

**LOWHILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
APRIL 7, 2022
MEETING MINUTES**

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Richard Hughes. Also present were George Wessner, Jr., Vice Chairman; Keith Strohl, Esq., Solicitor; Ryan Christman, Engineer; Brian Carl, Administrator and Secretary Jill Seymour. Supervisor Robb Werley was absent.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Richard Hughes made a motion to approve the March 3, 2022 meeting minutes, as written. Seconded by George Wessner, Jr. Richard Hughes made a motion to pay the monthly bills, as submitted. Seconded by George Wessner, Jr.

Solicitor Comments: None.

Engineer Comments: None.

Brian Carl reported that there was a bridge inspection meeting. There were some minor things found, nothing that would shut any bridges down. They are things that will be worked into the road crews schedule to repair.

Joe Kalusky: March: cut shoulders, pothole repair on dirt roads, 2 days of winter maintenance, anti skid clean up and repaired the yard on Corporate Court. April: Crack seal, tree trim and clean up the Township property for Clean sweep on Saturday April 9.

Northwestern Transportation department is asking if there are any roads that buses should not be using. They are doing new bus routes for next year. Joe said they can use any roads, but suggests avoiding dirt roads, as they wash out during storms. Joe would like a copy of the new bus routes when completed. Jill will respond and copy the Supervisors and Joe.

Richard Hughes made a motion to approve the LCA water agreement. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The oil water separator and salt shed are still on hold.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to use Seither Masonry to repair the front steps and landing of the Township Building. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Two bids received for road materials. Lehigh Asphalt and New Enterprise.

Richard Hughes made a motion to award New Enterprise 900 ton of #8 stone @ \$22.00/ton picked up and \$27.35 delivered. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Hughes made a motion to award New Enterprise 1500 ton 2A stone @ \$10/ton picked up and \$16.85 delivered.

Richard Hughes made a motion to award New Enterprise 2000 ton Superpave 19 MM any ESAL Any SRL @ \$58.60/ton delivered. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion.

Richard Hughes made a motion to award New Enterprise 20 ton QPR @ \$143/ton. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Hughes made a motion to award New Enterprise 200 ton #4 stone @ \$13.00/ton picked up and \$18.35/ton delivered. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt 350 ton Anti Skid @ \$14.95/ton picked up and \$21.95 delivered. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

George Wessner, Jr. made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt 500 ton #57 stone @ \$15.00/ton picked up and \$22.00 delivered. Richard Hughes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Hughes made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt 1000 ton 9.5 MM wearing course 0.0-0.3 SRL-L @ \$70.25/ton. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resident Larry Shaw was present to ask what the fire tax is for and what the fire company would benefit from it and how much they would receive. His fire tax is \$85 per year. Richard Hughes mentioned that property tax has not been raised since 1982 in the Township. Brian Carl explained that there are 5 fire districts in Lowhill Township, Fogelsville, New Tripoli, Germansville, Tri Clover and Schnecksville. There were 89 emergency calls in Lowhill in 2021. Revenue from the fire tax will be approximately \$100,000, to go only to fire services. Richard Hughes explained that our budget just doesn't cover fire services anymore. So either we have a fire tax or we have to build our own fire station, which would be much more expensive to our residents. We haven't been able to put money in our building or equipment fund in a few years. We have been talking about a fire tax for quite some time, it was advertised in the paper and on the website for our residents, as well as in the minutes. Diana Vilois, a resident of Lowhill asked if we will have a police tax. Keith Strohl explained that is a decision on a State level and we will not have any control over that. The State has proposed a \$25 per person tax at first, then progressively goes up from there. This has not passed yet. Carol Betz asked if there will be any accountability on how the fire companies use the fire tax money. Keith Strohl stated that under the statute, we can ask them for it. Carol also pointed that some residents have already paid their property tax off the original tax bill sent without the fire tax. She asked the reporter to please add to have those residents contact her, so she can avoid having to send their money back. Jill will also post it on the website pop up. It was also asked if the fire departments bill for a tree down in the game lands. The answer is yes they do, if they are called out, they bill.

We have an Ag Security for 143 acres at 6597 Game Preserve Road in Schnecksville. Keith Strohl will record.

Weisenberg bid the multi municipal oil bid and also our multi municipal line painting bid.

Richard Hughes made a motion to accept the oil bid for Midland Asphalt for \$2.62/gallon.

George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Richard Hughes made a motion

to accept the line painting bid from A1 Traffic Control Products for \$528/mile for 10 miles of 4" double yellow center line per current PUB 408. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Hughes opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, he moved on with the agenda.

Richard Hughes made a motion to adjourn. George Wessner, Jr. seconded the motion.

The Lowhill Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,