

LOWER SALFORD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES
WORK SESSION

February 15, 2023

Chairman Bergman called the Lower Salford Township Board of Supervisor's meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Chris Canavan, Kevin Shelly, Dave Scheuren and Kent Krauss. Also present were Joseph Czajkowski, Township Manager; Holly Hosterman, Assistant to the Township Manager; Mike Beuke, Director of Building and Zoning; Doug Jones, Public Works Director; Chief Tom Medwid, Lower Salford Township Police Department

Chairman Bergman called the meeting to order at 7:30am and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Canavan moved to approve the minutes from the January 18 and January 31, 2023 work sessions. Supervisor Scheuren seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Doug Jones reported that he had spoken to the coordinator of the streetlight upgrade program and was informed that the install should take place in mid-March.

Mr. Jones said that the Township's MS4 permit requires the Township to do some stormwater management improvements around the Township. He said that staff is looking at the installation of a bioretention basin and rain garden at the Community Center. He said that the Perkiomen Watershed will secure a \$5000 grant for the installation of the rain garden and will be looking at other grant opportunities for the bioretention basin as that is a more costly project. Additionally, Doug said that staff is looking at possibly the installation of floating wetlands in the Briarwyck Park pond. The Board said that they would like more information on the floating wetlands prior to moving forward with them.

Doug said that the department was looking at upgrading the crosswalks and ramps at the intersection of Moyer Road and Belle Lane. Supervisor Bergman said that the Township Traffic Engineer should do a survey to ensure that the design of the ramps will satisfy ADA requirements.

Mr. Jones said that video camera poles and camera boxes have been installed at Roth and Reed parks. We are scheduling the electricity hook up in the next week or so with final camera install after that. Doug said that used traffic signal arms they are using for camera poles have worked out well and they will be installing additional poles in Alderfer and Park Avenue parks. They would like to install additional poles at Park Avenue to light the parking lot. The Board thought that that was a good idea.

Other projects completed by the department include the installation of drainage system at the Alderfer Park playground to alleviate the ponding that is experienced there. Signage has been upgraded on all roads that are scheduled for resurfacing this year. The Park Avenue fields have been aerated and top dressed.

Doug discussed the sale of used equipment on Municibid. The Board agreed with moving forward with the sale of the equipment.

Doug said that he and other Township staff have met with Enterprise Fleet Management to discuss the transition of much of the Township fleet from purchasing to a lease program. Doug said that on its face it looks like there could be savings in the long term.

Mr. Czajkowski introduced Doug Johnson, Lower Salford's representative to the Indian Valley Public Library Board. Mr. Johnson updated the Board on the library's funding situation with Souderton and Telford Borough, noting that both municipalities have cut their funding to the library. Doug said that the cuts were a result of the boroughs wanting to raise funding for their fire companies without raising taxes. Doug said that he would like to reactivate the library's Task Force Funding Committee that was put in place when the school district cut funding about 10 years or so ago. He said he hoped that the committee would be able to look for a long-term funding solution for the library. The Board said that they believed that this would be a good idea and said that Lower Salford would be happy to participate. The Board also told Doug that Lower Salford had no intention of cutting the funding to the library as they felt it was an asset to the Township.

Chief Medwid updated the Board on the hiring process noting that the deadline for applications was March 9th. He said that there were fewer applications than in the past, but was confident that there were good candidates amongst the applications received thus far.

The Chief updated the Board on the Bus Patrol (cameras on school buses). He said that the State Police had a concern with possible court costs that the police

agencies would be liable for and so have backed out of the program. He said that the school district was setting up meetings with local magistrates to explain the program.

The Chief said that he had been questioned about the crash history at the intersection of Oak and Maple and noted that since 2020, there have been only 2 reportable accidents and 2 non-reportable accidents.

Mr. Beuke reported that the building and zoning department had received 16 building permits thus far in the month of February. He said that there was no hearing for the Zoning Hearing Board's March agenda. He said that the Planning Commission would be reviewing the application from Fox Lane Homes for the installation of a cul-de-sac in the High Pointe development should they not be able to reach an agreement with Kay Builders for the construction of the Oak Drive extension. In addition, the PC will be reviewing the land development application for 355 Maple Ave. and will review Towamencin's Act 537 application for the study of the sale of their sewer system.

Supervisor Shelly asked Chief Medwid about the issue of traffic backing up onto Maple Avenue from the Indian Valley Middle School during pick up and drop off periods. The Chief said that Sergeant Medveckus was reaching out to the district's police department to look at ways to alleviate the problem.

Supervisor Shelly also said that he was out in the neighborhood off of Sturgis Road and said that the PECO facilities upgrade was still going on and he said that residents were complaining about frequent power outages. Mr. Czajkowski said that he would reach out to PECO to get an update on when it would be completed.

Mr. Czajkowski said that there was a need for a brief executive session to discuss a matter of possible litigation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Czajkowski
Township Manager