

**East Brunswick Township
BOS Monthly Meeting
February 23, 2021 ~ Page 1**

The Board of Supervisors of East Brunswick Township held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at the Municipal Building. The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Faust at 6:31 PM. There was a PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to our flag.

In attendance for the meeting were Chairman Jeffrey Faust, Vice-Chairman/Treasurer Thomas Strause, Supervisor John Heim, Solicitor Jim Crossen, Engineer Brian Baldwin via phone, and Secretary Kelly Coldren. Residents Carol Bylone, Nelson Trembler, Christopher Shiner, and Craig Nace were in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The floor is opened up for any comments regarding two proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance. The proposed changes were advertised on February 5th and February 12th and notice was given to both the Township and County Planning Commissions. The township planning commission agreed to the changes. We did not receive a response from the County. J. Crossen explained the proposed changes again.

1. Campground classification
2. Residential Accessory Structures to Nonconforming Uses

J. Faust made a *motion to approve both Zoning Ordinance Amendments as presented*. This is Ordinance 2021-1. Second by T. Strause. Voted all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Trembler commented that a few weekends ago the court lights were all on and no one was there. We explained that they are on an hour long timer so it was probably ok, but to keep us informed if he continues to see them on for elongated periods of time.

Mrs. Bylone informs BOS of USDA Rural Development program to upgrade internet infrastructure. Can reach out to Congressman Muesser's office. J. Faust says the township can't make upgrades to Verizon's service nor can we give Verizon money to do so. C. Bylone says at least the pandemic has made the federal government notice how insufficient the system is. She asked if the Blue Mountain School District hot spots are available to residents. J. Faust says only if they have a student. C. Bylone asks if the new website is up yet. It is up but will still need some modifications and the web designer still has to teach Kelly how to update minutes. Lastly, C. Bylone asks if there is anything we can do about blight in our township. J. Faust says it would depend upon what exactly it is. For example, we as a township do not have a property maintenance code because we can't pick and choose who has to follow it and who doesn't and with all the farms in our township how would we handle things like higher grass or a barn needing repair as opposed to a property that resembles a junkyard. They would be under the same guidelines. If there is a violation of state laws or a nuisance problem, the local government has authority to step in.

C. Nace brings up a concern he has with GPS and addresses. If you put a Summer Mountain Road address it takes you up Hickory which is posted as no winter maintenance and emergency vehicles would not be able to get to the address. It is

the different GPS companies that are the issue. J. Heim will talk with County Emergency Services and see if they have any recommendations on how to fix.

C. Shiner asks what the next step is for him building his pole building now that the Accessory Structure in a Non-conforming Use amendment has been passed. The Ordinance is effective immediately. He will need to present the Zoning application to the BOS at a meeting for conditional approval. After BOS grants that then it goes to Light-Heigel for permitting.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

No persons to be heard.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Verizon

Kelly submitted a PUC complaint with the township buildings speeds. We received contact information for another point of contact which was passed on to Jeff. From his most recent calls, J. Faust shares that we are fed from Hazleton to McKeansburg and that Verizon won't be putting any money into an upgrade.

Floodplain Ordinance

B. Baldwin and J. Crossen have completed our required updated Floodplain Ordinance. J. Faust *makes a motion to advertise*. Second by T. Strause. Voted all in favor. J. Crossen will advertise and it will be up for consideration at the March meeting.

PennDot - McKeansburg Speed Limit

We received notice that PennDot received J. Crossen's letter confirming that the township will commit to the purchase and maintenance of new traffic signs if PennDot does a traffic study but they need us to send a letter on township letterhead confirming that he has the authorization to do so. A letter is signed and will be sent.

Pine Valley Bridge Replacement

Design activities are continuing. Below is a summary of remaining work and anticipated project schedule:

- PADEP permit application (2-4 months) and approve permit - Feb 2021
- Utility Coordination - Feb/Mar 2021
- Develop and acquire easements - Feb 2021
- Finalize project bid documents, plans, and specifications - Mar 2021
- Receive Bids - Apr 2021
- Utility Relocations - TBD
- Formally Award Contract and issue Notice-to-Proceed - May 2021
- Bridge Construction - 3 months (Jun-Aug 2021)
- Project Completion, including grant closeout - Nov 2021

Multipurpose Field Update

On January 6, 2021, our office issued the Notice-to-Proceed to Miller Bros., and on January 21, 2021, a pre-construction meeting was held onsite. Since that time, our office has been reviewing submittals. Weather and snow cover might impact field

work, however the substantial completion date for the contractor's work is still scheduled for April 15, 2021.

Old Country Lane Bridge

On January 13, 2021, the Township held a special meeting to discuss the Old Country Lane Bridge and the Township's CFA grant application to replace it. CFA requested that consent letters be provided from the owners of the two properties affected by the project - Kupetz and Caracappa. Following the meeting, both property owners provided consent letters, and our office forwarded them to the CFA. The CFA Board was scheduled to meet on January 19, 2021 to consider the applications. However, that meeting was cancelled. The next CFA Board Meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

2021 Salt Contract

Roadmaster T. Noecker recommends we keep the salt tonnage the same at 75 tons. J. Heim *makes a motion to move forward with the 75 tons.* Second by T. Strause. Voted all in favor.

2021 Lawn Care Program

Silver Maple sent us their recommendation for soccer field maintenance for the year. Kelly is to tell them for the first application they will either only be able to do half of the field due to construction or wait until later in April. They should contact John prior. J. Heim *makes a motion to accept the 6 application recommendation.* Second by T. Strause. Voted all in favor.

2021 PSATS Trustees Insurance & Retirement Services Disclosure Statement

J. Faust *makes a motion to accept the 2021 Disclosure Statement.* Second by T. Strause. Voted all in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

GENERAL

2020 audit will take place Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 9am.

SOUTHERN SCHUYLKILL COG MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7 PM.

BLUE MOUNTAIN RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

The monthly recreation meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 7 PM.

SCHUYLKILL TCC MEETING

The TCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 6PM.

CONCERNS

No concerns

PERMITS

Nothing of note to report

SEMINARS

No applicable seminars available

ROAD MASTER REPORT

J. Heim reported on what the road crew has been doing which includes plowing snow, putting new tracks on the loader, and prepping equipment for Spring.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion by J. Heim, seconded by T. Strause to approve the minutes for the BOS Re-
Org Meeting of January 4, 2021 and the Special Meeting January 13, 2021 as
presented. Voted all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by J. Faust, seconded by J. Heim to approve the Treasurer's Report as
presented. T. Strause abstained.

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION OF BILLS

Motion by T. Strause, seconded by J. Heim to approve the Payment of Bills as
presented. Voted all in Favor.

On a motion by J. Faust, seconded by J. Heim, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14
PM. All Voted in Favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly A. Coldren
Secretary