

Benner Township Supervisors
March 7, 2011

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman, John Elnitski, Jr. with members Dave Breon and Randy Moyer present. Also in attendance were Jim Swartzell, Nate Campbell, Rex Mattern, Wayne Engle, Renee Swancer and Sharon Royer.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Jim Swartzell: Mr. Swartzell was present to give the Board a 2010 year in review report on the Centre County Airport Authority.

- a. Enplanements were up 9.8% in 2010.
- b. The Air Traffic Control Tower was completed in late 2010 but that the outlook for funding for the manpower to run the tower currently doesn't look promising.
- c. The Authority is placing a geothermal well system in for a heat pump heat source.
- d. Solar Energy Project – The Authority is negotiating an agreement to complete a 3rd party financial agreement for funding.
- e. Parking lot expansion project – Two lots are currently under construction. Expansion of the existing space on the south side of Fox Hill adds 68 spaces to the existing lot. A new lot on the north side of Fox Hill will add another 180 spaces.

Rex Mattern/Wayne Engle – Mansun Bus Garage: Mr. Mattern noted that he has been approached about allowing Bellefonte Borough to construct a water filling station at the old Mansun Bus Garage. Mr. Engle noted that he spoke with the County and they have indicated that they do not feel a plan is needed for this. The Board noted that they don't have any problems with this proposal but that Penn Dot may require some type of permit to access the property.

MINUTES

The minutes of February 21, 2011, were presented to the Board for their review and comments. Mr. Breon moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Breon – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

BILLS

The bills of March 7, 2011, were presented to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Breon moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Breon – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mrs. Swancer noted that she has received correspondence back from Jeff Long that he is willing to reimburse the Township for the consultant's work on an ordinance to permit the retirement apartments. Mr. Breon moved to approve the contract with Roth Consulting with the understanding that the Township will be reimbursed by Jeff Long. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Breon – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Code Official: Mr. Breon noted that Spring Township would like to hold an additional meeting to discuss available options for codes in the surrounding municipalities. The Board decided to contact Spring Township to let them know that at this time we are not interested in pursuing this further.

MPO: Mr. Elnitski noted that projects and funding have taken up the last agenda. He noted that Marion Township is still seeking membership to the MPO.

Fire Task Force: Mr. Elnitski noted that the group is currently visiting surrounding fire houses. He also reported that Mike Fetzer has replaced Rick Bjalme as one of the Township's representatives.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Creek Canyon: It was noted that a public meeting will be held on March 16th beginning at 7 p.m. at the Penn Stater in Room 208. Mr. Elnitski noted that the Game Commission will present their plan on what they would like to do as far as building parking lots and brushing trails.

Mr. Elnitski noted that he would still like to apply for State Grants for a parking lots and trail rehab. One would be a construction grant and the other for design. Mr. Elnitski noted that DCNR has indicated that these trail grants would be a 80/20 match.

Mr. Breon noted that he feels that a Canyon Trust Fund should be created so that individuals and corporations, etc. could donate to the cause and that these funds wouldn't be held by the Township.

Mr. Elnitski noted that TAG will be meeting later in March to discuss the groups by-laws and organize.

ROW Ordinance: Tabled.

SCI Benner: Mr. Elnitski noted that he spoke with State Representatives regarding the needed traffic light for SCI Benner and told them that the State will

need to agree to deal with the prisons' MS-4s as well as any liability issues concerning the light.

Water Tanker Filling: Mr. Elnitski reported that met with Bellefonte Borough, Dave Wise and Paul Silvis regarding possible filling locations in the Benner Commerce Park. He later then met with Doug Weikel about the locations. Mr. Weikel made comments regarding the various locations. Mr. Elnitski asked that Mr. Weikel's comments be forwarded on to the parties that had attended the meeting.

Summer Park & Rec. 2011: Mrs. Royer indicated that she spoke with Mrs. Miller and that she is interested in running the program but would like to make some changes. Mrs. Miller indicated that she does not wish to continue the "extended" program, but to run the program for six weeks. She would also like to make "water day" just a half day. Therefore, the program would be 4 days from 9 to Noon and the fifth day would be an all day fieldtrip program. Mr. Elnitski moved to approve the changes suggested by Mrs. Miller and to have her run the program. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Breon – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

NEW BUSINESS

Catherine Cutter letter Re: Speeding on Fillmore Road: The Board suggested putting out our speed sign and seeing if Patton Township would be interested in running radar along the road.

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Young Lungs at Play: This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Glen @ Paradise Hills South Final Land Development Plan – Zoning Letter: It was noted that the Matterns are requesting an exception to Benner Township's plan approval process to allow the Zoning letter to be released prior to the Township's Planning Commission's meeting. Mr. Elnitski moved to grant this exception to policy. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Breon – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

Planning Waiver & Non-Building Declaration for SCI RockView Land: Mr. Elnitski moved to grant the Planning Waiver and Non-Building declaration for SCI Rockview Land transfer grounds. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Breon – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. Centre County Planning Commission
 - a. Copper Beech Airport Park Lot 22
2. Conservation District
 - a. Village of Nittany Glenn Phase 3A
3. Notices from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Re: Sayers Dam Hydroelectric Project
4. SBWJA – February 14, 2011 minutes
5. Letter from R. Hufnagel & D. Kerly

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned the time being 8:21 p.m.

Sharon Royer, Sec.