

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

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF MARCH 08, 2022

Chairman Paul Amigh, II, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

Township elected officials and personnel present included Chairman Paul Amigh, II; Supervisor Brad Germaux; Supervisor Lou Lusk; Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Robertson; Chief of Police, Roger White; Building Code and Ordinance Officer, Donald Ott; representing Stiffler McGraw; Eric Banks; and Township Solicitor, Patrick Fanelli. Road Foreman, John Reed was absent.

Donald Corle and Ed Falce attended on behalf of 2A-Second Amendment Sanctuary Referendum discussion.

Public comment is welcome and invited in accordance with the Township policy and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Right-To-Know provisions and the Sunshine Act.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting of February 08, 2022. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes of February 08, 2022, Monthly 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 \$33,379.08; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities for the month of February totaled \$61,554.05; Liquid Fuels, \$81,396.98; Capital Reserve, \$1,575.74; and Local Services Tax, \$5,428.96.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve total February disbursements in the amount of \$183,334.81. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to approve the total February disbursements in the amount of \$183,334.81 passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for February 2022 of \$1,338,171.82. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the "Specific Services Investment Account Funds" Treasury Balance for February 2022 of \$120,995.80. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh reaffirmed that the purpose of Mr. Corle and Mr. Falce' attendance was for agenda item #6, 2A-Second Amendment Sanctuary Referendum. Mr. Corle affirmed their purpose. Chairman Amigh proceeded with the agenda.

Eric Banks commented on the **Longshadow & 26 Stone Stand Subdivision** Plan as prepared by Jeff Gunnett on behalf of Thomas Mongold. To date, the review letter from Stiffler McGraw of December 16, 2021, has not been addressed. The BCCD/DEP issued an Incompleteness Letter for the NPDES Permit Application. The engineer for the developer has submitted a 95-day extension request, outlining the reason for extension as BTW&SA sewer design, pending NPDES approval, DEP Planning Modules and PA DOT H.O.P. for the utility crossing. Eric recommended that the Supervisors table the plan.

Supervisor Lusk made a motion to approve the 95-day Municipal Review Extension. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion to approve the **Longshadow & 26 Stone Stand Subdivision 95-day extension** passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to table the plan. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion to **table** the **Longshadow & 26 Stone Stand Subdivision Plan** passed with two yes votes. The municipal review period will end on 06/22/2022.

Eric Banks stated that no new information was received and there is nothing new to report on the **Mattern Woods Subdivision Plan** as prepared by John Sepp, P.E., President of Penn Terra Engineering on behalf of Jeff Long. The municipal review period will end May 13, 2022.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to table the plan. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **table** the **Mattern Woods Subdivision Plan** passed with a unanimous vote.

Eric Banks introduced the **G. G. Holliday Land 2002, LP Subdivision Plan** as prepared by Andrew Ebersole, P.E., of Keller Engineers. The property is in front of the Martins Plaza with frontage on Patchway Road. Lot 17, Parcel C is being divided into two lots, Lot 17A and Lot 17B, a 1-acre lot and a 1.4-acre lot. BCPC review is received. Eric indicated there are no issues with the plan and recommended the Supervisor consider approving the subdivision. The municipal review period will end on June 11, 2022.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the **G. G. Holliday Land 2002, LP Subdivision Plan**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** the subdivision plan passed with a unanimous vote.

Andrew and Jessica Sylvester submitted a setback variance request to construct an inground swimming pool, on their property at 1105 Newry Lane, Duncansville. The request is for a 3-foot side variance. One neighboring property owner is affected and has signed the application agreeing to the variance request. Solicitor Fanelli has reviewed the variance and is fine with how it is written. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Sylvester setback variance request. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** the **Andrew and Jessica Sylvester setback variance** request passed with a unanimous vote.

Dennis Estep, **Geeseytown VFC**, is requesting the Supervisor's consider an **Advanced Coverage Request**. Mr. Estep was not present. The Board agreed to discuss the request at a future meeting when Mr. Estep is available. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **table** the

request from the **Geeseytown Volunteer Fire Company for Advanced Coverage**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to table the request passed with a unanimous vote.

Don Corle introduced himself, stating he is an officer of the Tea Party and that he is representing the **Blair County Second Amendment Coalition**. He commented that the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that was presented in February is not sufficient and that it “has no teeth.” He noted that the Commissioner’s Meeting was attended on 3/8/22 and a request to amend the agreement previously passed was presented to the Commissioners. Chairman Amigh stated his concern with the revised IGA. He commented that Item No. 4 concerns him as he is to represent the best interest of the Township, as well as the residents. He commented that if Item No. 4 remains, he would be agreeing to the Township being sued if the referendum were to be challenged. He reiterated that he, as well as the other Supervisors, are pro Second Amendment, but the revised IGA would place undue pressure on the Township. Solicitor Fanelli confirmed that each of the individual municipalities must agree on the same Intergovernmental Agreement. He stated that it is a policy board decision. The way the revision is drafted gives third-party a standing. Chief White agreed noting that it is not the law-abiding citizens that cause concern. He questioned who would be backing the Police Departments if the IGA were challenged. It was agreed that the revised IGA is more confusing than clear. Solicitor Fanelli noted that the option to support what the Supervisors agreed to put in place in February can stay in place if they are willing to withstand the scrutiny. Mr. Corle insisted that the revised draft as prepared by the Coalition is what the people want. No vote was taken, this was simply a discussion.

Chairman Amigh addressed a recent garbage hauling/pickup complaint. Officer Ott reported that Mr. Rampulla has filed complaints with the Township due to the noise caused by the garbage trucks hauling twice weekly in the early morning hours. The Solid Waste Ordinance clearly indicates specific hours, 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Due to the number of hauling companies and the Township density, it would be impossible to monitor and/or to issue citations. Scenarios were presented which included conflict with hauling companies, school buses, etc. Following a lengthy conversation, the Supervisors agreed to amend the Ordinance. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to authorize and direct Solicitor Fanelli to **prepare and advertise an amendment** to the **Solid Waste Ordinance** 331-9 G. removing the specific hour requirements. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to authorize Solicitor Fanelli to advertise and amend the Solid Waste Ordinance passed with a unanimous vote. The amended Ordinance will be ready for adoption at the April Meeting.

Kathy Brown, custodial service applicant, was interviewed and a background check was performed, with no findings. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the appointment of Kathy Brown as custodian. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. Ms. Brown will clean the general office and police department on a bi-weekly basis at \$75.00 and will receive a 1099 for her services annually. The motion to appoint **Kathy Brown** as **Custodian** passed with a unanimous vote.

The annual renewal of the Municipal Government Election Polling Place Agreement between Blair Township and the Blair County Board of Elections was received from the County. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Polling Place Agreement. Supervisor Lusk

seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** the 2022 renewal of the **Municipal Government Election Polling Place Agreement** passed with a unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2022-04, a requirement of the Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant Application, was presented for passage. A grant application in the amount of \$138,775.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to purchase a John Deere 2 WD Cab/Mid-mount Boom Mower is being applied for by the Township. Sherry Socie of the Blair County Planning Commission is helping the Township prepare the grant application. Supervisor Lusk made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-04. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion to **approve Resolution No. 2022-04** and apply for the **Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant** passed with a unanimous vote.

Christopher Kriedler of 421 Elliot Street has offered to fill the vacancy on the Blair Township Planning Commission Board. Supervisor Germaux make a motion to approve the appointment of **Chris Kriedler** to the **Blair Township Planning Commission**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to approve the appointment passed with a unanimous vote.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Chairman Amigh and Supervisor Germaux attended the March 2nd **Blair Township Water & Sewer Authority Board** Meeting. The meeting call to order was delayed due to the lack of a quorum and began at 7:45 p.m. The Supervisors attendance was once again in support of Tracey Snowberger. Ms. Snowberger had voiced complaints in January with the Township noting allegations of mistreatment and unfair billing practices by the Authority. Following review and discussion, the BTW&SA indicated that they would provide the new grinder pump and would charge Ms. Snowberger solely for the labor cost of installation which amounts to \$112.00. The Supervisors were pleased with the outcome but indicated there are issues remaining within the BTW&SA that relate to record keeping and conduct that need to be resolved.

Betty has requested, and received, input from the Police, Highway and Code Departments for expenditure ideas for The **American Rescue Plan Funding**. The Supervisors have agreed to offer spending suggestions. The full allocation of the ARPA money is to be received in July 2022. Once all funds are received, spending suggestions will be compiled. The Supervisors elected in February to take a “standard allowance” to expend the ARP funds on general government services throughout the life of the ARP program. The due date for the first reporting period is April 30, 2022.

Other Business:

The **Blair County Planning Commission** is requesting a representative from Blair Township to participate in the Hazard Mitigation Committee. Betty was instructed to contact the BCPC and get the meeting specifics. Chairman Amigh confirmed that once the dates and times are known that a supervisor appointee would attend.

Eric Banks commented on a conversation stemming from the Blair Township Planning Commission Meeting. He noted that the **ISC** had engaged in preliminary engineering work for a

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streambank stabilization project. The purpose is to reduce the sediment load and create floodplain reconnection.

Chairman Amigh called for other business. There was nothing additional to report.

There being no further business, Supervisor Germaux made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betty Robertson

Secretary