

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT Michael Hudak, President
Thomas Nolan, Vice-President
Pat Breslin, Commissioner
Howard Kutzler, Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT Malissa Davis, Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT James Broughal, Township Solicitor
Melissa Shafer, Township Manager
Doug Bruce, Assistant Township Manager
Nathan Jones, Planning Director

CALL TO ORDER President Hudak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE The Honorable Judge Jennifer Sletvold, Northampton County Court of Common Pleas, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Howard Kutzler. President Hudak welcomed Commissioner Kutzler.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

**BARRY ROTH
4323 CHETWIN TERR.
APPROVAL OF** Mr. Roth asked if the road between Township Line Road and North Commerce Way was being repaired. Mrs. Shafer, Township Manager said once she gets a price from the contractor, she will bring it before the board. Mr. Roth asked if a temporary no left turn sign could be placed on the corner of Christian Springs Road and Route 191 – Nazareth Pike. Mrs. Shafer noted that Route 191 is a state road. President Hudak asked Mrs. Shafer to contact the state. Mr. Roth thanked Mrs. Shafer for getting the township map out.

MINUTES Upon motion (Breslin-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2017 regular public meeting and the minutes of the July 31, 2017 special public meeting as presented. The motion passed 3-0. Ms. Davis was absent. Mr. Kutzler abstained.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE NO. 07-17 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM BY AMENDING CHAPTER 252, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE IX, RESTRICTIONS ON ATV'S, BY PLACING CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON THE OPERATION OF WHEELED, ALL-TERRAIN, OFF-ROAD, AND SIMILAR TYPES OF VEHICLES (ATVS") WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES OF BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH

Upon motion (Nolan-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to adopt Ordinance No. 07-17 amending Chapter 252, Vehicles and

Traffic, by adding a new Article IX, Restrictions on ATV's, by placing certain restrictions on the operation of wheeled, all-terrain, off-road, and similar types of vehicles (ATVs") within the municipal boundaries of Bethlehem Township and repealing all ordinances inconsistent herewith. Ms. Davis was absent.

**SUBDIVISIONS &
LAND DEVELOPMENT**

**RESOLUTION R059-17 A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF THE
ANGELIC SISTERS OF ST. PAUL SITE PLAN**

Nathan Jones, Planning Director said that this was a procedural vote. He said it was originally passed as a land development plan but was determined by the applicant that it was a site plan and should be re-passed as such.

Upon motion (Nolan-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R059-17 a granting conditional approval of the Angelic Sisters of St. Paul Site Plan as presented. Ms. Davis was absent.

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION R058-17 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OFFICER FRANK HEGEDUS TO
ATTEND BASIC SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER TRAINING OCTOBER
16-20, 2017 IN MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT**

Upon motion (Nolan-Kutzler), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R058-17 authorizing Officer Frank Hegedus to attend Basic School Resource Officer training October 16-20, 2017 in Meriden, Connecticut. Ms. Davis was absent.

**MOTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

**MOTION A MOTION AUTHORIZING A PENNSYLVANIA UNIFORM
CONSTRUCTION CODE BUILDING CODE APPEAL APPLICATION TO
THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP BUILDING CODE OF APPEALS BOARD
RELATED TO INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC BATHROOMS IN THE
MUNICIPAL PARK**

President Hudak stated that permanent bathrooms at the North Forty would be expensive and that trailered portable bathrooms were being considered as they are an economical and can be transported to other areas in the township as needed. He suggested that the motion be tabled so that the other board members can research further. Mr. Nolan said the trailered portable bathrooms were a viable option but would still like to proceed with the motion to pursue the appeals board. Mr. Kutzler said he would like to seek the opinion of the appeals board subject to this fall's budget discussion. Mrs. Shafer said the only cost to the township is the attorney and advertising fees.

Upon motion (Nolan-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to

approve a motion authorizing a Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code Building Code Appeal Application to the Bethlehem Township Building Code of Appeals Board related to installation of public bathrooms in the municipal park as presented. The motion passed 3-1-0. Mr. Hudak opposed. Ms. Davis was absent.

MOTION

A MOTION APPROVING CHANGE REQUEST NO. 1 FROM BRACY CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,915.00

Upon motion (Nolan-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve a motion approving Change Request No. 1 from Bracy Construction Inc. for the Bethlehem Township Community Center improvement project in the amount of \$2,915.00 as presented. Ms. Davis was absent.

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC OPINION POLL

Mrs. Shafer said she researched 3 survey companies and found National Citizen Survey to be the best fit. She said they work with thousands of municipalities nationwide and have a diversified template. President Hudak said this would be another avenue to determine whether or not the residents want to continue to support the library. Mr. Kutzler asked if the price of the survey was included in the 2017 budget. Mrs. Shafer said there was money in the Planning Department's budget to pay for it.

Upon motion (Nolan-Kutzler), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve a motion authorizing the township manager to enter into an agreement with National Citizen Survey to conduct a public opinion poll as presented. Ms. Davis was absent.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS

PO 20171111 – DEEP RUN AQUATIC SERVICIES INC. – BTCC – \$23,975.00
PO 20171693 – A1 TRAFFIC CONTROL LLC – PW – \$25,054.20
PO 20171694 – OLD DOMINION BRUSH CO. – PW – \$46,642.90

Upon motion (Kutzler-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Purchase Orders PO 20171111 and PO 20171693 as presented.

Upon motion (Kutzler-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted by roll call vote to approve Purchase Orders PO 20171694 as presented. The motion failed 2-2-0. Mr. Hudak and Mr. Breslin opposed. Ms. Davis was absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

TAX CREDITS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Mr. Nolan said there is a sample ordinance that allows for tax credits and benefits for active volunteers. Mrs. Shafer said that Act 172 of 2016 provides municipalities with the option to offer a real estate or earned income tax credit to active members of volunteer fire companies through a volunteer service credit program. President Hudak said would be in support of the tax credit but needs more information in order to make a sound decision. Mr. Kutzler agreed with President Hudak. He said that the township is blessed to have 2 volunteer fire companies and appreciates staff for

bringing this before the board.

MOTION

President Hudak asked for a nomination to fill the vacancy on the Fire Relations Committee.

Upon motion (Nolan-Breslin), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to appoint Commission Howard Kutzler to the Fire Relations Committee. Ms. Davis was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Shafer invited the public to look at the artwork done by a local artist on the wall in the back of the meeting room. She said she had posted a call out on Facebook seeking local artists who were interested in displaying their work specific to Bethlehem Township. Mrs. Shafer said the artwork would be part of a floating gallery and available for purchase.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, upon motion (Nolan-Kutzler), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. Ms. Davis was absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Zapata
Recording Secretary