

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

**MINUTES
January 9, 2025**

The Bushkill Township Board of Supervisors held their rescheduled meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2025, 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, Solicitor Gary Asteak, Township Engineer Robert Collura, Public Works Director Peter Yotter, Open Space Coordinator Kerry Reider, and Zoning Officer Todd Weidman. There were 3 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 Julie Bender and approved unanimously to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

1. **December 5, 2024 - Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of December 5, 2024.

Reports

2. **Police** – Chief McLouth provided the report
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
7. **Library** - Jarred Bedoya provided the report
8. **Recreation** - No meeting in December.
9. **Fire Company** - Report Enclosed.
10. **Engineer** - No Report
11. **Solicitor** –
 - a. **SALDO & Zoning Ordinance** – have been reviewed by LVPC, the Naz Cog . (No comments) the Bushkill Township PC provided a wording change from Commission to Committee in the SALDO, the change was made. The SALDO & Zoning Ordinance are ready for adoption at the February meeting. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the SALDO & Zoning Ordinance.

- b. **Bio-Solids Ordinance** - Supervisor Smith spoke about the need to create a Bio-Solids Ordinance. **Motion** by Julie Bender seconded by Jason Smith and approved unanimously to authorize the EAC to work with the Solicitor to create an ordinance for the BOS to review.
- c. **Home News** – Solicitor Asteak briefed the Supervisors that as of February 2, 2025, he will start to advertise in the Home News as Express Times will be going digital and will no longer be considered a newspaper of General Circulation.

12. EAC – Open Space Coordinator Kerry Reider provided the report.

- a. **Farmland Lease Advertisement** – Advertised and opened on 1/2/2025. There were 5 bidders, the following were the high bidders; Heintzelman (52 Farmable acres) 6 year lease, High Bidder was Jeff Raub - \$280.00 an acre; Beltz Farm (45.03 Farmable acres) 6 year lease, High Bidder was Phil Ronca – \$250.00 an acre; Erhardt Farm (104.25 Farmable acres) 3 year lease High Bidder was Jeff Raub - \$280.00 an acre. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to authorize the Solicitor to authorize the awards of the Farmland Leases to the high bidders.

13. NAZ COG - No Report

14. Emergency Mgmt.

OLD BUSINESS:

15. Traffic Corridor Study (SR 946/Knauss Road & Penn Allen Road)

NEW BUSINESS:

16. 2025 Spring Newsletter - Articles to be submitted by Thursday, February 28, 2025

17. FRCA Agreement – Authorize execution or suggestions of revisions of the agreement.

- 1. Require 2 dumpsters
 - 2. Require 3rd Dumpster for leaf collection season
 - 3. Require All satellite locations be monitored
 - 4. Acceptable review of the rules, regulations, and rates by FRCA Rep.
- Motion** by to allow the execution of the FRCA Agreement after revisions are made and communicated by the Bushkill Township Solicitor to the FRCA Solicitor David Backenstoe.

PAY BILLS: Bill List - \$159,966.44 - **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 6:20pm to discuss matters of Real Estate. The Board of Supervisors reconvened at 6:36pm and made the following motion:

Authorize the Open Space Coordinator to make an offer for conservation easements on OS 97 & OS-98. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Randy Knauss and approved unanimously to authorize the purchase of Easements.

GOOD OF THE BOARD: 2025 Reorganization Meeting - January 6, 2025 @ 12:00pm

Bushkill Township Auditors Meeting - January 7, 2025 @ 6:00pm

Next regular Board of Supervisors Meeting – February 6, 2025 @ 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Kocher asked if there was any other business, hearing none, Chairman Kocher asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion** by Jason Smith seconded by Carolyn Hill and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:38pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Belinda A. Roberts, Manager