

Approved

**LOWER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES – JUNE 6, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER - The June 6, 2022 meeting of the Lower Mount Bethel Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6984 S. Delaware Drive, Martins Creek, Pennsylvania, 18063 (formerly known as Centerfield School), Martins Creek, PA, 18063. The meeting was called to order by Chairman M. DeBerardinis at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were M. DeBerardinis, S. Disidore, S. Newman (via Zoom), J. Mauser, S. Burns, Township Solicitor J. Zator, Township Engineer J. Coyle (via Zoom) and J. Smethers. There were seven attendees in the audience. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 16, 2022. MOTION by J. Mauser, second by S. Disidore to approve the minutes as submitted. Vote: 5-0.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Catherine Buehler informed that Board that cars are still speeding on Mill Creek Road due to the closure of Riverton Road. She questioned if the township could install a three way stop at Mill Creek and Gravel Hill Roads, or install speed signs or request additional police presence. M. DeBerardinis explained a road study would be needed to install any signs. The township will look into temporary speed signs and additional police presence.

Joe Pilyar stated that people have been dumping debris along Howell Road for the past month. J. Smethers will contact NESL to let them know and request that they clean it up.

1. Presentation Tyler Barnes & John Mauser – Talen Hunting Permits – J. Mauser introduced Tyler Barnes from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and they presented a PowerPoint of the suggested hunting permitting requirements for the 2022-2023 Deer and Spring Turkey Hunting Season. The suggestion was to have Talen issue permits for areas three (3) and four (4) and LMBT will issue permits for properties one (1) and two (2) per the map, as well as the Meadows. The road crew will mark the Meadows boundaries using purple paint. The two new suggested changes to the rules that were discussed was requiring a doe to be harvested prior to a buck (Talen will do the same). And, all harvest totals must be reported to the Township office one week after the seasons ends (totals must be reported one week after deer season and one week after turkey season). The Township will issue 150 permits on a first come, first serve basis. **MOTION** by J. Mauser, second by M. DeBerardinis to approve the 2022-2023 Deer and Spring Turkey Hunting Season rules and policies. Vote: 5-0.

2. MCAA Creeker’s Baseball – Joe Pilyar handed out the Creeker’s Baseball schedule for this summer. He informed the board that the MCAA will have a booth at Community Day this year. He also requested that the Board continue to pay for the grass cutting at the field up to \$1,700. The payment process will be the same as 2021 (the person who cuts the grass will give an invoice to the township and the township will pay that person directly).

SUBDIVISIONS / ZONING – None

OLD BUSINESS

1. Authorize Advertising for Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance – J. Zator explained the revised Ordinance was sent to the LVPC and the township receive the review letter. Accordingly, the new Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map are now in position for the Board to commence the

formal process of authorizing advertising a Public Notice of both the proposed Ordinance and Map and a Public Hearing for potential adoption and enactment of them. The July 11th meeting would be the soonest regular meeting date for the Public Hearing. In addition to the legal advertising process, the township will post the notice on the township website. **MOTION** by S. Disidore, second by J. Mauser to authorize advertising the new Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map for a Public Hearing on July 11th. Vote: 5-0.

2. Approval of the Employee Manual - J. Smethers explained that she made the revisions as directed by the Board at their last meeting. A copy of the final revisions was email to the Board. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by S. Newman to approve the Employee Manual as presented. Vote: 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Authorize Submission of Northampton County Hotel Tax Grant – J. Smethers requested Board approval to submit a grant to the Northampton County Hotel Tax Grant program to request up to \$5,000 for the 2023 Easter Egg Hunt and Community Breakfast. **MOTION** by S. Disidore, second by S. Burns to authorize the township manger to submit a grant to the Northampton County Hotel Tax Grant program for up to \$5,000 of funding for the 2023 Easter Egg Hunt and Community Breakfast. Vote: 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS - MOTION by M. DeBerardinis, second by J. Mauser to approve the bill list in the amount of \$62,071.61. Vote: 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE - All Correspondence is located in the Township office.

REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

S. Burns provided a Recreation Board update for Community Day. The road crew will need to bring the generator, extension cords, tables, chairs and the handwashing station down to the office by Friday. She also stated that she is still getting numerous complaints from residents regarding the soot from the quarry trucks on Front Street. J. Smethers and J. Mauser will try to set-up a meeting with NESL to discuss the matter.

J. Mauser briefly discussed the benches for the Meadows and the Welcome Center. He and J. Smethers are looking into the cost for the materials. He further presented the wording for the Jerry Burnetti plaque. Any changes or suggestions the Board have should be given to J. Smethers to prepare the final statement.

M. DeBerardinis thanked the State Police Officer for his attendance tonight.

J. Zator advised the Board Act 15 of 2022 will allow the Township a broader use of Open Space Funds. Maintenance costs for open space and parks is permitted.

J. Coyle indicated he submitted the revised Chapter 8 Transportation for the Comprehensive Plan and presented it to the ad-hoc committee. A bog turtle study will be needed for the Gravel Hill culvert replacement. He discussed the meeting with the County regarding Bridge 31.

J. Smethers advised the Board that Anthony DiSante prepared a Notice of Violation for the property owner on Richmond Road. The Board directed J. Smethers to send the notice. J. Smethers also thanked the State Police for their attendance.

Rich Grucela inquired about the storm drains for the corner near Vic's.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer W. Smethers, Township Manager
Lower Mount Bethel Township