

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

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF JUNE 14, 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; Road Foreman, John Reed; representing Stiffler McGraw, Eric Banks; and Township Solicitor, Patrick Fanelli.

Visitors: Hunter Link, representing Reservoir Road property; John Castle, developer, Mezzy Court Subdivision; Charles Colony and Brian Quarello, representing the Henry Subdivision; and Steve Metzler.

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 May 10, 2022. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of May: Payroll \$34,404.57; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities \$76,956.85; Liquid Fuels \$163.62; Capital Reserve \$3,137.56; Local Services Tax, \$3,493.55; and Fire Insurance Escrow \$6,832.10 (closing Shaw and Defibaugh accounts).

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the total May disbursements in the amount of \$124,988.25. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for May 2022 of \$1,718,006.47. 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 May 2022 of \$90,112.09. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh called for Public Comment:

Hunter Link, Reservoir Road property owner, asked for specifics relating to the proposed Reservoir Road sewer project. He stated he has an approved BCSA sand mound plan, but depending on the time frame for public sewage, is unsure of the action he should take. He also noted that his property is in close proximity to connection to the Frankstown line. Chairman

Amigh estimated two years before the Reservoir Road project is underway. He advised Mr. Link to contact Tim McGaw, BTW&SA Manager, to discuss his concerns and to get a better estimate of the proposed sewage project time frame.

There being no further public comment, Chairman Amigh proceeded with the agenda.

The **Longshadow & 26 Stone Stand Subdivision** Plan developer, Thomas Mongold, is requesting a 95-day review period extension, noting that DEP has requested an additional wetland investigation. The review comments of December 16, 2021, remain unanswered.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to grant the 95-day extension. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **grant the 95-day clock extension** passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to table the plan. Supervisor Lusk 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 09/25/2022.

No new information was received for the **Mattern Woods Subdivision**. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to table the Mattern Woods Subdivision plan. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **table the Mattern Woods Subdivision** passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on 08/16/22.

The **Mezzy Court Subdivision** plan as prepared by Todd Beiswenger on behalf of John Castle was discussed. The developer is requesting a waiver to Section 350-24 plan scale. A Shared Roadway Maintenance Agreement is in the process of being reviewed by the Solicitor. The side lot reference is removed from the plan and description.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the request to waive Section 350-24. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **approve the request to waive Section 350-24** plan scale passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **table the Mezzy Court Subdivision** plan. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to table the plan passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end 08/13/2022.

Eric Banks introduced the **Wilbur and Evelyn Henry Subdivision Plan**, located on Chimney Rocks Road, consisting of two lots being subdivided into three, creating parcels B, C, and D. The three individual lots are serviced by one well. The developer is requesting a waiver to Section 350-36.C due to an existing shed encroachment into the side building setback. Mr. Quarello noted the shed is in disarray and is slated to be removed. A pavilion is also in the setback but does not require a waiver because there are no sides. The well situation will require a maintenance agreement for Parcel(s) B and C, as the owners are family and intend to share the well. The engineer is recommending financial security be placed in the amount of 110% of the cost estimate presented for installation of a well on Parcel D.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve** the waiver to Section 350-36.C setback encroachment. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to approve the waiver request passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to conditionally approve the Henry Subdivision Plan contingent on the engineering comments of June 6, 2022, being addressed, the Shared Well Agreement between Parcel B & C being in place, and financial security provided to the Township in the amount of 110% of the estimated cost to remove the existing well lines and construct the new well on Parcel D. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion to **conditionally approve the Wilbur and Evelyn Subdivision Plan** passed with a unanimous vote.

Eric Banks reported on the outcome of the **Police Department HVAC Bids**. Four HVAC contractors were contacted to bid. Three contractors attended the pre-bid conference at the Municipal Office. Two contractors declined bidding. McCarl's Preferred Services bid \$12,611.00. The bid forms completed were McCarl's standard contract forms.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve** the low bid as provided by **McCarl's Preferred Services** in the amount of **\$12,611.00, contingent** on the **appropriate paperwork and proper documentation**, as required in the bid documents, being submitted to Stiffler McGraw. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to conditionally accept the bid passed with a unanimous vote.

Trina Illig, **CDBG Grant** Administrator, confirmed in email that seventy-seven surveys remain unaccounted for on the **Reservoir Road Sewer Project**. The low to moderate income rate is at 48%. It is imperative that the surveys be returned in order to secure the use of CDBG funding for the Reservoir Road Sewer Project. The funding will lessen the costs for existing and future BTW&SA customers.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to assign Trina and Betty to establish a date to go door to door to try to persuade **cooperation in collecting the remaining surveys**. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The **2022 CDBG Allocation** is \$103,237.00 less 18% Blair County Administration. The expendable balance is \$84,657.00. The first **Public Hearing** is scheduled for July 12th at the Municipal Office at 5:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to participate.

Juneteenth, the newest national holiday, was discussed. On June 19th, 1865, the US Army informed African Americans in Texas of their freedom from slavery, nearly two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. In 2021 Congress passed a law to make **Juneteenth a federal holiday**.

Chairman Amigh made a motion to add Juneteenth to the Township's current list of paid holidays, effective 06/14/22. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. Due to the Collective Bargaining Agreement, this will currently affect the non-uniformed employees, but will be a matter of discussion during the upcoming Collective Bargaining negotiations. The motion to

approve Juneteenth as a **paid holiday** for the non-uniformed employees passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh addressed Tim McGaw's request to have an **alternate BTW&SA Board Member**, due to lack of quorum issues. Jennifer Case, Government Relations Liaison, PA Municipal Authorities offered municipal authority regulations indicating that an alternate is not permitted on an Authority Board. The Supervisors have the right to increase the number of Board members from five to seven. This would also result in greater expenses to the Authority. The Supervisors would need to adopt a Resolution increasing the number of members, which would then be forwarded to the State for their approval. The majority of authority board members are to be Township residents. The Supervisors agreed that they would interview any applicants.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to table the discussion. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **table** the **BTW&SA** discussion passed with a unanimous vote.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Solicitor Fanelli forwarded the draft **Harvest Glen Developer's Agreement** to S & A Homes for review. To date, no response was received.

Chairman Amigh was contacted by the **Verizon Wireless Government Representative** and will report on the possibility of cell phone upgrades at a later meeting.

The **IRS** has increased the mileage reimbursement rate from 58.5 cents to **62.5 cents per mile**, effective July 1, 2022.

An **Executive Session** was held following the May 10th meeting to discuss personnel issues. No decisions were made.

Solicitor Fanelli reported on the draft **Franchise Agreement** prepared for **Comcast**. He noted that the Agreement is fairly standard. He modified it to deal with service standards to customers, also addressing the items that make up gross revenues. He added some provisions for free service to the Township and for a government channel. He expanded some definitions in accordance with the current Atlantic Broadband/Breezeline Franchise Agreement. Little negotiation is to be expected since the draft is very consistent with the existing Atlantic Broadband/Breezeline Agreement. The Supervisors instructed Solicitor Fanelli to forward the draft Franchise Agreement to Comcast in order to get the negotiation process started.

Chief White stated that he has not had any further contact by the **Borough of Duncansville** with regard to **police services**. The Board agreed that, if approached, Chief White could enter into further discussion with the Borough.

Kami Bilek was introduced. Kami is holding a temporary/to hire position as Administrative Assistant through Advantage Resource Group. Betty indicated that she could not be more pleased with Kami. She is doing an excellent job and goes above and beyond any expectations.

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

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 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betty Robertson

Secretary