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**The Township Building remains closed to the public. This meeting will be held through a Zoom teleconferencing link. Information to join the meeting will be provided on our website.**

- I. OPENING**
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Pledge of Allegiance
  - D. Announcement of Executive Session (if applicable)
  - E. Public Comment Procedure
  
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT – TOWNSHIP RESIDENT ONLY – 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
  
- III. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS**
  
- IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS**
  
- V. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**
  - A. Resolution #49-2020 – Supporting Senator Boscola’s Effort to Move Pennsylvania to the Yellow Phase
  - B. 2020 Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation Main Street Grant
  - C. Review of Request for Proposals (RFP) for Host Municipal Inspector Landfill Engineering Consulting Services
  
- VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS**
  - A. Approval of May 6, 2020 Council Minutes
  - B. Approval of April 2020 Financial Reports
  
- VII. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**
  - A. Township Manager
  - B. Council/Jr. Council Member
  - C. Solicitor
  - D. Engineer
  - E. Planner
  
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – NON-RESIDENTS ONLY**
  
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Parks & Recreation: June 1, 2020  
Township Council: June 3, 2020  
Environmental Advisory Council: June 9, 2020  
Saucon Valley Partnership: June 10, 2020 @ 6:00 pm @ LST  
Zoning Hearing Board: June 22, 2020  
Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: June 22, 2020 @ 6:00 pm @ UST  
Planning Commission: June 25, 2020

**I. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order with the Zoom teleconferencing link on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., at Lower Saucon Township, 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA with Mr. Banonis, presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Present:** Jason Banonis, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Kristen Stauffer, Thomas Carocci, Council Members; Leslie Huhn, Township Manager; Cathy Gorman, Director of Finance; Roger Rasich, Director of Public Works; Jim Young, Zoning Officer; Tom Barndt, Chief of Police; Linc Treadwell, Solicitor; and Brien Kocher, Township Engineer. **Absent:** Sandra Yerger, Council President and Judy Stern Goldstein, Township Planner.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)**

Mr. Banonis said Council did meet in Executive Session this evening to talk about land acquisition and consultants. He asked if we were in conformity with the Sunshine Act. Attorney Treadwell said it was potentially acquisition and personnel matters that had to do with consultants.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT – TOWNSHIP RESIDENT ONLY – 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Banonis asked if we had any Township resident who wanted to speak on a non-agenda item. Mrs. Huhn said she sees no hands at this time, but she did receive a question earlier in the day. It's a non-agenda item and does come from a resident. Ms. Suzette Califano asks if our area does move into the yellow phase will meetings still be held via Zoom or would we would be allowed to physically attend. Mr. Banonis said we are all anxiously looking forward to getting back to live meetings and getting back to some socializing in person. The current guidelines issued by the Governor limit gatherings in the yellow phase are currently at 25 people and that's subject to change. To make a definitive answer at this time and commit to that, he doesn't think we can. Certainly 25 people is a pretty small limit based upon the numbers we've had recently on these Zoom calls, we've been averaging well over 25 and if we were to have an in-person meeting, it would have the potential to keep people out and that's in violation of the Sunshine Law. We will have to wait to see how it goes, at least that's his thought on this.

Mr. Carocci said he thinks Zoom is a good option for people and even if we do go back to live meetings that maybe they should be on Zoom so that people have the option to attend or to zoom in. It's a good thing and if we gave them an option, that's something to consider, but we can talk about that at a later date.

Mrs. deLeon said she agrees as she already had that conversation with Leslie. She said let's pretend the computer is a person sitting up somewhere in the Council room and we zoom it. Mr. Carocci said he agrees. Mrs. Stauffer said that was a good question, we just don't know when.

**III. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS – None**

**III. DEVELOPER ITEMS – None**

**IV. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. RESOLUTION #49-2020 – SUPPORTING SENATOR BOSCOLA'S EFFORT TO MOVE PENNSYLVANIA TO THE YELLOW PHASE**

Mr. Banonis said this was prepared for Senator Boscola's efforts to move the Lehigh Valley and Lower Saucon Township to the yellow phase. He drafted this Resolution and since he drafted it, there have been some changes that have taken place, so because of that he's going to move to withdraw the Resolution for now and table it and maybe revisit it later. The changes that have taken place are that the Governor has apparently responded to Senator Boscola on May 15<sup>th</sup> and there's a letter available on Senator Boscola's website that outlines the Governor's position. Essentially he responded "no" to the Senator's valid request and said that the Secretary of Health would be speaking with the local epidemiology at Lehigh Valley Hospital or St. Luke's and he

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doesn't know when that's going to take place, hopefully sooner rather than later. Just to provide some background to people who are on here since we aren't going to be moving that Resolution forward, as of today, the State website shows there are 2,758 positive cases of COVID in Northampton County (NC), and 176 deaths. What's significant out of that number is that there were over 10,000 people that were tested that were negative. The Gracedale Nursing Home, which is the county-owned nursing home accounts for almost 10% of the total cases in NC and almost 25% of the deaths in NC, which is unfortunate but you can see that the concentration of cases is hitting nursing homes and senior living facilities quite heavily. More locally, there's a website that's provided by the State that you can search cases by zip code. 18055, which is generally Hellertown and part of Bethlehem has a total of 58 positive cases. What's significant there and again reflecting how heavily this is hitting nursing homes, Saucon Valley Manor has 9 cases, which is 15% in Hellertown. If you look at 18015, which encompass a lot of Lower Saucon Township and Fountain Hill, there are a total of 239 positive cases. Some people may think why it is 4 or 5 times higher than 18055, and he doesn't know the answer to that, but you have to keep in mind that St. Luke's Hospital is located in Fountain Hill, which is within the 18015 zip code, so certainly St. Luke's has been on the forefront treating patients, diagnosing patients and providing good care and getting people back to life and health, so perhaps those numbers are skewed by a major regional health system that is within that zip code. Statewide as of today, it looks like there are currently 1,825 patients that are in hospitals with COVID and there are a total 363 patients state-wide that are on ventilators. Putting that into perspective, there are 12.9 million people in PA and if you look at the number of people who are hospitalized currently compared to the number of people who live in PA, percentage is .00014 and if you look at the number of people in PA that are ventilators compared to the 12.9 million population, it's .000002. Yesterday Lehigh Valley Health Network has opened some offices and are providing some elective procedures and they are now allowing visitors to the hospital. The CDC today has changed its traditional understanding of the COVID is easily transmittable on hard surfaces to say it's not as easily transmitted. In addition, there are more than 600 doctors who have signed a letter to the President to end the shutdown and they are calling the current lockdown itself a mass casualty event for incident that has grown in consequences. People are missing medical appointments, they are not being diagnosed with other conditions that could lead to mortality or other issues, stating substance and alcohol abuse, financial instability and they also acknowledge that poverty is linked generally to poor health conditions. While he is making the motion to withdraw this resolution, he's hoping that our local State Representatives continue to be very mindful of the impact that is happening on everyone and that they do their best to reinforce the urgency and concerns that we are experiencing here in LST. With all that said, he's going to make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to remove this item from the agenda right now with a possibility of revisiting it at another meeting.

Mrs. deLeon asked if we needed a motion to do this. Attorney Treadwell said not necessarily but it doesn't hurt if we are possibly going to bring it back to just remove it tonight and table it.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

Mrs. deLeon said she feels that she will vote no as it's not in our place to do this, but that's all she will say for now. Mr. Banonis said to be clear, you are voting no to remove a Resolution. Mrs. deLeon said she guesses he's right, she screwed up, she's going to remove it, but that doesn't mean she wants it to come back. She doesn't think we even need to vote on this but now you are putting her on the spot if she votes yes to this. Mr. Banonis said he's not trying to put her on the spot. Mrs. deLeon said she hears him.

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

**B. 2020 GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION MAIN STREET GRANT**

Mr. Banonis said Staff is requesting Council approval to submit a grant for a bike service station to be located at the Reading Drive Trailhead.

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Mrs. Huhn said the Greater LV Chamber offers this grant annually. It is to be used for downtown and surrounding traditional neighborhoods, revitalization or improvement projects within the LV. We have submitted in the past and have been successful in getting a bulletin board out at the Reading Drive Trailhead to put information out for people who are passing by on the Rail Trail. We are asking to submit this year as it's due May 30<sup>th</sup> and it's a matching grant, a 50% match, with the maximum you can apply for is \$2,000. What we are proposing is a bike service station, which you have information in your packet on what they look like. It's a bike repair station, and we have a lot of people using the SRT right now, so if they have a chain fall off, there's equipment attached to it, some wrenches, some tools, air if you have a flat tire. The proposed amount for this is \$916 so if we're successful we would be responsible for half of that amount. We are proposing to submit it at this time and we are being cognizant of funds and spending, but since this is a matching grant and will benefit all the people using the SRT, we think it's a viable submission.

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Carocci moved for approval for submission of the 2020 Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation Main Street grant.  
**SECOND BY:** Mrs. deLeon  
**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

**C. REVIEW OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR HOST MUNICIPAL INSPECTOR LANDFILL ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES**

Mr. Banonis said Council requested the Manager seek proposals for Host Municipal Inspector Landfill Engineering Consulting Services. We have received two proposals. Mrs. Huhn said we prepared an RFP that was advertised on our website, and we tried to research local firms that might be able to offer these services and the proposals were mailed directly to them. We mailed it to about 11 different firms. One actually contacted us and said they had a conflict of interest so they would not be submitting. We had the deadline for submissions as May 13<sup>th</sup> and received two proposals; one from our current HMI, Hanover Engineering and one from Maser Consulting. They submitted a lot of information, their backgrounds, their resumes and what we put together in a chart was a rate for the HMI's and there are some other rates involved, which we usually wouldn't use, so we just stated the rates for the hourly inspections. Hanover submitted their rate of \$94.75 an hour and Maser Consulting at \$160.00 an hour.

Mr. Banonis said it seems like a big difference between the hourly rates and he's not sure what's included in each one. He'd propose we table this for now and put it on the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and invite the applicants to come in for an interview. We have their biographical information and technical expertise and we can come up with some appropriate questions to ask them during the public meeting and the public may have interest in that as well. Mrs. Huhn said we can do that.

Mrs. Stauffer said it will just be questions about the HMI, not any other engineering services we might need. Mr. Banonis said correct, the RFP is limited to only the HMI. Mrs. deLeon said we should have done that tonight since it's such a short agenda. Mr. Carocci said yes. Mrs. Huhn said she can reach out to them and see if they are available on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to table this until the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and invite the two of them to the meeting so Council can ask them questions.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci  
**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. APPROVAL OF MAY 6, 2020 COUNCIL MINUTES**

Mr. Banonis said the May 6, 2020 Council minutes are ready for Council's review and approval.

- MOTION BY:** Mrs. deLeon moved for approval of the May 6, 2020 Council minutes, with corrections.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis  
**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

**B. APPROVAL OF APRIL FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mr. Banonis said the April Financial reports are ready for Council's review and approval.

**MOTION BY:** Mrs. deLeon moved for approval of the April Financial reports.

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Stauffer

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

Mr. Banonis said he participated in the Hellertown Council meeting the other night and their report suggested their revenue streams, they are noticing a drop-off. Do you have any information on that. Hellertown is suggesting they noticed a drop off in the EIT as well as real estate transfer tax and fees and things like that, do we have a similar kind of drop-off? Mrs. Huhn said we have seen a little bit. She and Cathy spoke about it a little bit today and she has put together a chart for us showing our EIT and where we are standing on that. She thinks we are not going to see something until maybe June or July until we get into the next quarter. We're not realizing it yet so we can put something together to give to Council to show where our revenues are dropping. We are also looking to see where we can hold the line on costs and spending as we move forward. We're not quite sure where we are yet in this environment.

**VII. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**

**A. MANAGER**

- Mrs. Huhn said she was able to check on the Meadows Road Bridge for an update and there really isn't anything new on that. They had a draft flood study which has been showing some improvement in the flooding conditions where the bridge is, but there's little progress beyond that. They are still in the engineering phase. They are still working with PennDOT and at this time things are not moving forward so they did not have any updates.
- Mrs. Huhn said Priscila sent something in on the TIP program where Meadows Road is being discussed. Mrs. deLeon said she saw it and there's a meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. She said Brien Kocher usually keeps up on the TIP program. Mr. Kocher said he doesn't know anything about that meeting. Mrs. deLeon said we should be represented at that meeting. Mrs. Huhn said one of the meetings is over. Mrs. deLeon said there's a couple coming up and we need to at least participate in the discussions on this and send a representative and Brien would be the choice. She asked if he could explain the process going on right now with the TIP program. Mr. Kocher said he thought the bridge had already received TIP money so he's not sure what they would be talking about. Mrs. deLeon said it's on the chart, No. 70 and it says it's up for replacement and as far as we know from the Township, the engineer Mike McGuire, they haven't gotten back to us and once a month either herself or Leslie email them to get an update. We haven't heard at the Township that this particular body made any decisions. We continue to see it on this TIP program and a decision hasn't been made. Ironically on June 2<sup>nd</sup> is the date that PHMC is going to present their recommendations to the panel to see whether or not it's going to pass for putting it on the Register. Right now it's eligible for the National Register and this committee will be reviewing it and will make the determination to send to the Federal people for recommendations. Mrs. Huhn said it's two sessions that are being held, via Zoom or virtually, but she wasn't able to look at any agendas to see what they are discussing and if it's informational, if they are gathering information, if they are presenting information and Brien hasn't seen it either. Mrs. deLeon said she'd like to make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Mrs. deLeon moved to send someone from the Township, Brien Kocher, to attend one of the Zoom meetings and report back to the Township on what's going on.

Mrs. Huhn said if you want someone from Staff to attend, we can do that if it's informational, we can do that. If you want to send somebody that's going to provide input, then she doesn't know if that's something you want our engineer to do. Mrs. deLeon said whoever goes if there's a discussion aspect to the meeting, they should be familiar with the process, so if you have someone on staff that is familiar with the TIP process, then she'd be comfortable sending that person. Mr. Banonis said personally he has a problem paying a consultant to go and incur these fees. If somebody from staff can attend and observe and gather information and report back, that's okay as they are already being paid for their

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work for the Township, but we shouldn't be incurring a consultant fee. Mrs. Huhn said she can look at the webinars and see what's involved and see if we can find that right person to attend. If she can look at the agendas and kind of get an idea of it, and then if it's something she can participate in and it looks like they have a Q&A, she can get some questions or suggestions from Brien. Mrs. Stauffer said do we need a motion or can you do it administratively. Mrs. Huhn said she can do that administratively if you are okay with it. Mrs. deLeon said that's okay. Mrs. Huhn said she can report back.

Ms. Stephanie Brown said she got the information and sent it to Priscilla. She's unsure of the process as well but there were three, Zoom type meetings to discuss the whole TIP thing in the LV, all the bridges, all the roads being repaved. There is a link on the article where you can go in and leave comments, but there's also participation during the Zoom meetings. There was one at noon which she missed out on. The next one is on the 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. and on June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the last one. There is an article where you can get more information. Mrs. deLeon said on the June 3<sup>rd</sup> date, what time is that meeting. Ms. Brown said it's a 9 a.m. meeting and today was noon, so they are at different times. Mrs. Huhn said it seems like the same meeting they might be presenting at different times so people can participate. Ms. Brown said there is some sort of Q&A and you can make comments or you can make comments at any time. No one made a second to Mrs. deLeon's motion.

- Mrs. Huhn said she's looking for Council direction. We have been notified, and this is public information, that our Township Planner, Judy Stern Goldstein is moving to another firm and that being said, we have an open project that started with Boucher & James, so she'd like to see if Council would like to proceed with that project and if we'd like to contact Boucher and put this project on hold and re-review or discuss it with the new firm if that's the desire you'd like to approach. Mr. Banonis said it makes sense to direct them to put it on hold for now and to ask them to provide any accounting for services or fees that were already incurred and if they have incurred any fees for work, find out what that work project was and get a copy of that project so we have it when we decide to move forward with the project either with them or with another consulting firm. Mrs. Huhn said okay. Mrs. Stauffer said do we need to be specific with what the project is for residents. Mrs. Huhn said yes we can. Attorney Treadwell said this was the Zoning Ordinance amendment that Council voted for Boucher to prepare. Mrs. Huhn said yes, reviewing our use regulations.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to contact Boucher & James and put the Zoning Ordinance amendment project on hold for now and ask them to provide any accounting for services or fees that were already incurred.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

**B. COUNCIL/JR. COUNCIL**

**Jr. Council** – Absent

**Mrs. Yerger** – Absent

**Mrs. deLeon**

- She said on May 13<sup>th</sup> she attended the SV Partnership meeting. Carolyn was there and she went over the multi-municipal plan. She asked Mrs. Huhn if the changes were put on the website yet. Mrs. Huhn said Carolyn just sent it out for review, but we'll be getting that posted. Mrs. deLeon said she made a comment that 10 years ago when we did the last update, we didn't have Zoom meetings, we didn't have all this stuff going on and when we had meetings for the public to come to, they had to look at flip charts and it's just amazing we have the technology to help us through this pandemic to be able to do the comp plan and be able to have the community participate in it and give us input so we can even make the plan better. She was quite impressed with that and all the different layers and information that will be available to the Township so it will aid us in evaluating plans and just general information about the Township.

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- May 19<sup>th</sup> she attended the quarterly landfill meeting for the first quarter, Tom was also on the call. Since yesterday she did discover more dates that odors were called in, so she'll forward that to Leslie. As we were on the call tonight, someone texted her they smelled landfill odors tonight that were called into DEP.
- Last night the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber had a meeting and she read what they sent in "For the last nine weeks, the Chamber has been working from home. During this time, we've tried to be innovative and creative and are here for businesses who are truly struggling during this time. The Chamber's COVID-19 Relief Fund we were able to give out \$355,000 in grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 to businesses in need. These grants had no strings attached. We are working on a back-to-work plan. The Chambers Public Policy Team has been working extremely hard to make sure the business and our Chamber have a voice. We are looking for different ways to give support and be a resource to our local businesses. On the local level, the Hellertown-LS Chamber, unfortunately Music in the Park summer concert series have been cancelled; however we are looking at planning to host concerts on two dates in September. We can all keep all keep our fingers crossed on that. Still finalizing details and will get everything updated on our Facebook page shortly. As always we are appreciative to support local and have been encouraging this through a variety of events. We ask that businesses continue to send us their updates and offerings so we can make sure our business offers and updates are current, which is a great thing. We are also hosting a virtual mall business on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Business owners can offer a virtual enticing deal for special of the day to encourage new and returning customers to shop small and local in the LV. Business details can be submitted to them. There is no cost to participate, businesses do not have to be a Chamber member to participate".
- She'd like to thank Leslie for all she does and she appreciates the time she spends and all the department heads and employees and all those that are working on the front line. Mr. Banonis said he concurs with that as well. Mrs. Huhn said thank you.

**Mrs. Stauffer**

- She said the last day to register for the May mail-in ballot is May 26<sup>th</sup> and that is for the primary on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Banonis said he's not aware of this occurring in LST, but he's heard in certain voting places they are consolidating with other locations as there's not enough election staff in those locations, so anybody going out to vote, just double-check the polling station you may be going to is in fact where your polling station is. He's not aware of changes in LST, but that can change. Mrs. Huhn said we have not heard of any consolidation, but we'll watch for that. Mrs. deLeon said that can be posted if there are changes.

**Mr. Carocci** – No report

**Mr. Banonis**

- He said he was on the Hellertown Borough call earlier this week and one of the topics discussed was the closure of the Hellertown Pool, which is used by residents of Hellertown but also by residents of LST. It's his understanding that LST pays a fee to Hellertown for LST residents to use the pool and that fee is based upon the prior year's attendance and the calculation is done and the Borough then sends us an invoice and we pay it for the ensuing year. The information he has reflects that in 2019 we paid \$10,255 and that was based upon attendance in 2018. This year we were invoiced and we paid \$9,950 based upon usage from 2019. Since it sounds like the pool is not opening this year, he'd like to notify the Borough, by letter, that we would carry that amount forward and that would be the amount we owe in 2021; and therefore, we can readdress it in the budget for next year because that's an item we already paid for.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to have Mrs. Huhn notify Hellertown Borough, by letter, that we would carry the amount of \$9,950 forward and that would be the amount we owe in 2021 for the Hellertown Pool fee.

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. deLeon

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

Mrs. Stauffer asked how the rate would be determined for next year. Mr. Banonis said that's the issue and there's no one using the pool. The pool was based upon prior LST usage so technically the amount we would owe next year would be zero, as we've already paid for this year. The alternative is to ask them to refund the money, but historically what the numbers are, it's about \$10,000 a year, so they already have \$9,950 so he thinks that should be appropriate in making their calculation for next year.

- It came to his attention that the bridge that is on Old Philadelphia Pike is being evaluated for its structural integrity and whether repairs are needed for it. Mrs. Huhn said the bridge has been inspected and it does have some structural issues. Public Works is currently repairing them. We are waiting for a cost estimate on engineering from HEA to look at either repair or replacement. It always seems to be the two words when we talk about bridges, it is in poor shape so once we get that engineering, we are going to see if there are any grants available and see if it's something we need to have replaced. In the meantime, we are making it structurally sound. We did receive a recommendation to limit the traffic on the road, it's not that we need to close the road. We need to take care of the weight limit on it and it was suggested to post it at 5-ton and we would take the bridge down to one lane. We are looking at that design option and we need to do our PA-1 call to place signage and before we do any of this she has a list of residents who live along this road and surrounding roads that connect with Old Philadelphia Pike in that area that we will be sending notification to so they will get that before they see the signage go up and the limit on the traffic. Mr. Banonis said this is the second bridge we're having an issue with within two or three months. The other one is Lower Saucon which is closed. He asked if we had an inventory of bridges with grades just so we're not surprised by these things. We had one that was closed in an emergency and this one is having some issues. He wants to make sure we don't have other bridges that are going to pop up as problems. He said it may be good to anticipate where our future needs are going to be and to look at that on a periodic basis so we don't run into these situations where we are having multiple bridges and significant outlays through either repair or replace. Mrs. Huhn said that's a good point. We do have a bridge inventory, but she doesn't think we have them specifically rated at the moment. We have them itemized and it is something we need to look at as our infrastructure is pretty much the same age across the board, so they are all popping up at the same time as they are the same age. She said Mr. Banonis is correct that we need to look at it for budgeting purposes going forward to rate the bridges just as we do our road evaluations and we have to set money aside. We do have capital money put aside for emergencies, but it's not something we need popping up as an emergency situation that they need to be taken care of or slated for replacement, and she hates to use that word. Repair is more of what we'd like to see, but if it's slated for that, its budgeted through the years and we take it out to a five or ten year replacement plan. Mr. Roger Rasich said we do take a look at the bridges on a regular basis along with all of our other stormwater structures. We look at them more from a visual aspect since we have no one in-house to give a formal rating on them. We just have an inventory and visual inspection. Mr. Banonis said do you think it would be a good idea to have our engineer look at these on an annual or two-year basis just to see what's there and have some grades so we can project what our needs will be. He appreciates Roger going out and looking at them as that's how the issues on Old Philadelphia Pike were found. He's wondering if we need to have a more formalized process. There will be some cost involved in that but at the same time it will eliminate the element of surprise and help us be at an advantage and protect our finances better. Mr. Rasich said he would be all for that, more information is better than not enough, so any evaluation we'd get on them would be a positive thing. Mr. Banonis asked Mrs. Huhn to speak to our engineers to see what that would involve. He's not going to make a formal motion that we necessarily engage in that process, but if you could find out what thoughts they have on that, maybe we can come up with some sort of program that would take that uncertainty out. Mrs. Huhn said sure, and she and Roger can sit down and go through the different costs. Mr. Carocci said the cost estimates go along with it.



Mrs. Huhn said there's different types of bridges. We have some concrete culverts, we have some masonry bridges, we have some stone arch bridges, we just have some stone bridges and box culverts so if we're going to ask our engineer to look at it, there might be different costs associated with different types of bridges. Mrs. deLeon said how many bridges do we have. Mr. Rasich said he doesn't have an exact number with him right now and again, what we look at with a bridge is pretty much waterways that are unnamed or tributaries that are named streams throughout the Township. For example, Sanbrook Drive, that's really not a bridge, it's a large aluminized corrugated pipe, but it's also a structure that if it would need replacement it would be substantial, not like the scope of Lower Saucon Road or Meadows, but it still is substantial so that is included in their inventory. Anything pretty much over 60" in diameter is identified. Mrs. deLeon said also when we are talking about looking at structures, for budget time, the Township goes around and looks at all of our buildings and comes up with a structure report to prioritize for repairs. Mr. Rasich said we do a monthly facility inspection of all of our buildings and structures, inside and outside. Mrs. Huhn said we will take that all into consideration when we sit down with Cathy to formulate the budget, but we can look at it now and at least get you some information on the bridges.

- He doesn't know if Chief Barndt is on the call. Mrs. Huhn said he is. Mr. Banonis said you probably heard his comments about the Resolution in supporting Senator Boscola, and there have been some media reports as to how NC District Attorney is treating violations and not prosecuting violations of emergency order. He's wondering, what is the PD seeing in terms of people that may be running afoul of the order and also what is being done in terms of enforcement. He saw the District Attorney was enforcing warnings and it didn't seem to be an overly interest in a real zealous prosecution of those things. Chief Barndt said the PD set out to educate the resident and citizens of LST and to date, we have not had one call for service relative to that. Mr. Banonis said that's great. It's really a testament to the residents as they've taken this seriously and the PD has done a great job, and a testament for the PD as well as you guys are on the front lines interacting with the public on a daily basis and we appreciate all you are doing in keeping your solace and our community safe. Chief Barndt said thank you, he will pass it on.
- He participated in the SV Partnership meeting last week and there were some topics that came up that he think are good for the public to hear about.
  - NC has a small business relief fund. It was initially funded with \$250,000, and as of that meeting there was \$25,000 that was left. It's designed to provide relief for local businesses that may be affected by the outbreak. If people are interested in that, apply for it. The idea was that even though there's only 10% left, that there may be some additional funding that may become available so for those on this call who are interested, we can provide that information to you to where to go for it.
  - The other point that came up was for us to understand as a Council and the predicament that we may be getting into. There was a comment that the hotel tax and the grant money, particularly from casinos and other sources, and some may be non-existent in 2021. He knows we received quite a bit of grant money so we just need to anticipate that shortfall next year and do a belt tightening so we can limit the impact and transition to next year's budget.
  - Hellertown updated us on Easton Road, which is within the Borough, but residents who live on the east side of the Township are probably interested in this, there has been put in place on Easton Road at Cherry Lane and I-78, a sign to direct tractor trailer traffic away from Easton Road and proceed them down to I-78, which was put in at PennDOT's expense and it was to help alleviate some of the traffic issues taking place.
  - There's been some UGI work on Route 378 at Puggy Lane so that's something to keep in mind as we are out and about.
  - There were some discussions about the Compost Center. It has operated jointly by HB and LST and the Compost Center is open five days a week, Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. It's being staffed by PW from HB and LST, and there were some

comments about wanting it to be open on the weekend. As of right now, that would require us to incur overtime and it's certainly not something that LST should be bearing the burden of. Maybe we can have some conversations between us and HB to find out what their intentions are and what their desire is. He doesn't think we should be opening it up four Saturday's a month. There's a possibility to consider opening it up one or two Saturday's a month if the cost and manpower is going to be split equally between HB and LST, but we need to look into that a little bit further. Mrs. Stauffer said Leslie mentioned about the weekend incurring costs, is there going to be updates on that or is that not something we should discuss now. Mrs. Huhn said she doesn't know that we've been receiving a lot more calls. People are adapting to the Monday through Friday schedule. We are getting sporadic calls that they'd like to see it open on Saturday's, but she's not sure if HB is getting calls as well. HB just had their meeting earlier this week, so they did discuss it at that time that they were getting some calls, but she doesn't think they made any decisions either. Mrs. Stauffer said usually our website has a calendar with the days the Compost Center is open and the holidays that the Compost Center is closed. Since Monday is Memorial Day can we put a note on the website that the Compost Center is closed as it's a holiday. Mrs. Huhn said we'll get that out there.

- C. **SOLICITOR** – No report
- D. **PLANNER** – Absent
- E. **ENGINEER** – No report

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – NON-RESIDENTS ONLY**

- Donna Louder asked if there was a status on the Steel City Fire truck. Mr. Banonis said his understanding is that it was on its way back. It has been repaired, but he doesn't know if it has arrived. He doesn't have an update as of today. Mrs. Louder said that's great to hear. We did have a fire in Steel City and Freemansburg is the first call out because of the distance compared to Lower Saucon Fire Rescue. Mr. Banonis said there are other working fire trucks and apparatus that are there in Steel City, so his understanding is they are still providing emergency services in the community. Mrs. Louder said according to the NC 911 center, Freemansburg is the first call, LS 16 is the second call and Steel City is the third call even though we do have a fire company a block away. That's just a concern of hers and will remain a concern of her. Mrs. Stauffer said she's glad Donna is staying with this.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Carocci moved for adjournment. The time was 8:01 p.m.  
**SECOND BY:** Mrs. deLeon  
**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. Yerger – Absent)

Submitted by:

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Leslie Huhn  
Township Manager

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Sandra B. Yerger  
Council President