

**BUSHKILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
1114 BUSHKILL CENTER ROAD
NAZARETH, PA 18064**

**MINUTES
July 1, 2021**

The Bushkill Township Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, July 1, 2021, at the Bushkill Township Municipal Building. The following Supervisors were present: Mr. Kocher, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Bender, Mr. Kline, and Mrs. Hill. Also, present were Township Manager Belinda Roberts, Solicitor Gary Asteak, Engineer Robert Collura, Zoning Officer Kenneth Shiffert, Open Space Coordinator Kerry Reider and Planning Admin. Todd Weidman. There were 5 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Chairman, Brien Kocher called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

SIGN INS: Helen & Don Holland of 683 E. Dell Road (Moore Township) spoke to the Board regarding the letter that was received from the Township Zoning Office referencing the unenforceable issue with their neighbors' chickens. Solicitor Asteak explained to Mr. & Mrs. Holland that although this issue is not enforceable by the Township, under the Municipal Planning Code they are able to proceed on their own with a civil complaint.

SUBDIVISIONS: None

Approval of Minutes

1. **June 3, 2021 - Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of June 3, 2021.

Reports

2. **Police** – Chairman Kocher stated that the Police Report was enclosed.
3. **Treasurer** –Treasurer Report enclosed
4. **Tax Collector** – No report
5. **Zoning Officer** – Zoning Officer Ken Shiffert provided the report.
6. **Public Works** – Kyle Kline provided the Public Works Report
7. **Library** – Library Report enclosed
8. **Recreation** – No meeting held in June.
9. **Fire Company** – BTVFC Report enclosed
10. **Engineer** – Engineer Robert Collura provided the report.
11. **Solicitor** – Solicitor Gary Asteak provided the report.
 - a. **Easement for Steadman Property** – Recommendation is to abandon original easement and create a new easement, sharing the cost for Legal/Engineering costs with the resident. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to approve the cost sharing for the creating of the easement.
 - b. **Dally Conservation Easement** – Authorize execution of agreement after final review by Jason Smith and EAC. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to allow execution subject to final review by Jason Smith and the EAC.
12. **EAC** – OS Coordinator Kerry Reider provided the report.

- 13. NAZ COG** – No regular meeting held. Jason stated that there was a special meeting held for a presentation by John Mauer regarding sinkholes and how they are affecting our surrounding Municipalities currently and how they will affect them in the future.
- 14. Emergency Mgmt.** – Chairman Kocher stated the EMC Tom Barnowski will have a meeting with his EMC team to discuss how the COVID -19 pandemic was handled.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 15. Municipal Building Renovation** – Nothing to note.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 16. PA American Water Hydrant Agreements** – Agreement for Public Fire Hydrants along Jacobsburg and Kromer Road to be activated for service. The Board may make a motion to allow the Secretary/Treasurer to sign the agreement and return to PA American Water. **Motion** by Harrison Kline seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to allow execution of the agreement with PA American Water for Hydrants.
- 17. Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)** – Cooperative Agreement with Northampton County to remain part of the Urban Entitlement for 2022-2024. Continuance allows Bushkill residents to be counted toward the combined population thresholds, and county entitlement funds can be used to assist Township Residents and allows the Township to apply for County CDBG Grants. The Board may make a motion to allow the Chairman and Secretary to sign the agreement and return to Northampton County. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to allow execution subject to review by the Solicitor specifically to ensure that there is no language in the agreement that would allow for the Federal Government in any way to impede in the Townships decisions regarding Land Use.

PAY BILLS: Bill List - \$224,605.57– **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Harrison Kline and approved unanimously to pay the bills.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive session was held to discuss Real Estate.

Motion by Carolyn Hill seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to authorize the Open Space Negotiation team to offer up to the appraised amount per acre for OS 84.

GOOD OF THE BOARD: Next regular Board of Supervisors meeting – August 5, 2021 @ 6:00pm
NCATO County Convention – September 30, 2021

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jason Smith seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Belinda A. Roberts, Manager