LOWHILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APRIL 11, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

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

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Michael Divers made a motion to approve as written the March 14, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes and the March 24, 2024 Joint Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and Environmental Planning meeting minutes. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Michael Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Motion carried. Michael Divers made a motion to pay the monthly bills, as submitted. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Michael Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Motion carried.

There will be an executive session later this evening to discuss employee matters.

Michael Divers made a motion to approve the agenda. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Michael Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Motion carried.

Kylie Adams-Weiss, local Chamber of Commerce liaison gave a brief update on incentives and membership benefits of the chamber of commerce and thanked the Board for continued support of all things in the Northwestern Lehigh area.

Karl Reed – Lowhill Township – Spoke on economic development in the Lehigh Valley and it is the fastest growing area in the Country.

Kylie Adams-Weiss – Economic Development Corp, Discover Lehigh Valley and the Chamber of Commerce all support each other.

Rob Weinberg – Weisenberg Township – Spoke on quality of life, water quality and traffic issues.

Susan McGorry – Lowhill Township – Spoke about a link for a study on air quality in the Lehigh Valley.

Phil Armstrong – Lehigh County Executive – Quality of life for older people is going down and going up for younger people. There is a 121-million-dollar grant to green up local highways.

Kim Weinberg – Weisenberg Township – Why not stop warehouses to lower truck traffic?

Phil Armstrong – Can't tell communities what they can and can't do. Can't say no warehouses in general.

CRG – 2951 Betz Court – Sewage Planning Module & On Lot Sewage. Planning Commission recommends denial set forth in component. Curtis Dietrich would not like to assume the risk if failure of an on-lot sewage without a second. Curtis Dietrich made a motion to send component 4A to the PA DEP with recommendation to not approve. Michael Divers second the motion. George Wessner, Jr. abstained. Motion carried.

David Brooman - Keystone will send it to the applicant as well.

Jack Iannantuono – Lowhill Township – Is it a practice that the LCCD is included as well?

Ryan Christman - No.

We have 60 days from March 16, 2024 to answer.

Joe Howard - Lowhill Township - Where is the water coming from?

Joanne Mertz – Lowhill Township – Can sewage module be available to view before the meeting?

It is available for public viewing at the township building.

Mike Siegel - Consultant - Thinks LCCD should be notified.

David Brooman - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission should be included as well.

Ryan Christman - and the Lehigh County Authority.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Jack Iannantuono – Lowhill Township – 2766 Route 100 has technical deficiencies letter outstanding and requested hearing. Would the board participate?

David Brooman – from March 24, 2024, they have 30 days to respond.

Jack Iannantuono – Lowhill Township – DEP send a received receipt, no hearing date yet.

Curtis Dietrich thinks it's important for the community to express themselves at the hearing.

Ryan Christman - The entire transcript is attached to deficiency letters

David Brooman - DEP is the end of the process, if they issue a permit, they will respond to every comment in writing.

Annette Dadura - Lowhill Township - Spoke on springs and environmental protection.

Steve Lear - Lowhill Township - Spoke on green spaces and grant money.

Joanne Mertz – Lowhill Township – Spoke on Lehigh Valley Planning Commission is an advisory board and Townships control what comes into the township.

Karl Reed – Lowhill Township – We would have to have revenue sharing between townships and that isn't going to happen.

There was a discussion on how taxes are structured.

Mike Divers - We don't get any tax money from the warehouses until they are sold.

George Wessner, Jr. – That's malarky, everyone pays taxes.

Mike Divers - Not much when the warehouses lay vacant.

Sue McGorry – Lowhill Township – has experience writing grants, willing to help, if needed. Spoke on quality of life declining in the Lehigh Valley.

Ryan Christman gave an update on Narris Road. Concrete panels are coming sooner than expected.

Jim Mackin - Lowhill Township - Asked about completion date

Ryan Christman – Weather permitting, best case is first week of May. Will keep in touch with Mr. Mackin on the progress, The first payment for Narris Road was approved.

Integrity Auto is down to 29 cars, Looks good. Can postpone the hearing as he is in compliance.

There was a short discussion on postponing or going to the hearing for Integrity Auto.

Terry Lenhart - Lowhill Township - Integrity was a problem in the past. They cleaned it up and it got messed up again.

Joe Kalusky – Tiger mowed, filled potholes. Narris Road washed out again. Trimmed trees and cold patched.

Michael Divers – The new CAT payloader for the 926 model. Cost went down due to the 4 in 1 attachment. \$225,449 total cost, it would be available in May.

Funding was discussed. George Wessner, Jr. is in favor of paying it outright from the General Fund.

Mike Divers is in favor of financing and paying more than the monthly payment. Michael Divers made a motion to purchase the CAT Payloader, model 926 and finance through CAT. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Michael Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Motion carried.

Curtis Dietrich will look into 11-month CDs from New Tripoli Bank.

EF Laudenslager provided a quote to replace the boiler. Jill Seymour will go out for more quotes.

Multi Municipal CRS Oil and Line Painting Bids

Michael Divers made a motion to award Midland Oil for \$2.48/gallon. Curtis Dietrich second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Michael Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Motion carried.

A1 Traffic was the low bidder on line painting. Weisenberg Township needs them to provide a bid bond for their portion, as it exceeds the limit for phone quotes.

Michael Divers made a motion to award A1 Traffic for line painting. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: Curtis Dietrich, yes. Michael Divers, yes. George Wessner, Jr., yes. Motion carried.

2024 Road Material Bids

Michael Divers made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt the 9.5mm. Geoge Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Michael Divers made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt the 19 mm. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt the #57 Stone. Michael Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award New Enterprise the anti skid. Michael Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Michael Divers made a motion to award the #4 Stone to Lehigh Asphalt. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award the QPR to New Enterprise. Michael Divers second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Michael Divers made a motion to award the #8 stone to New Enterprise. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Michael Divers made a motion to award the S2A to Lehigh Asphalt. George Wessner, Jr. second the motion. Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

No bids were received for Diesel or gasoline.

The solicitor gave an update on litigation.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Jan Sudermeister gave an update on the public pool. They are still looking for land.

Jill Seymour announced an AG Security application for 7045 Farrier Road -16.083 acres. This will be on the October agenda.

An executive session took place at 8:09 pm for employee and legal issues.

Michael Divers made a motion to adjourn. Curtis Dietrich second the motion.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,