

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

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATION MEETING
OF THE BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JANUARY 03, 2022**

Supervisor Paul Amigh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Secretary/Treasurer Betty Robertson proceeded with swearing-in of newly elected Supervisor, Bradley C. Germaux. Other Township staff and related personnel present were Chief of Police, Roger White; Road Foreman, John Reed; Building Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Donald Ott; Township Engineer, Eric Banks; and Township Solicitor, Patrick Fanelli.

Other attendees at the Organization Meeting included Edward Silvetti and Louis Lusk.

Supervisor Amigh led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

Supervisor Amigh declared a vacancy on the Blair Township Board of Supervisors. The vacancy is for the four-year term. The appointment term is for two years. The person appointed to fill the supervisor vacancy would need to run in the primary election in two years.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to appoint Paul R. Amigh, II, as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Paul Amigh as Chairman passed with two-yes votes.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to appoint Bradley C. Germaux as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Brad Germaux as Vice-Chairman passed with two-yes votes.

Supervisor Amigh acknowledged former Supervisor Edward Silvetti and former candidate for Supervisor Louis Lusk. When asked, both indicated that they would be willing to fill the two-year vacancy.

Solicitor Fanelli suggested several ways that vacancy could be filled, noting that the appointment could be made at this meeting or an advertised special meeting. Applications could be accepted, and interviews could be conducted. Solicitor Fanelli stated that if the appointment is not made within 30 days of today, the current Board plus the Vacancy Board member will make the appointment.

Mr. Silvetti suggested, as was done in the past that the political parties be solicited to provide candidates for the appointment.

Supervisor Germaux suggested that the results of the Primary Election count could be used to help determine the appointment. Solicitor Fanelli stated that the Supervisors are not obligated to

appoint from the list of candidates. Supervisor Germaux, reading the results of the election tally, indicated that Louis Lusk had the most votes between the three candidates, Edward Silvetti, Robin Cadwallader, and Louis Lusk, suggesting that Mr. Lusk be appointed.

Solicitor Fanelli advised the Supervisor, due to changes in the Right to Know Law, to make a motion to amend the agenda to add an item to make an appointment to fill the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors, also indicating that a roll call vote is necessary.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to amend the agenda to fill the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors. Chairman Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to amend the agenda passed with two yes votes. Roll call: Supervisor Germaux voted yes to amend the agenda. Chairman Amigh voted yes to amend the agenda.

Brad Germaux made a motion to appoint Lou Lusk to fill the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors, according to the majority of the votes tallied at the Primary Election. Chairman Amigh seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Louis J. Lusk to fill the 2-year term on the Blair Township Board of Supervisors passed with two-yes votes. Chairman Amigh noted that Mr. Lusk currently serves as LEMC for Blair Township. It was reaffirmed that he could hold the seat as Supervisor while maintaining the position of LEMC. Chairman Amigh stated that he is concerned with Mr. Lusk's Facebook page and advised him to make the page private, as some posts could be taken as controversial to the Township. Mr. Lusk agreed to make his Facebook page private.

Betty proceeded with swearing-in Louis J. Lusk as Blair Township Supervisor.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to appoint Paul Amigh as the Supervisor in charge of the Municipal Office. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to appoint Lou Lusk as the Supervisor in charge of the Highway Department. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. Chairman Amigh summarized the duties involved, also noting that the Highway Foreman, John Reed does an excellent job with the Highway Department. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. John invited Supervisor Lusk to stop in and become familiar with the Highway Crew and the duties that they perform. John commented that the annual road inspection is a good opportunity for a newly appointed Supervisor to become familiar with the Township roads. John stated that it is a rarity, but at times the Supervisor in charge of the Highway Department is needed to assist with resident inquiries and/or complaints. Supervisor Lusk indicated that would not be a problem.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to appoint Supervisor Germaux in charge of the Police Department. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. Chairman Amigh complimented Chief White for the fantastic job that he has done as Chief of the Blair Township Police Department. The motion appointing Supervisor Germaux in charge of the Police Department passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to appoint John Reed as the Road Master. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The Road Master position, defined in the PA Second Class Township Code, is to report to the Supervisor in charge of the Highway Department. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to retain Betty Robertson as Secretary. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to retain Betty Robertson as Treasurer. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to retain John Reed as Road Foreman. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to retain Louis J. Legory, David Smith, and Todd Lynn as Blair Township Road Crew staff. The part-time custodian position of the municipal office remains vacant. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to retain Roger A. White as Chief of Police. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to retain Roger C. Peacock, Jr., as Sergeant in the Blair Township Police Department. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to retain Nathan R. Hale, James R. Brantner, and Matthew T. Fleck as full-time BTPD Patrol Officers. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The entire Police Department does an excellent job for the Township. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to retain Donald R. Ott as full-time Blair Township Building Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to retain Lou Lusk as Blair Township Emergency Management Coordinator. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. Supervisor Lusk stated that he had contacted a local church as well as the VFW for possible emergency shelters should the need arise. The motion to retain Louis Lusk as LEMC passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to retain First National Bank as the Township's Bank Depository for the following accounts: General Fund, Liquid Fuels, Capital Reserve, Local Services Tax, Development Bond Account (s), Stormwater Management, Traffic Impact Fee, Act 32 2012 Account and ARPA Fund Account. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to retain Stiffler-McGraw Engineers as the Township Consulting Engineer. Chairman Amigh commented that they do an outstanding job reviewing development projects against the Township's SALDO and Stormwater Management Ordinances. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to retain Patrick Fanelli as Township Solicitor. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. Chairman Amigh indicated that Solicitor Fanelli is a wealth of knowledge and a great asset to the Township. The motion to retain Solicitor Fanelli passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to reappoint The Blair County Sanitation Administration, Luke Helsel, as the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to reappoint Paul Amigh, II, as the Supervisor Representative to the Blair County Sanitation Administration. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to appoint Brad Germaux as the Supervisor Representative to the Altoona Blair County Development Corp, noting that the meetings are generally on an ad hoc basis. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to appoint Paul Amigh, II, as Supervisor representative to the Blair County Planning Commission's Government Advisory Committee. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to reaffirm Blair Township's monthly supervisors' business meeting location of 375 Cedarcrest Drive, Duncansville. Meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Office hours remain as Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The office will be closed on approved Holidays. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. Betty requested and was granted permission to close the office at 3:00 p.m. on meeting days.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Act 511 taxes as follows:

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|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Per Capita Tax | \$ 5.00 per year |
| 2. Real Estate Transfer Tax | 1 Percent |
| 3. Earned Income Tax* | ½ of 1 Percent |
| 4. Local Services Tax** | as \$52.00 per year |

*3. Act 32 Collector-Blair County Tax Collection Bureau

**4. Per Ordinance No. 2013-01, effective 01/01/13, the LST Collector is the Blair County Tax Collection Bureau.

Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to reaffirm the 2022 Millage Rate of 0.559 Mills, as adopted through Resolution No. 2016-09. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to reaffirm the Policy that draft meeting minutes will be furnished to the Supervisors prior to subsequent meetings and approved or corrected at the Regular Meetings. Also, it was affirmed that, consistent with the IRS directive, 58.5 cents per mile, or the rate established by the IRS., whichever is less, effective 01/01/22, will be paid to employees for their use of personal vehicles while on Township business. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to set the Treasurer's Bond amount at \$1,000,000.00. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the renewal of the Municipal Office's Blanket Bond at \$50,000.00 per U.S.D.A. requirement. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. It was noted that the U.S.D.A. financed the Township Garage. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to retain Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance (PMCA) as Third-Party Building Code Inspector/Official. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. BCO Ott stated that PMCA does a fantastic job overseeing and approving building plans on behalf of the Township. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to reappoint the following Blair Township Planning Commission members, Ted Ventre, Dodie Amigh, Tim Shaw, and Brandon Carson. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. Chairman Amigh affirmed the need to fill a vacancy on the Commission. He noted that they meet once a month, and a stipend of \$25.00 is paid to the Commission members in attendance. The motion to reappoint the named BTPC members passed with two-yes votes. Chairman Amigh abstained, stating a conflict of interest as his wife, Dodie serves as Secretary of the Blair Township Planning Commission.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to reaffirm Resolution No. 2000-107 to maintain consistency with the process Blair Township has followed in handling the payment of invoices from vendors. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The Township will pay vendor invoices twice monthly. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to reappoint Eric Prendergast to the Blair Township Vacancy Board. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to reappoint Betty Robertson as Blair Township's Primary Voting Delegate to the Act 32 EIT Tax Collection Committee. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Blair Township Police Department's participation in the Aggressive Driving/BUPA Program. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion.

Chief White commended the grant program noting the grant money is provided by the State and administered through the Blair County District Attorney's Office. He commented that it is an excellent program based on reportable crashes and provides funding for reimbursement of overtime wages paid for traffic enforcement. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to reaffirm Resolution No. 2006-16, implementing the National Incident Management System (N.I.M.S.). Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to reaffirm implementation and participation in the MS4 ISC (Intermunicipal Stormwater Committee) program, appointing Louis Lusk as representative for Blair Township to the ISC. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. Chairman Amigh reminded Supervisor Lusk that the duties involved with being on this committee are very diverse and require, at times, an aggressive attitude on behalf of the Township's interests. The meetings are held at the Logan Township Municipal Building on the third Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Supervisor Lusk indicated that the meetings would not present a problem. The motion to appoint Louis Lusk as the Township's ISC representative passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to appoint Chairman Amigh as the alternate representative to the ISC. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to appoint Paul R. Amigh, II, as representative to the Blair Region Code Administration Committee/UCC Board of Appeals. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to appoint Ritchey, Ritchey & Koontz to complete the 2020 DCED annual audit. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. Ritchey, Ritchey & Koontz will perform the audit in lieu of the elected auditors. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to reappoint Betty Robertson as the Right-to-Know Officer. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to adjourn the 2022 Organization Meeting. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Betty Robertson
Secretary/Treasurer