

**LOWHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 7, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
COVID19 STAY AT HOME ORDER ISSUED BY GOVERNOR WOLF HELD
USING ZOOM MEETING AP**

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

Robb Werley made a motion to approve the April 2, 2020 meeting minutes, as written. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Richard Hughes made a motion to pay the monthly bills, as submitted. Robb Werley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Charles Waters, Esq. was not present, however he is available by phone should the need arise.

Ryan Christman reported via letter dated April 28, 2020 that the onsite maintenance period inspection was conducted on April 6, 2020 by Keystone Engineering Consultants. All improvements were found to be acceptable and in good condition and it is their recommendation that we release the remaining amount in escrow, which was \$39,139.00 as of March 31, 2020 bank statement. Robb Werley made a motion to release the remaining monies in escrow for Northlane Estates after the final inspection invoice is paid. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jill will contact Jeff Robak from PennDot to have Northlane Estates added to our liquid fuels mileage and copy Brian Carl.

The permits are ready for 6547 Hollenbach Road for the wedding barn. Matt from Barry Isett's office contacted Brian to make him aware that the building permit fee from Isett's office will cost the owners, Glenn and Rose Moyer \$8052.20, due to the estimated cost of the project, \$494,000. The fee schedule was adopted by resolution, so Isett's office would need permission to reduce the permit fee, if requested by the applicant. There are two options for

reducing the cost. The first would reduce the cost by 35% or \$2818.27 making the cost of the permit \$5233.93. The second would be to look at it as a new construction and would cost \$5184.00 for the permit. This does not affect the Township, as this is only a fee issued by Barry Isett. Richard Hughes made a motion to issue as a new construction project per our fee schedule for 6547 Hollenbach Rd. Robb Werley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Governor Wolf opened PA up to continue construction as of May 1, 2020.

6592 Kernsville Road is collecting junk again. We already have a judgement against them and could enforce daily fines if not cleaned up. Brian will look into this issue once things open back up. Richard Hughes would like follow up done at the Route 100 detailing shop. There are cars with no bumpers, etc on the property and it looks terrible. Brian Carl will follow up with them.

Brian Carl spoke with Bill McFadden of Dirt and Gravel about Lowhill Church Road and Spooners Road extensions. Brian will sign the extensions for Lowhill Township. It is a possibility to do Lowhill Church Road this summer, as we already received the money for this project. Bill McFadden is also interested in the bridge on Narris Road. We can apply for the grant and if we don't get the funding we are looking to get, we can deny it.

Brian Carl wanted to let everyone know that this meeting was advertised per the guidelines of Act 15. It is also on our website.

Richard Hughes spoke to our uniform supplier, as our delivery driver tested positive for Covid19. They have stopped our contract and will not charge us until this pandemic is over. They road crew are washing their own uniforms at this time.

It was noted that Integrity Auto is still complying with the amount of cars on their property and it looks good.

Ryan Christman said that there is a new inspector for the State that will be going out to Bear Road Bridge to reinspect. Ryan expects to be able to report at the June meeting with our options. The design would be a little different. It

would still be an open grate and would have galvanized steel beams. A much simpler and cleaner design than the current bridge.

Road material bids were opened today at 2:00 pm by Jill Seymour. George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award all to Lehigh Asphalt with the exception of the QPR, which is awarded to Eureka Stone. Eureka Stone will also be a backup in case Lehigh Asphalt cannot provide the material we need, when we need it. Robb Werley seconded the motion. Richard Hughes abstained. Motion carried.

Act 15 gives us the option to change our deadline's and give an extension for property tax penalties. Flat rate ends on July 31st, then the penalty starts.

Richard Hughes made a motion to adopt resolution 2020-2 to keep the 2% discount period alone but to extend the flat rate period 2 months with no penalty. Robb Werley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bob Martin, one of our auditor's wife, Kathy, passed away. Bob sent a nice thank you card for the planter the Township sent.

We have a position opening up for a Township Auditor in January 2021. We have a resident that is interested, Leslie Hontz.

The 2019 audit is complete, the State extended the due date for the paperwork to be sent in. Bob Martin is in the process of doing that now.

We received a letter from Timothy Benyo of the Election Board, asking what our thoughts are for having the general primary on June 2nd at the Township building. Richard Hughes will contact him to see what regulations and restrictions the County has in place to ensure the safety of our residents. Richard Hughes made a motion to have voting open at the Township building on June 2, 2020 with restrictions in place. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jill Seymour reported that we received the check for the accident that happened in front of the Township building with the International Dump truck. This was not our fault, as the other driver passed on the wrong side and ran into the driver's side front end while we were making a turn.

George Wessner, Jr. said there will be no paving done this year, as we anticipate our liquid fuels money to be down quite a bit next year, due to the covid19 pandemic. There will be a road check done and that will determine what work gets done to the roads this year.

There is no public present on the zoom ap meeting.

Robb Werley will reach out to the health insurance provider that Weisenberg gave us the information on and get a quote. We believe we can get a better rate and possibly better deductibles with the same good coverage from another supplier.

Robb Werley made a motion to adjourn. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,