

**LOWHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2013**

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Municipal Building by Chairman, Richard Hughes. Also in attendance were, George Wessner, Jr., Vice Chairman; Charles Waters, Esq.; Solicitor; Ryan Christman, Engineer; Brian Carl, Township Administrator and Jill Seymour, Secretary. Frank Dengler, Member was absent.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, George Wessner, Jr made a motion to approve the September 5, 2013 meeting minutes, as written. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. Richard Hughes made a motion to pay the monthly bills, as submitted. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion.

Richard Hughes opened the floor for public comment. Jim Kuhns, who lives on Farrier Road noted that from his driveway to the bridge is tapered. Is it possible to taper from his driveway so that his water run off goes with the flow of the other runoff? Richard Hughes said that Carl Kressley will make an appointment to meet with Jim to see what can be done. Hearing no further public comment, Richard moved on with the agenda.

Lenore from Lehigh Valley Economical Development, Envision Lehigh Valley came to speak about Envision Lehigh Valley. Money has been put together for new plans for the Lehigh Valley, affordable housing, fresh food access plan, etc. If anyone is interested, there are flyers available in the meeting room at the Municipal building.

St. Jacques planning module. Build a house on 27 acres at 2477 North Lane. George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to approve the planning module. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. The barn is almost complete. Probes and percs have been approved by Chris Noll of Keystone Engineering.

Solicitor has nothing to report at this time.

Ryan Christman said that the paving is starting tomorrow on North Lane.

Brian Carl: The property on Route 100, owned by Steven Khier is still pending. The weeds have not been cut, nor has the debris been removed at this time. Ridge Road: Complaint about dust has been received. Looking to oil & chip or pave a small portion of the dirt road. Heidelberg received a complaint as well. Richard Hughes will look and see what can be done. Bittners Corner Bridge: PennDot is lowering the weight restriction on some bridges and closing others. They are proposing to close this bridge due to safety concerns. Glenn Solt from Lehigh County met with Carl Kressley and Brian Carl today. They are looking to close the bridge to vehicles and keep it open to pedestrian traffic. Money is set aside by the county to

do this work. Lowhill Township will not have to pay for any of the work. The possible solution they are looking into is closing the bridge and build a new road to Route 100 or leave the bridge open for 2 years until they are ready to repair. Replacement will cost more than extending Weiland Court to extend to Route 100 across from Narris Road at the KOA sign. The county would then turn the road over to Lowhill Township, since the county does not own any roads. If they choose to leave the bridge open to pedestrians, the county would like to turn the bridge over to the Township. Neither Richard Hughes nor George Wessner, Jr. are in favor of taking over the bridge.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to adopt resolution 2013-5 to amend the term limits for the members of the Zoning Hearing Board in order to be in compliance with article IX, section 903 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. The terms are as follows:

Peggy K. Hughes-Chairperson, term expiration- 1/15

Sterling H. Raber-Member, term expiration- 1/14

Karl D. Reed-Member, term expiration- 1/16

James P. Kuhns-Alternate, term expiration- 1/16

Terry L. Naugle-Alternate, term expiration- 1/15

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to adopt resolution 2013-6 to establish a procedure for Township Real Estate Exception Bills. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. The terms are as follows:

Any additions or improvements with an assessment value greater than \$10,000 will be billed. Any additions or improvements with an assessment value of \$10,000 or less will not be issued a Township real estate tax exception bill for that year. Refunds will only be issued if the actual value of the refund is \$1.01 or greater. Refunds will not be issued if the value of the refunded amount is \$1.00 or less. Real estate assessments are determined by the Lehigh County Tax Assessment Office. This resolution does not apply to court decisions or new parcels.

Richard Hughes made a motion to give approval for Lowhill Township to advertise ordinance 2013-2 for the 4 Township Roller joint purchase. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Brian Carl will advertise for all 4 Townships'.

Carl Kressley received a complaint from a resident on North Lane about discharge pipe water coming out too fast. Ryan Christman will look at the issue and possibly have a stove pit put in. The road crew is grass mowing, doing bridge repair (Lowhill owns 6 bridges in the Township) and doing regular maintenance. Eckman is parking equipment at the Township Building. We will be receiving millings, free of cost. Carl Kressley will contact the property owner on Wertman Road to find out if anything has been done to correct the issue we have been discussing with him. He will have 10 days to respond. In the meantime, Charles Waters will

research who owns the property. The resident on Warden Road is working on fixing the problem himself. We will wait and see what happens after the rain.

Jill Seymour will send an e mail to Richard Hughes and George Wessner, Jr. to see what date they are available to hold a budget workshop. Once the date has been set, Jill will advertise. Carl Kressley's computer has been ordered, not received to date. The Township is looking for part time road crew members that will be available to help with snow removal. We received a nice thank you card from Clara Belle Dengler for the flowers the Township sent to her and Frank.

Richard Hughes opened the floor for public comment. Larry Dorsch asked if anything was found out about the timing of the light, since motorcycles do not trip the change of the signal. Brian Carl will follow up with PennDot. Hearing no further public comment, Richard Hughes moved to adjourn the meeting. George Wessner, Jr. seconded.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,