

BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
375 CEDARCREST DRIVE
DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2018

Chairman Edward Silvetti called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

In attendance were: Chairman Silvetti and Supervisors Palmer Brown and Paul Amigh II; Secretary/Treasurer Betty Robertson; Police Sergeant Roger Peacock; Building Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer Donald Ott; Road Foreman John Reed; Chris Dutrow, PE of Stiffler, McGraw & Associates; and Solicitor Michael Rouch.

Chairman Silvetti announced: "Public comment is both welcomed and invited. Any persons wishing to speak on an agenda item or during the public comment period may be limited to five minutes per person." Attendees were also asked to silence their cell phones.

Chairman Silvetti noted special appreciation to **Zach Miller**, owner of **Zach's Custom Detailing**, 821 Third Avenue, Duncansville. Following recent vandalism to the 2017 Police SUV, Mr. Miller cleaned off and removed the profanity from the SUV but refused to take compensation. Chief White expressed his appreciation, noting the Millers are good people and are supporters of local law enforcement.

The **First Public Hearing** for the **FY 2018 CDBG Grant** was held at 6:30 p.m. this evening at the Blair Township Municipal Office. The purpose of the hearing was to allow public comments and suggestions relating to CDBG grant spending. **Trina Illig**, Grants Coordinator for the County of Blair, stated that the amount of the allocation has not been announced to date, also noting that there is ample time remaining to solicit spending recommendations.

Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the Giant Foods, Liquor License Transfer Public Hearing of May 08, 2018. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting of May 08, 2018. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of May: Payroll and payroll liabilities totaled \$64,799.62; General Fund disbursements for the month of May totaled \$26,511.47; Liquid Fuels disbursements \$ 2,640.04 and Local Services Tax disbursements totaled \$3,254.33. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve total disbursements in the amount of \$97,205.46. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. The motion to approve the total disbursements in the amount of \$97,205.46 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for May 2018 as \$1,149,719.00. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the “Specific Service Investment Account Funds” Treasury Balance for May 2018 as \$94,103.62. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silvetti announced that anyone wishing to address the Supervisors may now do so.

Jim Gregory, newly elected **Republic Candidate** for the **80th District State House Seat**, thanked the assembly for their support during the Primary Election.

Chairman Silvetti proceeded with the agenda.

Chris Dutrow provided an update on the **O’Reilly Auto Parts Subdivision**, as submitted by David K. Hines of Control Point Associates, Inc.

The required **DEP Sewage Planning Module** for **O’Reilly Auto Parts** was reviewed and executed by the Blair Township Planning Commission on June 4th. The executed DEP Component 4A was then returned to the developer for submission to the Blair County Planning Commission for their review.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **table** the **O’Reilly Auto Parts Subdivision** plan. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. The **municipal review** period will **end** on **09/15/2018**. The motion to **table** the **O’Reilly Auto Parts Subdivision** plan passed with a unanimous vote.

Chris Dutrow commented that the **Snare Office Building Land Development Plan** was reviewed by **Greg Geishauser** of Stiffler McGraw. The plan as submitted by Ben Piper of Keller Engineers was not received in time for County or Township Planning Commission reviews. This is simply an introduction.

Chris questioned which references are to be used, the specific SALDO ordinance or the Code of Ordinances, when writing review letters. The Supervisors agreed that going forward the Code of Ordinance is to be referenced in all reviews.

Chris proceeded in reading from the review letter dated 06/12/18, received at this evening’s meeting. The relevant issue remains and is addressed in comment #6, **911 addressing** to determine the front of the building to confirm setback compliance. As drafted, it appears that the rear setback adjoins the Zavahir property; Zee Plaza, which is a paved parking area. The Supervisors take no exception with considering the 10-foot encroachment to the rear setback as it adjoins a blacktopped parking lot, but, the concern looking forward could be Mr. Zavahir’s issue with the encroachment. Solicitor Rouch commented that if a definitive opinion is needed, he would provide it.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **table** the **Snare Office Building Land Development Plan**. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. The motion to **table** the **Snare Office Building Land Development Plan** passed with a unanimous vote. The **municipal review** period will **end** on **09/10/2018**.

The **EMA Mutual Aid Agreement** was discussed. As requested, a 60-day withdrawal provision was added. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve Blair Township's participation in the legal notice to **advertise Ordinance No. 2018-02**, indicating the intent for Ordinance No. 2018-02 to be incorporated into the Code. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. A lengthy discussion ensued questioning the appropriate action to incorporate new or revised ordinances into the Code, once adopted. Solicitor Rouch will contact General Code for instructions for the proper way to add the new ordinances to the Code. The motion to **advertise Ordinance No. 2018-02** passed with a unanimous vote.

The **Edgewood Stormwater BMP Project**, as prepared by **Chris Foster** of Stiffler McGraw, was discussed. This is an MS-4 related project to retrofit the Edgewood Stormwater Detention Pond. Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve advertising the **Edgewood Stormwater BMP Project for bid**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **approve advertising** passed with a unanimous vote.

The **amended Floodplain Ordinance No. 2018-03** was discussed. Chairman Silveti stated the Commonwealth (DCED) had hired an independent contractor to draft the Ordinance, noting it was subsequently reviewed by Stiffler-McGraw and Solicitor Rouch. The Ordinance appears to be in order. Supervisor Brown questioned whether the Ordinance was being considered as an amendment to the Codification or if it were a stand-alone Ordinance. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve **advertising Ordinance No. 2018-03** for adoption, pending Solicitor Rouch' inquiry with General Code. Chairman Silveti seconded the motion. The motion to advertise was **approved with two yes votes**. Supervisor Brown opposed. Solicitor Rouch confirmed that he will take care of the advertising following his discussion with General Code, stating it should be ready to adopt at the July meeting.

Chairman Silveti presented an amended proposal as submitted by **Mary Lou Maierhofer, Esq. of Margolis Edelstein**. Supervisor Brown commented that the scope of counsel has changed, noting that initially he did not agree to the need for additional counsel. Solicitor Rouch commented that he views the proposal as one of a back-up counsel, comparing it to his former position with Blair Township. Chairman Silveti commented that the proposal is more specific as to what would cause the Township to seek counsel, essentially labor related work. Chairman Silveti made a motion to **approve** signing the proposal as submitted by Mary Lou Maierhofer, Esq. of Margolis Edelstein. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. It was noted that Margolis Edelstein would also agree to provide legal counsel on issues which the Township's Solicitor declares a Conflict of Interest on is part. The proposal does not include a retainer; the hourly rate for counsel is \$190.00 per hour. Solicitor Rouch reiterated that he would determine the instances that would require the need to hire the outside counsel. The motion to **adopt the proposal** as submitted by **Mary Lou Maierhofer, Esq. of Margolis Edelstein** passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the **hiring of David A. Smith** for the **Blair Township Highway Department** vacancy, at an hourly rate of **\$14.00 per hour**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. Mr. Smith is a 16-year veteran to municipal highway work through Taylor Township. Solicitor Rouch noted that his starting wage is commensurate with his experience, knowledge, multiple certifications and unique qualifications. The Blair Township Supervisors at the request of the Taylor Township Supervisors agreed to accept a start date of June 25th, allowing Mr. Smith to work out a three-week notice as opposed to the standard two-week notice. The Taylor Township Supervisors expressed their appreciation, through their

Secretary, Barb Greenleaf. The motion to **approve hiring David Smith** passed with a unanimous vote.

The **cul-de-sac no-parking** issue was discussed. It was determined that the issue Sheldon Grey previously presented was an occasional problem. With that being considered, it was determined that creating an Ordinance to prohibit cul-de-sac parking was **not warranted** at this time.

John Reed presented information regarding **weed spraying certifications**. The law requires that the road crew members be certified in order to use herbicides for weed control. Also, specific liability insurance is also required. The cost for the certification manual is \$62.00 and the cost of training is \$60.00 per certification. Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the **herbicide certification and associated costs**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion **passed** with a unanimous

Chairman Silvetti made a motion to approve a **Letter of Support** for the **ISC Sunoco Grant Application**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The proposed project is located between the DeGol Complex and River Road, impacting Blair Township, Frankstown Township and Hollidaysburg Borough. The motion to **approve the Letter of Support** passed with a unanimous vote. Supervisor Brown suggested the possibility of an additional site located behind Martins Store, in the Beaverdam Branch area.

Betty requested permission to transfer \$300,000.00 from the General Fund (Checking) Account into the Capital Reserve (Money Market) Account, this due to interest rates. Chairman Silvetti made a motion to **approve transferring \$300,000.00 from the General Fund into the Capital Reserve Account**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The current rate of interest on the checking account is at 0.55% and the rate of interest on the Money Market Account is at 1.45%. The motion to **transfer the funds** **passed** with a unanimous vote. Betty clarified with the Supervisors that the money could be moved back to the General Fund, if and as needed.

Other Business:

Brief comments were made concerning funding opportunities for the **IRC**, such as possible placement of a **Key Access Recycling Facility**.

The future of the **ISC** was briefly discussed. The end of the two-year contractual commitment is approaching. The MS-4 issue could be addressed by forming another multi-municipal authority or simply by the extension of the ISC that is currently in place. There are 6.2 million dollars' worth of pollution reduction plan projects on the horizon. These projects' funding is under study.

Blair Township does not have the capacity to do the **2020 US Census (LUCA)** reporting. The Blair County Planning Commission had scheduled, but then canceled without rescheduling a meeting concerning the Census. GIS capabilities are needed, and confidentiality is an issue, as well as cost.

Solicitor Rouch reported that the **Glimcher plan** and declaration was picked up at his office by someone from the Law Firm of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, stating that they were headed to the Blair County Courthouse to record the plan and declaration. A copy of the recorded items has not been received by the Township to date.

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Supervisor Brown stated that the **Newry Bridge** project will begin in mid-July. A detour will be enacted for a two-week period during the construction phase of the bridge.

There being no further business, Chairman Silvetti made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with a unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Betty Robertson
Secretary