

Township of Lower Alsace, Berks County, PA

August 24, 2017

The Lower Alsace Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. in the Township Municipal Building, 1200 Carsonia Avenue, Reading, PA.

I. ATTENDANCE

Board members present: James Oswald and John Theodossiou. Todd Weikel as not present.

Also in attendance was Homer Williams and Andy Shean, township residents; along with Kevin Barnhardt, Linda Kelleher, Corrie Crupi and Helen Patton representing the Executive Committee of the Mount Penn Preserve and Carole Duran from the Reading Eagle.

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. PRESENTATIONS

The Executive Committee of the Mount Penn Preserve led by Kevin Barnhart provided the Supervisors with a status update on the Mt. Penn Preserve Master Plan. Additionally they provided copies of a sample Council of Governments (COG) Agreement prepared for each member municipality including the County of Berks, Mount Penn Borough, the city of Reading, Lower Alsace and Alsace Township with the intention that each would consider adopting. The representatives suggested that the benefits from the COG could be better coordination of events that are permitted on the Mountain, standardized park regulations and hours of operation; possible coordination of police coverage that would include the County Park Rangers, the City Police, Central Berks Police and the State Police to work in a more cohesive manner.

The Supervisors agreed to the COG plan in concept and will have the Solicitor review the agreement when the Committee determines what details will be included.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Homer Williams indicated that the biking signs on the portion of Skyline Drive from List Road to McKnight's Gap seem confusing. The board said they would look into it.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Supervisor Theodossiou made a motion that was seconded by Supervisor Oswald to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2017 Lower Alsace Township Supervisors' Meeting. The motion carried.

V. SOLICITOR

Solicitor Setley presented the draft Rental Ordinance update. He described the document as an amendment to the Township's existing Rental program; it would propose to reduce the Township's Rental Licensing period from three years to two years; The document contains language intended to incentivize good landlords by reducing the number of license inspections they would be required to submit to, as well as encourage them to put people into their properties that your residents would want as their neighbor. The Board was asked to review for future consideration.

VI. TREASURER

- A. Supervisor Oswald made a motion that was seconded by Supervisor Theodossiou to approve payment of the list of bills as presented totaling \$108,356.75 included in which was also a proposal for Collinson Inc. for repairs to guiderail along Angora Road for \$3,156.25. The motion was approved.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A discussion regarding maintenance issues for the numerous private alleys and unclaimed, incomplete proposed streets in the Township was held and determined that the township road crew will not be providing repairs or maintenance on private property.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. A Proclamation establishing September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Lower Alsace Township was approved and signed and will be mailed to PA Representative, Tom Caltagirone.
- B. Supervisor Oswald proposed some type of improvement be installed at the T-intersection of Butter Lane and Old Friedensburg Road. A suggestion as made that the property owner have large boulders installed at the edge of his property, outside of the township road right of way to deter motorists from damaging his property. A long discussion followed with a request to seek options from the Township Engineer.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:30 PM September 14, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Styer
Manager, Secretary / Treasurer