

Lower Milford Township

Lehigh County, Pennsylvania

Board of Supervisors October 1, 2020 Workshop Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Donna Wright, Chair; Ellen Koplin, Vice-Chair; John Quigley, Supervisor; Zachary Siversten, Esq., Solicitor; Stacy Smith, Secretary and 7 members of the public.

The meeting was convened at 6:32 PM by Chair Wright and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comments- None

Trick or Treat Night – Friday October 30, 2020 will be on Website and FaceBook.

Administrative Discussion –

Last meeting Koplin provided possible outlines, to divide the two current positions into 3. Wright provided some change recommendations.

Wright asked for a motion to approve the division of positions.

Koplin made the motion to divide into 3 positions. Those being Administrator/Zoning & Planning Administrator, Township Secretary/Assistant Treasurer. Treasurer/Assistant Secretary

Quigley seconded for purposes of discussion.

Quigley stated he is not in agreement with the breakdown of the positions and he will be voting Nay.

Quigley does not feel as though the Township needs to have 3 Full time positions.

Quigley asked to vote on each position, he would like to be able to address them individually. He then provided a handout that would address his concerns on promoting Emily Fucci to Administrator. Quigley feels as though Emily Fucci is who has made up policies, lied to employees and a Supervisor, Grossly insubordinate.

Quigley urges Koplin and Wright to withdraw their nomination to Administrator/Zoning & Planning Administrator Position.

Wright thanked Quigley for his Statement. and for the record she strongly disagrees with 99 percent of his statements.

Moving to the position of Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

Quigley feels as though Stacy Smith was never really qualified to be the Bookkeeper and that a less important position is an admittance that she was never really qualified.

Wright responded with a statement that first because of the extreme pressure right or wrong that behavior from Quigley personally has occurred to Smith.

Wright asked Smith for permission to state her health issue.

Smith responded that typically she would not disclose her health issues but for these purposes she will allow it.

Wright asked for Smith to state her health issues.

Smith responded that she has a cardiac condition that has been exacerbated by the ongoing personal attacks in the workplace which ultimately led her to have heart surgery. Smith has a letter from her Doctor indicating that a continuation of the stressful environment made warrant further treatment.

Wright explained that the position is not a down grade, the Township Secretary has a lot of responsibility. Wright feels as though the tremendous amount of stress that Smith has been under because of what has occurred here is above and beyond, and since Quigley is deeply offended and stressed by Smith being the Bookkeeper it made more sense to bring in a bookkeeper than to hire a Secretary.

Quigley admitted that he was aware of Smiths cardiac condition. And that her condition is not a result of his criticism. Smith accused Quigley of several things which led to an independent investigation on his behavior, which found him to not innocent but the accusations to be completely ungrounded.

Wright appreciated his statements however feels as though we have heard things back to front.

Quigley stated that his Accusations and Animosity that he has made towards Smith stem from her threats to Mr. Cooperman's family

Members of the audience of asked for clarification on the proposed positions.

The question was asked as to why the positions would not be open for applications to find the best candidates.

Koplin responded by saying that our current employees are doing an excellent job and go above and beyond, the other individual worked here for 8years and has been gone less than a year.

Wright appreciated the resident's input.

Jason Flexer asked the question if Emily Fucci had management experience.

Wright answered that everything that is on the job descriptions has been doing by Emily and Stacy. So Yes.

Wright calls for a vote.

2 Aye 1 Nay Motion carried

Motion by Wright to Appoint Emily Fucci as Administrator/Zoning &Planning Administrator
Seconded by Koplin. Quigley Nay. 2 Aye 1 Nay

Quigley “objects to Emily Fucci for reasons outlined in my handouts.

I will continue to object to Emily Fucci being in that position because of her conduct and behavior as an employee of Lower Milford Township. And because of the evidence that she was supported in that behavior by Koplín and Wright. As has been documented in an email from Emily herself. (which I have a copy of.) I feel that this negative behavior and conduct will have negative ramifications in our ongoing litigation with Geryville materials.’

Wright wished to add that she strongly object to the allegations were made in that statement.

Wright made a motion to appoint Stacy Smith to Township Secretary/Assistant Township Treasurer.

Second by Koplín. Quigley objects to appointing Stacy Smith to that position because as I have said all year she is not qualified for that position. And that this assignment with a higher salary should not have to be done. And should put out for that position both that and Bookkeeper position.

2 aye 1 Nay

Wright made motion to appoint Wendy Stryker as Treasurer/Assistant Secretary

Koplín seconded

Quigley votes No, Wendy Stryker left this position and feels as though we should take this opportunity to see what else is out there to better served.

2 aye 1 nay

Koplín strongly objects to Quigley’s rational.

Budget -

Wright asked to wait on voting on salaries to discuss a Penteledata proposal.

Would like to see this as a budget point. If there is money in the budget for this proposal to take care of it now.

Fire Company has asked for the same amount budgeted as they had budgeted for last year.

Library – Indicated they were asking for the same amount as last year.

Salaries-

Wright made a motion for the position of

Administrator/Zoning & Planning Administrator \$60,000.00

For the position of Township Treasurer/Assistant Secretary at \$48,000.00

Koplín Seconded. 2 aye 1 Nay

Wright made motion for the position of Township Secretary/Assistant Treasurer \$ 48,000.00
Koplin Seconded.
2 Aye 1 Nay

Koplin made a motion for Wendy Stryker to make an hourly wage at \$ 22.00 until she can start full time. Wright seconded.

Notation being made that Supervisor Quigley left without notice or giving reason and left the building at 7:35 PM and is no longer part of discussion.

2 Aye

Cassel Rd. – Update on litigation. Defendant still have not complied with requirements.

Public Comments – Resident wishes to have Agendas to be posted to website earlier.

Koplin made a statement She would like to apologize on behalf of the Board of Supervisors and specifically the Absent Mr. Quigley for the disparaging remarks he has made about our two employees Emily Fucci and Stacy Smith it is all total uncalled for an absolutely outrageous.

Wright seconded that statement

A resident asked for the bottom-line savings with the new alignment.
Wright stated that approx.. \$85,000.00 would be saved including benefits.

Wright Motioned to Adjourn Koplin Seconded

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy R Smith
Lower Milford Township
Secretary