

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

MINUTES
November 7, 2024

The Bushkill Township Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, November 7, 2024, in the Bushkill Township Municipal Meeting Room. The following Supervisors were present: Mrs. Bender, Mrs. Hill, Mr. Knauss, Mr. Kocher, and Mr. Smith. Also, present for the meeting were Chief McLouth, Captain Dempsey, Solicitor Gary Asteak, Township Engineer Robert Collura, Public Works Director Peter Yotter, Open Space Coordinator Kerry Reider, and Zoning Officer Todd Weidman. There were 7 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:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA: Chairman Kocher asked if there was any need to amend the agenda. Township Manager Belinda Roberts stated there were no changes to the agenda. **Motion** by Carolyn Hill seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to approve the agenda.

ZONING AMENDMENTS: Judy Stern-Goldstein from Gilmore & Associates provided a brief update on the status of the Zoning Amendments as they relate to the Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to authorize the Solicitor to draft the Zoning Amendments and forward to Bushkill Township Planning Commission, LVPC.

Park Updates – 2 Pickleball courts are proposed per the grant application, there is room in the existing area should the Township wish to add 2 more in the future. Disc golf course is proposed, either 9 hole or 18-hole course based on bids received.

Approval of Minutes

1. **October 3, 2024 - Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of October 3, 2024.

PLANNING MODULES: Resolution 2024-33 - The Enclave at Bushkill, 2023-10 The Enclave at Bushkill, Major Subdivision in the Rural Residential Zoning District on Church Road Authorization to send the DEP Planning Module for review/approval. **Motion** by Randy Knauss seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to forward the Planning Module to DEP for review.

Reports

2. **Police** - Chief McLouth provided the report.
 - a. **Resolution 2024-36** – Chief McLouth stated that Bushkill Township Police Department intends to apply for 2024 LSA Statewide Grant for the purchase of (22) P25 Portable Radios in the amount of \$162,992.50. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to authorize the application with Resolution 2024-36.
 - b. **Heart & Lung** - Chief McLouth stated that Officer Joshua Miller was injured in the line of duty and will be out for an extended length of time on Workers Comp., Officer Miller is requesting to receive Heart & Lung benefits. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously approve the request for Officer Miller to receive Heart & Lung benefit.

3. **Treasurer** - Report Enclosed
4. **Tax Collector** - Report Enclosed
5. **Zoning Officer** - Zoning Officer Todd Weidman provided the report
6. **Public Works** - Public Works Director Peter Yotter provided the report
 - a. **Municibid** - Public Works Director Peter Yotter stated the 2007 Chevy Silverado Utility Truck was placed on Municibid for 2 weeks, November 4, 2024, the 2007 Chevy Truck sold in the amount of \$8,200 to Joe Schruntz. **Motion** by Randy Knauss seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously awarded the sale of the truck in the amount of \$8,200
7. **Library** - Jarred Bedoya provided the report
8. **Recreation** - No meeting in October
9. **Fire Company** - Alex Thompson provided the report.
 - a. **Resolution 2024-37 LSA Statewide Grant** - Approving the application for Bushkill Township Volunteer Fire Company to apply for Portable Radios to comply with Northampton County Emergency Services update. **Motion** by Carolyn Hill seconded by Julie Bender and approved unanimously approve Resolution 2024-37.
10. **Engineer** - No Report
11. **Solicitor** -
12. **EAC** – Open Space Coordinator Kerry Reider provided the report.
 - a. **Highland Meadow Preserve** - Site Development Plan is ready for approval. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to approve the Highland Meadow Preserve Site Plan with the addition of the snowmobiling language to be added to the plan.
13. **NAZ COG** - No Report
14. **Emergency Mgmt.** - Tom Barnowski provided the report
 - a. **Resolution 2024-35** - Approving the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Julie Bender and approved unanimously to approve Resolution 2024-35.

OLD BUSINESS:

15. **Traffic Corridor Study (SR 946/Knauss Road & Penn Allen Road)**
16. **SALDO Amendments** - **Motion** by Carolyn Hill seconded by Julie Bender and approved unanimously to authorize the Solicitor to draft the Zoning Amendments and forward to Bushkill Township Planning Commission, Nazareth Council of Government, & LVPC.
17. **Lighting Ordinance - Previously Adopted in June 2022**

NEW BUSINESS:

18. **2025 Proposed Budget** - 2025 proposed Budget is in the packet. There is a .50 millage increase for 2025; the last increase was in 2014. The board can authorize the advertisement of the Proposed budget for public inspection and adoption at the December meeting. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to authorize the advertisement of the proposed 2025 budget.

19. 2023 LSA Statewide Grant Awards - November 2023, Bushkill Township submitted 3 applications for the LSA Statewide Grant for the following projects; BTVFC (Heavy Rescue Truck) \$1,000,000, Bushkill Township Police Dept., (Police Command Vehicle) \$75,760, and Bushkill Township (Recreation Park Improvements). \$943,430.25. We were awarded the following during a Special meeting of the Commonwealth Finance Authority;

- BTVFC Heavy Rescue Truck - \$750,000
- Police Command Vehicle - \$75,760
- Bushkill Township Park Improvements - \$500,000

Special “Thanks to Representative Ann Flood and Senator Nick Miller for all of their support in getting these projects funded for Bushkill Township”

PAY BILLS: Bill List - \$648,285.68 - **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to pay the bills.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Supervisors entered into Executive session at 7:00pm to discuss personnel matters. The Board of Supervisors reconvened at 7:05pm, Chairman Kocher stated that there would be no action taken by the Board of Supervisors at this time, however, there may be a need for a special meeting in the future.

GOOD OF THE BOARD: Next regular Board of Supervisors Meeting - December 5, 2024 @ 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jason Smith seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Belinda A. Roberts, Manager