

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

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF MARCH 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. Highway Foreman, John Reed and Building Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Donald Ott attended via teleconference.

There were no other visitors to the meeting.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9th Monthly Business Meeting. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes of the February 9th, 2021, Business Meeting passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of February were reviewed. Secretary-Treasurer Betty Robertson presented the report as follows: Payroll totaled \$33,671.20; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities for the month of February totaled \$51,152.77; Liquid Fuels, \$9,169.61; Capital Reserve, \$1,195.00, and Local Services Tax, \$1,652.00.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve total February disbursements in the amount of \$96,840.58. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to approve the total February disbursements in the amount of \$96,840.58 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for February 2021 of \$1,129,154.72, 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 February 2021 of \$175,511.76, as presented. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

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

Public Comment Period. Chairman Silvetti announced the public comment period. With no visitors attending in-person or via the telephone conferencing link, no comments or questions were forthcoming.

Eric Banks presented the **William D. Hite Subdivision** as prepared by Andy Ebersole of Keller Engineers. A review letter was received by the BCPC. The BTPC recommended conditional approval. The Sewage Facilities Planning Module and the Request for Planning Waiver & Non-Building Declaration must be submitted to and approved by DEP prior to final approval of the Hite Subdivision plan.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to sign and submit to DEP the **Hite Planning and Non-Building Waiver for Lot 1, the residual lot**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to sign and submit to DEP the **Hite Sewage Facility Planning Module**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve the William D. Hite Subdivision plan, conditional** on the Township's receipt of **DEP approval for the Sewage Facilities Planning Module**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion for conditional approval passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on June 07, 2021.

The **Hollidaysburg Family Dental Preliminary Plan** as submitted by **Alyssa Rouser** of the **EADS Group** was briefly discussed. Eric Banks outlined the review comments from February 24th. The BCPC review was received. The BCCD E&S approval was received. The BTPC agreed with the suggested setback variance and moved to table the plan. Eric noted that the Supervisors may require a Developer's Agreement as well as the sidewalk requirement. Supervisor Cadwallader questioned the effect of the development with regard to the river and flooding. Eric explained that the installation of the infiltration ditch would present a better stormwater situation than what is there currently.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to table the Hollidaysburg Family Dental Preliminary Plan. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to **table the Hollidaysburg Family Dental Preliminary Plan** passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on June 07, 2021.

Chairman Silvetti commented on the North Juniata Street **sidewalk** placement, suggesting that a cooperative effort with Blair and Allegheny Townships may be beneficial in seeking PA DOT to continue placement of sidewalk along North Juniata Street to its intersection with Plank Road.

The suggested **2021 Paving Project** is to resurface **Mill Road**. The Sunoco Mariner East II Project is complete, and Sunoco has repaired any damages caused during the pipeline construction. John Reed commented that the Township spent approximately \$15,000 in Liquid Fuels funds in preparation of the 2021 Mill Road paving project. There are Liquid Fuels Funds budgeted and available to support the project.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve advertising** to solicit bids for the **2021 Mill Road Paving Project**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The bids will be opened at the April 13th Supervisors Meeting. The motion to approve advertising the 2021 Paving Project passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silveti commented on the **Fort Fetter Park** plan. Steve Parks, Landscape Architect, has provided a construction cost estimate at \$153,000.00. The SAP&DC/DCNR construction grant requires a funding match. Trina Illig, Blair County/Township CDBG administrator, has provided income survey information. Chairman Silveti has prepared a resident letter to accompany the income survey to better explain the proposed park plan and the importance of the CDBG funding. At least 51% of the survey results would need to show residents meeting the federal low to moderate income guidelines. Surveys not returned automatically become counted as not meeting this h income criteria. Chairman Silveti suggested, with Supervisors Amigh and Cadwallader agreeing, that the mailing should include an invitation to visit the site on a specific date and time for the Fort Fetter residents to ask questions and comment on the park plan being considered.

Solicitor Fanelli explained the request received by Curry Realty to have the Township vacate any portion of the abandoned **Watco Lane** that falls within Blair Township's jurisdiction. He stated that when a road is vacated, the abutting property owners take ownership of the vacated roadway. Curry Realty owns both sides of Watco Lane. A left side portion of the Curry/Watco property adjoins property owned by Joe Crossman, JLC Holdings. An old, dilapidated, county bridge connects the Watco property to Frankstown Township at Berwind Road. The Supervisors agreed to have Solicitor Fanelli prepare an Ordinance to vacate Watco Lane, as well as an Agreement releasing the Township from any future liability.

Chairman Silveti stated that Jeff Riley, a medical helicopter pilot, and Cris Frederickson, of the Blair County EMA, are to discuss the **LEMC** requirements, as well as the amount of time that the LEMC position might entail. In the interim, Mr. Stitt, Frankstown Township's LEMC, has agreed to stand-in for Blair Township if there is an emergency.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve the transfer of \$500.85 from the Citizens Advisory Committee (**CAC** Account) into the **Capital Reserve** Account. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. Betty explained that the CAC has not been active for many years. The motion to transfer the CAC funds, effectively closing the account, into the Capital Reserve Account, passed with a unanimous vote. The original deposit into the CAC Account was funded by the General Fund.

Other Business and Informational Items:

Chairman Silveti noted that **Chris Weidley**, a developer in the Township, had a permitted duplex in the Manor Park area; one unit included a "mother-in-law" suite. It subsequently became apparent that this residential building was housing three unrelated parties. The rental arrangements remain unclear, but the one rental unit in question (i.e., the "mother-in-law suite") had been advertised as a distinct rental unit, as reported by the builder's owner. Moreover, the owner/developer had solicited and received from the designated Blair County office a third

address for this building, adding to the question of what constitutes approved and (UCC) inspected housing units. BTWSA first noticed the additional mailbox, and the Township's UCC Inspection Agency was contacted. The address has been rescinded by the County at Mr. Weidley's request, but the outcome remains pending.

Blair County GIS had previously advised the Township of an addressing issue at 655 Hillside View Drive. Due to the personal nuisance involved in changing an established address, it was suggested that in the future, should the property change ownership or be subdivided, the change of address could take place with the new owner and/or owners. This would, however, require the owner's agreement and would result in a deed covenant being placed.

Chairman Silvetti addressed recent issues with the **Lakemont Park/ISC Pollution Reduction Project**. The material being dredged and hauled from the site is very wet due to higher-than-normal precipitation in November 2020 through January 2021. The contractor is unable to stack the material to the original anticipated height. The designated haul site met capacity after 20-30% of the material was delivered. A secondary haul site has been chosen, which, due to the location, entails additional cost. The original contract does not address this issue. To make sure that the work progresses, negotiations are taking place regarding the contractors down-time, as well as the additional expense in hauling to a secondary location to be paid through a change order.

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 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Betty Robertson
Secretary