

**Approved LOWER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 @ 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER** - The September 8, 2025, meeting of the Lower Mount Bethel Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6984 S. Delaware Drive, Martins Creek, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson DeBerardinis at 7:00 p.m. Also in attendance were S. Disidore, C. Cook, J. Mauser, D. Ascani, C. Briglia, Twp. Engineer, J. Zator, Township Solicitor, M. Hart, and M. Mastrogiovanni. There were approximately 15 members of the audience present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 4, 2025. MOTION** by D. Ascani, second by C. Cook to approve the minutes as submitted. Vote: 4-0-1, J. Mauser abstained he was absent.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR – None.**

**SUBDIVISIONS / ZONING – None.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. LMB Sandt's proposal for Rescue Boat and inflatable boat with essential rescue equipment and protective wet suits.** Chief Russo will be present to review the proposal. G. Russo explained his proposal for the replacement of 2000 Lowe Rescue Boat with a Rock Proof Nozzle Jet 1872 and Acquisition of Secondary Inflatable Boat. The Rock Proof Boat is rugged and will allow safe navigation through challenging areas such as any rapid and Foul Rift. George reviewed the cost breakdown with the Board for both boats. A grant was secured for \$50,000 towards the Rock Proof boat and would take 11-12 months to build. M. DeBerardinis indicated they will be starting budget negotiations next month and can review this then. D. Ascani asked about the life span of the boat. George indicated 25 years, not sure about the life span of the inflatable. George mentioned if the BOS wants, they can go and see the Rock Proof Boat. This will be considered during the budget process. George mentioned there was a fire at Ardent Mills and thanked Megan for attending.

**2. MMO Announcement (Certification of 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligation).** This is the annual announcement of the estimate pension plan contribution for 2026. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by J. Mauser to acknowledge and announce the estimated pension plan contribution for 2026. Vote: 5-0.

**3. Board of Supervisors to authorize and approve Resolution 2025-14 to submit a grant application in the amount of \$75,000 to the Local Share Account (LSA) Monroe County Program for renovations at the Centerfield Building.** M. Hart indicated this is for cosmetic improvements, new ceiling, lights and flooring at the Centerfield Building. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by D. Ascani to approve Resolution 2025-14. Vote: 5-0.

**4. Board of Supervisors to authorize and approve Resolution 2025-15 to submit a grant application in the amount of \$75,000 to the Local Share Account (LSA) Northampton County for the renovations at the Centerfield Building.** **MOTION** by S. Disidore, second by J. Mauser to approve Resolution 2025-15. Vote: 5-0.

5. Board of Supervisors to authorize and approve Resolution **2025-16** to submit a grant application in the amount of \$176,126 to the Local Share Account (LSA) Monroe County Program for LMB Sandt's Fire Company. **MOTION** by J. Mauser, second by D. Ascani to approve Resolution 2025-16. Vote: 5-0.

6. Board of Supervisors to authorize and approve Resolution **2025-17** to submit a grant application in the amount of \$176,126 to the Local Share Account (LSA) Northampton County Program for LMB Sandt's Fire Company. **MOTION** by D. Ascani, second by J. Mauser to approve Resolution 2025-17. Vote: 5-0.

7. **Trick or Treat** – Set date and time. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by C. Cook to set Trick or Treat for Sunday, 10/26/25 from 4-6 p.m. Vote: 5-0.

8. **Rec. Board resignation** - Kara Bartholomew. The Rec. Board accepted Kara's resignation at their meeting held on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by J. Mauser to accept Kara Bartholomew's resignation from the Rec. Board. Vote: 5-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE** - All Correspondence is located in the Township office.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS** – M. Hart, Township Manager had some additions: \$1,287.02 – LMB Sandts Fire Co. for the Pumper truck payment, \$900.00 from Street Lights to Amato Keating, and \$337.00 from Street Lights to District Court 3-3-03. **MOTION** by M. DeBerardinis, second by S. Disidore to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$389,089.96. Vote: 5-0.

## **REPORTS**

Township Engineer Report – C. Briglia reported they had a pre-construction meeting for the trail project with Nansteel Construction, that project should be completed by the Fall.

Township Solicitor Report – J. Zator submitted his written report and noted the 2<sup>nd</sup> class township code changed to reflect any ordinance adopted, becomes effective immediately instead of 5 days later.

Chairman's Report – None.

## **Board Members Reports**

D. Ascani – No report.

J. Mauser – John did a slideshow presentation of the LMBT parks. Signage needs improvement and upgrading the trails map. The LMBT park rules sign regarding archery hunting, Talen needs to be painted over. The Spotted Lanternfly sign might want to be taken down since this is not so much of a problem. The trout sign is faded and needs to be replaced. The Public access sign will be replaced by John. A new sign is needed at the Meadows, and possibly the JMT, EIT money can be used for those. MCJWS is going to plant trees on 10/26 at the Meadows with the assistance of Public Works. The bench at the Meadows in being replaced. The 6 benches at the Centerfield School need replacing and should be in the budget. Each bench costs \$450.00 - \$500.00, and 2 should be replaced per year. The plaques can be transferred to the new benches.

John asked M. Hart to look into a mapping app. for the trails that can be put on cellphones. John suggested she reach out to S. Acevedo and L. Possinger. This new mapping can also be put on the LMBT Website. J. Mauser, M. Hart, C. Cook and any other interested parties can walk the trails. G. Russo indicated he would also like to attend.

John asked to have an Executive Session tonight after the meeting to discuss a possible conservation /park land acquisition.

Township Manager / Treasurer Report. Written report submitted. Megan noted the Rec. Board Mum sale is Saturday, she is looking into a square reader for credit card payments. She is also going to have a QR code for Code Red so more people can sign up.

Assist. Township Manager / Secretary Report. Written report submitted. No further comments.

Zoning Officer Report - Written report submitted.

Road Department Report. Written report submitted. M. Hess added they are going to start crack sealing on Little Creek Rd.

J. Mauser mentioned the alarm went off at the Welcome Center and he was called. John asked that his contact be replaced with M. Hart, M. Hess, C. Cook and M. DeBerardinis.

#### Public Comment

J. Keifer. Mr. Keifer asked about property rebates for Fire Fighters & First Responders. G. Russo commented it's been in the news lately there are tax rebates and incentives for Volunteer Fire Fighters & First Responders. Bethlehem Township has the incentive for Township taxes. D. Ascani noted some volunteers don't own a home. G. Russo mentioned they have programs for Fire Fighters, mostly set up for college student they live for free at the Fire Station between calls.

Public Comment by J. Matthews – Mr. Matthews would like to see a tax freeze on property taxes for Senior Citizens.

**ADJOURNMENT** - The Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Mastrogiovanni, Township Secretary / Planning Administrator  
Lower Mount Bethel Township