

The stated monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Lower Moreland Township was conducted on the above date in the Township Building. The meeting was also streamed via Zoom.

President Sirken called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Kuritz, Canale, Odhner and Pace; Secretary/Manager Hoffman, Public Works Director Woerner, Police Chief Scirrotto, Code Enforcement Officer Schadegg, Fire Marshal Scholly, Finance Assistant Simmons, and four citizens. One citizen joined via Zoom. Commissioner Hausen was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of the minutes of August 8, 2023.

Chuck McDade 2472 Dale Road stated that Commissioner Hausen's comment regarding a responsible contractor ordinance had not been included in the draft minutes. There were no further questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Sirken and Kuritz, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes for the month of August 2023, adding reference to Commissioner Hausen's comment.

Bill List All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of the September Bill List in the amount of \$1,390,510.49. There were no additional questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Sirken and Pace, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the Bill List for the month of September 2023.

Resolutions Establishing 2024 MMO's for Pension Plans All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the Township Manager, dated 8-21-23 and a copy of three proposed resolutions.

Manager Hoffman explained that in accordance with Act 205, the Board of Commissioners is required to adopt resolutions determining the following year's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Township's pension plans by September 30th. The first two resolutions are related to the Police Pension Plan, setting officer contribution rates for the upcoming year, and establishing the MMO. Manager Hoffman explained that no contributions will be necessary and that the MMO will be \$0 because the assets exceed the present value of future benefits. The third resolution establishes the MMO for the Non-Uniformed Employee Pension plan, which is a defined contribution plan, as \$215,204. The contribution rate for 2024 is 9.25% of base wages.

There were no further questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Sirken and Canale, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-18

A resolution confirming that no member contributions for the Police Pension Plan for 2024 will be required in accordance with the January 1, 2021 actuarial valuation performed by Conrad Siegel Actuaries.

Next, on motion and second by Commissioners Sirken and Kuritz, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-19

A resolution establishing the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation at \$0 for the Police Pension Plan in accordance with the January 1, 2021 actuarial valuation performed by Conrad Siegel Actuaries.

Last, on motion and second by Commissioners Sirken and Odhner, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-20

A resolution establishing the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation of \$195,738 for the Lower Moreland Non-Uniformed Employees' Pension Plan.

Complete copies of each resolution are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

2024 Budget Schedule All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the township manager, dated 8-31-23.

Manager Hoffman shared the proposed dates and times of the 2024 budget meetings. The Community Groups budget meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:00 PM with the Huntingdon Valley Library, Huntingdon Valley Fire Company, and Bryn Athyn Fire Company. Two budget workshops will follow on Wednesday, November 1st and Wednesday, November 8th, with each meeting beginning at 5:00 PM.

Administration Report All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the Township Manager, dated 9-1-23, and a memorandum from the Assistant Township Manager.

Manager Hoffman reported that Mark Showmaker had been selected for the Chief of Emergency Services position and he is scheduled to begin on September 25th. Next, he reported that he has extended a conditional offer to Ted Middlemen for a position in the code office in anticipation of Code Enforcement Officer Bob Schadegg's retirement at the end of the year. Mr. Middleman is expected to begin in late October. Lastly, Manager Hoffman reported that he has started working on the details of the Township's 2024 budget.

Assistant Manager Lee reported that there is no Planning Commission meeting in September and that the Township Fall 2023 newsletter is ready for distribution.

Tax Collector's Report All Commissioners, the Solicitor, and Engineer received a copy of the Tax Collector's Report for the month ending August 31, 2023. There were no questions or comments.

Liaison Report Commissioner Sirken reported that he continues to attend the School District meetings and the Civil Service Commission did not meet in August.

Chuck McDade of 2472 Dale Road asked the Board regarding building sprinklers at the existing High School and Murray Avenue School. In the land development approval resolution for the new high school, the Board had obligated the School District to install sprinklers in the existing high school within five years of the occupancy of the old high school by middle school students. With the School District's plan to keep the Murray Avenue School, this will result in that building continuing without sprinklers.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Building Official's Report All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of the Building Official's Report for the month of August 2023. Commissioner Kuritz reported on the Code/Building department's activities.

Liaison Report Commissioner Kuritz reported that there is no September Planning Commission meeting, highlighted upcoming community events and reported on the School District's DEI committee.

Manager Hoffman briefly explained why the sketch plan for 8 County Line Road had been removed from the agenda.

PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Pump Station Upgrade Proposals All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the Township Manager, dated 9-11-23.

Commissioner Odhner reported that Engineer Mike McRee solicited COSTARS proposals from four eligible vendors for the pump station replacement project, with two providing proposals. The stations to be replaced include Longview Drive, Hallowell Road, and Woodland Road. Given the challenging factors surrounding public bidding compared to COSTARS, it is recommended the Board accept PSI Pumping Solutions, Inc.'s proposal for \$981,999 as they provided a complete proposal with lower unit costs.

There were no further questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Odhner and Canale, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the proposal from PSI Pumping Solutions, Inc. for the pump station replacements in the amount of \$981,999.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief of Emergency Services Employment Agreement All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the township manager, dated 9-1-23, and an employment agreement.

Commissioner Canale stated that the conditional offer for the Chief of Emergency Services position was made to Mark Showmaker. The employment agreement details are consistent with what was approved

in the Board's 2023 budget and follow the MOU between the Township and Borough. There were no further questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Canale and Odhner, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the employment agreement with Mark Showmaker for the Chief of Emergency Services position.

PBA Contract – Corporals All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the township manager, dated 9-7-23, and a copy of an MOU.

Manager Hoffman explained that one of Chief Scirrotto's organizational goals for the Police Department was to add the rank of Corporal to replace the current Officer In Charge (OIC) program. A draft MOU had been prepared for the Board's consideration which would modify the current Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 1, 2024, with two sets of terms. The first addresses the Corporal salary for 2024 which will be \$126,957.63. This specific salary will replace the estimate for OIC pay exposure in the 2024 budget. The second is the revision of a current departmental policy to require a Sergeant or Corporal to always be on duty. This required contract language to acknowledge what would happen if a Sergeant or Corporal was out of work for an extended period of time, while also maintaining the Township's managerial prerogative to address these instances. Chief Scirrotto and Manager Hoffman recommended the Board approve the attached MOU to allow the Department to proceed with the promotional exam process.

There were no questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Canale and Pace, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the PBA establishing contract terms for the creation of the Corporal position.

Civil Service Commission Appointment All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the township manager, dated 8-21-23, and a proposed resolution.

Commissioner Canale reported that Dr. Sirken is willing to continue volunteering as a member on the Civil Service Commission. There were no questions from the Board or public. On motion and second by Commissioners Canale and Kuritz the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-21

A resolution reappointing Dr. David H. Sirken to the Civil Service Commission for a term commencing September 15, 2023, and expiring September 14, 2029

A complete copy of this resolution is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

Police and Fire Marshal Reports All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of the police report for September 2023 and the Fire Marshal's report for September 2023.

Chief Scirrotto detailed local crime activity, encountered over the past month, and provided updates on various cases being investigated. In August the LMPD met with community members at Hick's Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Parlor. Over 130 people showed up and shared ice cream and stories with the

members of LMPD, including K-9 Thor and his handler, Ofc. Hashemi-Sohi. Chief Scirrotto is looking forward to the upcoming promotional exam for corporals and sergeants with the expected improved leadership within the Department. Lastly, he stated that the new civil service rules are fully in effect.

Fire Marshal Scholly reported on fire response activities by the Huntingdon Valley Fire Company and fire inspection/investigation activities. The County Hazmat Team just received their new vehicle this month and should be in service in late September. He attended an orientation session with Valley Christian School staff to review some emergency procedures and the staff's role in fire drills.

Liaison Report Commissioner Canale provided monthly updates for HVAA and the Huntingdon Valley Library.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

DCED MTF Grant Resolution – Byberry Road Sidewalk All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the assistant township manager and a proposed resolution.

Commissioner Pace reported that the Board already approved the resolution to apply for the DCED MTF grant for Byberry Sidewalk Construction in the amount of \$435,000 at the July 2023 meeting. The Township received word that the DCED application now requires two (2) designated executors for the grant, not just one as previously submitted. It is recommended that the Board consider approval of the revised resolution to add a second name as the grant executor. There were no further questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Pace and Canale, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-22

A resolution that the Applicant does hereby designate Christopher Hoffman, Township Manager, and Eaun Jung (EJ) Lee, Assistant Township Manager/Finance Director, as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between Lower Moreland Township and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

A complete copy of this resolution is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

Longview Drive Basin – Center for Watershed Protection MOU All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of a memorandum from the township manager, dated 8-21-23 and an MOU.

Manager Hoffman stated that with progress being made on the Longview Drive basin retrofit project, one of the required administrative items is to enter an agreement with the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) which memorializes the transfer of their William Penn Foundation grant funds to the Township. These grant funds will specifically purchase the adaptive flow control device, which is expected to be the Opti system.

Solicitor Rice prepared a memorandum of understanding in consultation with CWP which stipulates once the project is confirmed complete, CWP will transfer the grant funds to the Township for reimbursement. There were no further questions or comments and on motion and second by Commissioners Pace and Kuritz, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the MOU with the Center for Watershed Protection.

Public Works Department Report All Commissioners, the Solicitor and Engineer received a copy of the Public Works Department monthly report.

Director Woerner reported that the department continues to work with the School District's engineers and staff on the new high school construction, particularly in the Valley Center Park area regarding utilities and signs. Aqua's main replacement work is progressing in the Billger Road area and on Buck Rd. The subbase and fence poles for the new pickleball courts at the Public Works facility have been completed. The final paving and coating bid is out, with an upcoming request for approval by the Board at their October meeting. The new backboards and rims for the Elkins Field basketball court have been delivered. Lower Moreland Park has been set up for HVAA fall soccer, including 5 fields of various sizes and 4 micro soccer fields. Last, the relining and grout repairs of the main sewer line along Philmont Avenue from the Philmont/Pine/Tomlinson intersection to the Bethayres pump station are scheduled for the week of September 25th.

Commissioner Sirken asked if the leaf schedule has been published. He also asked if Aqua reimburses the Township for half width paving in their project areas and what happens if the work impacts more than one half of the road.

Liaison Report Commissioner Pace had nothing to report for the HARB.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Zoning Hearing Board Agenda & Decisions Commissioner Odhner announced the applications to be heard at the September Zoning Hearing Board meeting. No decisions had been made at the August hearing.

Liaison Report Commissioner Odhner reported on updates at the Pennypack Trust.

Executive Session Commissioner Sirken announced the Board will meet in executive session to discuss a real estate matter.

Adjournment There being no further business to come before the Board, adjournment was in order at 7:53 PM.

Christopher R. Hoffman, Secretary