

OPENING

CALL TO ORDER: The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Wednesday, May 2, 2007 at 7:00 P.M., at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA, with Mr. Glenn Kern, Council President, presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present – Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Sandra Yerger and Ron Horiszny, Council Members; Jack Cahalan, Township Manager; Assistant Township Manager, Leslie Huhn; Linc Treadwell, Township Solicitor; Dan Miller, Township Engineer; Jr. Council Member, Vanessa Segaline. Absent - Township Planner, Judy Stern Goldstein.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)

Mr. Kern said Council did not meet in Executive Session.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT/CITIZEN AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Kern said for citizen agenda items – Council operates under Robert’s Rules. What that means is during agenda items, Council will talk amongst themselves and amongst staff and the interested parties. At the conclusion of that, we open it up to the public for public comment. There is an opportunity for non-agenda items at the end of the meeting to discuss whatever your business might be. We do have a microphone and there are microphones up at the table. There is a sign-in sheet in the back of the room. Please print your name and address and email address. It is very helpful in transcribing the minutes. For those who want to receive emailed agendas, please give your email address to Diane, Leslie, or Jack or call the Township office. Please state your name and address. If you can’t hear, please let us know. Mr. Kern asked if anything was taken off the agenda this evening? Mr. Cahalan said no.

III. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS

None

IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS

A. LONG RIDGE SUBDIVISION – REQUEST EXTENSION TO COMPLETE IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Kern said the developer has requested a one-year extension of time to complete the improvements in this subdivision. HEA had no problems with this.

MOTION BY: Mr. Horiszny moved for approval of request of extension to complete improvements.

SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

B. COTTAGES AT SAUCON VALLEY – SECURITY REDUCTION

Mr. Kern said the applicant has requested a security reduction for work collected to date. HEA has done an inspection and is recommending \$18,000.00 to be released.

Mr. Maxfield wanted to know if HEA okayed the name change. Cottages is now called “The Reserve at Saucon Valley”. Mr. Miller wasn’t in the loop about any changes.

MOTION BY: Mr. Kern moved for approval of the security reduction for Cottages at Saucon Valley.

SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

V. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS

A. PENSION PLANS – DISBURSEMENT OF STATE FUNDING – DRAFT POLICY

Mr. Kern said the pension advisory committee is recommending that the Council adopt a policy that designates how state aid will be allocated to the Police and Non-Uniform Pension Plans.

Mr. Cahalan said this is a policy that came out of the Pension Advisory Committee that met on April 17, 2007. There is a procedure they are now following to allocate the state aid they receive for the two pension funds. What they’d like to do is adopt a formal policy that describes how that funding will be disbursed with the two plans.

Mrs. deLeon said the bottom of the right hand corner of the policy should say “January 9, 2007”. Didn’t the Pension Committee approve it at the April 19 meeting? April 19, 2007 should then be inserted. It says “if it should be determined that one fund is adequately funded, then it is the Townships Manager (who is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Pension funds) discretion to reallocate the funding. In the event, this occurs, the Pension Board would be advised to the reallocation prior to the funds required deposit date”. That is a courtesy to the Pension Board, but shouldn’t that also include Council since we are the fiduciary people? Attorney Treadwell said yes, that’s correct. Mrs. deLeon said Council, by letter, should also be informed. Mr. Cahalan said that will be done. Mrs. deLeon said this talks about the non-uniformed and uniformed pension plans, what about the salaried personnel? Mr. Cahalan said they are covered under the non-uniformed plan. Mrs. deLeon said is that in writing anywhere? Mr. Cahalan said they don’t have a written policy. Mrs. deLeon said we should and Mr. Cahalan should be working on that.

MOTION BY: Mr. Kern moved to approve, with Priscilla’s changes.

SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Mrs. deLeon was going to bring this up under reports, but since we are talking about pensions, she’ll bring it up now. She would ask for Council to have an update. The uniformed pension, the police were supposed to be meeting regarding the MMO and the additional funding. Mr. Cahalan said they had the meeting. The actuary had the meeting with the police officers to answer questions. We have two issues that are intertwined with the contributions. One is there are some questions about the administrative fees for the uniformed pension plan where it’s more advantageous for that pension fund for them to be paid from the general fund or the pension plan itself. The actuary talked to the police officers about that and we are hoping that issue will be resolved shortly. He had to put some information in writing to their attorney for the FOP. Once

that issue is resolved, they are hopeful they can sit down fairly quickly and resolve the issue about the contribution with the officers. It's still a negotiable item, but they are hoping they will get that resolved. Mrs. deLeon said we are in the beginning of May and the end of September they have to send the MMO's out again. The taxpayer is paying this cost, so the longer we delay, the more money the taxpayer is going to have to pay. It's a long time they have been negotiating this, and by the time we have to approve the MMO, we should have this resolved. Mr. Cahalan said he's sure it will be resolved.

B. PENSION PLANS – COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMETNS (COLA) DRAFT POLICY

Mr. Kern said the Pension Advisory Committee is recommending that Council adopt a policy that designates how annual cost-of-living increases will be calculated for retirees in the Police Pension Fund.

Mr. Cahalan said this was another policy that came out of the recent Pension Advisory Committee on April 19, 2007. They wanted to ask Council to adopt a written formal policy that covers these cost-of-living adjustments for police officers who are retired. They had one officer retire more than a year ago, so he was coming up on the adjustment. Now we had Corporal Williams retire, so we need a formal policy that sets down how we will establish that cost-of-living each year. This covers that. Per Priscilla's information before, the date on the bottom should be January 9, 2007 and the date should be filled in for the Pension Advisory Committee as April 19, 2007 when it was approved. Mrs. deLeon said under the subject, it says Pension Plans, take off the "s". Mr. Cahalan said it does not apply to the non-uniformed because it's part of the Act 205 requirements for them and it's in the pension ordinance. There's no such provision or cost-of-living increase. The salaried employees are covered under the non-uniformed. It's not in writing either. Mrs. deLeon said we need to set up something for the salaried employees.

MOTION BY: Mrs. deLeon moved for approval of the Policy No. 01-07.

SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

C. SAUCON VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER – APPROVAL OF SENIOR PROGRAM FOR 2007

Mr. Kern said the agreement between the SVCC and the Township has been prepared for the Senior Program. The program will run year round with limited summer hours and the Township will pay for a total of \$16,219 in two installments of \$8,109.50 to the SVCC to provide this program to our senior citizens.

Mr. Cahalan said this is a contract we started doing with the SVCC each year. Previous to this, there was a contract that was just running continuously, so we are now renewing it each year. This is the same contract we did last year and we updated it with the amount \$16,219.00. It's a very successful program over in Seidersville Hall. There's a variety of activities for seniors like arts and crafts, quilting, people come in and do exercises, computer room where they do work on the computers, they have book groups, meals served there sometimes, and pool. Mr. Kern asked how many people take advantage? Mr. Cahalan said it varies by program. In the summertime, it slows down. There's a group of women who play pinochle and go right through the summer as they've been playing for 20 years.

Mrs. deLeon said when she asked about the hiring of the grass cutters and the contract, she asked about W9's and 1099's. Did you ever look into that? Mr. Cahalan said that was done. They came in and filled out the W9's. In order for us to issue a 1099, we did that. Mrs. deLeon said they

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would also have to fill out W9's. Mr. Cahalan said he'll have to check on that. Mrs. deLeon said this is a wonderful program for the seniors.

MOTION BY: Mr. Horiszny moved for approval of the SVCC – approval of the senior program for 2007.
SECOND BY: Mrs. deLeon
Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 5-0

D. SAUCON VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER – APPROVAL OF SUMMER YOUTH & CHILDREN'S PROGRAM FOR 2007

Mr. Kern said the agreement between the SVCC and the township has been prepared for the summer youth and children's program. The programs will run from June to August 2007 and the township will pay a total of \$27,108 to SVCC to provide these programs to township youth.

Mr. Cahalan said there are two programs. One is the summer youth program which is run in three parks in the township, Town Hall Park, Southeastern and Steel City park. These programs run from June 18 to August 10. The registration will begin on May 21. This program is so popular that people are really eager to get their children signed up and there's a limit how many children can be served. There's 70 children at Town Hall Park, 30 at Southeastern and 45 at Steel City Park. It fills up very fast. The Township is subsidizing it. It's a well run program, a variety of activities by age group, some sports, and arts and crafts. It also includes a summer children's program which they run out of Seidersville Hall. They were looking for an activity for pre-school children and the SVCC for the first time set up a children's program which is three different activities. One is called Summer Art for children 3 to 5 years old and well run July 9 to 13. There's a bookworm program that is for ages 3 to 5 and runs July 16 to 20. A science fun is for grades 1 through 5 and runs July 23 to 27. It's well supervised and they follow the state regulations for guidance and supervision. They are very pleased with this program. Vanessa Segaline wanted to volunteer and Mr. Cahalan told her to contact the SVCC.

Mr. Horiszny said on No. 2, the dollar amount in parenthesis should read (\$11,000.00). On page 2, No. 6, 4th line, two hundred and seven dollars, the "and" should be taken out. On No. 7, third row, neglect, should be negligence? Attorney Treadwell said neglect is fine.

Mrs. deLeon said October 31 when we had our budget meeting, she asked the question about expanding the summer program to include the Heller Homestead. Mr. Cahalan said they had a meeting with them, but he didn't talk specifically about that. Mrs. deLeon said she'd like him to look into that as the parks are being under utilized and the conservancy is willing to do programs out there. She'd like to get it in this year. Mr. Cahalan said he is working with the SVCC for a teen program they want to run out of Seidersville Hall. They will work on a proposal, but may not be able to do it this year. They invited the SVCC representatives to the Park and Rec meeting in May at Polk Valley Park to come up with some ideas of using that park. Mrs. deLeon asked Mr. Cahalan to put this on the next agenda. Mr. Horiszny said speaking of the May 14 meeting, do we need to advertise if there are more than two there? Mr. Cahalan said it's done. You can all come.

MOTION BY: Mrs. deLeon moved for approval of the summer youth and children's program for 2007.
SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny
Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 5-0

E. AUTHORIZE SUMMER WORK SCHEDULE

Mr. Kern said the summer work hours for the LS staff begin June 4 and end August 31. The hours are as follows: Road Department – Monday – Thursday 6:00 AM to 4:00 PM and off on Friday. The Admin. Staff and police administration staff will be Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and on Friday 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

MOTION BY: Mr. Horiszny moved for approval of the summer work schedule.

SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF APRIL 18, 2007 MINUTES

Mr. Kern said the minutes of April 18, 2007 Council meeting have been prepared and are ready for Council's review and approval.

Mrs. deLeon said on page 10 of 26, under IESI. We are talking about the landfill. Line 37, Mr. Birdsall will be available May 4. It should read "Mr. Birdsall will be available after May 4". The motion says "Mrs. deLeon moved to send the letter unless DEP agrees". She remembers saying several times that IESI should not be talking for the township, that they were going to send a letter and that's fine. IESI should not be telling DEP that we are doing anything. We should be telling DEP. We have two issues with the basin and they are in violation of their site plan. They moved the recycling center without our permission. Those issues we need to address with them. She thinks she said to send a letter to them, just following up that we are willing to meet with them on the issues that we were going to meet with them about. Attorney Treadwell said his recollection was to send the letter unless DEP agreed that they would extend the timeframe for us to look at it. Mrs. deLeon said we need to move on this and it's not our fault the meeting hasn't happened yet. Attorney Treadwell said the motion was unless DEP agreed to extend the timeframe, which they did. Mrs. deLeon said she wants them to understand the reasons why they are meeting with IESI and IESI's letter failed to mention both issues. She doesn't want IESI speaking for the township. Attorney Treadwell, said and they don't. Mrs. deLeon said the motion was to have the township send the letter regardless of what DEP said. Attorney Treadwell said that was part of the motion, unless DEP agreed to extend the timeframe to review it. The question at the time was, are we sending the letter saying we oppose anything or we're just sending a letter. Mrs. deLeon said no, she predicted the landfill would not include all of the issues, and they didn't, so now DEP thinks we are only interested in the one issue and that's not true, and in the meantime, they are in violation of their site plan. That's a serious thing. Mr. Maxfield said because this is the minutes, and it's already occurred, and Linc's recollection is to extend the timeframe, we should make it a separate action under reports. Attorney Treadwell said go back to the tape and look at it.

Mrs. deLeon said on page 16 of 26, line 34, "Mrs. deLeon said they did a drive through". "Russell Rice asked the last time Council was at these two locations, has it been recent?" She remembers saying she was there and she thinks the sentences are out of order. Mr. Cahalan said the gentlemen at the podium, his question was when was the last time that Council was at these two locations, has it been recent? Mrs. deLeon said Council didn't say they did a drive through. You said Wise Preservation did a drive through. Mr. Maxfield said check the tape. Mr. Cahalan said he mentioned that the meeting out at Kingston was on March 27, that's what that refers to...we gave that as an example, we had a meeting out there on March 27. He said two locations. Page 25 of 25, line 53 and 54 should read, "agenda will be the cable franchise issue". Page 26, line 2 should read "hire the cable consultant". Line 10 should be "anticipating" instead of "participating".

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Mr. Horiszny said on page 7, line 49, “Danny” should be “Denny”. Page 11, line 31 should be “improperly checked boxes in their inspection report of March 22, 2007”. Page 24, line 26, roll call should be “3-1-1 (Mr. Kern - Abstained, Mr. Horiszny – No).

MOTION BY: Mr. Kern moved for approval of the April 18, 2007 minutes, with corrections.

SECOND BY: Mr. deLeon

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 4-1 (Mr. Horiszny – No)

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT /CITIZEN NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Stephanie Brown said she was on the DCNR website and came across the ATV law. She was wondering if that was being taken into consideration in the ATV ordinance. Attorney Treadwell said yes, it was. Ms. Brown said according to what’s allowable by PA Law, says something about in terms of noise, acceptable level is 99 decibels when measured from 20’ of the tailpipe. It’s harder and harder to find places to ride. It’s more of a nuisance problem. You need to be fair with this.
- Stephanie Brown wanted to thank the police as they have taken their time to deal with her issues. If the police officers hadn’t spent the amount of time they did, she doesn’t know if it would have worked out as well as it could have. They need time and she wants to thank Scott Snyder, as he’s been very, very helpful in getting issues resolved. She really appreciates what they do. One of her concerns is that they work too many hours, seven days a week, and that’s hard to do. She thinks we take these officers and volunteer fire fighters for granted. We need to give them something back. What Scott did for her over the past couple of weeks, he’s really gone out of his way.

VIII. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS

A. TOWNSHIP MANAGER

- Mr. Cahalan said to follow up on our previous discussion about the township’s contribution towards the fire equipment that Steel City is next in line to order. Council established a policy at that last meeting that requires that any specifications for new fire equipment that is being requested by a township fire company be reviewed by a committee consisting of the township manager, the solicitor and an outside consultant. He’s given Council a packet of information on Peter’s Associates Fire Apparatus Consulting Services, Inc. In that packet it describes experience and qualifications of William Peters. He’s a nationally known expert in the field of fire apparatus and he has provided consulting services to over 130 municipalities. He’s given lectures and has written a book. He’s done 75 articles on fire apparatus. There is a proposal from Mr. Peters to provide services. He proposes:
 - The township would forward the pumper specifications that were provided by the fire company for his review.
 - Review the specifications for suitability, safety, performance, compliance to national fire protection association, standard 1901 automotive fire apparatus or any general comments or suggestions
 - Prepare a preliminary report of his findings
 - Schedule a meeting with the fire department truck committee to discuss his findings
 - Five copies of the final report of recommendations would be sent to the governing body after the meeting.

The charge is \$850, no extra money for postage, travel time or travel expense for the meeting. He’s requesting for Council to approve Mr. Peters as a fire equipment consultant to review the Steel City Fire Company’s rescue pumper at a price of \$850.00. Mrs. deLeon

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asked why this wasn't put on the agenda so the fire companies knew about it? Mr. Cahalan said he didn't have it in time. Mrs. deLeon said is there a rush and can't it wait until the next meeting? She thinks the fire companies would want to be here. Mr. Kern said this was part of the procedure we voted on to approve at the last meeting and he doesn't see any problem with proceeding at this point and it's also a check and a balance that is highly appropriate. Mr. Maxfield said this is totally a Council decision. Mrs. deLeon said Council decisions are based on public input and advice from the residents and this is a very important issue and she would like it to be an agenda item. Mr. Maxfield said all we are asking for is to get some input. Mrs. deLeon said we have one person with a book and we have a proposal and \$850 which is within that magic number, but we have no comparisons. She feels this should be on the agenda with the fire companies here. Mr. Maxfield doesn't want to stretch this out.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved to approve Jack's request.

SECOND BY: Mr. Kern

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 4-1 (Mrs. deLeon – No, she wants the record to reflect that her reason for voting “no” is because this was not an agenda item and the fire companies were unaware that this issue was going to be discussed this evening.)

Mr. Cahalan said he has not received any of the pumper specifications from Steel City, so he doesn't have any specifications to give to Mr. Peters. Mr. Maxfield asked if we received a copy of the contract? Attorney Treadwell said he received an email from Mr. Walters yesterday, as far as Attorney Treadwell knows, there is no contract for the purchase of that truck and he has not received the other bids that Steel City was going to supply to the Township. Mr. Kern said this is important information if the contract exists or not and we were supposed to know by this meeting if the contract exists or not and we need to find out quickly. Mr. Kern will direct the Manager to find out IMMEDIATELY by whatever means it takes, to find out what the status is of the contract.

- Mr. Cahalan said at the last meeting, under Citizen Comment, Mr. Mark Walters brought up an issue and stated there was a lack of maintenance of township roads in Steel City. Following that, he asked Mr. Walter's to send him information he was speaking about. He has a memo from Roger Rasich. On the last page, there is a letter from Mark Walters and he listed eight roads in Steel City that were in poor condition. They had moderate to severe raveling. He passed this on to Roger and a report is included. He had an annual road evaluation that the PW does. There are about 230 roads. They inspect these roads annually and rate them based on the criteria such as safety issues, cracks, potholes, gutter drainage conditions, storm water pipes, rough spots and overall general condition. They give it a numerical rating and the road with the highest rating with the most problem gets the attention. The roads that Mr. Walters referred to in his letter ranged from 30th to 45 in line for maintenance which were Adams (30), Roberts (33), Matthews (35), Mixell (36), Johnston (39), Snyder (42), Jefferson (44) and Schwab (45). Roger indicated the ranking system and how they are scheduled and what type of maintenance they are scheduled for. Mrs. deLeon asked what year is the 45th in line for? Mr. Cahalan said one of the things that Roger pointed out with the streets in Steel City is that in late 80's the water lines were run there, and once that work was completed and the lines were laid, the majority of the road were all paved at once. The majority of the roads are all basically at the same stage of wear. There's a 20 year life on those roads and will be coming up for maintenance in the next couple of years. Raveling means the stone that is separating from the top of the wear. Mr. Kern said it looks like there is an obvious plan in process. Mr. Maxfield said we have about 200 miles of roads and they resurface 6 to 11 miles of road per year. Mr. Cahalan will share this information with Mr. Walters.

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- Mr. Cahalan said he is requesting Council approval to pay the annual \$1,000 dues to the SV Partnership.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved to pay the SV Partnership \$1,000 for their annual membership dues.

SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? Mrs. deLeon asked if we got the \$20,000. Mr. Cahalan said they are working on that with Northampton County and submitted an invoice for a third of the \$62,000 LUPTAP grant. There is \$5,000 by Wachovia Bank and \$5,000 by Lafayette Ambassador Bank. The remaining \$26,000 was made up between LST and Hellertown.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

- Mr. Cahalan said an update on the bio-diesel situation. This was a goal they had for 2007 to obtain bio-diesel fuel. They ran into a snag. There was no supplier who responded to the State contact bid advertisement for deliveries of 5,000 gallons or less. They have a 1500 gallon tank. Allan Johnson went to an EAC conference and talked to a lady from Philadelphia Clean Cities Program and there are several local fuel providers who indicated they would respond if they put a bid out for the delivery for their fleet. They are proceeding to put together a big package to get it out there. It should be a competitive bid. We have to clean out our tank. He has to speak to the fire companies as they use the diesel fuels. Mrs. Yerger asked if he talked to the school district. Mr. Cahalan said not yet. The cost is higher than regular diesel, and the Philadelphia Clean Cities Program will be helping us with grant applications to recoup the additional cost. Mr. Cahalan will contact the school district.
- Mr. Cahalan received a letter from residents in Saddle Ridge about truck noise on Flint Hill Road. He'd like to have the PD check this out and get back to Council with a report. Flint Hill Road is a PennDOT maintained road, so anything that is done would have to be done with PennDOT's approval. It's truck noise and they are using the brake retarders. Traffic has increased. Mrs. deLeon said if the trucks are going to the landfill, they have specific roads they must use to get to the landfill and they might be using the road illegally. Mr. Maxfield said residents a year ago thought they were local haulers as they were smaller garbage trucks. Mrs. deLeon said if that's the case, they are not illegal then. Mr. Horiszny said there is a sign at the landfill "no engine brakes".

B. TOWNSHIP COUNCIL/JR. COUNCIL MEMBER

Mrs. Yerger

- She said there is a resolution from the school director's in regards to Act 4. She's assuming this was approved? Mr. Cahalan said yes, it was. She'd like to get this to the three man Sub Committee on the EAC.
- On Sunday, May 6, the Saucon Creek Watershed and the EAC will have a National Wildlife Federation Program and a native plant sale. She has brochures available.

Mr. Maxfield

- He's aware we had a zoning violation...some construction done outside of the zoning ordinance on Meadows Road. Going past that establishment, he's noticing that the construction that was done outside of the ordinance is being used. He has a problem with that occurring. It's a zoning issue, but he has a theoretical objection to it being used. Mr. Cahalan will talk to Chris Garges about it.
- He was talking to a local working farmer and he insisted if we were serious about preserving farms, we would have to think creatively and gave him some recommendations. One was to see if we could get some analysis of how it would affect the township, to make working farms. 60% of their income comes from farm activity. Following those estate

regulations, and for properties that have already been conserved, if we could make them exempt from township taxes, other than EIT. He would like to see the impact to the township financially and how feasible it would be. He'd like to see what the loss or the gain would be. He'd like to see it on conserved properties and working farms. Mr. Kern said that's a great idea. Jack and Linc will look into this.

Mr. Kern

- The time is here and now for the Township to embark on the beginnings of a fire services analysis. It's clear that trucks are no longer \$50,000, but a million dollars for apparatus. Bake sales no longer work. The fire companies should not be handling the funding of the purchases at all. They should focus on fighting fires and the funding should be on the townships. Because of the extreme expense involved, it's a whole new ball game. Some type of analysis needs to be done as to the current situation with the four fire companies. Mrs. deLeon said she attended the fire company meeting, and Jack was there for part of it, but after you left, Dean Fernsler was there, and he is just knowledgeable and experienced. He gave the talk. Towards the end, he said the number one priority in townships should be supporting their fire companies. There's a toss up on whether fire protection or police protection is first, and they feel the township should be paying out of their general fund. She would like that the Township looks at funding out of the general fund. We should be using general fund money to supplement the landfill money. When they stop giving us money, we should be getting used to that. If we have to waive and prioritize other expenditures, then so be it. Fire should be our number one priority in the township. It takes a special person to do what they do. We have four areas of the township, and they are not equally divided, and even if they were, the density of the township's are different. Se-Wy-Co is the most dense as far as population and Leithsville, then Southeastern, and Steel City. When you think about their base to get donations from, they are very limited. When you think about it, we really need to support our fire companies and need to start looking at that. The budget that is coming up, we need to address that. If there's a way we have to prioritize existing expenditures for 2007, then we need to seriously look at that. Mrs. Yerger said should we be looking at this in terms of a regional approach? Mr. Kern said that's what the analysis should address. Mr. Horiszny said an analysis would show that and also indicate how you can raise funds in addition to general fund, possibly a fire district tax or something like that. Mrs. deLeon said we tried that and people stopped giving to the fire companies. Mr. Horiszny said you raise the tax some more so they do fund it. Se-Wy-Co does about \$35,000 for fundraising which is not a lot. Something needs to be done. We may have to have a tax or something like that. Mrs. Yerger asked Mr. Horiszny if has seen any kind of trend as far as donation funding for this, has it gone up, has it gone down, held the same? Mr. Horiszny said the last three years, it's been between \$30,000 to \$35,000 each year. Mrs. deLeon said have moral issues, retention issues, we have incentives. We talked about this at the fire companies meetings. We need to do this soon or we'll lose our volunteers. When you need them, you need them. Mrs. Yerger said what she was saying, they are not really going to be losing that much money. If we have to do it through a tax, it's not like we're going to be hurting the fire companies. Mrs. deLeon said the alternative is paid fire fighters. You talk about money, the fire truck is going to be a lot cheaper than paid fire fighters. Mr. Maxfield said we need to be prepared. Some of the recommendations may be satellite companies, consolidations, etc. We may have to trim down some things. It is time. Mrs. deLeon said the state offers this advice and Dean Fernsler is experienced with our area, he spoke to the group.

MOTION BY: Mrs. deLeon moved to contact Dean Fernsler and give a presentation to the Township.
SECOND BY: Mr. Kern

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? Mr. Maxfield said with this other action of the Peters firm, do we need to schedule these or can we do these at the

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same time? Mr. Cahalan said he doesn't think Dean is going to get down to the nitty gritty with the specifications like Peters is going to. This would be a "special" meeting. Mrs. deLeon has a power point presentation from Dean. Mrs. Yerger said all the fire companies should be given an invitation including Williams, Bethlehem, all of the supporting companies and the public needs to be invited. Mrs. deLeon asked if anyone contacted Bethlehem about the landfill coverage? Attorney Treadwell said he did not, but will do that for the next meeting. Mr. Kern would like to hear about Peters also.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Mrs. deLeon

- The Partnership meeting on Monday had a great turnout. Mr. Cahalan counted about 50 people there. Mrs. deLeon said it was a great mix of people. We hired a consultant to present the worst case scenario so we can make an informed decision and she was pleased with the consultants.
- Landfill – we talked about some issues regarding the last meeting and direction. After that meeting, many emails were circulated trying to come up with a date that was good for that next week, Jim said he'd come back May 4 and the next week all of us were all ready and Sam couldn't get together with them. Do you know the status of this meeting? Mr. Cahalan said he thinks it's in their court as he gave them all the dates they are available.
- The May 2007 PSATS, apparently there was an article on the FCC Adopts Unfavorable Video Franchising rules. The FCC ruled and the highlights that limits local government control over cable franchising, March 5, 2007, FCC ruled and this erodes local government control. It imposes deadlines, but this is not good for the township. She would like Linc to write a letter supporting PSAT's in their opposition to this ruling. We need to contact Dan Cohen and see if he can help us at this stage. Residents are losing quality of cable services and we're allowing that to happen and she's talked about this for many years. She'd like Linc to report back next meeting. He will give Council a memo of the Pros and Cons.
- We got a memo for backup solicitor services, Dave Shafkowitz. Mr. Cahalan said they put that out and asked if there were any objections to that. He didn't hear any. Mrs. deLeon said it should have been at a public meeting and we need a resolution with his fees. She would like, at the next meeting, to have a resolution when we hire a consultant. Attorney Treadwell said it was a request from Mr. Shafkowitz, if, for whatever reason, Attorney Treadwell couldn't make it to a Planning Commission meeting, would the township agree that Mr. Shafkowitz could come who used to represent the PC. The fees wouldn't be any different than what his fees are. Mrs. deLeon said we need to approve consultants. This should be discussed publicly. She asked if there were conflicts with Dave? Attorney Treadwell said Dave has represented some developers in LST in the past, but doesn't anymore, but he will find out for next meeting. Mrs. Yerger said Mr. Maxfield should find out if this is okay with the PC. Mr. Maxfield said they are happy with Linc and if he's not there, Dave will come. We have hired consultants in the past and they have went away for awhile and come back and we've not had to reappoint them. Dave was never really officially unappointed. He felt he didn't have the time to do it anymore. Linc will find out for sure.
- We got technical deficiencies letters, where is the Lester Sharetsky property? Mr. Cahalan said it was the problem in Leithsville of the driveway.

Mr. Horiszny

- South Mountain Brush fire – you would have been extremely proud of the departments, Leithsville, Se-Wy-Co, Southeastern, Steel City plus Hellertown, and Bethlehem. Chief Bandt was the incident commander for it. Eighteen companies showed up from three counties in addition to Bethlehem and the forestry department had two planes fly over and drop water, 550 gallons each. It's been determined it was a set fire and that investigation will continue. It covered about 10 acres in total. There probably were 30-40 pieces of

equipment there. The township loaned the “gator” and Fire Marshall Ken Luybli drove that all day back and forth hauling people. Another company had an eight wheel ATV that hauled a lot of firemen. The LSA brought the gator over on some of their equipment. Bill Rescik was one of the first people at the fire. Nate Fry helped deliver the equipment. Kevin Yeakel, a Township employee, that was on loan to the LSA that day, assisted with the equipment. Mr. Cahalan brought over some GIS maps of use at the fire. It was a huge cooperative effort. Mrs. deLeon asked if Bethlehem goes out of their jurisdiction as they are paid. Mr. Horiszny said it was a Bethlehem park.

Jr. Council Member

- Vanessa said she is glad to be back. She learned so much during her recent mission trip to Boluxi, Mississippi. She cleaned up debris left from the original flood, painted, put in rugs and much more. She is looking forward to her next mission trip to LA in July.
- Vanessa said the Jr. & Sr. Prom for SV High School will be Friday, May 4, 2007. The students attended an assembly about drunk driving. They were told different stories about alcohol related accidents. Each student that went was instructed to write a goodbye letter to their parents with the assumption that they have been in a fatal car crash. The purpose of this assembly was to discourage students from drinking during Prom night.

C. SOLICITOR

Nothing to report.

D. ENGINEER

- Mr. Miller said Brien went out to the Schmidt property with Roger and they took a look at the drainage complaint of the downstream property owner. There was a light rain. Mr. Cahalan said a call was made and she was complaining about the runoff coming on to her property from the storm water management system that was placed there. They asked Brien to go out with Roger. They will have to go back to it at another rain event. Mr. Schmidt believes that there is an existing spring by the dry well. Mr. Cahalan said there definitely is a spring there. Mr. Cahalan said here is definitely no storm water coming off of there.

E. PLANNER

Absent

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved to adjourn. The time was 8:45 PM.

SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny

Mr. Kern asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Submitted by:

Mr. Jack Cahalan
Township Manager

Glenn Kern
President of Council