

**LOWER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M. In-Person**

CALL TO ORDER - The July 11, 2022 meeting of the Lower Mount Bethel Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6984 S. Delaware Drive, Martins Creek, Pennsylvania, 18063 (formerly known as Centerfield School), Martins Creek, PA, 18063. The meeting was called to order by Chairman M. DeBerardinis at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were M. DeBerardinis, S. Disidore, S. Newman, J. Mauser, S. Burns, J. Zator, M. Mastrogiovanni, J. Smethers, P. North and J. Snook (via Zoom). There were 5 attendees in the audience. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 20, 2022. MOTION by S. Disidore, second by S. Newman to approve the minutes as submitted. Vote: 5-0.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

- 1. Eagle Scout Presentation** – J. Smethers indicated the Scout had provided her list of projects and power point presentation of what she would like to do. J. Mauser noted he would like the Township could buy 5 benches for the Meadows or the Park, and she could provide assembly. Jen will set up a meeting with the Scout, J. Mauser and P. McInerney to discuss the plans. Table to the next meeting.

- 2. Ducky Race at the Meadows** – S. Parson was present and explained the details and asked the Boards permission to hold a duck race by the Bangor Elks to be held at the Meadows Fireman’s Bridge, date tbd. J. Mauser indicated he is in favor of this. It’s also a good way to raise funds for charitable organization such as the Visiting Nurse, Veterans Troop and Scholarships for the Elks. They would like to make this an annual event. **MOTION** by J. Mauser, second by S. Newman that Shannon and John work on details of the ducky race and they will come back to the Board with updates and date of race. Vote: 5-0.

- 3. Garden Club & Benches for the Meadows and Riverton Visitor Center update.** The Garden Club are requesting to donate a small wooden picnic table for the Centerfield playground. They will do all the work and cover the cost; they are looking for approval to move forward. J. Mauser indicated we are receiving sponsors of \$500.00 for benches and asked request the Garden Club to provide a plot plan and infrastructure to see where everything’s going. J. Mauser & J. Smethers will get prices for the benches, then meet with F. Heitzman where to place them. **MOTION** by J. Mauser, second by S. Burns to table. Vote: 5-0.

Security at the Meadows – John would like permission to have lock boxes on the gages at the Meadows and to share the combination with the State Police and Washington Township. J. Mauser indicated there was a tenter camped out at the Meadows. The State Police were called and he took everything down. J. Mauser asked to have a security lock box at the Meadows on the pole by the inner gate. We will provide the State Police, Washington Twp., Tyler Barnes - Game Commission, Fire Company; also Met-Ed, 2 gas companies, and light & heat company with the code for the lock box. Also have a contact person & phone number. They have rights to access the property. There will be no limitation of access to the public. Also have a contact person & phone number. **MOTION** by J. Mauser, second by M. DeBerardinis to approve the lockbox for the Meadows. Vote: 5-0.

SUBDIVISIONS / ZONING - None

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Zoning Ordinance – Public Hearing – Ordinance # 2022-02.** J. Zator opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m. Joe explained the process has all been met including review by Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, full text provided to the Express Times and Northampton County Law Library. The public hearing has been duly advertised as required by statute. J. Zator asked the Board if they had any questions. J. Mauser thanked everyone that participated including residents that came out pertaining to the article that addressed boats & rv's. J. Zator asked for Public Comment. Public Comment – Anonymous resident (is a police officer and asked to remain anonymous) spoke about AG district / CAPZO – 12 acres & more than 12 acres, it's confusing and would suggested a separate sheet breaking down each separate area including setbacks to make it simplified. It was discussed maybe a summary or chart can be done by the Zoning Officer. Public Comment by Kevin Duane – asked if this would be on the website. J. Smethers answered "yes" it will be on our E-codes link. J. Zator closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m. **MOTION** by S. Newman, second by S. Disidore to approved and adopt Ordinance 2022-02 – Lower Mount Bethel Township Zoning Ordinance and Map of 2022. Vote: 5-0. The Board of Supervisors thanked J. Snook for all his time. J. Snook replied he thoroughly enjoyed working with Planning Commission and Staff; the end result was worth it.
- 2. Terpstra ASA Public Hearing Resolution 2022-18** – 9501 Richmond Rd. Bangor, PA 18013 F11-8-15-0117. The public notice was advertised in the Express Times on 6/17/2022 and the required posting of the public hearing was completed on 6/17/2022. S. Newman indicated this was the property that was going to be developed by Toll Brothers and is pleased to see it's being included in the ASA. No public comment. J. Zator closed the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by S. Newman to adopt Resolution 2022-18 approving the addition of one parcel of land, approximately 108.3 acres, owned by Matthew Terpstra, to the existing Lower Mount Bethel Township Agricultural Security Area. Vote: 5-0.
- 3. Gravel Hill Road culvert project – Authorize to advertise.** J. Coyle is working on the final bid package (culvert and roadway plans and technical specs & bidding documents) and are shooting to have the project go out to bid on Penn Bid by the end of the month. Bids in by late August and start construction in September. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by J. Mauser to advertise the Gravel Hill Road culvert project. S. Disidore asked about the cost of the project. M. DeBerardinis responded about \$70,000 and they are still waiting for the bog turtle study. J. Smethers indicated it would be paid out of the Capital Reserve fund and American Rescue Money. Vote: 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Elected Auditor Vacancy** – J. Smethers indicated Vanessa Sabatine has moved out of the township. Jen Smethers indicated she will post on the Township website and reach out to Joe Guest if he's interested in filling the position until the end of the year, then the vacancy will be open at the next Municipal Election.
- 2. Security at the Meadows** – J. Mauser would like permission to have lock boxes on the gates at the Meadows and to share the combination with the State Police and Washington Township. John indicated there was a tent camped out at the Meadows. The State Police were called and he took everything down. J. Mauser asked to have a security lock box at the Meadows on the pole by the inner gate. We will provide the State Police, Washington Twp., Tyler Barnes - Game Commission, Fire Company, Met-Ed, 2 gas companies, and light & heat company with the code for the lock box. Also have a contact person & phone number.

They have rights to access the property. There will be no limitation of access to the public. Also well have a contact person & phone number. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis to approve the lockbox for the Meadows. Vote: 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS - J. Smethers mentioned she talked to J. Coyle regarding the engineering bill for the Comp. Plan. S. burns indicated she's not in favor of paying this. The Board asked Jen to set up an Executive Session to discuss further and review her emails once she's back from vacation. J. Zator suggested in the future we get a written estimate. **MOTION** by J. Mauser, second by S. Newman to approve the bills in the amount of \$40,862.49. Vote: 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE - All Correspondence is located in the Township office.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report – No report.

Board Members Reports

S. Disidore – No report.

J. Mauser – John already reported earlier.

S. Newman – Sandra reported Tara Mezzanotte sent out I-80 Rockwall Mitigation updates. On Saturday there was semi had a load spilled out on Rt. 80. There was a 5-hour delay. NJ DOT was on the site until Sunday morning. Everyone in the area were trying to detour and no Emergency and Fire Ambulance were able to get thru.

Township Manager Report – J. Smethers indicated there is a pre-construction meeting Thursday 1:00 p.m. at the office with J. Coyle and F. Brooks. J. Smethers asked if staff can move to Centerfield and she will stay in the office to watch over the operations, for security purposes. She will talk to the contractor to see if that's feasible. The Board indicated they would like all staff to be relocated to Centerfield, nobody should be in the building while the construction is being completed until the project is finished.

Township Solicitor Report – J. Zator submitted his written report. P. North will be attending the August Board of Supervisors meeting. Joe has the draft letter prepared regarding the Centerfield kitchen floor. The Board instructed him to send it out.

Road Department Report – F. Heitzman reported they did a pip replacement on Del Haven road, the hoist system was fixed on Shannon's truck, the paving job has been started today on Klausz road and will be completed tomorrow; letters were given to residents that live on that road. Fred indicated the pipe on Koehler Road has holes on both sides and will need to be replaced. They have been mowing the meadows, trail system and need to have tree behind museum cut down. S. Newman mentioned Bridge 43 is delayed because material is back ordered.

Garden Club cont'd – E. Woodruff was present. J. Mauser asked if the Garden Club could draw up a plan / diagram of where they are placing stuff, not to crowd out for future plans of placing the benches. J. Mauser would like to meet at Centerfield with M. DeBerardinis, J. Smethers, Road Crew, Elvira and Joe Pilyar and go over the plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ADJOURNMENT – The Public meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Melissa Mastrogiovanni, Township Secretary / Planning Administrator
Lower Mount Bethel Township