

Lower Milford Township

Lehigh County, Pennsylvania

Board of Supervisors

June 18, 2020 Regular Meeting – In-person and Virtual via Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Donna Wright, Chair; Ellen Koplin, Vice-Chair; John Quigley, Supervisor; Mark Cappuccio, Esq., Solicitor; Stacy Smith, Treasurer/Acting Secretary; Drake Buntzenhoff, Public Works Director and 20 members of the public. Additional members of the public participated virtually.

The meeting was convened at 6:30PM by Chair Wright and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Quigley raised an employment issue as a public comment contrary to and in defiance of standard employment practice, alleging racially motivated interaction among staff members. Other public comments were received throughout the meeting.

Motion by Koplin to approve May 21, 2020 Minutes. Seconded by Wright with the addition that Quigley's reason for abstention be added. Abstention by Quigley due to his beliefs that the book keeper lacks in skills and allegedly made racial threats. His abstention for these reasons will carry throughout the meeting. Motion Carried.

The Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2020 was read by Wright:

- General Fund \$835,967.01
- Historic Registry Fund 5,734.50
- Rec & Open Space Fund 7,102.39
- Sewer Fund 47,941.93
- Capital Reserved Fund 33,029.53
- Fire Fund 203,984.95
- Highway Capital 322,507.15
- State Liquid Fuels 282,922.58
- Developers Escrow (Non-Twsp.) 43,171.95

Motion by Koplin to approve the Treasurer's report as read. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley due to reasons previously stated. Motion Carried.

Motion by Koplin to authorize the paying of June 2020 bills. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley due to reasons previously stated. Motion Carried.

Wright announced the Zoning Report.

Wright announced the Public Works Report.

Wright announced the Secretary Report.

Wright announced the Macungie Ambulance Corp. Report for May 2020.

Wright announced the Southern Lehigh Library Report. Comments received from the Township's Library Representative, Ryan Fields, via Zoom, regarding the Library's reopening.

Under Old Business:

Discussion on the dirt bike complaint's took place. Seven residents were in attendance in opposition of the dirt bikes and seven residents were in attendance to support, as well as additional attendees on Zoom. Several audience members spoke concerning property owners using dirt bikes on their property. Wright read aloud the Zoning Officer's updated report on the issue. Motion by Koplin to amend the nuisance ordinance to remove language stating that the Township will act as the enforcing party. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley due to reasons previously stated. Motion Carried. Residents were recommended to proceed to the District Magistrate with complaints.

Discussion held on the Public Works request to purchase and sell vehicles. Request by Koplin to receive service records on the vehicles. Request by Wright to receive additional information on the 2007 International, highlighting what work was been done to the vehicle. Motion by Koplin to sell the 1993 Ford F-350, 1996 Ford Explorer, 1974 Whisper Wood Chipper and V-box Spare. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley due to reasons previously stated. Motion Carried.

Under New Business:

Discussion took place on Ordinance #110, Fire Safety, Protection and Prevention updates. Motion by Koplin to approve Ordinance #110 for advertising with changes. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley for reasons previously stated. Motion Carried.

Motion by Koplin to approve Ordinance #113 for advertising. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley for reasons previously stated. Motion Carried.

Discussion held on Docket # 20-04 Appeal of Christine Phillips and John Wentz seeking a variance for a non-conforming structure. The Board concurred that they would not take a position on the appeal.

Discussion held regarding Township Building Security. Tabled for further consideration.

Motion by Koplin to approve the Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the emergency response to the explosion at the Orchard Road property. Seconded by Wright. Abstention by Quigley due to reasons previously stated. Motion Carried.

Request made by Wright for additional quotes on Township grounds maintenance.

Under Public Comments:

Quigley surrendered an envelope that he said contained keys and other items belonging to the Township that a former employee returned to him.

Comments received:

Jean Schoch questioned if the April 2 Zoom meeting was recorded. She was informed that it was recorded.

Justan Fields of Black Lives Matter to the Lehigh Valley was in attendance via Zoom. He reviewed his organizations objectives and offered information for the Board members and members of the community.

Sean Redfield commented on the issues with the Board and offered hope that differences can be overcome and the Board can work together for the residents.

Motion by Koplín to adjourn the meeting at 9:31PM. Seconded by Quigley. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy R. Smith
Acting Township Secretary

Approved