

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING IN VIRTUAL FORMAT
MARCH 15, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT Michael D. Hudak, President
Malissa K. Davis, Vice President
John K. Gallagher, Commissioner
John J. Merhottein Commissioner
Dale A. Sourbeck, Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT James L. Broughal, Township Solicitor
Anthony Giovannini, Township Solicitor
Ronald Gawlik, Township Engineer
Shawn Casey, Township Geotechnical Engineer
Doug Bruce, Township Manager
Steve Hunsberger, PPIS Director
Richard Kanaskie, Assistant Public Works Director
Amanda Raudenbush, Planning Director

CALL TO ORDER President Hudak called the virtual public meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

TOM KEEFER
3808 CARTER RD Mr. Keefer said trucks are using 10th Street & Carter Road as a construction entrance. A double axel truck took out six feet of his yard. President Hudak said he will have police investigate. Mr. Keefer said police have already been out there. President Hudak said they will keep an eye on the situation.

SHERI EICHLIN
4009 FERNCROFT LN Ms. Eichlin said her mother lives on Concord Circle behind the Lowe's on Southmont. She said garbage is constantly blowing into her hard. Her mom is not able to clean up the garbage. Ms. Eichlin thanked Ms. Raudenbush for assisting her. President Hudak said he would look into it.

BARRY ROTH
4323 CHETWIN TERR. Mr. Roth asked for a status of the illegal ATVs behind the apartment on Route 191 and Brodhead Road. He said the vehicles are dragging mud onto the bridge. President Hudak informed Mr. Roth that he needs to report it to the police as the ATVs are not permitted within 100 feet of the property. Mr. Roth then asked when the municipal building would open to the public. President Hudak said this was discussed during an executive session prior to this meeting, but there was no change in status of the municipal building.

MELISSA MCCLAIN
RESIDENT Ms. McClain said everything in the area is open but the pool which is open by reservation only. She asked when the pools will open and when the day care at the community center will open. President Hudak said the commissioners and township staff had today discussed opening up the pool and the community center. He said they are working on this as soon as a new policy is approved they will make it public. Ms. Davis said she would like to see something open this summer in a more normal fashion but will have to wait until everything is worked out. She said the goal of the board and staff is to have these programs available.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Upon motion (Gallagher-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners voted by voice vote to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2021 regular public meeting in virtual format. The motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Hudak abstained.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT

Solicitor Broughal announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session in virtual format on Wednesday, March 15, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters pursuant to Section 708a of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The meeting lasted approximately 1 hour.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE 03-21

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION, INSPECTION, AND ON-GOING MAINTENANCE OF ON-LOT SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, REQUIRING REGISTRATION OF SEPTAGE PUMPER/Hauler AND CERTIFIED INSPECTION BUSINESSES WITH BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP, AND FURTHER, PROVIDING FOR IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE AND APPEALS FOR HARDSHIP SITUATIONS

Upon motion (Merhottein-Davis), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to adopt Ordinance 03-21 establishing regulations for the installation, inspection, and on-going maintenance of on-lot sewage disposal systems, requiring registration of septage pumper/hauler and certified inspection businesses with Bethlehem Township, and further, providing for imposition of penalties for noncompliance and appeals for hardship situations.

LEHIGH VALLEY TRADE CENTER II CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION

CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION FOR LEHIGH VALLEY TRADE CENTER II

Ms. Raudenbush said the Planning Commission and the Township Engineer recommended approval of the conditional use application.

Upon motion (Davis-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approved the Conditional use application for Lehigh Valley Trade Center II.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION R018-21

A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONDITIONAL PRELIMINARY/FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVAL OF MEMBERS 1ST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Ms. Raudenbush said the property is located at 2220 Emrick Drive and will have a 3,500 square foot bank with a drive-thru and associated improvements including access drives, parking areas, utility connections/extensions, landscaping and stormwater management facilities. Ms. Raudenbush said the Planning Commission voted to recommend conditional approval of this plan at their February 22, 2021 meeting.

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R018-21 granting conditional preliminary/final land development plan approval of Members 1st Federal Credit Union.

RESOLUTION R019-21

A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONDITIONAL PRELIMINARY/FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVAL OF LEHIGH VALLEY TRADE CENTER II

Ms. Raudenbush said this property is proposed for warehousing and distribution uses that are permitted in the Light Industrial/Office Campus District by Conditional Use

approval. Mr. Gallagher said that the plans label this a warehouse and asked if this was significant. Ms. Raudenbush said she does not believe so. Solicitor Broughal said the use was already approved. Attorney Kate Durso said the conditional use states warehousing. The Planning Commission voted at their meeting of February 22, 2021 to recommend conditional approval.

Upon motion (Merhottein-Davis), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R019-21 granting conditional preliminary/final land development plan approval of Lehigh Valley Trade Center II.

MOTION

A MOTION APPROVING AN EXTENSION THROUGH MARCH 31, 2022, FOR TRIPLE NET INVESTMENTS TO COMPLETE IMPROVEMENTS, AS SPECIFIED IN THE APPROVED LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR LVIP VI LOT 43

Upon motion (Gallagher-Davis), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion approving an extension through March 31, 2022, for Triple Net Investments to complete improvements, as specified in the approved Land Development Plan for LVIP VI Lot 43.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION R014-21 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A PATROL OFFICER TO THE BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R014-21 appointing Tyler Rogalewicz to the Bethlehem Township Police Department.

RESOLUTION R015-21 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND ENDORSING AN APPLICATION TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR A GRANT FOR THE HOUSENICK MEMORIAL PARK DEVELOPMENT PHASE 3 PROJECT

Upon motion (Merhottein-Davis), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R015-21 authorizing and endorsing an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a grant for the Housenick Memorial Park Development Phase 3 project.

RESOLUTION R016-21 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND ENDORSING AN APPLICATION TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY OPEN SPACE INITIATIVE LIVABLE LANDSCAPES GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE HOUSENICK MEMORIAL PARK DEVELOPMENT PHASE 3 PROJECT

Upon motion (Gallagher-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R016-21 authorizing and endorsing an application to the Northampton County Open Space Initiative Livable Landscapes Grant Program for the Housenick Memorial Park Development Phase 3 project.

RESOLUTION R017-21 RESOLUTION AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR THE TOWNSHIP LINE ROAD FULL-DEPTH RECLAMATION AND OVERLAY PROJECT

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve Resolution R017-21 awarding the contract to Recon Construction Services Inc. for the Township Line Road full-depth reclamation and overlay project for an amount of \$577,428.20.

MOTIONS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MOTION

A MOTION APPROVING THE FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE GROW NORCO 2020-50 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON AND BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously by voice vote to approve a motion approving the first addendum to the GROW NORCO 2020-50 agreement between the County of Northampton and Bethlehem Township.

APPROVAL OF BILL AGENDA OF MARCH 10, 2021

Upon motion (Davis-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the Bill Agenda of March 10, 2021

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS

- PO 20210337 – BRITE – POLICE – \$8,682.00**
- PO 20210339 – BOYKOS PETROLEUM SERVICE – PPIS – \$12,130.99**
- PO 20210441 – U.S. MUNICIPAL SUPPLY – PW – \$7,563.20**
- PO 20210442 – CHEMUNG SUPPLY – PW – \$3,370.14**
- PO 20210443 – WHITEHALL TURF EQUIPMENT – PW – \$24,502.00**
- PO 20210546 – POWER DMS – PPIS – \$4,513.25**
- PO 20210457 – HUNTER & SONS ELECTRIC – PPIS/BTCC – \$12,198.00**

Upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice to approve Purchase Orders 20210337, 20210339, 20210441, 20210442, 20210443, 20210546, and 20210457 as presented.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT OF FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Upon motion (Gallagher-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to approve the Treasurer's Report of February 28, 2021 as presented, subject to audit.

ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 31, 2021

Upon motion (Davis-Merhottein), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to direct the Township Solicitor to represent them Appeal 03-2021 of Steven J. Inc. at the Zoning Hearing Board meeting of March 31, 2021.

MONTHLY REPORTS

All monthly reports were accepted.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, upon motion (Merhottein-Gallagher), the Board of Commissioners unanimously voted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Zapata
Recording Secretary

