

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

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2019

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; Supervisors Palmer Brown and Paul Amigh; Secretary/Treasurer Betty Robertson; BTPD, Chief Roger White; Building Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Donald Ott; Highway Foreman, John Reed; Chris Dutrow, PE, and Eric Banks, PE, of Stiffler, McGraw & Associates; and Solicitor Michael Rouch.

Chairman Silvetti announced: "Public comment is both welcomed and invited in accordance with Township of Blair Policy and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Right-To-Know provisions and the Sunshine Act. 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.

Announcement: The Township of Blair Annual Organization Meeting for 2020 and the January 2020 Regular Monthly Business Meeting will be held on Monday, January 6th, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., respectively.

Supervisor in Charge of the Police Department, Paul R. Amigh, II, administered the Oath of Office to newly-hired Patrol Officer Matthew Tod Fleck. Officer Fleck was welcomed and congratulated by the Supervisors, Chief White and the assembly.

Supervisor Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting of November 12, 2019. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of November were reviewed. Secretary-Treasurer Robertson presented as follows: Payroll totaled \$40,958.90; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities for the month of November totaled \$106,173.00; Liquid Fuels \$1,992.10 and Local Services Tax disbursements, \$1,922.00.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve total November disbursements in the amount of \$151,046.00. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. The motion to approve the total November disbursements in the amount of \$151,046.00 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for November 2019 as \$957,716.85. Supervisor Brown 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 November 2019 as \$125,996.25. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silveti then announced that anyone wishing to address the Board of Supervisors on general Township issues may do so at this time. Additionally, prior to votes being taken on items shown on the agenda, public comment may also be offered following discussion by the Board of Supervisors. Public comment may be limited to five (5) minutes per Township resident or other individuals in attendance. For clarity of the record, each speaker is to stand and clearly state his/her name.

Chairman Silveti acknowledged **Jim Jackson**, Blair Township resident, in attendance. Mr. Jackson stated that his desire is to become more involved in municipal activities, noting he intends to attend future monthly Board of Supervisors’ meetings, stating further that he currently attends the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority meetings.

Regarding the **BTW&SA**, Chairman Silveti stated that the Board of the Authority did not decide to decline participating in providing a polling place. Chairman Silveti noted that issues such as aggressive campaign workers and parking issues need to be addressed. Poll watchers should be enforcing the 25-foot rule for campaign workers. Lack of enforcement is causing potential safety issues. There are also traffic ingress and egress issues. Chairman Silveti recommended that the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority representatives meet with Sarah Seymour of the Blair County Elections Office.

Chairman Silveti announced **Nicole Germaux** had informed him verbally and in writing that she has chosen not to fulfill her elected supervisor position on January 06, 2020, stating she is no longer a resident of Blair Township. The vacancy will not occur until January 6th. An appointment to the position will need to be made in accordance with § 407 of the Township Code. In further discussion, it was re-emphasized that because the 2019 Election was certified, this pending vacancy will not exist until current Supervisor Brown’s term expires, and Ms. Germaux fails to take office on January 6, 2020. The remaining Supervisors will have 30 days to select a replacement. If they fail to agree on a replacement, the Township Vacancy Board has 30 days to make the determining vote. Chairman Silveti suggested interested parties should submit resumes and that the Supervisors should conduct interviews. Finally, it was noted that Robin Cadwallader, currently serving on the BTWSA, ran in the 2019 Primary Election for Blair Township Supervisor, but was defeated by Nicole Germaux.

Chairman Silveti noted the unfortunate lack of public participation by residents concerning Township issues. The Supervisors agreed that the process leading to appointment of a supervisor needs to be open to all interested parties. Nicole Germaux has until January 6th to change her mind.

Chairman Silveti presented **Supervisor Brown** with a **Certificate of Appreciation** for serving on the Board of Supervisors. He then proceeded to assign Supervisor Brown the task of Chairing this evening’s meeting, commenting this would be his last meeting. Acting Chairman Brown continued with the Agenda.

Supervisor Silveti made a motion to accept the Shared Driveway Agreement as reviewed and approved by Solicitor Rouch for the Don and Amy Rothrauff Subdivision Plan. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **accept the Don and Amy Rothrauff Shared Driveway Agreement** passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Silveti made a motion to approve the Rothrauff Subdivision Plan. The motion to **approve the Rothrauff Subdivision Plan** was seconded by Supervisor Amigh and approved unanimously.

The **O'Reilly Final Land Development Plan**, as prepared by Greg Hillard of Bollard Engineering, was discussed. There are outstanding review comments of October 7th to be addressed. The Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Agreement (in the process of being tweaked by O'Reilly legal counsel), as well as the \$2,000 Stormwater Maintenance fee, remain outstanding. The PA DOT Highway Occupancy Permit is also needed.

Supervisor Silveti then made a motion to **table the O'Reilly Final Land Development Plan**. The motion to **table the O'Reilly Final Land Development Plan** was seconded by Supervisor Amigh and approved unanimously. The municipal review period will end on January 11, 2020.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **table the J119-Frankstown Communications (AT&T) Tower Preliminary Land Development Plan**. The review comments of October 1st have not been addressed. The motion to **table the Preliminary Land Development Plan** was seconded by Supervisor Silveti and approved unanimously. The municipal review period will end on February 19, 2020.

Chris Dutrow, commenting on the **Peterson Accounting Group proposed New Building Addition Plan**, stated that several review comments are outlined in the November 7th review letter and have yet to be addressed. The municipal review period will end on February 15, 2020.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **table the Peterson Accounting Group proposed New Building Addition Plan**. The motion to **table the Building Addition Plan** was seconded by Supervisor Silveti and approved unanimously. The municipal review period will end on February 15, 2020.

The **Martellacci Lot Line Relocation** plan, as prepared by Andrew Ebersole of Keller Engineers was discussed. Chris Dutrow stated that specific waiver requests were recommended for approval by the Blair Township Planning Commission at their December 9th meeting.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to accept a waiver to §350-B (2) Contour Lines, with Chris Dutrow confirming that he takes no exception to the request as this is a non-build subdivision. Supervisor Silveti seconded the motion. The motion to **accept the waiver request to the contour lines of the Martellacci Lot Line Relocation** passed with a unanimous vote. Supervisor Silveti made a motion to accept a waiver to §350-37 pertaining to a 15-foot utility and drainage easement, Chris Dutrow confirming that he takes no exception to the request as the utilities are existing. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **accept the waiver**

request to the 15-foot Utility and Drainage Easement of the Martellacci Lot Line Relocation passed with a unanimous vote.

Following conversation concerning the request for a waiver to §350-36-C, a 15-foot Side Set Back, Solicitor Rutch instructed Betty to forward a copy of the variance request that he recently drafted for the Lechtner property. He indicated that the Martellacci legal counsel could use the format of that variance to produce a recordable variance to meet the specific request. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **conditionally approve the Martellacci Lot Line Relocation plan, pending review and approval of the Setback Variance Agreement.** Supervisor Silveti seconded the motion. The motion to conditionally approve the Martellacci Lot Line Plan, pending the variance, passed with a unanimous vote.

The **Barnhart Land Development Plan**, as prepared by Adam Long, was briefly discussed. Due to the date of receipt, Chris Dutrow explained that there was not adequate time to review the plan. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to table the Barnhart Land Development Plan. Supervisor Silveti seconded the motion. The motion to **table the Barnhart** plan passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on March 14, 2020.

A revised checklist inspection for the S & A Homes Harvest Glen project was prepared by Ben Piper of Keller Engineers on November 20th, 2019. The report identified two remaining items to be addressed by S & A Homes prior to dedication. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to table the Harvest Glen acceptance. Supervisor Silveti seconded the motion. The motion to **table** the request from S & A Homes to **dedicate** the relevant **Harvest Glen** infrastructure to the Township passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Brown requested Supervisor Silveti to explain the UPMC 2020 Health Insurance Coverage Renewal Options. Supervisor Silveti commented that the Township desires to provide coverage closest to that in the 2019 UPMC Health Insurance plan. After presenting facts and scenarios, he suggested, and the Supervisors agreed, that the Township accept the EPO Gold Plan. Supervisor Brown made a motion to accept the UPMC EPO Gold Plan, as presented. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **approve the UPMC EPO Gold Healthcare** plan passed with a unanimous vote.

The monthly premium is significantly less than current coverages, but the copays and deductibles are more than 2019. To keep the employees whole, an **HRA plan** is suggested. The HRA would use Township funds from the premium savings to help offset the added out-of-pocket employee expenses against copays and deductibles. The Township broker, Knepper Insurance, has suggested Prime Pay, a third-party administrator, administer the HRA & Compliance. There is a minimal annual fee for administration but relieves the Township of the employees' healthcare tracking expenses and compliance issues. This (HRA) option represents the fairest exchange to current coverages/costs. Unused money assigned to the HRA in 2020 can roll over into the HRA for 2021.

Supervisor Silveti made a motion to **accept the Prime Pay** quote. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **approve Prime Pay to administer the HRA** passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Silveti made a motion to accept **Resolution No. 2019-05**, approving the **2020 Township Budgets** as advertised and presented. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. Resolution No. 2019-05 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Silveti made a motion to approve the reappointment of Brendan Peterson to the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Board, commenting he has served the Board well. He noted Mr. Peterson's civil engineering status and his request for reappointment to a five-year term beginning January 2020 through December 2024. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **reappoint Brendan Peterson** to the **BTW&SA** Board passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve advertising the 2020 Blair Township Supervisors Meeting Schedule as presented. The meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Silveti seconded the motion. The motion to **approve advertising the 2020 meeting schedule** passed with a unanimous vote.

The **Blair Township Planning Commission** will hold its January 2020 Organization meeting on Tuesday, **January 14th** at 7:00 p.m., this date being determined by the BTPC Bylaws.

Supervisor Silveti made a motion to approve the appointment of a CPA firm to conduct the DCED-required audit of Blair Township Municipal Government for 2019. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. This was advertised in accordance with the Second-Class Township Code on December 07, 2019. The motion to **approve the appointment of a CPA firm** passed with a unanimous vote.

Other Business:

Supervisor Silveti stated that **stormwater** costs remain an issue to be addressed in 2020, including those related to MS4 mandates, as well as storm water infrastructure improvements in certain Township neighborhoods.

Supervisor Brown stated that it has been an honor to serve the Township and it was his pleasure to serve with the current Board of Supervisors. He commended Township staff for their hard work.

Supervisor Brown called for further business. There being none, Supervisor Amigh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Silveti seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Betty Robertson, Secretary