

LOWHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
APRIL 10, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairman Curtis Dietrich at 6:30 pm. Also present were Vice Chairman Michael Divers, Supervisor Jack Iannantuono, Solicitor David Brooman, Esq., Engineer/Zoning Officer Ryan Christman; Consultant Michael Siegel and Secretary Jill Seymour.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Jack Iannantuono made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mike Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried. Curtis Dietrich announced there was an executive session held at 5 pm this evening to discuss legal matters. Mike Divers made a motion to approve the March 13, 2025 meeting minutes, as written. Jack Iannantuono second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried. Mike Divers made a motion to pay the monthly bills, as submitted. Jack Iannantuono second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Liesel Gross, CEO of Lehigh County Authority was present to discuss the County Act 537 update, which covers a small part of Lowhill Township, Kline's Island Sewer System, which is a regional sewer system built in the late 70's, early 80's. This system covers 15 municipalities, boroughs and cities. Lowhill has 43 residents, not including any expansion of our system (there are approximately up to 10 residential spaces that could hook up to our current system).

Seth Nagy – Lowhill – Asked if there is any commercial in the 537 area of Lowhill.

No there is not.

Leisel Gross – These 537 plans only cover the 43 homes; a Township 537 plan would cover the rest of Lowhill Township. We would reference the regional 537 for the area of the Township that is included in our 537 plans. This is a 5-year plan for DEP, 123 – 135 million, costs would go to the municipality the work is being done. Not a substantial amount in Lowhill. The cost would be passed on to the residents that are hooked up. There has been no rate increase in 13 years. All municipalities that are in this plan, must approve. The Planning Commission has 60 days to review, provide a letter with comments or no comments. The public comment period would be after publication for public review. The Municipalities will adopt a resolution in August.

Curt Dietrich – Does it provide for additional capacity?

Liesel Gross – Yes, through the year 2050.

Curt Dietrich – Do small or no growth communities have to pay for larger growth communities?

Liesel Gross – All will be billed back to actual flow communities. Flow base billing. Once DEP approves, we will begin agreement negotiations.

Mike Siegel – Do you have flow meters?

Liesel Gross – Right now we have water meters, we are looking into flow meters.

Curtis Dietrich – We are not looking to generate more than what we have now. The multi-municipal plan we have, other townships took those uses.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Terry Lenhart – Lowhill Township – What is the primary source of leakage?

Liesel Gross – Inflow and infiltration (peak storm event) and underground.

Gene McGorry spoke on a possible grant for a salt shed, it would be an LSA grant. We have one proposal now for a new salt shed, which is \$280,000.

Curtis Dietrich – It is not in the budget for this year. Would like to see if we can get more in grants. The current storage holds approximately 300 ton. Gene will get a few more bids.

Curt would also like to have a discussion on different types of sheds as well.

Jack Iannantuono – discussed adding different depositories, decided upon PLGIT, in addition to New Tripoli Bank.

Jack Iannantuono made a motion to adopt resolution 2025-03 to use PLGIT as an additional depository, contingent upon the solicitor's review. Curtis Dietrich second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Township Manager will need an ordinance created to add the position to the Township.

Curtis Dietrich made a motion to advertise an ordinance for Township Manager. Mike Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

The Township Manager Ordinance will be adopted at the May meeting.

There is a candidate on the ballot for tax collector. We will have a tax collector to take Carol Betz place after she retires.

Burn Ban Protocol – Mike Siegel provided a model burning ordinance for the board's review.

We have a vacancy on the Planning Commission for a member and an alternate. Jeremy Schaller is on zoom and would like to be either a member or an alternate, whichever the Township needs.

Curtis Dietrich made a motion to appoint Jeremy Schaller as a member of the Planning Commission. Mike Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

We will table an alternate at this time.

The Township needs a safety coordinator for workers compensation, we will need to add a job description in the employee handbook.

Mike Divers made a motion to table the safety coordinator. Jack Iannantuono second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Curtis Dietrich made a motion to approve AMS for the oil and chip oil and A1 for line painting. Mike Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Lynn Township did the multi township oil and line painting bid this year.

David Brooman gave a litigation update.

Curtis Dietrich gave an update on the Valois Property, willed to the Township.

Ryan Christman will have the bid paperwork for Old Village for the May 8th meeting.

There is no update on the complaint sent to the methadone clinic.

Ryan has been receiving a lot of calls for in-law suits and how many chickens and goats you can have on your property.

Mike Siegel – The SALDO is out for public review and will be adopted on April 30, 2025. Waiting on the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission comments. He is also working with Ryan on the in-law suites and cleaning up the Zoning Ordinance.

Jeremy Schaller – How do we enforce in-law suites at resale?

Mike Siegel – We really have no way of enforcing; we don't require a CO for sale.

Joe Kalusky gave his report of what was done last month and plans for this month. Joe would like to go into executive session after the meeting for employee matters.

Mike Divers – Gave a recreation commission report. Night in the Country will still go on, they are looking for volunteers.

There is no action on open space.

The floor was opened for public comment. Hearing none, there was a break for an executive session to discuss employee matters. The board, solicitor, Joe Kalusky and Jamie Shelton attended. The executive session was over at 8:55 pm.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,