

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING  
JUNE 3, 2024**

- MEMBERS PRESENT** John J. Merhottein, President  
John K. Gallagher, Vice President  
DeAnn L. Lawrence, Commissioner  
Michael D. Hudak, Commissioner
- MEMBERS ABSENT** Jan Beatty, Commissioner
- OTHERS PRESENT** James L. Broughal, Township Solicitor  
Doug Bruce, Township Manager
- CALL TO ORDER** Mr. Merhottein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and following the Pledge of Allegiance.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION** Solicitor Broughal announced that on Monday, June 3, 2024, the Board of Commissioners met in executive session at approximately 6:30 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations pursuant to Section 708a of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.
- COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**
- ANNE KISILEWICZ  
THOMAS BAYTALA  
1731 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET** Ms. Kisilewicz and Mr. Baytala said the sign at the Raceway gas station was illuminated 24 hours a day which was a violation of the variance that was granted. Solicitor Broughal asked if they made a formal complaint to the township. They said made several complaints to the Zoning Officer.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Upon motion (Gallagher-Merhottein) the Board of Commissioners voted 3-0-1 by voice vote to approve the May 20, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Lawrence abstained. Ms. Beatty was absent.
- PRESENTATION** **STORMWATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE – BRUCE HULSHIZER, HRG**
- Mr. Hulshizer gave the following updates:
- Bethman Road and Fairway Road:** Construction is finished and the streets will be paved.
- Walnut Street:** Property owners were notified. Bids will be advertised later this month. Construction will start next year. Mr. Hudak asked if the pipes would be underground. Mr. Hulshizer said yes.
- Easton Avenue & Santee Road:** Mr. Hulshizer said they are working on this particular project with the City of Bethlehem. They received a grant from FEMA and the state's Local Share Account.
- Sculac Stream Restoration:** Mr. Hulshizer said the project is in the design phase and will take several years to obtain the necessary permits.
- Easton Avenue & Santee Road:** Mr. Hulshizer said Phase 1 of the project is for smaller storms. This is Phase 2 and entails infrastructure.

## **Flood Mitigation Study**

The purpose of this study is to evaluate flood mitigation approaches throughout the Nancy Run Watershed.

### Flood Mitigation Study Findings

1. Continue with Easton Avenue Phase 2
2. Enlarge culverts and bridge openings at Middletown Road and Keystone Street.
3. Remove Washington Street and minor culverts upstream of Middletown Road.
4. Consider floodplain reconnection/restoration upstream of Middletown Road.
5. Work with property owners along Nancy Run interested in buy-out program.
6. Consider additional detention basin modifications in the watershed.

Mr. Hudak said underneath the Middletown Bridge is filled with sediment and asked if the Nancy Run Creek could be dredged into the floodplain. Mr. Hulshizer said he would look into it. Mr. Merhottein said dredging the creek would be a cheaper option. Mr. Hulshizer said the Department of Environmental Protection makes it difficult to obtain those permits.

**GLENN KRIER  
3942 KENRICK DR.**

Mr. Krier asked what work was being done at the retention pond on Washington Street and Freemansburg Avenue. Mr. Hulshizer believes they were reseeding. Mr. Merhottein asked when the flowers would grow. Mr. Gallagher said it usually takes a couple of years.

## **RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **RESOLUTION R039-24 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A SERGEANT OF THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Upon motion (Gallagher-Lawrence), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R039-24 appointing Kirk Harryn as a Sergeant of the Bethlehem Township Police Department. Ms. Beatty was absent.

### **RESOLUTION R040-24 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A SERGEANT OF THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Bruce said the Administrative Sergeant position is a new position. The 2024 budget includes three sergeant positions and five corporal positions; the new administrative sergeant would be a fourth sergeant's position.

Upon motion (Lawrence-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R040-24 appointing Jeremy Anderson as a Sergeant of the Bethlehem Township Police Department. Ms. Beatty was absent.

### **RESOLUTION R041-24 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A CORPORAL OF THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Upon motion (Lawrence-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R041-24 appointing Patrick Brehm as a Corporal of the Bethlehem Township Police Department. Ms. Beatty was absent.

**RESOLUTION R042-24 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A CORPORAL OF THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Upon motion (Gallagher-Hudak), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R042-24 appointing Seth Williams as a Corporal of the Bethlehem Township Police Department. Ms. Beatty was absent.

**RESOLUTION R008-24 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION**

Upon motion (Gallagher-Lawrence), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to approve Resolution R008-24 appointing David Johnson to the Bethlehem Township Recreation Commission. Mr. Hudak opposed. Ms. Beatty was absent.

**MOTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MOTION**

**A MOTION APPROVING A CHANGE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Mr. Bruce said the Civil Service Commission met last Friday to discuss conducting another patrol officer search as more retirements are anticipated. Mr. Bruce said the Civil Service Commission recommended the board waive the Act 120 certification and/or 60 college credits requirement for patrol officer applicants. He said this change would allow the township to cast a wider net for applicants.

Upon motion (Gallagher-Lawrence), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote approving a change in the Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Ms. Beatty was absent.

**APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS**

**PO 20241268 – Groff Tractor & Equipment – PW – \$5,128.59**  
**PO 20241270 – JWC Environmental – PPIS – \$19,513.48**  
**PO 20241304 – Hydra-Numatic Sales – PPIS – \$3,500.50**  
**PO 20241326 – Beth. Twp. Volunteer Fire Co. – Finance – \$20,000**  
**PO 20241327 – U.S. Municipal Supply – PW – \$3,922.84**

Upon motion (Hudak-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve all the purchases orders as presented. Ms. Beatty was absent.

**COMMUNITY DAYS**

Mr. Bruce announced that the Community Days festival is June 12<sup>th</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Mr. Merhottein adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura G. Zapata  
Recording Secretary

