issued. One arrest was made in the month of February for a DUI that was responsible for an accident on 322.

The floor was then offered to Chief Tom Sharp of the Bethel Township Police Department. Chief Sharp recognized that a tractor trailer had recently hit a large pothole on 322, resulting in a fuel leak near Clayton Park. The Bethel Township Police Department and the Bethel Hose Company were able to stop the leak before any damage was done to the creek. Next, Chief Sharp recognized that they have had eight officers complete active shooter training and six more will be completing it before June. The Department also has three officers attending crisis intervention training, which helps deal with people in crisis situations. Autism training is also coming up and four officers will be attending. Finally, two officers will be attending FBI Instigative training in September. Chief Sharp highlighted that all these trainings are free of charge.

Community resident, Chiwoniso Kaminski, 21 Overlook Circle, asked what the Autism Training is about. Chief Sharp responded by explaining that they have recently had two encounters with

people with Autism, one of which was non-verbal. Following this encounter, the mother of the boy with Autism suggested that records be maintained of those individuals in the Township that have Autism. The record would be comprised of a form with a picture of the child and information about their condition; for example, if they are non-verbal or not. Community resident, Gerri Crawford of Bethel Road, added that all Garnet Valley bus drivers have records of students with Autism on their buses.

Bethel Hose Co. #1: Mark C. Koehler read the report for the month of February 2019. The Bethel Township Hose Company #1 responded to four motor vehicle accidents, ten medical assist calls, twelve miscellaneous alarms, and two mutual aid calls during the month of February. The Company thanked R.E. Pierson Construction Company for allowing it to train at the vacant house on the corner of Garnet Mine and Foulk Roads before it was demolished. Additionally, the Company thanked Chief Sharp and his officers for their assistance during the recent fuel spill that occurred on Route 322. Finally, the Company announced that it will be hosting its annual carnival between April 23rd and April 27th at the old Francis Harvey Green Field located at Bethel and Foulk Roads.

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE:

Highway: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the February 2019 report. The Department had 250 tons of road salt delivered and 400 more tons ordered. Three winter storms have occurred since the last Township meeting. In February, the Highway Department performed vehicle maintenance, cleaning and repairing equipment, and having state inspections completed on two trucks. The traffic light at Foulk and Naamans Creek Roads was switched over to flash, and two lights that burned out were replaced. Next, the street light at Bethel and Sarum Farm Roads was repaired, as well as the light at Laughead Lane and Bethel Road. Finally, a storm sewer grate at Princess Ann Drive and Naamans Creek Road was replaced due to damage.

Building & Grounds: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the February 2019 Building and Grounds report. In February, lights were repaired in the Police Station locker room and the Township Building hallway. Additionally, heater filters were replaced in the Sewer Authority office.

INSPECTIONS:

Plumbing: Mike Davey read the February 2019 Plumbing report. The report highlighted that 21 items were on the agenda in February. 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 February 2019 Building Inspector's report. The report highlighted that 31 items were addressed in February. 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 February 2019 Zoning Officer report. The report highlighted that 11 items were addressed in February, which included the approval of 6 zoning permit applications. Details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

BOARDS:

Park & Recreation Board: Trish Sharp read the February 2019 Park Report. The report recognized that three trees fell across the walking path in Jack King Park. The trees have since been removed and the path reopened. Trish Sharp then announced that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt would be held on Sunday April 7, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, with a rain date of April 14.

Trish Sharp made a motion to approve the release of \$1200 of funds for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt event. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Zoning Hearing Board: Mark Koehler read the February 2019 Zoning Report. The report recognized that project 2019-1, a use variance request in order to convert the existing building located at 3704 Naamans Creek Road from a Day Care, under special exception, into a resale shop with limited outdoor display, was denied. Next, the decision for project 2019-2, requesting a use variance for the Bethel Township Hose Company located at 3737 Foulk Road, in order to install a 90 sq. ft. x 60 sq. ft. tent and gazebo to be used for events, will be made at a meeting held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at 7:00 PM.

Planning Commission: Mike Davey read the February 2019 Planning Commission report. Mike Davey recognized that there were two items on the agenda, both old business. First, the applicant for Project PC 2018-1, a two lot subdivision at 1137 Naamans Creek Road, responded to the Engineer's review and completed all requirements set forth by the Township Engineer. The Planning Commission accepted the plans and moved to recommend final approval to the Board of Supervisors. Next, Engineer's comments for the preliminary plan for Project PC 2019-1, a parking lot expansion and driveway relocation at 3039 Foulk Road, were discussed; and further clarification and follow up with the Township Engineer, Zoning Board, and Planning Commission was requested. Full details are included within the attached report which is on record at the Township Building and is available for public inspection.

Sewer Authority: Mark Koehler read the February 2019 Sewer Authority report and recognized there was no new business during that meeting.

EDUCATION:

Garnet Valley School District: Jean Gallagher Stoyer recognized that Bethel Township has committed to funding two scholarships of \$500 each to be handed out at the Senior Awards Ceremony. She also recognized that this will be the third year they have funded this award and that the Garnet Valley High School Guidance Department selects the winners. Jean Gallagher Stoyer also noted that Garnet Valley has a new initiative called "Safe to Say Something", which provides students and parents with the opportunity to anonymously report information that may be of concern to the school community online.

Chenai Kaminski, Bethel Township Junior Supervisor, then read the Garnet Valley High School activities report for February and March 2019. First, Chenai recognized that the High School would be hosting a music gala concert on March 24 at 3:00 PM, supporting a non-profit organization supporting music programs around the Philadelphia area. Next, the school held four performances of Annie; all shows can be viewed on YouTube. The High School will also be hosting a STEM night on March 21; STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. This event will include interactive labs. The School is also looking for volunteers for the 2019 Post-Prom; more information can be found online. Spring sports have started at the High School including softball, baseball, women's lacrosse, men's lacrosse, track and field, and

boys tennis. Chenai concluded that women's Basketball is still competing, with their second round in the State playoffs being held tonight in Souderton.

Community resident, Eileen Shomo, 1627 Garnet Mine Road, recognized that the Interact Club would be treating the Senior citizens of Garnet Valley to a luncheon and a special showing of Annie this upcoming weekend.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer also recognized that the Garnet Valley Performing Arts would be having a community show for the first time this year. The show is Mama Mia and will premier in late June. Volunteering opportunities are still available.

Rachel Kohl Library: Trish Sharp reported that the Library will be hosting the program "Women in Penn's Woods" on March 19, 2019, at 6:00 PM; registration is required. They will also be hosting a mindfulness class on March 21, 2019, at 10:30 AM; registration is required.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

Bill Addison read the February 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:

1. Mike Davey announced that April 2019 is considered "Safe Digging Month" in the Commonwealth. Mike Davey highlighted PA's one call system (811) which is in its 47th year. This program is used to identify underground infrastructure to ensure safe excavation projects, workplace, and public safety.
 - a. Mike Davey made a proclamation that April 2019 be declared as Safe Digging Month in Bethel Township. Mike Davey made a motion to approve the proclamation, as detailed above. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.
2. Jean Gallagher Stoyer made a motion to hire Shelly Fleagle to the position of Assistant Township Secretary at a rate of \$16.00 per hour, with a start date of Tuesday, March 19th. This is conditioned upon Miss. Fleagle obtaining necessary clearances and criminal background check within 30 days of hire. Trish Sharp seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
3. Mike Davey made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the amended fee schedule for the Township. Trish Sharp seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

1. Gerri Crawford, Bethel Road, asked if her friends at the historical society would be allowed to post a sign at the Blacksmith's Corner when the weather gets nicer.
 - a. The Board requested that an example sign be submitted so they may then talk about it.

2. Christine White, 1593 Garnet Mine Road, expressed her concerns about a new housing development at 1610 Garnet Mine Road. She acknowledged that there was a recent digging incident on the edge of her property which left a 20 foot drop. She explained that no fencing had been placed around the hole and the company failed to notify her of the incident. This caused a large safety hazard for her property. She then requested that someone from the Township come out to evaluate the site, as the builder for the project disconnected when she called them.
 - a. Township Manager, Bill Addison, addressed the concern, stating his intention to go to the site at 8:00 AM the next morning, March 13. He noted that Township Engineer, Matt Houtmann, would also be visiting the site on March 13 around 9:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Mike Davey, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

The next Bethel Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

William Addison
Township Manager