

**Benner Township Supervisors
March 6, 2023**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairman, Randy Moyer with members Larry Lingle and Thomas Moyer present. Also in attendance were Deb Burger, Lorena Groves, Jim Lanning, John Elnitski, Halie Lines, Jordon Monberger, Rich Davis, Gene Stocker, Derek Sherman, Tony Fruchtl, Nick Beiling, Bruce Donovan, David Roberts, Louwana Oliva, Kimberly Fragola, Dennis O’Leary, Sharon Royer, and Rod Beard.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

CATA: Derek Sherman, Louwana Oliva and Kimberly Fragola were present to give the Board a brief overview of CATA and the services that they provide in the Township. Ridership numbers from CATAGO were shared. Mr. Sherman noted that from 9/22 to 2/27/23 one hundred and six different individuals from Benner Township utilized CATAGO’s services. Mr. Sherman noted that the owner of Greystone Courts has had him in a few times to put on mini workshops to teach the residents how to utilize CATA’s services. Kimberly noted that if the Board has any additional questions that they think of to reach out to them and they would be happy to assist.

Tony Fruchtl:

WaWa: Mr. Fruchtl noted that PennTerra is currently working on the conceptual plan for WaWa. He noted that this is being proposed to be located along the Benner Pike between Fulton Bank and Dunkin Donuts and will utilize Eagle Point Drive as its access. Mr. Fruchtl noted that this evening he is asking that the Memorandum of Understanding be processed by the Board. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve the WaWa MOU. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

Happy Valley Blended: Mr. Fruchtl noted that he was present tonight to have the Happy Valley Blended plan signed. It was noted that the project is complete and that the final walk through took place. Mrs. Royer indicated that the Township received the completion and final approval letter from Mr. Franson. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve the plan and affix signatures to the Happy Valley Blended Land Development Plan. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

Deb Burger: Ms. Burger was present to talk to the Board about having the Buffalo Run Community Park renamed for the Township’s veterans. She indicated that she was here several years ago but that nothing has happened. The Board indicated that they would be willing to name the park the Benner Township Veterans Park, but not after one specific individual. They indicated that they would be open to dedicate a ballfield, pavilion, benches, etc. after an individual. Ms. Burger indicated that she would like to have something specific dedicated to Dennis Johnsonbaugh and his family. She noted that she would communicate with the family and see what item they would like dedicated to them and get back to the Township. Mr. Lingle moved to formally rename the park to the Benner Township Veterans Community Park. Mr. R. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

Mrs. Royer noted that she would get in touch with Victorian Signs about having a new sign made.

Nick Beiling: Mr. Beiling introduced himself as an aide to Paul Takac. He noted the various offices that Mr. Takac has and their hours. He noted that he is happy to assist the Board and Township Residents with matters that come up and to feel free to reach out to him.

David Roberts: Mr. Roberts noted that he sent in correspondence on February 6th to make the Board aware of funding opportunities to deal with the PFAS problem. He noted that he has spoken with PennVest and they have told him that funds are available and wanted to know if the Supervisors looked into these grant funds. Mr. T. Moyer noted that he has attended meetings with DEP and has been told by various individuals about these funds. Mr. T. Moyer noted that how DEP has been explained this process to him is that the project must be studied. Once a solution is settled on it will need to be engineered. After it is engineered, it must go out to bid so that an amount of the project can be determined, and then at that point funding could be sought. Mr. Moyer noted that DEP is the one that will be seeking the funding.

Mr. Roberts questioned if the Township has looked into the joining COG on the solar project in the area.

Gene Stocker: Mr. Stocker encouraged the Board to contact the local representatives to see what they can do for making the public water connected to Walnut Grove. Mrs. Royer noted that a water source needs to be located first before the process can proceed. To date a water source has not been committed to. Mr. Stocker noted that Glenn Thompson noted that he hasn't been contacted yet. Staff verified that Cindy Kunes, staff assistant to Mr. Thompson is in fact receiving DEP's updates.

The Board asked that if the Walnut Grove residents have an email list? If this list can be given to the Township, whenever we get updates we can forward them on to the residents immediately.

Mr. Stocker noted that he still doesn't believe sewer is needed in Walnut Grove. Mr. Moyer noted that there are several residents that would love to have the sewer now as they have recently been placed on holding tanks due to their failing systems. Mr. Stocker questioned the Board if they knew if the Bellefonte sewer plant was going to have enough capacity to handle all of these added developments on to their system. Mr. Moyer noted that SBWJA would be the better place to ask that question.

MINUTES

The minutes of February 6, 2023 were presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review and comments. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

BILLS

The general fund bill list in the amount of \$139,052.05 was given to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve the bill list as presented. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

The accounts receivable for the General Fund for the month was \$219,567.71.

The state fund bill list in the amount of \$8,875.90 was given to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve the bill list as presented. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

NEW BUSINESS

Zoning Hearing Board Vacancy: This item remains tabled.

Planning Commission Vacancy: Mrs. Royer noted that Rick Weaver has given notice of his resignation from the Planning Commission due to a change in his work schedule. Mr. R. Moyer moved to appoint

Alex Moyer to the Planning Commission. The question was asked to Mr. Beard if this would be a conflict of interest. Mr. Beard indicated that I was not. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

McDonald’s MOU: The memorandum of understanding for the proposed McDonald’s along the Benner Pike was given to the Board. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve the memorandum of understanding. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

Patton Township/Benner Township Boundary: The Board was in receipt of a letter from Patton outlining that there was recently legislation passed making it easier for municipalities to formally acknowledge boundary lines and wanted to know if the Township was interested in acknowledging and changing the line formally. Mr. R. Moyer moved to pursue making the boundary line with Patton Township formal. Mr. T. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

2023 Paving Projects: Mr. O’Leary went over the proposed 2023 paving projects with the Board. Roads being proposed for paving included Fillmore Road, North Fillmore Road, Barns Lane and Rolling Ridge Drive. Mr. R. Moyer moved to place these road projects out for bids. Mr. T. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

Village of Nittany Glen Surety Release for Phases III-B.2, III-C, III-D.1, III-C.D.2, V-A.1 and V-A.2: It was noted that Abel Construction who is providing the surety for the above noted phased of the Village of Nittany Glen Development is asking that surety be release due to all of the outstanding items being completed. Mrs. Royer noted that Mr. Franson indicated that he would be sending a letter approving the release but we have not yet received it. Mr. R. Moyer moved to contingently approve pending receipt of Mr. Franson’s letter. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

AGENDA ITEM TO BE ADDED

Mr. R. Moyer moved to add the RFP for a Traffic Signal Engineer for the grant that was received be added to the agenda. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

Traffic Signal Engineer RFP: Mr. O’Leary provided a draft of the RFP for a traffic signal engineer to the Board. It was noted that Mr. Franson drafted this RFP and that we would like to get it sent out so that we would have proposals back for the Board’s next meeting. Mr. R. Moyer moved to approve and send out this RFP. Mr. Lingle seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. T. Moyer – yes Mr. Lingle – yes Mr. R. Moyer – yes

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. SBWJA Minutes – January 23, 2023 & February 13, 2023
2. Benner Township Water Authority Minutes of January 17, 2023
 - i. Key Points from February 21, 2023 meeting
3. Centre County Planning Commission Letters
 - i. Time Extensions

1. Village of Nittany Glen – Phase VII
2. The Cascade
3. Belle Rose Townhomes
4. Bellefonte Warehouse
 - ii. Minor Land Development Request – Chalfa building extension
 - iii. Non-Substantive Change to LSC RP, LLC plan
 - iv. Lot Consolidation Plan for Barry King
4. DEP PFAS investigation Report update for February 2023
5. Copy of Email that Gene Stocker sent to DEP with water test results.
6. Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation News Update
7. Bellefonte Fire Department 2022 Annual Report
8. Copy of letter dated 2/8/23 from Terry Cable to DEP representatives
9. Letter from David Roberts to Supervisors dated 2/6/23
10. Copy of Liquid Fuel Audit 2021
11. Bellefonte EMS 2022 Report
12. Centre County Conservation District Letters
 - i. ARL Project Field – NPDES permit application review is complete.

NOTES

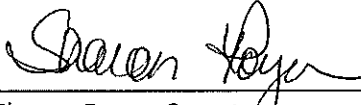
John Elnitski noted that he is suggesting that the Township be proactive and hire a traffic engineering firm to take a look and do a study on the Benner Pike corridor. He noted that continued development should not be allowed to take place without a plan in place. It was noted that the Township does have a traffic engineer and that a Traffic Impact Study is done with each new development. It is known that widening will have to take place it is just currently unsure of when. Mr. R. Moyer noted that it is a PennDot road and as long as they are meeting PennDot’s guidelines developments can’t be stopped. He noted that he has seen this exact same thing in Crannberry Township. Once the development takes place without a plan it can become a mess. Mr. R. Moyer noted that the developments are made to do improvements. Giant was made to put the traffic light in. The Warehouse will be made to put another light in. Mr. Elnitski noted that he feels that things are being built too close to the road and then when an access road is needed it won’t be able to be built.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was noted that the Board will be holding an executive session and it will not reconvene.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned the time being 8:15 p.m.



 Sharon Royer, Secretary