

**Benner Township Supervisors  
Meeting Minutes**

**November 4, 2024**

**7:00pm**

**1224 Buffalo Run Road  
Bellefonte, PA 16823**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order on November 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairman, Randy Moyer with members Larry Lingle and Kathy Evey present.

Also in attendance were: Sharon Royer, Township Secretary and Rod Beard, Township Solicitor.

A guest list is attached with names of public attendees.

***\*Please note: Anyone who wishes to address the board and has not previously asked to be placed on the agenda, comments will be limited to no longer than 5 minutes and must be non-repetitive. All speakers must announce their name prior to speaking.***

***\*The meeting will be recorded for transcription purposes.***

**PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD/PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Robert Kuhlman – Airports in the Township
  - Mr. Kuhlman noted that he feels that now is the time that the Township consider hiring an Aviation Engineer to review future plans of the airports.
  - Mr. Kuhlman spoke to ask for clarification regarding de-icing protocols and how de-icing runoff fluids are controlled or captured.
  
2. Tom Eby – Water Update
  - Walnut Grove Estates update:
    - SCBWA completed its feasibility study and they aren't interested in doing the project and has turned it back over to the Benner Township Water Authority to consider.
    - The financing for this project would be through a PENNVEST loan or a grant.
    - There is currently federal money that is available to help with costs relating to PFAS contamination. An authority needs to apply for the grant and there are only 2 authorities involved, Benner Township Water Authority and State College Borough Water Authority.

- The project is estimated at approximately \$400,000 (permitting and engineering) and it was noted that the Benner Water Authority only has 300 customers. It was noted that if all goes according to plan, the money could all be reimbursed. But, if for some reason, it was determined that the project is not eligible for reimbursement, the Benner Authority would be on the hook for the entire project cost, and with a small customer base, it would not be economically feasible to be able to cover \$400,000. It was noted that State College Borough Water Authority is a huge Authority with thousands of customers. What could be a huge financial burden for a small authority would be “just a drop in the bucket” for a huge authority like State College Borough.
  - The Feasibility Study is on State College Borough website under “forms”.
  - The feasibility study estimates that the project would cost 4.8 million
3. Dave Palmer – Berks Homes / Valentine Road Development
    - Mr. Palmer offered an update on the resolution of the traffic issue for this development.
  4. Ed Dunkleberger – Wedding Venue/Ag Tourism
    - Mr. Dunkleberger owns the Hartle farm across from the Bellefonte Airport entrance and near the Bellefonte Elementary School. He is petitioning the board to allow him to pursue using the farm as a wedding venue and for Ag Tourism (pumpkin patch, parties, weddings, activities, etc).
    - A few residents noted that they would be concerned that this would open the opportunity to start up the controversial hayrides again
    - This petition will be tabled until the December meeting to give the supervisors and Township staff the opportunity to do some research on the zoning issues.

**MINUTES**

1. October 4, 2024 – Special Meeting

*Moyer moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on October 4, 2024 as presented. Lingle seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion to approve carried.*

<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

2. October 7, 2024 - Regular Meeting

*Moyer moved to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2024 as presented. Lingle seconded the motion. Discussion included a request to amend the minutes to reflect the reason for the abstentions in the vote for hiring a transcriptionist. Mrs. Evey abstained for personal reasons due to a personal relationship with the proposed transcriptionist. The motion to approve the minutes with the proposed correction/amendment carried.*

<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes

Kathy Evey	Yes
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3. October 21, 2024 – Budget Work Session

*Moyer moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2024, Work Session as presented. Lingle seconded the motion. Discussion included Evey requesting to change and incorrect date in the minutes – the date of the meeting was listed incorrectly as November 21, 2024. Her request to amend the minutes was denied. The motion to approve carried.*

Supervisor Name	Vote
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	No

**TREASURER REPORT**

The Expenditure/Bill List (accounts payable) for the General Fund was presented to the Board in the amount of \$94,135.37.

*Moyer moved to approve the Expenditure/Bill List as presented. Lingle seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion to approve carried.*

Supervisor Name	Vote
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

The General Fund Receivables in the amount of \$87,192.89 were presented.

*Moyer moved to approve the above listed report. Lingle seconded the motion. Motion to approve carried unanimously.*

Supervisor Name	Vote
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Rezoning Request Fox Lane Homes (Part of Tomco Property) – Applicant plans to withdraw the application
  - Mrs. Royer reported that the applicant, ELA, did withdraw their application. The Township received the notice of withdrawal.
2. Logan Greene Development Traffic Impact Improvement Agreement

*Moyer moved to approve the above listed report. Lingle seconded the motion. Motion to approve carried unanimously.*

<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

3. Request of a garbage waiver from Nebroski's

- There was a discussion regarding the ordinance and exemptions. This exemption was put on the agenda for the December meeting for further review.
- A resident expressed concern about elderly or disabled residents who might have to transport a heavy container a long distance. Mrs. Royer clarified that the company is willing to offer exceptions/provisions for elderly/disabled residents, and if a resident has a concern, they should reach out to the company with concerns or Shelly Mato at COG.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Tentative 2025 Budget – tentative adoption for public comment period to begin

*Moyer moved to send the tentative 2025 Budget Report out for public review/comment. Evey seconded the motion. Motion to approve carried unanimously.*

<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

Bellefonte Borough requesting a Letter of Support for LSA grant application for a New Fire Truck

*Moyer moved to approve the Letter of Support. Evey seconded the motion. Motion to approve carried unanimously.*

<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

2. Application from Josh Fitz to serve on either the Watershed Commission or Planning Commission

*Moyer moved to approve the above listed application for Josh Fitz. Lingle seconded the motion. Motion to approve carried unanimously.*

<b>Supervisor Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Randy Moyer	Yes
Larry Lingle	Yes
Kathy Evey	Yes

3. Kathy Evey – Re: Bellefonte EMS funds

- Mrs. Evey reported that there is a large cost discrepancy between the costs of services rendered vs the reimbursement costs paid by the Township. The cost of services rendered was \$34,000/year but the Township only gave Bellefonte EMS company \$14,000/year. It was reported that last year the Township gave Bellefonte EMS company an extra \$5,000 which came to a total of \$19,000 for the year. Mrs. Evey proposed that the Township use any leftover ARPA funds to help reimburse the EMS service for their services rendered and give them payment in full. Mrs. Evey noted that the 2025 budget does offer the EMS service an additional \$10,000 for a total of \$24,000 a year, but she feels this is still not enough.

- A representative from Bellefonte EMS was present to discuss EMS services in Benner Township and surrounding areas.
- Bellefonte EMS services 10 municipalities total including 3 Boroughs – Bellefonte, Milesburg and Unionville  
Of these municipalities:

Howard Township, Union Township, Huston Township are all at the requested .5 mill.

Boggs Township is at .43 mill (increase)

Bellefonte Borough increased their reimbursement funds to .3 mill

Benner Township is at .22 mil

Unionville Borough is at .13 mill (increased)

Centre County Government increased their funds this year (properties that are government properties: The Courthouse, the old CentreCrest, Crestside Terrace, Beaver Farms, Governor's Park, Governor's Gate Apartments)

- Mr. Lingle asked if offering the EMS service payment in full would help to ensure that calls placed by Benner Township residents would be answered first. The EMS service clarified that all calls are answered and responded to chronologically. Mr. Lingle then asked what is the benefit of offering payment in full if not all participating municipalities are paying in full. There was a lengthy discussion regarding EMS services, funding, cost saving procedures and how to make the EMS services more efficient.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. SBWJA Minutes – September 23, 2024 and October 14, 2024
2. Benner Township Water Authority Minutes – September 17, 2024
3. Centre County Planning Commission
  - a. Time Extensions
    1. Benner Pike Hotel
  - b. Comment Letters
    1. Cascade Preliminary Plan Approval letter
    2. Sullivan's Mini Storage – Phase VIII Commencement with construction letter

- 3. RCC Developments – Waiver Request Preliminary Plan Vs Final Plan – waiver granted
- 4. Comment for 780 Hearing for Bellefonte Area School District
- 5. Harvest Meadows Phase 2 – Comment letter
- 4. Conservation District
  - a. Fiore-Bohn Waste Area
- 5. Engineering Review Letters
  - a. Franson –
    - 1. Bellefonte Warehouse Land Development Comments
  - b. McCormick Taylor
    - 1. Shiloh Road TIS Comments
- 6. 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Meeting Notes
- 7. DEP Letters
  - a. Shiloh Commercial Park – Act 537 Planning Exemption approval
- 8. 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Report from Bellefonte EMS
- 9. September 2024 Zoning Report

**NOTES**

It was noted that the Supervisors will hold an **executive session** to discuss litigation after the regular meeting is adjourned and will not reconvene at its conclusion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moyer adjourned the meeting at 8:21pm.

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Leah Guizar - Transcriptionist

Benner Township Supervisors  
November 4, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.  
Sign in Sheet  
(Please Print)

Name	Address
Riley Meade	316 W beaver Ave
Scott Rhoad	369 Phoenix Ave
Jacob Michael	211 E Bishop St. Bellefonte → WDT!
Ryan and Ashley Dunkelberger	623 Buffalo Run Rd
ED DUNKELBERGER	1526 BRUSH VALLEY RD. CENTRE HALL
T. ERY	232 ARMAGAST RD
Dennis Tewksbury	293 meadow Flower Circle Bellefonte
Allent Treva Strouse	Buffalo Run
Robert Kuhl	Benner Twp
Karl Kroone	160 Cedar St.
ERED GAY	179 HENRYS PATH
Gene Sticker	Walnut Grove
Rich + Sherril Butten	Fox Ridge
Ariana Tarr	Forest Pond Ln
Lindsay Melt	188 Paracox Rd
Servy Les	163 Camp Hill Lane
John E Intsler	817 Senbeal
Deb Smeal	143 Willow Drive