

**Lowhill Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Special Meeting to Award Narris Road Bid & Any other business  
Friday March 1, 2024  
Meeting Minutes**

**The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors Special Meeting was called to order by Curtis Dietrich. Also present were Vice Chairman Michael Divers; Supervisor George Wessner, Jr.; Zoning Officer/Engineer Ryan Christman; Solicitor David Brooman, Esq. via Zoom and Secretary Jill Seymour.**

**Ryan Christman: Two bids were received. Grace Industries and Professional Construction Contractors. All paperwork is in order for both.**

**Grace Industries: \$531,879.65**

**Professional Construction Contractors: \$583,000**

**Ryan recommends Grace Industries. 30-day completion time once material is received.**

**There was a discussion on funding. Building Fund has \$390,000. This was originally allocated for a salt shed or update the office. Garage doors need to be replaced and need a new oil water separator. The heating system will need to be replaced at some point as well.**

**The mower tractor will need to be replaced. George Wessner, Jr. said it is not safe. It's a 1973 John Deere.**

**Stephen Lear – Resident – Asked if we explored alternate funding for Narris Road.**

**We have and have exhausted efforts on all fronts. Currently getting up to \$130,000 from Dirt and Gravel. We are replacing the minimum on Narris Road now, at 175'. If we would change the spec sheet, we would have to go out and rebid.**

**Ryan Christman: Looked at the Raize Grant, which is a federal grant. Very hard to get after you go to bid. It is a 1 million dollar minimum and mostly for large cities,**

**Curtis Dietrich contact Zac Mako's office and extremely disappointed with their responses. Was looking for funding for emergency situations and haven't heard back in over two weeks.**

**Joe Kalusky – Conservation is willing to give the same amount for four years in a row, for Narris Road.**

**Ryan Christman: Would do stream restoration.**

**Joe Kalusky – Spoke with PennDot and Army Corps of Engineers to clear out the clog and apply for permits.**

**George Wessner, Jr. – Brian Carl put this project on the list for money for years.**

**Ryan Christman – Hard to get money on a local level.**

**Curtis Dietrich is not comfortable using the building fund to fund this project.**

**George Wessner, Jr, - Reason we are here now is because we didn't maintain the roads, we can't keep not maintaining the roads.**

**Joe Kalusky – Wants to pave Old Village.**

**Mike Divers would like to see priority on what needs to be done this year.**

**A discussion between Mike Divers and George Wessner, Jr. about continuing to maintain our roads. We have money to maintain them. Buddy doesn't want to finance anything, would rather finance a salt shed down the road. Mike agreed with Buddy.**

**Ron Weber – Can't we get a grant because it's an emergency?**

**Curt Dietrich – That is why he wanted to speak with Zac Mako to discuss. Would also like to talk to Conservation on the money available for the next four years and hold off on hiring another road employee for now.**

**George Wessner, Jr is not for that. We need to hire someone; we only have three guys. Brought up spending money on things we don't need.**

**Mike Divers made a motion to award the bid for Narris Road repair to Grace Industries in the amount of \$531,879.65. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: Mike Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Curtis Dietrich, yes. Motion carried.**

**Stephen Lear – resident – We live in a beautiful township. It's not cheap, maybe implement a road tax or incremental tax.**

**George Wessner, Jr. – We just raised taxes 60% this year, we can't keep taxing. Older residents can't afford it now.**

**Curtis Dietrich announced an executive session on 2/20/24. Jamie Shelton was made assistant road master.**

**Jill Seymour – I need to advertise for the multi municipal oil bid, so I need to know if we are bidding oil this year. I also need to know miles for line painting and our road material for that bid as well.**

**Joe Kalusky – can bid 10,000 gallons and only use what we need. Can be more or less.**

**George Wessner, Jr. – We have been talking about putting \$50,000 towards roads out of general fund and it hasn't happened.**

**Curtis Dietrich made a motion to hire Michael Siegal as contractor at \$45 per hour, not to exceed 200 hours to update our ordinances and SALDO. Mike Divers second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Mike Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., no. Motion carried.**

**Mike Divers met with Upper Macungie Township Fire Company. The rate will stay at \$1000 per call and the agreement will stay the same. David Brooman would like to see the new contract.**

**The floor was opened up for public comment by Curtis Dietrich.**

**Jim Mackin – Owner of KOA Campground – Assuming moving ahead for Narris Road, he will look for remote funding. Looking for a best guess on when it will be completed.**

**Ryan Christman – Dependent upon when materials arrive. April or May construction at best. Will have a better idea at the next meeting.**

**Mike Divers – KOA is a franchise; would they step up and help you since it is a franchise?**

**Jim Mackin – Owner of KOA Campground – yes, that's why I need a date.**

**Jill Seymour announced that Clean Sweep will be at the township building on Saturday April 6, 2024 from 8 am to noon.**

**Hearing no other public comment, Mike Divers made a motion to adjourn. Curtis Dietrich second the motion. Motion carried.**

**The Lowhill Township Special Meeting was adjourned at 9:57 am.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**