

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

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 09, 2021

Chairman Edward Silvetti called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

In attendance were Chairman Edward Silvetti; Supervisor Paul Amigh II; Secretary/Treasurer Betty Robertson; and Solicitor Patrick Fanelli.

Other attendees included Nathan W. Karn, Sr., Esq., Blair County Solicitor and Kathleen Pike, Real Estate Specialist, PennDOT, District 9-0.

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.

Chairman Silvetti Announced: The Special Meeting of the Blair Township Board of Supervisors is being held for the principal purpose of considering Resolution No. 2021-05, authorizing condemnation proceedings in accordance with the eminent domain code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on behalf of the Township of Blair, to obtain for the Township the real property interests related to the expansion of its rights-of-way that are necessary for the County to carry out and complete the rehabilitation of County Bridge 82. The Township of Blair requests that the County Solicitor proceed on its behalf at the County's expense.

County Solicitor Karn expressed his appreciation to the Township for accommodating the County's needs in this matter.

The County only has five county roads; however, most of the County bridges, many of which are over waters of the Commonwealth, lie in the middle of township roads, such as County Bridge 82, which is located in Blair Township on Monastery Road (T-375) and crosses the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River.

The County, in conjunction with and with use of funds provided by the Commonwealth through the Department of Transportation, will undertake the rehabilitation of Bridge 82.

The objectives of the planned bridge improvement include replacement of the bridge and creation of a better bridge entrance and widen the envelope and the approach. To undertake the rehabilitation work, it is necessary to obtain from Barry L. Bowman, the adjoining property owner, a temporary construction easement over .222 acres of his property. It is also necessary to increase the existing Blair Township right-of-way by .058 acres to support the Blair Township road approaches to the bridge on either side, also on the Bowman property.

Kathleen Pike noted that there are two additional properties that are affected by the right-of-way expansion. Those properties' owners have settled with the Commonwealth; Mr. Bowman has

not. There are 13 trees affected. It was confirmed that the gate at the entrance of Mr. Bowman's building will not be affected.

Penn DOT and the County have made numerous attempts to obtain the consent of Mr. Bowman to execute a deed in lieu of condemnation. These attempts have failed, leaving the Commonwealth and County with no choice but to request that the Township undertake the necessary Eminent Domain action.

Should action be taken to approve the Resolution, Solicitor Karn will file the necessary documents on behalf of Blair Township, at the County of Blair's expense. Following filing, Mr. Bowman will be served. The County will then wait to see if Mr. Bowman files any preliminary objections. Pending that outcome, the process will continue.

Chairman Silvetti made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-05. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with two yes votes.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Silvetti seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with two yes votes. The meeting adjourned at 1:13 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Betty Robertson
Secretary