

EAST BUFFALO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg, PA, 17837
September 09, 2024

Chairman Knight called the Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Those present: Chairman James Knight; Vice Chairman Tom Zorn; Supervisor Katie Evans; Township Manager Jolene Helwig; Township Assistant Road Master Jeff Oberdorf; Township Solicitor Peter Matson; Planning/Zoning Thomas MacDonald; and Secretary/Treasurer Gayle Boudman.

Members of the public participating in-person: Greg Zeh, Tina Prowant, Joe Sylvester (The Standard Journal), Justin Strawser (The Daily Item), WCEC Chief James Blount, Ron Belletti, and Daniel Edler (Friesen's Welding).

Hearing of Visitors:

- Tina Prowant announced that the early morning speeder on her road was finally caught by the police.

Reports of Officials:

- Chairman Knight
 - A local scout troop has volunteered to help plant trees at Turtle Creek Park on October 13th and they would like to camp out overnight. I sent them the registration form to fill out and we can give them a copy of the approved registration form to have on hand. We will also need to let the neighbors and police department know that they have permission to be there.
 - A fraternity from Bucknell has also volunteered to help with tree planting on October 19. Still working out the details with them and other fraternities interested in doing some trail projects at the park but do not have a date from them and waiting to hear back from them.
- Vice Chairman Zorn
 - Attended the BVRP Committee monthly meeting on August 28, 2024.
 - Having ongoing discussions with The Standard Journal about putting together a constituent users guide, and they are checking on some pricing for us.
 - On September 5, 2024, sat in on interviews that were held for the two police candidate finalists for the police chief position.
 - Reviewed the current draft of the Union County Comprehensive Plan and there are ten items that are for EBT to take action on. He will put together a spreadsheet of the action plans for the supervisors to review and decide whether future guidance is needed on these actions or whether Market Street is the only item needed.
- Supervisor Evans
 - Attended the BVRP Committee monthly meeting on August 28, 2024, and they are continuing to make plans for choosing the new chief. A third candidate will be interviewed on Thursday, September 12, 2024.
 - The planning committee is planning to have a meeting with their stakeholders and appoint someone to do the background checks for the candidates.
- Township Manager Helwig
 - Attended the virtual town hall meeting that was for the 5,000 to 10,000 population on September 09, 2024. Their topics were paid fire departments, police funding, Airbnb's, and tiny houses.
 - Received a phone call from Bob Huntington and Joe del Grippo asking us to write an agreement with the Lewisburg Borough and Union Township to share our grinder once we get it. Both Lewisburg Borough and Union Township would like to go into an agreement with the township and are asking us to draft the agreement so that they can present it to their board and their council before their next meetings.
 - On Thursday, September 12, 2024, meeting with our insurance broker to go over our new health insurance rates for 2025. There could be a 5% to 15% increase in insurance rates.
 - On Friday, September 13, 2024 meeting with a representative from Windstream along with a few other townships. They be talking about what services they already have in the area and what new services they are planning on running through our area.

- Looked into our cable franchise agreement and it is a 5% on gross revenue. The current contract is a five-year term from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2026.
- Assistant Road Master Jeff Oberdorf
 - Went over some of the Public Works department expense items for the 2025 budget.
 - Brush and yard waste pickup started today, and the public works crew got about one-fourth of the Township done, everything west of 22nd Street.
 - Street sweeping started and weather permitting fog sealing should start by the end of the week or the beginning of next week.
 - Gave an update on what remains to be done to close out the Multi-modal Grant Project. Supervisors are in agreement to have two delineators placed on each side of the Sunoco Sign to alert public from walking into the ground attachment bolts.
- Township Secretary/Treasurer Boudman
 - Highlighted the major expenses and major income received last month as noted on the expenditures report for August 2024.
- William Cameron Engine Company Chief Blount
 - Updated the Board of Supervisors on the fire company's activity for August 2024.
 - Raised the issue of the inadequacy of third-party fire inspections.

Chairman Knight acknowledged Board receipt of the August 2024 Buffalo Valley Regional Police Departments (BVRPD) Reports.

Chairman Knight acknowledged Board receipt of the August 2024 Central Keystone Council of Governments (CKCOG) Report.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve Israel J. & Sarah Z. Wengerd Minor Subdivision Plan.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the August 26, 2024, work session meeting minutes as distributed.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the expenditures for August as presented.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to have Solicitor Matson's office prepare an IGA between the Borough of Lewisburg and East Buffalo Township to share equipment, personnel, and bidding.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to establish Halloween Trick or Treating hours in East Buffalo Township for Thursday, October 31, 2024, from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

No action taken by the Board of Supervisors on Volunteers for 2025.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the Girls on the Run 5K Race for Saturday, November 23, 2024, at 10:15 AM.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to accept YSM's bid recommendation letter for consideration to award the Spruce Hills Park - Phase 1, Contract No. 1 to Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. for the base bid of \$389,883.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Vice Chairman Zorn seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve having an appraisal done by Richard Drzewiecki on the CVS property located at 350 North 10th Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837, and the taxing authorities sharing the pro rata allocation cost.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to appoint Clyde Holman and Andrew Boni to serve a term on the Board of Trustees from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027, as the PSATS Unemployment Compensation Group Trust Trustees.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to reinvest the current Fixed Term Investment maturing on September 27, 2024, at the current rate at maturity for another six (6) months, with a maturity date due in March.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

For the Good of the Order:

- Chairman Knight announced that the DCED Local Share Account Grant window started September 1, 2024, and applications need to be submitted by November 30, 2024. Possibly apply for one to help fund the Salt Shed. No matching funds are needed but providing matching funds helps with securing the grant. It takes about one year to hear back from them.
- Chairman Knight stated that the PennDOT Multimodal Grant will open on September 23, 2024, and applications are due by November 5, 2025, if the supervisors are interested in applying for one for the Market Street Streetscape project.

Press Time:

- Justin Strawser (The Daily Item):
 - Clarification that the trees being planted at Turtle Creek Park were purchased with the Giant Grant money.
 - Clarification that the Grinder would be used for grinding up materials collected from the brush pickup.
 - Explanation on what a 902 grant was.
 - Clarification on what the Spruce Hills project includes.
 - How much tax revenue is the township expected to lose if the CVS Tax Assessment Appeal is approved?
- Joe Sylvester (The Standard Journal)
 - Clarification on the Third-Party Fire Inspection concerns brought up by Chief Blount.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to enter into an Executive Session at 6:33 PM.

Motion by Vice Chairman Zorn seconded by Chairman Knight to exit the Executive Session at 6:54 PM.

Motion by Vice Chairman Zorn seconded by Chairman Knight to adjourn at 6:54 PM.


Gayle Boudman, Secretary


James Knight, Chairman


Tom Zorn, Vice Chairman


Katie Evans, Supervisor