

**LOWHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 4, 2017
MEETING MINUTES**

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors monthly meeting was called to order at 7:25 pm by Chairman Richard Hughes. Also present were George Wessner, Jr., Vice Chairman; Robb Werley, Member; Charles Waters, Esq., Solicitor; Chris Noll, Engineer; Brian Carl, Administrator and Secretary Jill Seymour.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Richard Hughes opened the hearing for Ordinance # 2017-2, Mini Cell Towers. Noting the only change since the April meeting was removing the need for an escrow account, which was removed. Richard Hughes opened the floor for public comment, hearing none, Robb Werley made a motion to close the hearing; George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. The hearing was closed at 7:30 pm.

Chris Noll noted changes needed to be made to the April minutes. Jill Seymour changed the second paragraph on the second page to read, the grant would cover 70% of the costs at a 30% match. Robb Werley and Ryan Christman are meeting with PennDot bridge engineer to discuss options and structural support. Robb Werley made a motion to approve the April 13, 2017 meeting minutes, with the above changes. 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.

Kristofik Enforcement: Since no further cleanup has been done to this property, we will proceed to the magistrate.

Richard Hughes made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-2, Mini Cell Tower, Robb Werley seconded the motion. Motion carried. Richard Hughes thanks Larry Dorsch of our Planning Commission for helping get this ordinance together.

Integrity Auto is allowed 27 vehicles on their lot. At this time he has 36, some of which are customers. The Board is good with what they have done to clean up the property and will not pursue at this time.

Bittner's Corner Bridge Replacement: Richard Hughes met with Marty Nothstein and Rick Molchany from the County. Nothing was decided, they are going back to their Commissioners on May 8, at which time we will have a better time frame for replacement of the bridge at the June meeting.

Bear Bridge: Robb Werley, Ryan Christman, Gary Day, Joe Kalusky and PennDot met at the PennDot office to discuss options for Bear Bridge. Based on the records, we should get at least 7 to 10 years out of the bridge, as is. It will eventually have to be replaced, but we have time to get a plan together for replacement and get a good budget number ready for when replacement is needed. Robb Werley thanks Gary Day for helping with this matter.

Oil/Water Separator: There are two sizes available. It has two stages. The first stage catches sand, dirt, etc. Then the oil goes to the bottom of the other tank. George Wessner, Jr. would like the tank outside. The existing tank is outside, so this is not a problem. We would discharge the clean water from the tank. Chris Noll has not heard anything on the MS4 waiver yet.

Charles Waters, Esq. said that a 10 day notice went out to Ridgeview Estates.

Brian Carl said that Act 172 of 2016 is tax relief for volunteer fire fighters. It would need to be passed by ordinance if the Township would like to offer 1/2% discount on their wages tax and up to 20% on their real estate tax. The Municipality could set up the guidelines. It would start in the 2018 tax year. They would pay their taxes as normally done, and then bring in their paperwork for reimbursement. The Fire Chief would be responsible for all paperwork. Carol Betz said we would need to make sure the taxes are paid before reimbursement.

Zoning Hearing Board had a hearing with Ron Weber. Mr. Weber appealed his violation and was granted as a membership club. Brian Carl suggested we go over our ordinance and change some working and make it a nonprofit club. The Board agreed that there are some changes needed in the zoning ordinance.

Joe Kalusky: April Maintenance; Finished tree trimming and anti-skid clean up. May maintenance; Gruber Road will be paved. The sweeper needs a lot of work, it still needs a bearing. Clean up is 80% complete. They will grade dirt roads, pressure washes the bridges, the guide rails on Valley Bridge will be done and they will help pave with the other Townships'

The Ag Security resolution will be adopted at the July meeting.

Richard Hughes made a motion to terminate Erik Lynch's employment as of April 18, 2017. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Hughes opened the floor for public comment. Bob Elbich, Weisenberg Zoning Board member was present. He brought up 2017-9 bipartisan bill, which has a \$5 fee. Lehigh County did not support this bill. Had they supported this bill, \$300,000 would have been funneled to the townships, to be matched at \$600,000. He attended the last commissioners meeting. He just wanted to make us aware of this bill.

Robb Werley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Richard Hughes.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,