

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

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 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; Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Robertson; Chief of Police, Roger White; Highway Foreman, John Reed; Township Solicitor, Patrick Fanelli; and representing Stiffler McGraw; Eric Banks attended through teleconference.

There were no visitors in attendance.

Chairman Silvetti announced that the 2022 Blair Township Supervisor's Organizational Meeting will be held on Monday, January 03, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The Regular Monthly Meeting will be held immediately following the Organizational Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The 2022 Blair Township Planning Commission Organizational Meeting will be held on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The Regular Monthly Meeting will be held immediately following the Organizational Meeting.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting of November 9th, 2021. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes of November 09, 2021, Business Meeting passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of November were reviewed. Secretary/Treasurer Betty Robertson presented the report as follows: Payroll totaled \$30,924.48; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities for the month of November totaled \$95,866.33; Liquid Fuels, \$1,704.19; and Local Services Tax, \$4,338.90.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve total November disbursements in the amount of \$132,833.90. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve the total November disbursements in the amount of \$132,833.90 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for November 2021 of \$1,464,684.25. Supervisor Amigh 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 November 2021 of \$124,091.50. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silveti called for public comment, noting no public was in attendance. He then proceeded with the agenda.

The **Smith/Dull Lot Line Relocation Plan** as submitted by Andy Ebersole of Keller Engineers was discussed. Both County and Township Planning Commission reviews are received. A variance request to section 350-23. B (2) requiring contour lines is requested. The plan remains unsigned by the property owners.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to accept the variance request to section 350-23. B (2), Eric Banks noted that there is no construction planned and that no exceptions to the request are made. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **grant the waiver** to section **350-23. B (2)** passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to table the plan pending the owners' signatures being in place. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to **table the Smith/Dull Lot Line Relocation Plan** passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on 02/12/22.

The **Longshadow & 26 Stone Stand Subdivision** plan as prepared by Jeff Gunnett on behalf of Thomas Mongold was briefly discussed. The plan was not submitted in time for full review prior to tonight's meeting. Eric Banks commented that there are numerous items needing to be addressed, also noting that the Blair Township Planning Commission offered suggestions that are being considered in the review process.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to table the plan. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to **table the Longshadow & 26 Stone Stand Subdivision Plan** passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on 03/19/22.

Eric Banks commented that following a request on behalf of the **Barneywood Land Development Plan** to draw down on the financial security that is being held by the Township, a site review was conducted on November 17, 2021. The inspection report prepared by Stiffler McGraw identified partially completion, as well as completed line items for which security is being held. Eric commented that the draw-down request is consistent with the Township procedure. The Financial Security currently held is \$247,502.20. Based on the engineer's review, the financial security may be reduced to \$152,156.00. Unrelated to this development, Chairman Silveti reminded the Board that in the past, there were draw-downs to financial security that actually cost the Township. Accordingly, it is important to ensure plans are followed precisely and work completed and inspected before financial security is reduced.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve reducing** the amount of **financial security** being held for the Barneywood Land Development project to **\$152,156.00**.

Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to amend the financial security amount being held passed with a unanimous vote.

Solicitor Fanelli stated that Blair Township **Ordinance 2021-03** relating to the burial of deceased persons on private family burial grounds is complete. The Ordinance states that there

shall be no internment of human remains on private property within Blair Township. Once approved and recorded, the Ordinance will be incorporated into the Township's Code of Ordinances, both in print and electronically.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2021-03. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to **approve Ordinance No. 2021-03** relating to **the burial of deceased persons** within the Township passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Silvetti commented on information received from the **ISC** suggesting the passage of a **Municipal Reimbursement Policy Proposal**. The Township is currently locked into a five-year Pollution Reduction Plan with the ISC. Municipalities' relative annual fees are determined by population, stream lengths, and the amounts of impervious surface. He noted that he faithfully attends the monthly ISC meetings, and the proposed agreement has not been subject to discussion. He suggested it emanated from the ISC Management Committee and Technical Committee, noting once again that it had not been openly vetted prior to consideration at this most-recent regular monthly meeting. The amount of obligation that Blair Township is responsible for annually is \$89,996.88.

This amount would be subject to change if other municipalities are permitted to lessen their obligation, potentially adding to Blair Township's financial obligation. He contends this fundamentally changes the ISC Agreement of record.

Chairman Silvetti suggested the possibility of Blair Township breaking from the ISC should it be shown that its MS4 costs would be lessened. He suggested that prior to the ISC Agreement being proposed for renewal, the Supervisors may want to investigate the relative advantage of undertaking MS4 as a singular municipality. The current **ISC Agreement expires at the end of 2023**.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-07, appropriating specific expenditures, revenues, and ending balances as outlined in the proposed 2022 Blair Township Budgets. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The Resolution is necessary and indicates passage and approval of the 2022 Budgets as prepared, advertised, and reviewed. The Supervisors were assured by Betty that she is confident with the Budgets, as presented. The motion to **approve the 2022 Budgets** as reflected in **Resolution No. 2021-07** passed with a unanimous vote.

The option previously agreed to by the Board of Supervisors affecting **employees** that are **eligible for Medicare Part B coverage and Medicare Part C** or other **Medicare supplemental plans** was discussed. Affected employees are offered the option of withdrawing from the Township's group healthcare and related insurance coverages and having the cost for replacement coverages reimbursed by the Township. A motion was entered by Supervisor Amigh to reimburse affected employees for the dependent and employee portion of the Medicare Part B coverage following the employee's written notification of enrollment in Medicare, as well as for a supplement and written cancelation of the Township's employee healthcare insurance coverages, and to match for PMRS retirement purposes, that reimbursement portion for employee coverage only. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. This will result in like-coverage of the Township's healthcare insurance for the eligible employee and dependent and

cost savings to the Township. The reimbursement, according to Brad Koontz of Ritchey, Ritchey and Koontz, CPA, will be treated as "Compensation-Other Income" and taxable. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The **2021 General Fund Volunteer Fireman's Annual Donation** distribution was discussed. The Township budgeted \$20,000.00 to be distributed evenly among the four volunteer fire departments that serve Blair Township. Some, not all, of the local departments have been subject to recent bad press. Discussion indicated that the VFCs need to be held to a high standard of fiscal accountability. Chairman Silvetti suggested he would contact Brad Koontz for verbiage to draft a letter to be included with each check, requesting relative financial statements and/or audits as a responsibility to the Township for the donations of its residents' tax money. Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve the equal distribution of the 2021 Volunteer Firemen's General Fund Allocation between Duncansville, Freedom, Geeseytown, and Phoenix Volunteer Fire Companies**, inclusive of the proposed letter for **fiscal accountability**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. The motion to distribute the 2021 VFC's General Fund budget allocation evenly among the four local VFC's passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Cadwallader made a motion to **approve the renewal of the Short-Term and Long-Term Disability Agreements for 2022**. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to approve the renewal of the 2022 STD & LTD Agreements was passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Amigh made a motion to **approve the Professional Services Agreement** as provided by **Stiffler McGraw Consulting Engineers** for **2022**. Supervisor Cadwallader seconded the motion. It was noted that the Supervisors are very pleased with the services that Stiffler McGraw provides for Blair Township. Commenting also that it is a pleasure to work with Eric Banks. The motion to approve the 2022 Stiffler McGraw Professional Services Agreement passed with a unanimous vote.

Other Business:

Chairman Silvetti called for other business and public discussions.

Vice-Chairman Paul Amigh, II, presented **Certificates of Appreciation** to **Chairman Edward Silvetti** and to **Supervisor Robin Cadwallader** for their service as Blair Township Supervisor. Chairman Silvetti has served the Township in the capacity of Supervisor for eight years. Robin Cadwallader has served the Township in the capacity of Supervisor for two years. Vice-Chairman Amigh noted that the Township is very appreciative of their service.

There being no further business, 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 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betty Robertson

Secretary