

EAST BUFFALO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg, PA, 17837
May 26, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State's stay-at-home order and the advocating for the practice of social distancing, the Township Board used a virtual meeting format that allowed for Township elected and appointed officials and members of the public to participate in the work session meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

The change for the meeting "location" was advertised in a local newspaper and meeting registration and options for submitting public comments were provided on the Township website. Prior to the meeting, members of the public were invited to submit questions to any Township elected or appointed official via phone or email. During the meeting, the public was instructed to use the "Raise Hand" feature or the "Q&A" portal in the virtual meeting or they were instructed to send a text message or email to the Township Manager.

Chairman Schumacher called the Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

Those present: Chairman Matt Schumacher; Vice Chairman Char Gray; Supervisor James Knight; Township Manager, Stacey Kifolo; Solicitor Peter Matson; and Secretary/Treasurer, Jolene Helwig.

Members of the public participating via the virtual meeting format: Matt Farrand (Standard Journal); Andrew Misener; Eileen Petula; Elizabeth Capaldi; Jon Allocca; Judith Marvin; Ken Field; Sandy Field; Marilyn Murphy; Terrance Shea; Tina Morris; Tina Prowant; Victor Udo; and William (Geoff) Goodenow.

Vice Chairman Gray reported that the BVRA meeting will be held Wednesday, May 27th. The BVRA board will be discussing the pool, the parks and the summer camp programs. Gray stated she was disappointed because the county didn't end up in the green phase because of an accounting error with the COVID-19 count. This certainly was not good for BVRA in a lot of ways, it doesn't allow for the opening of the gymnastic center or the pool; but going to the green phase would allow BVRA to open the gymnastic center and the pool. Gray reported that the BVRPC did not meet this month for a regular meeting but instead they had an informational meeting on Wednesday, May 13th to start the collective bargaining agreement discussions that will begin in June.

Township Manager Kifolo reported that the drop-off recycling center opened Monday, May 18th with a soft opening. The information was posted on the township website and emailed to about 240 residents that have signed up to receive the township news and notice updates. The drop-off recycling center was highly active, incredibly early on Monday, May 18th but the activity for Tuesday, May 26th was not as active as the week prior. East Buffalo Township and Lycoming County Resource Management Service (LCRMS) feel they can be open weekly. The first Saturday opening will be scheduled for Saturday, June 13th, but that is something that will have to be evaluated. If the bins are close to being full or if they are full the township may not be able to open because LCRMS is letting three of the material bins sit for three days before they will remove them from the site. The township will keep the residents updated by posting the information on the website.

Secretary Helwig reported that the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area (LWVLA) decided not to create a printed version of the Voters Guide. Instead the Voters Guide, will be posted on their website at www.lwvlewisburgarea.org/VoterElectionInformation.html. Helwig stated that the public works crew is asking the residents that still have piles of brush and yard waste to be picked up to make sure that the materials are separated. They ask if you didn't keep a copy of the 2020 Spring Recycling Guide to please visit the township website and take note to the do's and don'ts.

For the first segment of public comment, attendees were asked to limit comments to matters on the agenda.

Public Comments:

- Ken Field, EBT resident, stated that he sent a list of questions to the supervisors regarding the solar ordinance. He asked if the supervisors would offer the ordinance to the public as soon as possible for public opinion and public comment.
- Sandy Field, EBT resident, speaks in support of the solar ordinance. She appreciates that the township is taking such action to move this ordinance forward into the community for individuals and businesses to take advantage of these economic opportunities.
- Tina Prowant, EBT resident, asked the Board of Supervisors if Bucknell University decides to place solar on their property will the township receive more in real estate taxes for this property.
- Elizabeth Capaldi, EBT resident, asked the supervisors if they know the timeline for the decision-making process. She asked if it was possible to set up email blasts for the meeting information.
- Judith Marvin, EBT resident, asked the Board of Supervisors what is the set number of days or weeks for the public comment period. She asked what happens if County Planning Commission has issues with the ordinance and when do they get addressed.

Motion by Vice Chairman Gray and seconded by Supervisor Knight to approve the May 11, 2020 meeting minutes as distributed.
Schumacher-y, Gray-y, Knight-y; Motion Carried.

No official action was taken by the Board of Supervisors relative to the draft Solar Ordinance. Makenzie Stover (CKCOG) Zoning Officer and Solicitor Peter Matson provided the Board of Supervisors with additional changes based upon discussion at the May 11, 2020 public meeting. The Board of Supervisors reviewed and discussed the proposed ordinance, however, additional discussion resulted in the board directing Solicitor Matson to make a few changes to the draft. Solicitor Matson and Zoning Officer Stover will provide a final draft for review at the June 8th regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors. The zoning ordinance amendment public hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 13th.

The Board of Supervisors authorized Township Manager Kifolo to advertise the June 8th public meeting and the meeting schedule going forward as both in public at the township municipal building and in a virtual meeting format.

Chairman Schumacher announced that the Board of Supervisors would be holding an executive session immediately following the work session to discuss on-going litigation.

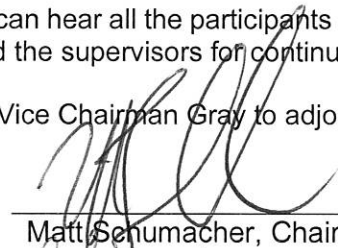
For the second segment of public comment, attendees were welcomed to comment on matters that were discussed during the meeting or topics not appearing on the agenda.

Public Comments:

- Tina Prowant, EBT resident, thanked the supervisors for keeping both options open to the residents. She asked if the Zoom Meeting format cost the township and wanted to know the status on the tax refund rebate.
- Judith Marvin, EBT resident, stated that you can hear all the participants even the soft-spoken ones during the zoom meetings, she thanked the supervisors for continuing both formats.

Motion by Chairman Schumacher and seconded by Vice Chairman Gray to adjourn at 7:16 PM.


Jolene D. Helwig, Secretary


Matt Schumacher, Chairman


Char Gray, Vice Chairman


James Knight, Supervisor