

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

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF MAY 09, 2023**

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 included Chairman Paul Amigh, II; Vice-President Brad Germaux; Supervisor, Lou Lusk; Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Robertson; Police Chief, Roger White; Road Foreman, John Reed; Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Kami Bilek; and representing Stiffler McGraw, Eric Banks, and Solicitor Patrick Fanelli, Esq.

Visitors: John Castle, representing Mezy Court.

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 April 11, 2023. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed with a unanimous vote.

Disbursements for the month of April: Payroll \$37,217.62; General Fund disbursements and payroll liabilities \$88,147.98; Liquid Fuels \$286.90; Capital Reserve \$6,651.90; Local Services Tax, \$1,652.00, Stormwater Management \$22,499.74.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the total April disbursements in the amount of \$156,456.14. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the Treasury Balance for April 2023 of \$1,901,771.13. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the "Specific Service Investment Account Funds" Treasury Balance for April 2023 of \$128,002.45. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Amigh invited public comment. There was no public comment at this time.

The **Mezy Court Subdivision Plan** as prepared by Todd Beiswenger on behalf of John Castle was discussed. John Castle was present. Eric Banks reported that the Blair Township Planning Commission recommended conditionally approving the plan pending the developer's agreement and the outstanding Engineers comments from the May 1<sup>st</sup> letter. Eric reported that the outstanding issues pertaining to the maintenance of the swale can be addressed in the developer's shared driveway agreement. Additional outstanding items include financial security and recording.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to conditionally approve the **Mezy Court Subdivision plan**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **conditionally approve the Mezy Court Subdivision plan** passed with a unanimous vote.

The **Green Bean Coffee House and Headquarters** as prepared by Adam Long of Keller Engineering. The Land Development re-submission has not been received to date. Eric reported that the DEP waiver may be signed. He suggests, based on the Blair Township Planning Commission's recommendation, to table the plan.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve** signing Section D of the **DEP Sewage Planning Exemption**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **table the Green Bean Coffee House and Headquarters Land Development** plan. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on June 17, 2023.

The **Michelone Lot Merge plan** as prepared by Jay Ebersole of Keller Engineering. This is a **Lot Merge** of two (2) adjoining parcels of land along Chimney Rocks Road. Blair County Planning Commission has reviewed the plan and submitted their letter of review. The Blair Township Planning Commission recommended approval of the lot merge plan.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve the Michelone Lot Merge plan**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The **Paul H. Snowberger, Jr. Non-Build Subdivision** plan as prepared by Martin Biesinger of Geotech, Inc. was discussed. The property is located along River Road. There are currently two (2) parcels. The plan is to divide a portion of the second parcel. Eric reported that the Blair County Planning Commission is currently reviewing the plan. He also stated that the developer has submitted a DEP Request for Planning Waiver and Non-Build Declaration. Eric stated that the ground would need contoured if they wish to submit a planning waiver. The Blair Township Planning Commission requested approval conditional on the review comments of April 6<sup>th</sup> being addressed, which includes the outstanding BCPC review. Eric recommends approval of the DEP Waiver.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve the DEP Non-build Waiver**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **table the Snowberger Non-Build Subdivision** plan. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The municipal review period will end on August 12, 2023.

Three bids were requested, and two bids were received for the **2023 Line Painting Project**. Alpha Space Control, Inc. presented a bid of **\$15,761.95**. Heaton Construction presented a bid of **\$25,427.60**.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve the bid from Alpha Space Control, Inc. in the amount of \$15,761.95**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Bids were received for **Stone Bids** for the **2023-2024 season**. A bid package was sent to DTA LP; However, they did not submit a bid. Sealed bids were opened during the Supervisors Meeting. Grannas Bros Stone & Lime Co., Inc., Ligonier Stone & Lime, New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. and Windber Stone, LLC all provided bids.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to conditionally approve the bid submitted by Grannas Bros., for the Type 2 Anti-skid, provided it meets the standard of the Road Foreman. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **conditionally approve** the bid provided by **Grannas Bros., for Type 2 Anti-skid** at the delivered price of \$21.00 per Ton passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the bid submitted by Grannas Bros. for the 2A Sub-base. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** the **bid** provided by **Grannas Bros. for 2A Sub-base** at the delivered price of \$13.50 per Ton passed with a unanimous vote.

Supervisor Germaux made a motion to approve the bid submitted by New Enterprise Stone & Lime for Aashto #1. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** the **bid** provided by **New Enterprise for Aashto #1** at \$17.30 per Ton passed with a unanimous vote.

**PA Tourism Signing Trust – TODS Application** to approve the placement of signage along I-99 Southbound Lane at Exit 23 for Leighty's Farm Market/Greenhouse. The sign will be placed within the Township limits. There is no cost to the Township for placement or maintenance. Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **approve the placement of signage at exit 23 along I-99 in Blair Township**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Resolution No. 2023-05** requesting a change to the **PMRS Defined Benefit Plan Section 1.23**. The plan is being changed to include Special Bonus Payments. The Unused Accrued Vacation and Sick Leave payments are reiterated as eligible compensation. Chairman Amigh made a motion to **approve the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-05**. Supervisor Germaux seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Under Informational Items, Eric Banks updated the Board on the progress of Grant Funding **Brentwood Stormwater Improvement**/flood mitigation program. Eric reported that the grant submission will be complete following receipt of State Representative Jim Gregory's letter.

No new information has been received regarding the **Local Share Statewide Grant** as awarded for the new mower for the Highway Department. The Township is waiting for the State's formal notification in order to sign the purchase order for the purchase of the new mower.

The **Mountain View Home Community Center** was discussed. Solicitor Fanelli stated that he will prepare the deed. Following the Township's receipt of outstanding review fees by the adjoining property owner, the Township can accept the land by dedication.

Other business to be discussed:

Supervisor Lusk reported on his attendance at the **2023 PSATS Convention** in Hershey, PA. Supervisor Lusk stated that he obtained a great deal of information on programs and issues affecting municipalities across Pennsylvania. Supervisor Lusk reported on availability of grants and loans available for municipal projects from **PennVest** funding from the Federal Government plans to provide over One billion dollars over the next five years in grants and loans for stormwater projects.

Supervisor Lusk also reported on the Volunteer Firefighter issues that are affecting municipalities across Pennsylvania. He reported that there is a shortage of volunteer firefighters across the state, a shortage of

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approximately 6,000 volunteer firefighters, and townships are looking at ways to recruit and reward volunteers. He stated that while Blair Township does not have a fire department, the Township relies heavily on volunteers from departments outside of the Township and would like to look into ways to promote young people to volunteer.

Supervisor Lusk indicated that he would like clarification on **Blair Township Police Standard Operating Procedures** based on questions he had after participating in a class at the PSATS conference. Chief White reported that the Township works with Lexipol to provide a policy manual to smaller police departments that meets the best practice standards in Pennsylvania. He reported that policies are continually upgraded, and when policy changes are made, Lexipol provides the update along with training and testing for the officers. Chief White stated that the prior policy manual for the PD had 41 policies prior to going with Lexipol. Due to the Lexipol program the department now has approximately 125 policies that apply to the BTPD. He feels confident that the policies and procedures adequately cover the officers and the Township from litigation.

Due to the anticipated July retirement of Chief White, the Supervisors discussed the procedure to fill his position. There currently is no formal policy in place that specifies promoting from within or advertising. Chief White was hired to fill the position in 2011 through the process of advertising. Following the discussion, Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **advertise** for the **Chief of Police** position. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion to **advertise** passed unanimously.

The **US Department of the Interior/Fish & Wildlife Service** is submitting an application to **DEP** for the **Poplar Run Stream Restoration Project**. No formal action is required.

With no other business, Supervisor Germaux made a motion to **adjourn the monthly meeting**. Supervisor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betty Robertson

Secretary