

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUAR 17, 2022**

- MEMBERS PRESENT** John J. Merhottein, President  
Malissa K. Davis, Vice President  
Jan Beatty, Commissioner  
John K. Gallagher, Commissioner  
Dale A. Sourbeck, Commissioner
- OTHERS PRESENT** James L. Broughal, Township Solicitor  
Doug Bruce, Township Manager  
Amanda Raudenbush, Planning Director  
Ron Gawlik, Township Engineer
- CALL TO ORDER** President Merhottein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT** Solicitor Broughal announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session on January 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters pursuant to Section 708a of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.
- COURTESY OF THE FLOOR** There were no comments during Courtesy of the Floor.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mr. Sourbeck requested that all participants on Zoom wishing to comment give their name and address for the record.
- Upon motion (Sourbeck-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2022 regular public meeting.
- SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENT**
- RESOLUTION R019-22 A RESOLUTION GRANTING REVISED FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVAL OF GREEN POND TOA**
- Upon motion (Sourbeck-Beatty), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R019-22 granting revised final land development plan approval of Green Pond TOA.
- RESOLUTION R020-22 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE OFFER OF DEDICATION OF 12<sup>TH</sup> STREET (BIRCHWOOD COMMONS)**
- Upon motion (Sourbeck-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R020-22 accepting the offer of dedication of 12<sup>th</sup> Street (Birchwood Commons).
- MOTION A MOTION APPROVING IMPROVEMENT SECURITY RELEASE CERTIFICATION #7, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$173,231.60, FOR RIVER HILL ESTATES**
- Upon motion (Gallagher-Sourbeck), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to approve a motion approving Improvement Security Release Certification #7,

in the amount of \$173,231.60, for River Hill Estates.

**MOTIONS OF THE  
BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS**

**MOTION**

**A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO  
ADVERTISE FOR BID THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY  
CENTER ROOF AND KALWALL RENOVATION PROJECT**

Upon motion (Gallagher-Sourbeck), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion authorizing the township manager to advertise for bid the Bethlehem Township Community Center roof and Kalwall renovation project.

**MOTION**

**A MOTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT COVERING THE YEARS 2022  
THROUGH 2026 BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM AND ITS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Upon motion (Sourbeck-Beatty), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to untable a motion approving an agreement covering the years 2022 through 2026 between the Township of Bethlehem and its police department.

**APPROVAL OF BILL  
AGENDA OF  
JANUARY 12, 2022**

Upon motion (Gallagher-Davis), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the Bill Agenda of January 12, 2022.

**APPROVAL OF 2022  
BLANKET PURCHASE  
ORDERS**

Mr. Gallaher noted that the amounts noted are not to be exceeded.

Upon motion (Beatty-Sourbeck), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the 2022 Blanket Purchase Orders.

**APPROVAL OF  
PURCHASE ORDERS**

**PO 20212284 – PLASTERER EQUIPMENT CO. INC. – PPIS – \$4,328.58**  
**PO 20220007 – JOAO & BRADLEY CONSTRUCTION – PPIS – \$3,538.77**  
**PO 20220008 – TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE GROUP – BTPD – \$8,400.00**  
**PO 20220009 – SALZMANN HUGHES PC – PPIS – \$5,757.50**  
**PO 20220010 – ALBARELL ELECTRIC – PPIS – \$3,667.41**  
**PO 20220014 – PENN POWER GROUP – PPIS – \$3,881.96**  
**PO 20220094 – TRIUS INC. – PW – \$95,997.00**  
**PO 20220095 – BERGEY’S INC. – PW – \$128,431.76**  
**PO 20220096 – VERMONT SYSTEMS – BTCC – \$11,937.45**  
**PO 20220139 – IWORQ – CD – \$16,000.00**  
**PO 20212513 – CITY OF ALLENTOWN – BTPD – \$6,000.00**

Ms. Davis said that all the expenditures were budgeted. Mr. Bruce added that the money for the truck will be coming out of the liquid fuels fund.

Upon motion (Gallagher-Sourbeck), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice to approve Purchase Orders 20212284, 20220007, 20220008, 20220009, 20220010, 20220014, 20220094, 20220095, 20220096, 20220139 and 20212513 as presented.

**APPROVAL OF  
TREASURER’S  
REPORT OF  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

Upon motion (Sourbeck-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the Treasurer’s Report of December 31, 2021 as presented, subject to audit.

**ZONING HEARING  
BOARD MEETING OF  
JANUARY 26, 2021**

Ms. Raudenbush said there were no new hearings. There were no comments or concerns regarding the Zoning Hearing Board agenda of January 26, 2022.

**MONTHLY REPORTS  
DISCUSSION ITEMS**

All monthly reports were accepted.

**GREEN POND &  
FARMERSVILLE  
ROAD INTERSECTION**

Ron Gawlik, Township Engineer spoke about additional signage to alert traffic that other traffic will not stop. Mr. Sourbeck said that northbound traffic doesn't stop. He said he witnessed two car accidents where they drove through the stop sign and hit the guardrail. Ms. Davis commented that traffic on the left doesn't stop. Mr. Gawlik said he could discuss further with PennDOT on the appropriate verbiage for the sign.

Upon motion (Gallagher-Sourbeck), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to authorize the township engineer to contact PennDOT and move forward with the suggest changes to the intersection.

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Mr. Gallagher said that two years ago he had suggested that the board form an Environmental Advisory Council to identify environmental issues and recommend solutions. He said the council consists of three to seven members. Mr. Sourbeck said that perhaps Northampton County has a similar committee the township could connect with. Ms. Davis said she would support forming this council. Mr. Gallagher said the solicitor would have to draft an ordinance forming the council.

Upon motion (Gallagher-Sourbeck), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to direct the solicitor to prepare an ordinance creating an environmental advisory council. Mr. Merhottein abstained.

**BETHLEHEM AREA  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Mr. Sourbeck said that according the Bethlehem Area Public Library reported that many books were checked out at the Coolidge library. Mr. Merhottein said the information is on the website.

**AMERICAN RELIEF  
PLAN ACT FUNDS**

The board discussed that the funds provided by the American Relief Plan Act were no longer restricted and that they have the flexibility to decide where to allocate the money.

**POLICE & FIRE  
DEPARTMENT  
RECOGNITION**

Mr. Sourbeck recommended that the board should recognize the brave efforts of the Police and Fire Departments through commendations. He said he recently toured the fire department and was amazed. Mr. Merhottein said he gave citations to police officers his first year in office and said the police chief could make recommendations for future citations. Mr. Gallagher agreed. Mr. Bruce said he will inform the police chief.

**BARRY ROTH  
4323 CHETWIN TERR.**

Mr. Roth said recognitions should be done immediately.

**COMMUNITY DAYS**

Mr. Merhottein said that the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company is preparing for the Community Days event taking place this June.

**VETERAN'S DAY  
CEREMONY**

Mr. Merhottein said the last Veterans Day Ceremony was cancelled because of the pandemic but plan on doing something for the next Veterans Day. Mr. Sourbeck said Mr. Bruce is a veteran and thanked him for his service.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, upon motion (Sourbeck-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura G. Zapata  
Recording Secretary