

Appendix II - Stenographer Minutes for the
Public Hearing on proposed Parks and Open
Space Plan Update

BEFORE THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHEL
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

- - -

IN RE: Public Hearing on Proposed
Parks and Open Space Update

- - -

Public hearing in the above matter held pursuant to notice on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at the Bethel Township Municipal Building, 1082 Bethel Road, Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania, commencing at 7:30 p.m., before Norma Gerrity, Professional Court Reporter.

- - -

BEFORE: GIOVANNA IACONO, PE, MBA, Chairwoman
MICHAEL D'AGOSTINO, ESQ., Supervisor
CHUCK DENNIE, PE, Supervisor
STEPHANIE DER OHANNESSIAN, Supervisor

MICHAEL MADDREN, ESQ., Solicitor

ALSO PRESENT: WILLIAM ADDISON, Township
Manager
MATTHEW HOUTMANN, Township
Engineer

- - -

NORMA GERRITY
Professional Court Reporter
14 Feters Boulevard
Downingtown, PA 19335
(610) 246-2362

I N D E XEXHIBITS

<u>BOARD</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
B-1	Proof of Advertisement	4
B-2	Parks and Open Space Plan	4

1 THE CHAIRWOMAN: Is there a motion to
2 open the public hearing on the parks and
3 open space?

4 MR. DENNIE: Yes. I make a motion to
5 open a public hearing on the proposed parks
6 and open space plan update.

7 MS. DER OHANNESSIAN: Second.

8 THE CHAIRWOMAN: Motion was made by
9 Supervisor Dennie, seconded by Supervisor
10 DerOhannessian.

11 All in favor?

12 - - -

13 (The Board unanimously responds aye.)

14 - - -

15 THE CHAIRWOMAN: All opposed?

16 - - -

17 (No response.)

18 - - -

19 THE CHAIRWOMAN: The public hearing on
20 the parks and open space plan is open. I
21 believe we have some exhibits.

22 MR. MADDREN: Yes, we have some
23 exhibits. I guess what we should start out
24 with is we're going to incorporate any

1 comments that anybody made on the
2 comprehensive plan into the hearing on the
3 parks plan.

4 So if you've already spoken, you don't
5 need to come up and go, oh, my God, I've
6 already spoken about parks.

7 We're in agreement, everything is
8 incorporated, so all comments will be part
9 of this transcript as well.

10 We'll have two board exhibits. One
11 will be the advertisement, the proof of
12 advertisement that this was advertised in
13 accordance with Municipalities Planning
14 Code, and second will be the parks plan
15 itself.

16 And with that, Madam Chair?

17 - - -

18 (Board Exhibits B-1 and B-2 were
19 marked for identification.)

20 - - -

21 THE CHAIRWOMAN: Thank you. So given
22 that the previous comments will also be on
23 the record, are there any additional
24 comments that residents or the board would

1 like to add?

2 MS. DER OHANNESSIAN: So again we have
3 some corrections that we had initially
4 asked for that we would like to revisit.

5 So the title page, we should put the
6 adoption date, December 20, 2024.

7 Images of open space locations to be
8 looked at, identify the name and location
9 in the township. Some are and some aren't.

10 Page 50, the legend of the map is very
11 difficult to read, so please enlarge,
12 include larger type for each figure.

13 And on page 76, we're not sure if it
14 makes sense to include the NACTO Urban
15 Street Guide in this plan. And that's it.

16 MR. MADDREN: I'll make the same
17 commentary as we did the last time.

18 I reviewed those recommended changes
19 prior to the meeting, and I do not believe
20 any of them rise to the level of
21 substantial as that term is used in the
22 Municipalities Planning Code, and none of
23 those changes would prevent you from acting
24 on the parks plan this evening, should you

1 choose to.

2 THE CHAIRWOMAN: Thank you.

3 MR. D'AGOSTINO: I just have some
4 general comments.

5 THE CHAIRWOMAN: Sure.

6 MR. D'AGOSTINO: Just along with what
7 many other comments that have been made, I
8 think everybody is in general agreement we
9 want to keep Bethel a simple town.

10 That's why we either moved here, grew
11 up here. We don't have to keep up with the
12 Joneses.

13 This is a planning tool, but I think
14 we should seriously consider keeping that,
15 which is in the mission statement, of
16 everybody likes to feel the town, a few
17 tweaks here and there.

18 But I think we moved here or grew up
19 here and want to stay here because of that
20 simple town slogan. So just some general
21 comments to keep in mind.

22 MR. DENNIE: I had a quick comment,
23 too. And it's been said and stated as
24 well, that there's lot of expense, the

1 totality of moving forward, and that's not
2 really the intent, but to give us an idea
3 of the amount of money we spend, even
4 something as simple as doing a crosswalk
5 across Foulk Road from the school to the
6 community park.

7 Having it in our comprehensive plan
8 when we go after grant allocations or to
9 get approval from the county, it's that
10 much easier if it's already something we
11 invested the effort into.

12 So I agree with the sentiment of many
13 of the folks here, is that it's not, let's
14 do everything in here.

15 But if we come to the conclusion that
16 one particular thing seems like the next
17 possible step for us, we can discuss that.

18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIRWOMAN: Thank you.

20 Any other comments from the board or
21 the public at this time?

22 - - -

23 (No response.)

24 - - -

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

THE CHAIRWOMAN: All right. With that, I will make a motion to close the public hearing on the parks and open space.

MS. DER OHANNESSIAN: Second.

THE CHAIRWOMAN: Motion was made by the chair, seconded by Supervisor DerOhannessian.

All in favor?

- - -

(The Board unanimously responds aye.)

- - -

THE CHAIRWOMAN: Opposed?

- - -

(No response.)

- - -

THE CHAIRWOMAN: Motion carries.
Thank you.

- - -

(Proceedings concluded at 7:35 p.m.)

- - -

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Norma Gerrity, a Professional Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes in the above-captioned matter.

Norma Gerrity
Professional Court Reporter