NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MAY 2, 2022

Chairman Al Geosits called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. In attendance were Supervisors Ronald J. Heintzelman and Dennis Klusaritz, Attorney Lisa A. Young, Manager Chris Garges, Engineer Steve Gitch, Administrative Assistant Jess Koenig and Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Norder.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meeting of April 4, 2022 and the minutes of the bid opening of April 19, 2022 were approved. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. The Municipal Offices will be closed Monday, May 30th for the Memorial Day Holiday.
2. An executive session was held prior to this meeting, of May 2, 2022, for the purpose of personnel matters.

TREASURER'S REPORT
Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the April Treasurer's report and checks #17073-17167 were approved as presented. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Geosits recessed the regular meeting in order to conduct a Public Hearing to hear comments on the following proposed Ordinances.

ORDINANCE 2022-2 EMERGENCY ACCESS LOCK BOXES
Ordinance 2022-2 provided for emergency access lock boxes to be installed on all new, expanded or renovated buildings and all new and existing gates that prevent emergency service access to buildings, the approval and inspection of lock boxes, the lock box location and contents, and violations and penalties for violation of the ordinance. It was noted that the Ordinance was duly advertised. A stenographer recorded the proceedings; a copy of the transcript shall be placed in the Minute Book. Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board adopted Ordinance 2022-2. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes.

- Chris Talianek, Hillside Rd, Coplay, asked if this was just for commercial properties.
- Gene Wolfgang, Faye Dr, Orefield, inquired if handicapped residents can use these for access.

ORDINANCE 2022-3 SUPERVISOR COMPENSATION INCREASE
Ordinance 2022-3 increased the supervisor compensation from the amount of $3,250.00 annually to the amount of $4,125.00 annually, pursuant to the Second-Class Township Code 53 P.S. Section 65606. It was noted that the Ordinance was duly advertised. A stenographer recorded the proceedings; a copy of the transcript shall be placed in the Minute Book. Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board adopted Ordinance 2022-3. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - no; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. Motion passed. There were no public comments on this item.

Supervisor Geosits resumed the regular meeting.

AWARD PAVING BIDS IN-PLACE PROJECTS

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, Asphalt Maintenance Solutions LLC was awarded the following contracts at their low bid prices: **CRACK SEAL** $33,750.00, **BITUMINOUS SEAL COAT** $380,167.74, **HIGH PERFORMANCE CHIP SEAL W/QUICK SET FOG SEAL** $193,806.60, **ULTRA THIN BONDED WEARING COURSE** $109,986.01, and **EQUIPMENT RENTAL** $10,950.00. Total award in the amount of $728,660.35.
Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RELEASE OF ESCROWS FOR LEGAL & ENGINEERING FREY/FOLLWEILER LOT LINE

After consultation with the Solicitor and the General Planning Engineer, Treasurer Brenda Norder recommended the following escrow for legal and engineering be returned:

Frey/Follweiler Lot Line $ 907.50

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board authorized the Treasurer to return the escrow balance. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RELEASE OF ESCROWS FOR LEGAL & ENGINEERING TRETTER LOT CONSOLIDATION

After consultation with the Solicitor and the General Planning Engineer, Treasurer Brenda Norder recommended the following escrow for legal and engineering be returned:

Tretter Lot Consolidation $ 176.00

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Treasurer to return the escrow balance. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RELEASE OF ESCROW TEMPORARY C/Os

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board authorized the Treasurer to return the $1,000.00 temporary C/O escrows for the following properties:

5036 Bellflower Dr, 4061 Bluestem Dr, 5061, 5045 & 5034 Lilac Ln, and 4078 Schneck Rd.

Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZATION TO REGISTER FOR THE LIHWAP PROGRAM

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Township Manager to register the township in the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program. This is a temporary emergency grant program to assist low-income families with overdue water & sewer bills.
Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZATION TO REGISTER FOR THE NBMA MUNICIPAL SHUTOFF PROGRAM

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Township Manager to register the township in Northampton Borough Municipal Authority's Municipal Shutoff Program. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

REQUEST FOR FIRE POLICE AND ROAD CLOSURE LCCC 5K/10K/WALK/ZUMBA EVENT

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the use of the North Whitehall Township Fire Police and permission to close a portion of Orchard Road, between Rt. 309 and Old Packhouse Rd. and a portion of Old Packhouse Rd, from the covered bridge to the access road in front of the fire company, for Lehigh Carbon Community College's Annual 5K/10K Walk/Run/Zumba Event on November 5, 2022, contingent upon receipt of a Certificate of Liability Insurance. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZATION TO DRAFT AND ADVERTISE CODE ADOPTION ORDINANCE 2022-4

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Township Manager to draft and advertise for Code Adoption Ordinance 2022-4. The Ordinance will officially adopt the consolidated code of Township Ordinances. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes.

- Brian Horwith, Springfield Dr, Coplay, asked if this will be an amended and restated version of the 2002 code ordinance.

AWARD BID FOR SEWER MANHOLE REPAIRS

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, PMI Corporation was awarded the contract for sewer manhole repairs, at their low bid price of $28,121.66. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

WAGNER LOT LINE EXTENSION OF TIME

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board accepted the extension of time offer until September 13, 2022, in order for the Board of Supervisors to review the Plan. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZE LETTER OF SUPPORT AND FUNDING FOR LCCD GRANT SHADY LANE

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board authorized the Township Manager to author a letter of support and funding to Lehigh County Conservation District to secure an DCED grant to mitigate erosion in the vicinity of Shady Lane up to a maximum of $45,000.00. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board hereby authorized the Township Manager to solicit proposals from qualified consultants to provide professional services as the Township Solicitor as outlined in the draft Request for Proposal (RFP) document. Top candidates will be interviewed prior to the June 6, 2022 meeting. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - no; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. Motion passed.

- Supervisor Heintzelman gave a statement on why he was voting no on this item.
- Bruce Stettler, Steeple Chase Dr, Schnecksville, questioned the Board as to their reasons for this request.
- Karen Pfeiffer, Rising Sun Rd., Schnecksville, expressed her concerns about the length time it takes to get problems accomplished.

- Chris Talianek, Hillside Rd, Coplay, noted it is valuable to reevaluate professional personnel from time to time.
- Brian Horwith, Springfield Dr, Coplay, stated he feels it is a best business practice to pursue requests for proposals.
- Sally Grim, Ridge Rd., Slatington, asked Atty. Young to explain the timeline involved in the complaint that is still on-going.
- Heather Skorinko, Clearview Rd, Coplay, stated it was not unusual for a professional business to reevaluate certain positions.
- Ron Stahley, Shawnee Blvd, Schnecksville, asked if the 2-class Code changed and required this to be bid.
- Leonard Nuss, Old Post Rd., Coplay, commented that he feels Atty. Young knows the township's history.
- Gene Wolfgang, Faye Dr, Orefield, noted that Atty. Young readily answered procedural questions asked of her and inquired if this includes the Zoning Hearing Board attorney.
- John Pfeiffer, Rising Sun Rd., Schnecksville, inquired about the cost for this process.
- Ron Stahley, Shawnee Blvd, Schnecksville, inquired what other professional services are included in the RFP.
- Brian Horwith, Springfield Dr, Coplay, suggested supportive professional staff could be engaged in addition to the current position.
- Mark Hills, Old Post Rd., Coplay, commented that you can not put a number on 23 years of township experience.
- Karen Pfeiffer, Rising Sun Rd., Schnecksville, stated that change is not a bad thing.

AUTHORIZATION TO DRAFT AND ADVERTISE MS4 REVISIONS

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board authorized the Township Manager to draft and advertise MS4 revisions to the Act 167 Stormwater Ordinance. The proposed changes are required under our MS4 permit and are scheduled to be adopted at the September Board meeting. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZATION TO ENGAGE A RECRUITING CONSULTANT

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Township Manager to engage a recruiting consultant. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes.

- Tom Van Vreede, Church Drive, Coplay, asked if this request was for a targeted position.

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FROM UPPER MACUNGIE

Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board authorized the purchase of a 2013 Ford Fusion Sedan for $4,000.00 and a 1994 Windy 400 Leaf Loader for $7,000.00 from Upper Macungie Township, for a total expenditure of $11,000.00. This is contingent upon the Upper Macungie Board accepting our offer. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes.

- Mark Hills, Old Post Rd., Coplay, commented that considering the going price for used vehicles, this seems like a good deal.

MANAGER'S REPORT
Mr. Garges reported:

- The township was awarded a $70,000.00 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Projects Improving Mobility and Safety Grant for the improvements to the Ironton Rail Trail. The grant will provide for striping and flashing beacons at the crossings on Mauch Chunk Road and Quarry Street.
- The bullet resistant glass project was completed.
- Update on the registrations for the summer youth program.
- Lehigh Valley Planning Commission is seeking comments on the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This 4-year program includes 2 township projects.
- Upcoming meeting are scheduled as follows:
  Parks, recreation and Open Space Plan Update, May 18,
  Zoning Hearing Board, May 18,
  Planning Commission, May 24, &
  Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Update, May 31.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT
Atty, Young announced the Craft Beverage Ordinance will be ready for the Supervisors' July meeting, and a copy was sent to LVPC for a 30-day review.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non-agenda items)

- Debbie Kreglow, Levans Rd., Coplay, thanked the Board, Manager and Zoning Officer for the help they received in resolving the issue they had with the other half of their duplex property. She suggested the Township consider enacting an Ordinance to protect property owners and require rental inspections.
- Sally Grim, Ridge Rd., Slatington, stated her concerns regarding the clean-up of the property on Neffs Laurys Road.
- Rich Semmel, Clearview Rd., Coplay, asked if Strawberry Acres will be on the June agenda.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary/Treasurer