

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
APRIL 16, 2018**

MEMBERS PRESENT Michael Hudak, President
Thomas Nolan, Vice-President
Malissa Davis, Commissioner
John Gallagher, Commissioner
John Merhottein, Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT James Broughal, Township Solicitor
Doug Bruce, Township Manager
Nathan Jones, Planning & Economic Development Director

CALL TO ORDER President Hudak called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

**ROY ROTH
4323 CHETWIN TERR.** Mr. Roth asked the board to invest in a study on department efficiency. He was also concerned about the street lights lawsuit and asked if anyone was held accountable. Solicitor Broughal said the people responsible were prosecuted and found guilty.

**MATT VRABEL
4129 WILSON ST.** Mr. Vrabel said he is looking for solutions to end the littering on Farmersville Road and Sculac Drive. He said that a group of neighbors had cleaned up both sides of the road. Mr. Vrabel asked the board to consider putting up “no dumping” signs and setting up fines. President Hudak agreed that something needs to be done but said it would be up to the board to direct staff. President Hudak thanked Mr. Vrabel for taking the time to clean up the litter. Ms. Davis thanked him as well.

**AL ROBERTSON
3600 CHIPMAN CT.** Mr. Robertson said he is concerned about the Easton Avenue culvert being in disrepair. President Hudak informed him that the property owners are responsible and that repairs are scheduled to begin on May 1st.

**RAY GENCARELLI
4905 CHELSEA DR.** Mr. Gencarelli said that Wagner Drive and Chelsea Drive seems to be a throughway to Freemansburg Avenue. He said he has 3 young children and asked the board to consider putting a stop sign at the corner of Chelsea Drive and Wagner Drive. Solicitor Broughal informed him that stop signs cannot be used for speed controls and a study would need to be done in order to determine if a stop sign is warranted.

PRESENTATION

RESOLUTION R040-18 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CURTIS ROBERT FRANKENFIELD IN APPRECIATION FOR THE MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM

Upon motion (Nolan-Hudak), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R035-18 recognizing Curtis Robert Frankenfield in appreciation for the many years of dedicated service to the Township of Bethlehem.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2018 regular public meeting as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

**BETHLEHEM
TOWNSHIP
POLLUTION
REDUCTION PLAN**

Monica Wall from T&M Associates explained that Bethlehem Township is required to obtain permits from Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection in order to discharge water from storm sewers into rivers. The permit which is called an NPDES permit, is set to expire on October 31, 2018. In order to get a five year renewal, the Township's stormwater engineer is required to make a Pollution Reduction Plan presentation.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE 08-18

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5, CODE ENFORCEMENT;
PART 3, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE; OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
BETHLEHEM CODE OF ORDINANCES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ADOPTING THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
CODE, WITH CERTAIN ADDITIONS, INSERTIONS, DELETIONS, AND
CHANGES THERETO**

Upon motion (Gallagher-Davis), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Ordinance 08-18 amending Chapter 5, Code Enforcement; Part 3, Property Maintenance Code; of the Township of Bethlehem Code of Ordinances, for the purpose of adopting the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code, with certain additions, insertions, deletions, and changes thereto.

**SUBDIVISIONS &
LAND
DEVELOPMENT**

RESOLUTION R041-18

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING AN EXTENSION OF THE
PRELIMINARY/FINAL APPROVAL FOR THE BRODHEAD ROAD
DISTRIBUTION CENTER**

Upon motion (Nolan-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R041-18 granting an extension of the preliminary/final approval for the Brodhead Road Distribution Center.

**RESOLUTIONS OF
THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION R042-18

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MATT LUBITZ AS BETHLEHEM
TOWNSHIP ZONING OFFICER**

Upon motion (Merhottein-Davis), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R042-18 appointing Matt Lubitz as Bethlehem

Township Zoning Officer.

**MOTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP AND MCTISH KUNKEL AND ASSOCIATES FOR CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION OF THE FREEMANSBURG AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT, CONDITIONED ON AGREEMENT BY ST. LUKE'S UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL NETWORK

Upon motion (Nolan-Davis), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve a motion authorizing an extension of the agreement between Bethlehem Township and McTish Kunkel and Associates for construction inspection of the Freemansburg Avenue bridge project, conditioned on agreement by St. Luke's University Hospital Network.

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE NO. 02-14 TO REVISE THE TERMS OF THE 2014 GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE TO REDUCE THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT BEING REPAYED; TO MODIFY THE REPAYMENT SCHEDULE; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION THEREOF

Upon motion (Merhottein-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to table a motion authorizing the township manager to advertise an ordinance authorizing the amendment of Ordinance No. 02-14 to revise the terms of the 2014 general obligation note to reduce the principal amount being repaid; to modify the repayment schedule; and authorizing execution thereof.

MOTION

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE NO. 06-17 TO REVISE THE TERMS OF THE 2017 GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE TO CONFIRM THE DRAW PERIOD OF THE NOTE AND AUTHORIZATION EXECUTION THEREOF

Upon motion (Merhottein-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to table a motion authorizing the township manager to advertise an ordinance authorizing the amendment of Ordinance No. 06-17 to revise the terms of the 2017 general obligation note to confirm the draw period of the note and authorization execution thereof.

**APPROVAL OF BILL
AGENDA, OF APRIL
11, 2018**

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the Bill Agenda of April 11, 2018.

**APPROVAL OF
PURCHASE ORDERS**

**PO 20180830 – The Pidcock Company – Planning – \$6,700.00
PO 20180858 – Celebration Fireworks Inc. – BTCC – \$6,500.00
PO 20180905 – Amazing Athletes – BTCC – \$2,585.00
PO 20180921 – Gilmore & Associates Inc. – Public Works – \$8,574.59
PO 20181025 – Thomast Comitta Associates Inc. – Planning – \$8,250.00**

PO 20181065 – Power DMS Inc. – PPIS – \$2,803.90

Upon motion (Davis-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve Purchase Orders 20180830, PO 20180858, PO 20180905, PO 20180921, PO 20181025 and PO 20181065 as presented.

**APPROVAL OF
TREASURER'S
REPORT OF MARCH
31, 2018**

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the Treasurer's Report of March 31, 2018 as presented subject to audit.

**ZONING HEARING
BOARD MEETING OF
APRIL 25, 2018**

There were no comments or questions regarding the Zoning Hearing Board meeting agenda of April 25, 2018.

**ACCEPTANCE OF
MONTHLY REPORTS**

Upon motion (Davis-Nolan), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to accept all monthly reports as presented.

DISCUSSION ITEM

**NORTHAMPTON
COUNTY GAMING
AUTHORITY**

Mr. Nolan said that the Northampton County Gaming Authority advertised and ordinance which would dissolve the casino authority and transfereing the remaining funds to the county. He said a letter needs to be sent to the county asking that they are in opposition of the ordinance.

Upon motion (Nolan-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to authorize the Township Manager to disseminate a letter to Northampton County to deny the motion on their agenda.

**MEALS ON WHEELS
APPLICATION TO
BUILDING CODE
APPEALS BOARD**

Mr. Jones said the plan is set to go before the Building Code Appeals Board as the applicant is requesting relief from widening the road to allow for emergency vehicles. According to the Township Fire Marshal, the existing site plan does not comply. Staff would like the Township Solicitor to attend the appeals process to defend the Fire Marshal's position. Ms. Davis said she doesn't believe it is necessary to send Solicitor Broughal.

The Board of Commissioners voted by roll call vote to authorize the Township Solicitor to represent the Township before the Building Code Appeals Board. The motion passed 4 to 1. Ms. Davis opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, upon motion (Nolan-Davis), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Zapata
Recording Secretary