

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

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF FEBRUARY 09, 2021**

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

Township elected officials and personnel present included Chairman Silvetti; Supervisor Paul Amigh II; Supervisor Robin Cadwallader, Ph.D.; Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Robertson; Township Engineer, Eric Banks; and Township Solicitor, Patrick Fanelli. Chief of Police, Roger White and Building Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Donald Ott attended via teleconference.

Other visitors to the meeting included State Representative, Jim Gregory; Matt Crocco and Kari Geary representing the Mariner East Sunoco pipeline project; Jeff Gunnett of GNET Consulting; and Alyssa Rouser of the EADS Group representing Hollidaysburg Family Dental.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Organization Meeting, as presented. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes of the January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Annual Organization Meeting passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 4<sup>th</sup> Monthly Business Meeting. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes of the January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Business Meeting passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of January were reviewed. Secretary-Treasurer Betty Robertson presented the report as follows: Payroll totaled \$33,666.99; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities for the month of January totaled \$79,110.08; Liquid Fuels, \$2,652.19; Capital Reserve, \$3,550.00, and Local Services Tax, \$3,844.00. Of note, a transfer in the amount of \$23,000.00 from the Act 32 2012 Account into the Stormwater Maintenance Account, as included in the 2021 Blair Township Budget, was made. A check payable to the ISC in the amount of \$22,499.74, representing the first quarter of 2021 payment, was then issued from the Stormwater Maintenance Account.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve total January disbursements in the amount of \$168,323.00. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to approve the total January disbursements in the amount of \$168,323.00 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for January 2021 of \$1,092,103.57, as presented. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve the “Specific Services Investment Account Funds” Treasury Balance for January 2021 of \$167,019.32, as presented. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silveti announced that an **Executive Session** would be held immediately following the adjournment of this evening’s meeting. The purpose of the Executive Session is to discuss employee benefits, specifically certain pending Medicare-related changes to the Township’s healthcare insurance coverages.

**Public Comment Period.** Chairman Silveti announced the public comment period.

**Jeff Gunnett of GNET Consulting** addressed the Supervisors, presenting a draft preliminary subdivision plan titled as the **Longshadow Builders, LLC., & 26 Stonestand, LLC.** Mr. Gunnett stated that he is representing Thomas Mongold of Longshadow Builders. The recent Longshadow Non-build Subdivision, prepared by Gerald Pastva, was approved by the Supervisors in August of 2020. The preliminary plan, as now presented, details 24 single-family building lots ranging from 1.5-acre to 20-acre parcels. The developer has been communicating with Dan Carbaugh, representing the BTW&SA, regarding gravity sewer service expanding out to Reservoir Road. Water would be supplied by shallow wells on individual lots. The wetland areas are delineated on the plan. No impact was noted on the PNDI submission. Also noted by Craig Yon of PA DOT, Mr. Gunnett reported that driveway permits do not become available until the lots are sold. Mr. Gunnett thanked the Supervisors for their time, indicating a formal plan submission is anticipated within the next few months.

State Representative **Jim Gregory** addressed the assembly. He indicated that he was following through with a commitment to attend local municipal meetings. He acknowledged the need for State and Local Government cooperation, commenting that his staff is efficient and available. Chairman Silveti reminded Representative Gregory of the importance of his support for the authorization of LIDAR / Radar use by local municipalities, noting the need for him to be active in his support of this important public safety issue.

**Matt Crocco** addressed the Supervisors, introducing **Kari Geary**; both were representing **Sunoco** and the **Mariner East** Pipeline project. Mr. Crocco reviewed post construction through completion of the permitting and road bonding release, noting that Chris Coop would remain as the long-term contact for Blair Township. Chairman Silveti commented that, in his opinion and observation, the Sunoco project went very smoothly through Blair Township with no major issues.

The **Martin Non-Building Subdivision Plan**, as prepared by Gerald Pastva, P.L.S., was discussed. A note was added to the plan, as recommended by Solicitor Fanelli, indicating the movable sheds in the setback areas.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve** the **Martin Easement Agreement**, as reviewed and approved by Solicitor Fanelli. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve** the **Martin Non-Building Subdivision Plan**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to approve the plan passed with a unanimous vote.

**Alyssa Rouser** of the **EADS Group** presented a draft Setback Variance Request on behalf of Tooth Fairy Properties, LLC, and **Hollidaysburg Family Dental**. The developer intends to construct a new dental building at 1633 North Juniata Street, while utilizing the existing dental building until the new one is ready for occupancy. The proposed new building will encroach on the rear setback. Ms. Rouser stated that the adjoining property owners take no exception to the encroachment. The Supervisors indicated that once a land development plan was received, they would look favorably on the Variance Request. No formal vote was taken.

Chairman Silvetti commented that the final plan on the **Fort Fetter Park** was received. SAP&DC was invoiced and payment of the Grant funds in the amount of \$3,000.00 was received by Blair Township. Discussion with DCNR and with Stacy LoCastro of SAP&DC regarding park construction grants has taken place. Trina Illig, Blair County/Township CDBG administrator, was contacted to conduct an income survey of the Fort Fetter residents in the hope of utilizing CDBG funds. The possibility of using CDBG funds as a match with DCNR funds was discussed but would depend on the results of an income survey. Construction cost estimates are needed before grant applications can be prepared. Chairman Silvetti then noted that the Landscape Architect had gone over budget for the design project by several hundred dollars, principally due to the cost of an elevation study made necessary because of the need to address storm water retention at the proposed park site. The study generated an additional \$450.00 above the original quote. Upon a motion by Chairman Silvetti, seconded by Supervisor Amigh, the Supervisors unanimously agreed for payment to the subcontractor. Chairman Silvetti also commented on a potential First Energy Grant that could pay for solar lighting, noting he could prepare the application if it is deemed as meeting grant criteria.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to agree to participate in the 2021-2022 Costars Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) Contract. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The annual participation in the Costars Agreement allows the use of Liquid Fuels Funds to purchase the road salt. A minimum amount of 150 Ton is recommended by the Highway Foreman, John Reed. The motion to **approve** participation in the **Annual Costars Sodium Chloride Agreement** passed with a unanimous vote.

The **NAC Drive to Innovation Drive** road name change was discussed. It was noted that working with Greg Werstil has been challenging. According to the Township's Addressing Ordinance, the requester is to approach the Township with a street name change request. Upon its review, the Township then approaches the County with this request for a road name. As this process unfolded, Mr. Werstil initially went directly to the County and also proceeded to have the signs fabricated in advance of the approval. Nonetheless, agreement was reached with Mr. Werstil wherein he will pay Tel-Power for installation costs upfront, after which the Township will provide its approval of the street name change to Blair County. Chairman Silvetti then made a motion that "upon full payment to Tel Power, Inc., no later than March 1, 2021, by Greg Werstil of the Werstil Companies, of the Tel Power, Inc. invoice Number 75379, dated February 1, 2021, as presented to the Werstil Companies/Greg Werstil, the Township of Blair will present

its approval and request to the County of Blair for renaming NAC Drive to Innovation Drive, as requested by Greg Werstil.” Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silvetti updated information regarding the Blair Township **LEMC vacancy**. Mr. Stitt, the LEMC for Frankstown Township, has agreed to support Blair Township in the event of an emergency, until an LEMC is appointed. Chairman Silvetti has contacted Jeffrey Riley, a med-helicopter pilot, active with Blair County Emergency Management. Mr. Riley may be interested in providing the LEMC service for the Township. He is currently participating in out-of-town training, with plans to return on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February. Discussion will be held to determine his interest, and follow-up will be brought back to the Board of Supervisors.

The Blair County Board of Elections has prepared and is requesting approval of an annual Polling Place Agreement between the County and Blair Township Municipal Government. The Agreement would legally designate the Municipal Office as a polling place. The Agreement outlines the Polling Place, Electioneering specifics, Care of the Polling Place, and Indemnification and Casualty Insurance. Chairman Silvetti made a motion to **execute the Municipal/Federal Government Election Polling Place Agreement**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve and execute the Agreement passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to appoint Edward Silvetti as a member to the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority. Chairman Silvetti seconded the motion. He noted that, while reluctant to take this position, he would until other qualified and willing residents are identified. Supervisor Amigh then noted his concerns with the Authority’s operations and management. Chairman Silvetti also added that, as he had repeatedly stated, he will not accept the stipend that is offered by the Authority to its board members. The motion to **appoint Edward Silvetti as a member to the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Board**, effective immediately, passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silvetti suggested establishing a ZOOM account for future Township meetings due to the ongoing threat of the COVID-19 Pandemic. He noted that variants associated with COVID-19 have a much higher rate of transmission. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to establish a ZOOM account. Chairman Silvetti seconded the motion. The annual fee is \$150.00. The motion to **approve** establishing a **ZOOM account** passed with a unanimous vote.

**Blair County GIS** advised the Township of an addressing issue at 655 Hillside View Drive. Due to the nuisance involved in changing an established address, and the residents reluctance to change the address, it was suggested that in the future, should the property change ownership, the change of address could take place with the new owner. A deed restriction in this regard is suggested.

**Other Business and Informational Items:**

Chairman Silvetti commented that an approved duplex built by **Chris Weidley**, located in the Manor Park area, appears to be inhabited as a triplex. Due to the regulations established by the UCC, and as adopted by the Township, this is not acceptable and will be dealt with.

Chairman Silvetti called for further business. There being none, he reminded everyone that an Executive Session will be held immediately following adjournment to discuss the previously identified issue. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betty Robertson  
Secretary