

Township of Lower Alsace, Berks County, PA
November 10, 2016

The Lower Alsace Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the Township Municipal Building, 1200 Carsonia Avenue, Reading, PA.

I. ATTENDANCE

Board members present were James Oswald, John Theodossiou and Todd Weikel. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by the Chairman James Oswald and then followed with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

II. ATTENDANCE

Board members present: James Oswald, John Theodossiou and Todd Weikel. Also in attendance were Homer Williams, Andy Shean and Matt Stairiker from the Lower Alsace Ambulance Association.

III. VISITORS

Matt Stairiker, President of the Lower Alsace Ambulance Association attended the meeting to discuss the current profit and loss statements and to state that the proposed 2017 budget and the proposed 5 year financial plan would be submitted next month. He indicated that operationally the budget (absent the outstanding debt) was “in the black” while agreeing that the debt payment plan needs to be better defined. He also attended the meeting to request consideration for the board to include a ½ mill tax increase on the current EMS tax.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Supervisor Oswald, seconded by Supervisor Theodossiou and all voted yes to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2016 Lower Alsace Township Supervisors’ Meeting.

V. ENGINEER

Engineer Rogosky presented an update to the Skyline Drive reconstruction project reporting that approximately eleven storm drainage culverts may need to be replaced due to the clogged conditions that have occurred over the years. He said that all the details for those replacements will be included in the final design to DCED. The target date for construction to begin could be April with approximately 120 days for completion of construction.

The Engineer discussed a meeting with the Road Foreman to determine that Brighton Avenue, 26th Street, Heidelberg and Wilson Avenue should be included in the 2017 road improvement budget with an estimated cost of \$142,465.00

VI. SOLICITOR

The Solicitor reviewed the Blight Prevention Ordinance which will be advertised for adoption at the December 8, 2016 meeting. He also discussed the Bank Foreclosure Registration program. A motion was made, seconded and approved to advertise the Blight Prevention Ordinance as drafted and to continue reviewing the Bank Foreclosure Ordinance for future Township consideration.

VII. SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Road Department – The Supervisors were asked to consider appointing Ray Werts as a part-time snow plow operator along with an hourly rate at their December meeting. It was noted that Ray Werts is currently serving as part time road crew for leaf collection season.
- B. Central Berks Regional Police Commission – the Chief presented the first of regular monthly reports as developed by the Central Berks Codes Department. Following that the 2017 Central Berks Regional Police Budget totaling to \$2,151,508.00 with the Township contribution proposed at \$ 887,783.50. Following a review and discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Theodossiou, seconded by Supervisor Oswald and all voted yes to approve the 2017 Central Berks Police Department Budget.
- C. Lower Alsace Fire Company and Ambulance Association and Antietam Valley Parks Commission. The manager reported that the Township has received financial reports from the LA Fire Company and both 1st and second quarters were in the board's packet noting that the proposed 2017 budget was not submitted to date.

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT / LIST OF BILLS

- A. A motion to accept the October 31, 2016 Treasurer's report and approve the payment of the list of bills as presented from the Fire Tax Fund in the amount of \$1,097.36 and \$11,239.17 from the General Fund was made by Supervisor Oswald, seconded by Supervisor Weikel and all voted yes to approve.
- B. A three year proposal offered by Herbein CPA / Consultants for the Township's annual Audit and DCED report was submitted at the current annual rate of \$8,700. A motion to approve this contract was made by Supervisor Oswald, seconded by Supervisor Weikel and all voted yes to approve.
- C. Following the review of the 2017 Township Budget a motion was made seconded and approved to advertise the current budget for adoption at the December 8, 2016 Supervisors meeting.

IX. THE FOLLOWING REPORTS WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED

- A. Central Berks Police Department
 - 1. October Report

B. Sewage Enforcement Officer

1. October report

C. UCC – Zoning Officer

1. October report

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. The proposed Mount Penn Preserve organization was seeking appointed members to serve on the committee. A motion was made by Supervisor Oswald, seconded by Supervisor Theodossiou and all voted yes to appoint Corrie Crupi as the Township representative with Supervisor Oswald as the Alternate.
- B. A proposal to upgrade the Township's Street Lights to LED was discussed. The investment into this change was estimated by Met Ed to be \$33,000 and with the estimated electric savings, it is anticipated that the reduction in wattage used will pay for the upgrade in approximately two years.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 6:30 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Styer
Manager, Secretary / Treasurer