

**LOWER MILFORD TOWNSHIP
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - WORKSHOP MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Richard Harris, Chairman; Donna Wright, Vice-Chair; Arland Schantz, Supervisor; Ellen Koplin, Township Manager; Maureen Kinney, Treasurer; Richard Kinsey, Public Works Director; John Dondero, Police Chief; Emil Kantra, Township Solicitor; Jonathan Cox, Attorney; Cheryleen Strothers and Angelika Forndran, Township Engineers; and approximately 20 members of the audience.

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 pm.

- Southern Lehigh Public Library
Lynnette Saeger and Arthur Roth gave a presentation including an overview of library activities and additions. An increase of 5% over the 2009 budgeted amount was budgeted for 2010, however the library requested a higher increase. They submitted a packet of information to the Board of Supervisors.
Schantz inquired of ways they would trim the budget such as cutting hours and employees paying a portion of insurance premiums.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Limeport Sewerage Project
Attorney Kantra introduced Attorney Jonathan Cox as Bond Counsel who explained the documents necessary for the funding for the Limeport Sewerage Project.
Schantz asked if the PennVest offer was negotiable. Attorney Cox said PennVest is not as willing to renegotiate the disbursements as they were in the past. PennVest may revise the grant amount if grants are received from other sources and may adjust according to percentage of cost increase. *Schantz asked if there were any strings attached to the PennVest loan. Cox replied that PennVest will not subordinate their loans on sewer(or water) revenues to new lenders. If the Township would have to finance another large project with a public bond offering it could necessitate refinancing of the PennVest loan. He said this should not be a problem considering the size of this project.*

PennVest requires the township to be responsible for ownership and operation of the grinder pumps.

A rate ordinance must be adopted by the end of the construction period.

Strothers said bids will be accepted and opened on 12/9/09 at 2 p.m. at the Township building with the Township Engineer present. Bids will then be awarded at the 12/17/09 Board of Supervisor's Meeting.

Bookkeeping cash flow procedures were discussed.

Pouran Esrafiy inquired if the cost for residents to hook-up will be reduced by the grant. Cox said the intent of the grant is to reduce the cost to the users whether for tapping fees or periodic user rates. Strothers explained there are state directives on setting tapping fees and user rates. Esrafiy was thankful for and asked why we got the grant. Strothers

explained the efforts of Representative Karen Beyer who arranged meetings with PennVest and DCED.

MOTION was made by Wright to accept Resolution 2009-20 PENNVEST Funding Offer. Schantz seconded the motion

Unanimous

MOTION was made by Schantz to authorize advertising Debt Act ordinance. Wright seconded the motion.

Unanimous

MOTION was made by Wright to authorize use of Township funds for interim financing. Schantz seconded the motion.

Unanimous

MOTION was made by Wright to authorize solicitation of interim financing if necessary. Schantz seconded the motion.

Unanimous

MOTION was made by Wright to accept the H2O Grant in the amount of \$130,896. Schantz seconded the motion. Schantz seconded the motion.

Unanimous

– Verhaggens

Mr. Verhaggen of School House Lane is experiencing flat tires, at least 6, and pot holes on their road. Also the drains are too high above the road surface and not draining the road properly. Kinsey responded that approved PENNDOT 2A stone was used. He also said they have been recently filling pot holes on that road. He explained that the work done with the Dirt and Gravel Road funds was done properly. As explained in the Fall 2008 newsletter, the inlet boxes must be higher because the new road surface when applied will be several inches higher than the present road surface. But the funds were not available through the program to finish the project in 2009. Funds should be available in 2010 to finish the project and have the drainage work properly.

Jean Schoch asked how often in the fall the drains are cleaned out. Kinsey replied they are cleaned after each significant rainfall.

A resident commented on the stone used on School House Lane which is causing flat tires. He also commented on the rain coming off the hill causing washout on School House Lane no matter how well it is groomed. He suggested rerouting the flow of the runoff to curb washout.

NEW BUSINESS:

– Speed Timing Trailer Bid

Chief Dondero stated the bid for this item should be submitted 11/13 at 10am. He explained the condition of the computer component which is in need of repair or replacement though the visible speed display is still in working order. He thought a bid of \$2,000 to \$2,200 would be reasonable. When new was worth around \$10,000. He explained the usage.

Ken Knapp suggested looking into renting a speed timing trailer to avoid repair costs. The consensus of the Board was to have John take a look at it and place a bid as suggested.

– As-built Survey of Township Facilities

Koplin explained what the as-built survey is. It will be placed on the 11/19/09 Board of Supervisors meeting agenda.

- Township Building-First Amendment Issues
Kantra explained that according to the law uniformity is key in determining a policy for posting advertisements at the Township Building.
- Draft 2010 Budget
Budget items were discussed such as Health benefits, Police personnel changes and Public Works equipment and storage plans.
Kinsey announced the retirement of Charles Antler. He said a replacement with a CDL license will be sought.
Schantz addressed the lack of a policy concerning comp time.
Koplin said the Fire Co. is considering a new roof for their building. She inquired if Fire Co. funds should be budgeted to pay for it.
- Upper Saucon Twp. - Draft Official Map and Ordinance
Tabled until a future meeting
- Festival Organization
Tabled until a future meeting
- Announcements
Offices Closed For Thanksgiving November 26 and 27
Accepting Letters of Interest for Boards and Commissions
- Harris adjourned the meeting at 10:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen L. Koplin
Township Secretary