



**Board of Supervisors**

Mike Davey, Esq., Chairman  
Alex Giribaldi, Esq., Vice Chairman  
Michael Schneider, P.E.  
Trish Sharp  
Jean Gallagher Stoyer, Esq.

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP**  
**DELAWARE COUNTY**  
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**BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**May 14, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at the John Myers Building, 1092 Bethel Road, Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania.

**PRESENT:**

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

**APOLOGIES:**

Trish Sharp

**OBSERVERS:**

Approximately 16 citizens were in attendance.

**The Regular, May 14, 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 and personnel matters.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mike Davey asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Supervisors Meeting held on April 9, 2019.

On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the April 9, 2019, meeting minutes were approved, as presented.

Mike Davey asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Supervisors Special Reorganization Meeting held on May 2, 2019.

On a motion by Alex Giribaldi, seconded by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, and carried unanimously, the May 2, 2019 Special Reorganization Meeting minutes were approved, as presented.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

No Presentations were given.

### **REPORTS:**

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

Peter Barsz read the April 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 April 2019 Treasurer's Report and to pay all bills.

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

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

Mike Davey read the April 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.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Police: Township Manager Bill Addison read the April 2019 Police Report. The report concluded that the Bethel Township Police Department responded to 297 calls for service during the month of April. The Department also performed 59 traffic stops which resulted in 43 traffic citations and 18 warnings. Bill Addison also highlighted that four officers will be attending Crisis Intervention Training and three officers are attending training at the FBI-Intercounty Detective School in May. Chief Tom Sharp was not at the meeting, as he was in Washington DC for the Police Unity Tour.

Bethel Hose Co. #1: Bill Addison read the report for the month of April 2019. The Bethel Township Hose Company #1 responded to three motor vehicle accidents, five medical assist calls, ten miscellaneous alarms, and seven mutual aid calls during the month of April. The Bethel Hose Company would like to remind anyone with a pool to make sure that all fencing and gates are up and working properly. Additionally, they reminded everyone to always make sure children are supervised and that pool chemicals are stored properly. The members would also like to thank the Township Supervisors, the Bethel Township PD, and the Parks and Recreation Board for their support at the carnival and, most of all, those residents that attended, making it a big success. Lastly, the Fire Company reminded residents that Crabs and BBQ sales have started on weekends at the Firehouse.

Mike Davey then recognized that the Board has several Proclamations under public safety this month.

Alex Giribaldi began by asking for an approval of Resolution 2019-09 for a Master Lease with Fulton Bank for a 2019 Ford Explorer Police Utility Vehicle for the Police Department, as budgeted. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Alex Giribaldi then made a motion to accept Proclamation 2019-02 designating May 12-18 as National Police Week, with May 15 being Police Memorial Day. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer made a motion to accept Proclamation 2019-03 designating May 5-11 as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. She further recognized that 1 in 5 kids has a mental health condition. Alex Giribaldi seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Michael Schneider made a motion to accept Proclamation 2019-04 designating May 19-25 as National Public Works Week. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

#### **FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE:**

Highway: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the April 2019 report. In April, the Department removed the salt spreading equipment from trucks and snowplows from the garage and placed them in storage. Truck two passed its State inspection and had its oil changed. On April 6, the Township received a call that the water line was leaking on Ebright Road and Red Oak Lane. The Township notified Suez Water Company, and the line was repaired. Repairs to the road will be made in the next two weeks. In April, the Highway Department also repaired sink holes around storm sewers and cleaned the storm sewers.

Building & Grounds: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the April 2019 Building and Grounds report. In April, a urinal was replaced in the men's room of the Police Station and burned out lights were changed. Roadmaster Frank Starr also found that roof shingles on the Station are bad. He notified Tamko Builders, the manufacturer of the shingles, and they sent a Territory Manager to the site. The Manager took pictures and samples of the shingles, filed a warranty claim form, and sent it back to the Township. The shingles have a 30-year warranty, and the roof is only ten years old.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer also mentioned that the Township will be focusing on trees hanging over into the street as they pose a safety hazard. She reminded residents of the Township Property Maintenance Ordinance to maintain trees to a certain level. She also noted that Frank Starr, Township Engineer, Matt Houtmann, and she completed the annual roads review in April, also.

#### **INSPECTIONS:**

Plumbing: Mike Davey read the April 2019 Plumbing report. The report highlighted that seven Mechanical permits and five Plumbing permits were issued in April. 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 April 2019 Building Inspector's report. The report highlighted that 69 items were addressed in April, including ten Building permits, six Electrical permits, 13

Occupancy permits, and nine Zoning permits. 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 April 2019 Zoning Officer report. The report highlighted that 20 items were addressed in April, including six deck/patio permits, four additions/sheds/porch permits, two new construction applications, three miscellaneous items, and one complaint. 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: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the April 2019 Parks Report. Jean Gallagher Stoyer reported that 80 yards of mulch were delivered and moved into the play area of Jack King Park. Additionally, the spring duck was stolen from the Park, but it has since been replaced. Frank Starr also completed equipment inspections, and repairs were made.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer also mentioned that the Bethel Township Parks and Recreation Board will be hosting a Movie Night on June 14, with a rain date of June 15, at Bethel Springs Elementary School. They will be showing the Incredibles 2.

Zoning Hearing Board: Alex Giribaldi read the Zoning Hearing Board report for the month of April. There were two items on the agenda: one was a variance for a rear setback for a patio, which was granted, and the other was a variance for a front porch, which was denied. The next meeting will be held on May 22, which will address two petitions.

Planning Commission: Mike Davey read the April 2019 Planning Commission report. Mike Davey recognized that no new discussions took place for PC 2019-1 a parking lot expansion and relocation. The next meeting will be held on June 5.

Sewer Authority: Alex Giribaldi established that there was no new report for the Sewer Authority in April.

## **EDUCATION:**

Garnet Valley School District: Jean Gallagher Stoyer had no report from the Garnet Valley School Board so she turned the floor over to the Junior Supervisor, Chenai Kaminski.

Chenai Kaminski, Bethel Township Junior Supervisor, then read the Garnet Valley High School activities report for April and May 2019. Chenai began inviting residents to the Alumni Art Show which will be taking place on May 22 at 6:30 PM in the Art Wing. Next, she highlighted that Planet Fitness in Aston is beginning a scholarship and fitness program which will allow students age 15-18 to work out for free all summer. Students will also be eligible for a \$5,000 scholarship at the end of the summer. On May 24, residents are encouraged to come to the Senior Post Prom walkthrough at 7:00 PM. Lastly, she recognized that the spring sports are doing very well this season. Girls and Boys Lacrosse are both in district playoffs with games on May 10. Men's Baseball is second in their division and women's softball is eighth.

Rachel Kohl Library: Jean Gallagher Stoyer read the Rachel Kohl Library Report for April 2019. On May 19 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM, the Library will be celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and hosting the ribbon cutting ceremony for their new story-walk at the Concord Township Community Park. On May 28, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM the Library will be hosting a STEM night.

Lastly, on May 21, the Brandywine Museum of Natural History will be partnering with Longwood Gardens for a talk based off the book *The Reason for a Flower*. Registration is required for this talk.

Jean Gallagher Stoyer continued by introducing Brian Doherty and Library Director, Susan Sternberg. The Board then presented the Library representatives with a check for \$54,020 as a part of their annual contribution, in addition to matching funds for a Keystone Grant that the Library was awarded this year. The grant is being used to connect the Library to the natural gas main on Smithbridge Road and to completely renovate the existing HVAC system.

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

Bill Addison read the April 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. Jean Gallagher Stoyer made a motion to accept Resolution 2019-10 which establishes a new fee schedule for the application and review of subdivision and land development applications and for the application and review of building and zoning permit applications. Alex Giribaldi seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
  - a. Resident Lou Torrieri, 1066 Green Glen Drive, asked when the fee schedule becomes active. Township Solicitor Mike Maddren recognized that it is effective following approval; however, it will not be enforced for items currently pending.
2. Michael Schneider made a motion to approve the final Escrow release for the Webster Farm project which consists of the 10% contingency that was held once the project was completed for an amount of \$71,282.51. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
3. Michael Schneider made a motion to approve the Escrow release for Garnet Plaza in an amount of \$655,978.88. Jean Gallagher Stoyer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
  - a. Township Engineer, Matt Houtmann, explained that this release is for a complex that is made up of several office and light industrial buildings. The last release was in June of 2007. The final building in the project has yet to be constructed. The release will go to storm sewers, retaining walls, and other infrastructure. \$180,190.92 will remain in the Escrow following this release of funds.

### **COMMUNITY COMMENTS:**

1. John Port, 3832 Marsh Road, recognized that he is representing the Rock Creek Homeowners' Association. John Port established that the community is looking for guidance and support from the Township regarding major water issues the neighborhood is experiencing. John Port went on to explain that the neighborhood's common space, which backs up to the Foxfield neighborhood, is experiencing tremendous flooding to the point that the land is no longer useable for recreation.

Additionally, six houses skirting the common space are also facing damage from the excess water. John mentioned that they believe the water may be run-off from Foxfield.

John recognized that the houses are having their sump pumps run all day to accommodate the issue. Matt Houtmann had been contacted recently, and the neighborhood is looking for guidance.

Rob Parent, 7 Manor Court, added that one local family in this area is looking to move but have been told they can't, largely due to the flooding issue. He added that the issue has been getting worse over the past 15-16 months and that he has been required to replace three sump pumps due to overuse.

Matt Houtmann addressed the comments by stating he has spoken with several residents along that stretch of Manor Court. He completed a site visit last fall and determined that it is not a stormwater runoff issue but the more complex groundwater issue. He recognized that this is a much more difficult issue to control. He believes the homes could install French drains, if it is in fact from Foxfield; however, if it is underground, it is much more difficult. Matt continued by stating he would be willing to meet with the residents again to better help them come up with mitigation strategies. He also recognized that our region has had the second rainiest season on record this past year, too.

Rob Parent continued by stating that some homeowners have their sump pumps piped into the stormwater drains. He further recognized that they have documentation from the original development plans which showed that they were already having water issues to the point one house had to be razed. He further stated that it might be helpful for the homes to tie into the storm drains. Matt Houtmann agreed that connections would be beneficial.

Chairman Mike Davey asked if the Homeowners' Association would share the reports they have with Matt Houtmann. He stated that, following Matt's review, he will revisit the site. Mike Davey also addressed the difficulty in the situation from the Township's perspective, as it is hard to establish a baseline because the rain has been so heavy this year. The Board agreed to continue to explore the issue.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Jean Gallagher Stoyer, seconded by Michael Schneider, and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

The next Bethel Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 11, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

William Addison  
Township Manager