

EAST BUFFALO TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PUBLIC WORK SESSION  
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg, PA, 17837  
June 25, 2018

Chairman Schumacher called the Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

Those present: Chairman, Matt Schumacher; Vice Chairman, Char Gray; Supervisor, David Rowe; Township Manager/Secretary Stacey Kifolo; Solicitor, Peter Matson.

Visitors: See lists.

Public Comments:

- Jim Buck, EBT resident, expressed his appreciation for the recent yard waste pick-up and the paving of South 10th street. He questioned the Board on their efforts to request that Lewisburg Borough shoulder more of the burden for the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority (BVRA). He questioned the Board's position on the amending of the BVRA Articles of Incorporation. He questioned the potential reduction in funding to BVRA if the County takes over the rail trail. He also asked if the Board anticipated negotiating with BVRA on the terms of the agreement that would be discussed later in the meeting.
- Andrew Stuhl, EBT resident, thanked the Board for investing in future park development. He questioned the decision making for the hiring of YSM as the consultant for park development and the lack of soliciting bids. He hopes the Board holds to their word that they are not looking to micro-manage the BVRA.
- Mary Haige, EBT resident, thanked Supervisor Gray for her support for the longest possible agreement period for BVRA. She would like to see the Supervisors support the staff of BVRA. She was also in attendance to support Walk It Bike It Lewisburg and is interested in the Township working to connect the rail trail and public library.
- Dan Clark, EBT resident, indicated that he had attended a recent Lewisburg Borough Council meeting and asked about BVRA funding. The Borough Manager stated the Borough was not developing an agreement, but they were waiting to hear back from BVRA about what they wanted. When Mr. Clark inquired with the Borough on a multi-year agreement for BVRA, he didn't get a response.

Motion by Vice Chairman Gray and seconded by Supervisor Rowe to approve the June 11, 2018 meeting minutes as distributed.

Schumacher-y, Gray-y, Rowe-y; Motion Carried

Chairman Schumacher reported that the previously scheduled June Fire Board meeting has been cancelled. Pending progress of finalizing necessary documents by the respective attorneys, the next meeting is tentatively set for July 26<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Rowe reported on his attendance and the proceedings of the tax exemption hearing held on June 21, 2018 for the Miller Center for Recreation and Wellness (MCRW). No determination was made by the hearing board on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The hearing board entered into executive session, requested additional information from MCRW and will reconvene within 10 days. He reviewed the Pennsylvania Statutes, Title 10, Section 375, criteria for institutions of purely public charity. Supervisor Rowe noted that five (5) criteria need to be met in order to be granted property tax

exemption status. In his opinion, the MCRW does not meet all five (5) criteria and should not be granted a property tax exemption. Supervisor Rowe and Vice Chairman Gray each noted that the inclusion of an East Buffalo Township letter of support for RACP grant funding, included in the MCRW argument for exemption, was in no way an endorsement of the Township for property tax exemption.

Vice Chairman Gray discussed the recent development with the Penn Commons Housing tax assessment reduction, noting that Fulton Bank is not being a good community partner. She encouraged people to contact the school district and the Township to express their concerns for the lowering of the property assessment value.

Township Manager Kifolo reported that due to the binding decision of BVRPC Arbitration regarding retiree premium share, the Township has been billed for payment of the premium share for July 2017 through May 2018 that was originally paid by the retirees. The cost is \$2,851.34. The cost per month for two officers, under the BVRPC current plan is \$3,688.

Samantha Pearson from Walk It Bike It Lewisburg provided the Board of Supervisors with an update on the organizations recent efforts through the use of public meetings and discussions. They have updated their list of priorities and/or issue areas. Stein Lane in EBT and Newman Road in Kelly Township top the list. Other areas are the rail trail crossing on US15 and the rail trail crossing at Fairground Road. The organization is continuing to work on awareness and advocacy materials. They are interested in hold another Road Holiday on River Road in EBT during the fall of 2018. They will be reaching out to impacted property owners and providing their own signage (e.g., Road Closed) for the event.

Following the discussion during the June 11, 2018 meeting regarding the drafted agreement between the Township and the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority, Solicitor Matson presented requested revisions. The revised document drafted by Solicitor Matson was reviewed and changes were discussed. The Board requested that Solicitor Matson make one revision to Section 6.6 of the draft. With one change noted, the Board took action to move the agreement forward to meet the July 1, 2018 deadline requested by BVRA.

Motion by Chairman Schumacher and seconded by Supervisor Rowe to approve the Agreement with Regard to Recreation between the Township and the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority. As outlined in the agreement, the beginning funding amount will be \$118,352. However, the Township has discretion for reducing the contribution during the contract period. In the event that the Township Board of Supervisors determines at any time during the contract period to reduce funding to the Recreation Authority, the amount of the specific reduction(s) shall be earmarked for parks and recreation within the Township.

Schumacher-y, Gray-y, Rowe-y; Motion Carried

MOTION by Chairman Schumacher to adjourn at 7:25 PM.

Submitted by Stacey Kifolo, Secretary