

**LOWHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JULY 11, 2019
MEETING MINUTES**

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Hughes at 7:30 pm. Also present were Vice Chairman, George Wessner, Jr.; Member, Robb Werley; Administrator, Brian Carl; Engineer, Ryan Christman; Solicitor, Keith Strohl, Esq.; and Secretary Jill Seymour.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Robb Werley made a motion to pay the monthly bills, as submitted. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Richard Hughes made a motion to approve the June 6, 2019 meeting minutes, as written. Seconded by Robb Werley. Both motions carried.

Richard Hughes called an executive session at 7:32 pm to discuss security for the Township. The meeting was called back to order at 7:35 pm.

Solicitor comments: None.

Ryan Christman gave a brief description of Tom Volk's situation with his septic. He currently needs a replacement absorption area. There is an issue with the well isolation distance. Mr. Volk is asking the Board to issue a waiver, since in order for him to comply with our distance, the well would need to be relocated. Mr. Volk would need to rent a Caterpillar machine to complete the job and it would get very costly. The Board has the right to waive requirement or enforce. Richard Hughes asked if there is anything we can do legally, paperwork wise, that if we grant the waiver, if he sells the property, that he would need to install the well properly. Keith Strohl said that a new property owner would be notified with the title search. George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to waive the distance requirements, provided the property owner signs an indemnification. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nothing new on Cottage Gates, it will be removed from the agenda.

Brian Carl met with Marshall Mangold to discuss Lowhill Church Road. Mr. Mangold is not in favor of vacating the road. He would rather have the pipe installed.

Integrity Auto:

Brian Carl stated for the record that the violation is due to a complaint of too many vehicles. There were 54 vehicles on the property in April 2019. A special exception was given to Integrity Auto to operate a business, with a maximum of 29 allotted parking spaces/vehicles by the Zoning Hearing Board. Letters were sent with no response. We went to the Magistrate and Lowhill was awarded judgement. The owner of Integrity Auto has removed quite a few of the vehicles,

he is still trying to get a hold of some of the owners or get titles, so he has ownership and can remove them. It does take time to get titles. He doesn't understand what the issue is at this point, he has cleaned it up. He stated there is a property on Herber Road that has 7 unregistered vehicles. Brian said the rule for residential is 2 unregistered vehicles and it will be looked into. This is a Zoning issue, a complaint was received and was looked into. In 2009, there were zero vehicles on the property. 2013, there were 20 vehicles on the property. 2018, there was 48 vehicles on the property and in 2019 there is 54 vehicles on the property. In order to change the zoning, Mark must request to go to the Zoning Hearing Board and ask for another variance. George Wessner, Jr. said that if Mark would have notified the Township that he needed more time to remove the vehicles, the Board would have granted another 30 days. Mark specifically said he could remove the cars in 30 days and it has not been completed. All it would have taken would have been a phone call or a visit to the last Board meeting. There were several people in attendance in support of Integrity Auto. They asked if the Board would be willing to give Mark more time to clear out the cars. August 8, 2019 is the hearing. Our Board meeting is August 1, 2019. If Mark is in compliance by August 1, 2019, the Board will consider dropping the lawsuit. The Board thanked all for coming in support of Integrity Auto.

Adams Outdoor Advertising's appeal is later this summer. This will be taken off the agenda until after the appeal.

We can apply for a grant through Conservation for Narris Road. Brian Carl and Joe Kalusky have met with Bill McFadden to discuss.

East Penn Storage received a waiver from the UCC Board of Appeals for bathrooms, conditional upon complaints. Vince will put in a port o let up if complaints are received.

Assistant Road Master, Jeff Hontz was present to give his report. Last month grass was mowed, tiger mowed, did storm damage clean up and helped oil and chip with the other Township's. This month, we will oil and chip, grass mow, tiger mow and pave. Richard Hughes stated that we are looking at putting up a salt shed, a special meeting will be advertised once a date is set. Larry Dorsch said that Pine Tree Road is being undercut and gravel was put in. That gravel is now washing away. Jeff said that Joe is aware of it and they are looking for a solution.

The Lehigh County Association of Township Officials summer convention is being held on Friday August 2, 2019 at the Schnecksville Fire Company. The Board approved the Planning Commission, Tax Collector, Auditors, Zoning Hearing Board and UCC Board of Appeals be invited. Richard Hughes made a motion to invite all boards and employees and pay for their ticket to attend the summer convention. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

In Place Paving bids were received for Herber Road. One bid was received from Lehigh Asphalt and Construction, Co. for \$99.25 per ton. Total of bid is \$122,673. George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award the in place paving to Lehigh Asphalt and Construction for \$99.25 per ton. Robb Werley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Township received a thank you from Rural Preservation for allowing them to hold the spring clean-up at the Township building again this year.

Line painting quotes were received. We go together with Heidelberg Township for line painting.

DBI: 12 cents LF

Berks Traffic: 11 cents LF, 5 cents LF (single white line)

Richard Hughes made a motion to accept the quote from Berks Traffic for 11 cents LF for double yellow lines and 5 cents per LF for single white lines. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Hughes opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, Robb Werley made a motion to adjourn. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,