

Township of Lower Alsace, Berks County, PA
March 9, 2017

The Lower Alsace Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. in the Township Municipal Building, 1200 Carsonia Avenue, Reading, PA.

I. ATTENDANCE

Board members present included Jim Oswald, John Theodossiou and Todd Weikel. Also in attendance were Township residents: Homer Williams and Jay Worrall; Additionally, Keith Smoker attended from the Reading Eagle.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2017 and the corrected January 12, 2017 Lower Alsace Township Supervisors' Meetings was made by Supervisor Weikel, seconded by Supervisor Oswald and all voted yes to approve.

III. SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORTS WERE PRESENTED

- A. Road Department
- B. Central Berks Regional Police Commission
- C. Lower Alsace Fire Company and Ambulance Association

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT / LIST OF BILLS

- A. A motion was made by Supervisor Oswald and seconded by Supervisor Theodossiou and all voted yes to approve the payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$6,055.65 from the General Fund and \$1,029.61 from the Fire Tax Fund.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

A. Central Berks Police Department

- 1. February report submitted

B. Zoning and Building Code Officer

- 1. February report submitted

VI. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

A. Township Manager

- 1. The Manager updated the board regarding a meeting she attended with Police Chief Serafin at the County Commissioners Board room to discuss the future of the Reading 120 Bike Race. She reported that although the Commissioners have previously stated they withdrew EMS and Sheriff's Office support for the race, they may reconsider this decision.

She also reported that State Representatives Rozzi and Caltagirone were represented at the meeting along with Reading's Mayor Wally Scott with all supporting the race's continuance. Peter Barbey, CEO of the Reading Eagle also suggested that it is too late to pull out and emphasized that this Internationally sanctioned race is already in their schedule. He then called on the leadership of the region to come together in the spirit of cooperation and help to make this event a success. The Manager reported that she took the Supervisors message to the Race owner, John Eustice that after two years of Lower Alsace providing free assistance, financial support would be needed to get the Township behind this race for the third year.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Supervisor Oswald provided an update on Hill Avenue Stop intersection request indicating that no changes to that area are needed at this time.
- B. The Manager and Police Chief updated the board on the Byram Avenue speed reduction efforts in the Carsonia Park area.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recreation Commission Chair, Jay Worrall attended the meeting to provide the Supervisors with an update on the Carsonia Park Master Park Plan project and grant application. He then requested that the Supervisors consider a new funding request from the Recreation Commission of the Antietam Valley in the amount of \$5,000 to help underwrite the costs of legal assistance and advertising requirements of the Commission and to help with the cost of building an outdoor bulletin board kiosk to be erected at Carsonia Park. He said that this kiosk will be used to advertise recreational opportunities to the residents of our area, and also keep the public informed about progress on the Master Plan for Carsonia Park, including the Phase 1 improvements that should begin next year. He said that the Commission is hoping, with the help of a local resident, to create a kiosk that incorporates the original park entrance columns in the design.

In addition Jay requested that the Supervisors pledge the budgeted \$20,000 of the 2017 Parks Grant match that will no longer be needed and carry that into their 2018 Budget to match the Park Commission's next grant application of not less than \$500,000 in state funds. He said that the greater the amount of local match funding available, the more competitive the grant application and that if each municipality is willing to make this investment to further improve our community's main recreational facility and request the \$500,000 contribution from the state, the Commission will need a letter committing the matching funds by April 10, 2017.

A motion was then made by Supervisor Weikel, seconded by Supervisor Theodossiou and all voted yes to provide the immediate \$5,000 contribution to the Recreation Commission and to send the letter of support and financial commitment in the 2018 budget to the State Funding agency supporting the Commission's grant application for phase 2 of the Carsonia Park Master Plan.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 6:30 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Styer
Manager, Secretary / Treasurer