

Lower Milford Township
Lehigh County, Pennsylvania
Board of Supervisors
November 19, 2020 Regular Meeting
MINUTES

Present: Donna Wright, Chair; Ellen Koplin, Vice-Chair; John Quigley, Supervisor; Mark Cappuccio, Esq., Solicitor; Emily Fucci, Township Administrator; Stacy Smith, Township Secretary, and 8 members of the public

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

Quigley began with his objections to the presence of Smith (See Attached)

Chair Wright Thanked Quigley for his comments and stated that she strongly disagrees with the statement he made.

Motion by Koplin to approve the minutes for October 15, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Quigley.

3 Ayes.

Motion by Quigley to approve the minutes for November 5, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Koplin.

Discussion took place regarding the third paragraph. (See Attached Revision.) 3 Ayes Motion carried with revisions.

The Treasurers Report was read by Wright:

• General Fund	\$	1,230,754.00
• Historical Registry Fund		5,735.00
• Rec. & Open Space Fund		7,107.00
• Sewer Fund		24,727.00
• Capital Reserve Fund		33,050.00
• Fire Fund		327,192.00
• Highway Capital Improvement		322,709.00
• State Liquid Fuels Tax Account		170,388.00
• Developers Escrow (Non-Township) Funds		43,179.00

Motion to approve Treasurers report made by Koplin. Seconded by Wright. Quigley stated his objections. 2 ayes 1 Nay.

Motion by Koplin to pay October & November 2020 bills. Seconded by Quigley, for discussion. Quigley took objection to the paying of Clark Hill. 2 Ayes 1 Nay.

Wright announced the Administrators Report.

Wright announced the Zoning Report.

Wright announced the Public Works Report.

Wright announced the Secretary's Report.

Wright announced the Macungie Ambulance Report.

Wright announced the Fire Company Report.

Southern Lehigh Library representative gave Library Report.

Subdivision/Land Development. Wright announced Township's Receipt of 6421 Dekrane Dr Land Development Plan

Under Old Business:

Motion was made by Quigley to Adopt Resolution 2020-9 Lower Milford Township Fire Company Stipend Recipients. Seconded by Koplin. 3 Ayes.

Motion made by Koplin to approve repairs to the Limeport Wastewater Treatment Plant with the exception of the requested shed. Seconded by Quigley. 3 Ayes.

Motion made by Quigley to award the Fall Clean up bid to Little Creek Farm Lawn Care in the amount not to exceed \$ 4,000.00. Seconded by Koplin. 3 Ayes.

Cappuccino gave an update on the 3156 Cassel Rd Property.

Motion was made by Koplin to accept the Operation & Maintenance Agreement. Seconded by Quigley. 3 Ayes.

The second draft of the Budget was discussed. The Budget had minor adjustment from the first draft.

Quigley took objection to several items in the Budget including salaries and legal fees.

Koplin presented a statement detailing the savings of \$ 87,000.00 with the new salaries set into place. (See Attachment)

Wright also added that the legal fees were still within Budget. She also added that there will be no need for a tax increase in 2021.

Motion was made by Koplin to advertise the proposed 2021 Budget for December Seconded by Wright. 3 Ayes.

Under New Business:

Recreation and Open Space Board had made a request for Funding to make repairs to the Lower Milford Township Park.

Wright acknowledged park repairs as something that would need to be further discussed in 2021.

Notices was given of a Conditional Use Application to be heard at the December BOS Regular Meeting.

Motion was made by Quigley to advertise the Draft of Zoning ordinance Amendment. Seconded by Koplin. 3 Ayes.

Motion was made by Quigley to Enroll in the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors License Program. Seconded by Koplin. 3 Ayes.

During Public Comments, a Resident wanted to support the decision to continue the funding for the Southern Lehigh Library.

Motion made by Koplin to Adjourn Meeting. Seconded by Quigley. 3 Ayes.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting Concluded at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy R. Smith
Township Secretary

Attachment to Minutes of November 5, 2020

Quigley would like to add to the third paragraph:

“After stating his objection, it was noted that Quigley left the meeting at 6:33PM and did not return.”

Quigley would like it noted that he did not leave the meeting because of his objection to Smiths presence, but it was because he did not receive a copy of the budget as promised. “There was no sense of going over it at first glance in a public meeting”.

Koplin would also like it noted that during the meeting prior to the workshop meeting on November 5, 2020 she stated that it would be ready to review at the next meeting. She also had stated that we could not make any promises and that, “it would be ready when it’s ready.”

Wright would like her response to Quigley and Koplin’s statements to also be added to the attachment. Although she would have liked to have seen the Budget earlier, she had no objections to receiving it when they did and the opportunity to sit down and go over it.

During the workshop, approximately 45 minutes was spend going over the budget line by line. Having discussions as to changes and as to what was going on. She felt it was highly available & highly informative.

Wright told Quigley that she was sorry he missed the opportunity to go over the budget. Although she understood his point, she also felt it to be very foolish. The staff worked very hard to get it done. The residents were there and the opportunity to discuss the budget was there. She stated that Quigley missed out on all that discussion, she appreciates his objection, as she also had a problem with the timing but was not going to get up and leave a meeting when they had the information in front of them and the opportunity to go over it during Workshop, which is what a workshop is for.

Respectfully Submitted

Stacy R. Smith Township Secretary

Salary Savings for 2021 and Annually

The first quarter of 2020, there were eight employees. This draft budget is based on seven employees instead of eight with a savings in salaries and benefits of \$87,000 each year!!!

Instead of having a manager at 60,000 plus 30,000 in benefits and a public works director at 70,000 plus 30,000 in benefits, we reduced the office staff from four positions to three positions. By adding the manager duties to the zoning/planning duties, it's costing the same salary we had paid for just the manager. We eliminated a public works director who was only in the office and created a working foreman position and assigned the public works office duties to the township secretary.

A yearly savings of \$87,000!!!

Again I want to state that I am opposed to the presence of Stacy Smith at these meetings for reasons that I have stated at previous meetings. Those reasons are:

- Her history of making false accusations against a township supervisor and the previous manager
- Her lies and false statements regarding me and others with regard to the placement of a camera in the township office
- Her documented threat against the African-American family of our previous township manager
- Her complete lack of qualification for the job for which she was hired and the fact that now we have had to hire a qualified bookkeeper/treasurer to do that job.

I find these offenses to be terminable offenses and I am personally offended that she has not only been able to continue as a township employee but is now receiving a promotion and 23% raise for a job which should be part-time and whose responsibilities are certainly less than the job which she is being removed from and therefore deserving of less compensation.