

**I. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 6:33 p.m. with Mrs. Sandra Yerger, presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Present:** Sandra Yerger, President; Jason Banonis, Vice President; Thomas Carocci, Kristen Stauffer and Priscilla deLeon, Council Members; Leslie Huhn, Township Manager; Cathy Gorman, Director of Finance; Diane Palik, Administrative Assistant; Linc Treadwell, Township Solicitor; Brien Kocher, Township Engineer. Mrs. Huhn said she's like to introduce our new Administrative Assistant, Tracie Raven.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)** – Mrs. Yerger said Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss potential property acquisition and contract negotiations.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURE**

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT – TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY – 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS** – Mrs. Yerger said we do welcome input from everybody but we ask that you keep your comments to three minutes per item. If you want to speak, please raise your hand.

- Donna Louder said she'd like to request if Roger could meet her at the SC Park and they could walk through it. She'd also like to request if the Township could put a shade tree at the SC Park, but she'd really appreciate it if Roger would walk through with her. Mrs. Huhn said we'll set something up.

**III. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION #56-2021 – AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE PROPERTY PARCEL Q6-6-2 – E. RADERS LANE – APPROXIMATELY 11 (Should be 8.9) ACRES**

Mrs. Yerger said Resolution #56-2021 was prepared to authorize the purchase of Tax Parcel No. Q6-6-2 of approximately 11 (should be corrected to state 8.9) acres for the purchase price of \$422,500 for the purpose outlined in the Open Space Plan.

**MOTION BY:** Mrs. deLeon moved to open the hearing.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Attorney Treadwell said the purpose of this public hearing is the Township is considering acquiring Tax Map Parcel Q6-6-2. It's the area outlined in blue on the screen. It's approximately 11 acres. It's located between two existing residential subdivisions. This property has been to the EAC and the EAC has recommended to the Township to purchase it. The Township obtained an appraisal. The property owner also obtained their own appraisal. The proposal which is the difference between the two appraisals is for the Township to purchase this property for \$422,500. The purpose of the public hearing is to get any questions from Council and also any members of the public who would like to comment on this acquisition.

Ms. deLeon said you said the EAC reviewed this, do you know what the number was that they rated it? Mrs. Yerger said they scored it. They walked the property, and score it to see the potential value to the Township. Mrs. Huhn said it was 16 out of 26 possible points.

Mr. Banonis said the money that would be used to purchase this property would come from the Open Space funds. He asked how much money do we have in the Open Space Fund? Mrs. Huhn said \$10,592,316.37.

The property owner said he should have asked for more. Attorney Treadwell said he did ask for comments or questions, and he guesses that's a comment. Mrs. deLeon said that's why there are appraisals.

Someone (did not give his name) in the audience said the funds are designated to come from the open space fund provision. Open space is pretty broad, is there any designation Council has what is open space. Attorney Treadwell said it's just a leave it as it is. Mr. Carocci said yes, as of tonight. There

are no plans. Someone said and if there were plans to change it, it would come before Council. Mrs. Yerger said yes. Mr. Banonis said if a developer came in and we didn't acquire this property, how many homes could they put on this property. Attorney Treadwell said probably 10 or 11 homes you could fit on there.

Lindsay Conard, 1541 East Raders Lane said she can answer that question. She called the environmental protection people from PA to have them assess the area three years ago. It's valuable for that reason, if that helps at all.

Dan Huston, 2051 Alice Drive, said there's a couple of different numbers you had up there. You are saying something about 11 acres, and what showed on the map was 8 or 9 acres. Attorney Treadwell said what you see on the map is the entire extent of the parcel. It's actually 8.9 acres. If he said 11, he misspoke. Ms. deLeon said our paperwork has to be changed as it does say 11 acres.

Mr. Huston said at the top of the property on the north end, there's a provision for a fire lane, is that going to be developed after you purchase it or is it going to be left as it is. Mr. Banonis said we currently have no plans for this property. Ms. deLeon said when you say fire lane, where is the fire lane from the subdivision. Mr. Huston said the fire lane on the plot plan is actually 1A.5 along the edge of it. It splits the property. Attorney Treadwell said he's not seeing it on this map and he's assuming it's on the subdivision map for that residential subdivision, where does it go to? Mr. Huston said it goes from Glenview to East Raders Lane. Attorney Treadwell said at this point in time, Council is considering acquiring it and there are no plans to do anything. Ms. deLeon said that's a good point if it's an emergency access, you want to make sure that the fire lane isn't blocked. Mr. Huston said he knows the property owner is not here, but it may affect his property. Ms. deLeon said there's a house on that property. Mr. Carocci said a letter was sent from the Township to all the property owners stating it would be on the agenda tonight, and assuming he got the letter, he should have been aware of it. Ms. deLeon said can someone get back to her on that, she'd like to know for her own self. Mrs. Huhn said if there's an emergency access? Ms. deLeon said where it goes. Mrs. Huhn said we can pull the plans.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to close the hearing.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. deLeon

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Attorney Treadwell said Resolution #56-2021 has been prepared to approve the purchase if that's how you choose to proceed.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval of Resolution #56-2021 authorizing the purchase of Northampton County Tax Map Parcel No. Q6-6-2 for the purposes outlined in the Open Space Act.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

Mr. Banonis said is that with the amendment to change the paragraph from 11 acres to 8.9 acres. Ms. deLeon said she'll change her motion to make sure it's changed.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon amended her previous motion and moved for approval of Resolution #56-2021 authorizing the purchase of Northampton County Tax Map Parcel No. Q6-6-2 for the purposes outlined in the Open Space Act and to change the 11 acres to 8.9 acres on the resolution.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci amended his second

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS**

**A. MAJESTIC BETHLEHEM CENTER EASTERN PHASE – 3905 & 3955 COMMERCE CENTER BOULEVARD – REVIEW OF LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Mrs. Yerger said the applicant is requesting conditional Amended Final Subdivision and Land Development Plan approval.

Jim Preston, Attorney for the applicant was present. Attorney Treadwell asked to explain what the proposal was today. Attorney Preston said they have plenty of expertise here that can discuss any

aspect of the plan, we have board's we can use and he's looking to the board for some guidance. Attorney Treadwell said just explain the 2-1 building issue. Attorney Preston said they will have their engineer Andy Bennett explain that.

Mr. Bennett said before they had two lots and two buildings and basically consolidated them into one lot, one building, reduced the impervious across the entire site. So instead of two buildings that totaled about 700,000 sq. ft., they have one building that is about 833,000 square feet. Attorney Treadwell said for the benefit of the public, can you describe where we are on the map. Mr. Bennett said this is in the Commerce Center Park, it's the end of the park so when you go up Commerce Center Boulevard and go into the park and continue, there's a loop road there and this parcel was two lots at the end of the loop road on the eastern side of that. Attorney Preston said for those who aren't familiar with Commerce Boulevard, it's the large industrial park at the entrance of I-78 where 412 goes down, it's the large complex there. Attorney Treadwell said the line you see that goes through the middle of the building, is the border between LST and the City of Bethlehem. Mr. Bennett said that is correct. Attorney Treadwell said this building if constructed would be 50% in LST and 50% in the City of Bethlehem. Mr. Bennett said approximately.

Ms. deLeon said this is part of our LERTA program, it's a ten year program, can you refresh her memory. Mr. Joe Uliana, Consultant, said yes, it is part of the LERTA plan that starts out the first year at zero taxes and then it goes 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 then 10 years you return to 100% and that was approved by the board four years ago. Ms. deLeon said in other instances, we'll get what our share is prorated. Attorney Preston said there is going to be an agreement to share the taxes which are prorated and it's between the Township and the City. What they will do is they will pay those taxes, so how that gets worked out between the City and the Township is between the City and the Township. Attorney Treadwell said it's one of the conditions of the approval and he has already had correspondence and a draft agreement out there to the City of Bethlehem. Ms. deLeon said it's in the prior approval too. Attorney Treadwell said if you recall, the complete history was it started as one building, then it went to two and now it's back to one. Attorney Preston said we don't obviously pay them to the City and to the Township, we just pay the taxes. Ms. deLeon said a lot of the concerns we had as a Council got addressed at the ZHB with certain conditions. She always is concerned what it is going to do to the adjacent residents. Attorney Preston said we had to do a study for that. Attorney Treadwell said let's ask Brien if he had any issues with the review letter. Mr. Kocher said no, all of the engineering aspects have been addressed and the review letter is down to items for Linc and the attorney's to work out.

- MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval of the amended Final Subdivision and Land Development plan approval subject to the following conditions set forth in HEA's draft motion dated July 21, 2021.
- SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis
- ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**V. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. LOWER SAUCON FIRE RESCUE (LSFR) ANNUAL REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON DESIGNATING LSFR AS THE SOLE FIRE SERVICES PROVIDER IN THE TOWNSHIP**

Mrs. Yerger said Lower Saucon Fire Rescue (LSFR) would like to present Council with their annual report. Additionally, Council Member, Tom Carocci, has requested they present a plan to Council to provide Township-wide fire protection coverage.

Ty Johnson, LSFR Fire Chief and Scott Krycia, President and Captain of LSFR were present. Mr. Johnson said what's on the screen behind you is our year-end report. They responded to 716 calls last year. They had to deal with the pandemic as well as everybody else. Their crews took extra precaution with that and they only allowed a certain number of people on each truck to limit exposure to the rest of the members. They put in service the new ladder truck in October and so far it has served them well. They had a community event for people to come out and it seems that it has been received pretty decent. He showed a rundown of their officers in the fire company, the administrative officers, and the fire officers that serve LSFR. Attorney Treadwell asked how many members they

have? Mr. Johnson said there are right around 67. Ms. deLeon said thank you for all you do. Mrs. Yerger said that's amazing.

Mr. Johnson said this slide tells you where their values are. Why they are here. They want to serve our community, keep our taxes low by having a volunteer fire department. The guys put in a lot of time and effort to do so for the community and they are proud to do it. He showed a breakdown of their responses. You can see exactly what they respond to and the total that comes up at the end of the year. Mr. Carocci said vehicles fires are on I-78. Mr. Johnson said a majority of them are but they do have some vehicle fires in the Township also. Mr. Carocci said the next slide, these were the top 10 responders and their names should be read out loud; 454 calls for Mr. Gearhart is impressive and Samantha Barrel at 236 is impressive also. He wants to thank all the 10 individuals in addition to all of the firemen. Mr. Johnson said there's a lot of members that are dedicated and putting in time and this is just calls, this doesn't even include Monday night training, coming to Council meetings, special events we do like "Touch a Truck", go to the Dewey Carnival, so that all plays into the time besides the fire calls. Ms. deLeon said please read their names. Mr. Johnson said Robert Gearhart with 454 calls, Kyle Mortl with 421 calls, Eric Billimoria with 378 calls, Scott Krycia with 373 calls, James Rayner with 369 calls, Ty Johnson with 327 calls, Clink Ballek with 265 calls, Neville Billimoria with 253 calls, Bryan Evans with 246 calls and Samantha Barrel with 236 calls.

Mr. Johnson said the next slide, he'll leave it up to Scott as it's more of an admin thing. There's a portion operational, but this lumps everything in that we do. Mr. Krycia said this is a breakdown of our 2020 actuals for Income and Expense. You can see donations and equipment sales, and we haven't received a payment on the SAFR grant or State grant yet. Our other grants are Fund Drive, Township Operating Allotment, Interest, Rentals, and Fire Billing for the total income there and our 2021 projected income. The same thing for Expenses, Fire General expenses, Apparatus Fuel and Purchases, Capital Improvements and Communications, Equipment, Fund Drive, Incentive which is paid for by our SAFR grant, Insurance, Legal and Professional Services and then our Maintenance categories which is the trucks, the stations, the social halls, office supplies, that kind of stuff and is basically what we spend for the whole year for operating and what we plan to spend in 2021. Mr. Carocci said you did receive your \$150,000 Township allotment. Mr. Krycia said they did and they thank the Township for that. Mr. Johnson said they appreciate that greatly. Mr. Carocci said we voted at the last meeting to give them that check and it was handed over at the last Fire Services meeting on June 22, 2021. Mr. Krycia said that's our income and expenses for last year and our projected expenses for this year.

Andrea Wittchen, 1885 Dartford Road, said just for clarification, do you run an account for calendar or fiscal year. Mr. Krycia said we run on a calendar year. Ms. Wittchen said January through December. Mr. Krycia said yes. Ms. Wittchen said she just has one question, under Income from the Township for 2021 on your form, it says \$160,000 but I believe last month it was \$150,000, what's the difference. Mr. Krycia said we get \$150,000 from the Township as our allotment and we also typically ask for \$10,000 for a recruitment allotment; however, we didn't get that allotment this year as we have a Federal FEMA Safety Grant which is paying for a lot of our recruitment retention activities, so we felt we didn't need to get that \$10,000 for 2020 and 2021. We're covered pretty good on that right now. Ms. Wittchen said shouldn't that say \$150,000 for 2021. Mr. Krycia said it could, we haven't actually asked the Township yet for that \$10,000. That's something that our board needs to talk about, but like he said they have a SAFR grant from FEMA which covers their recruitment and retention and that kind of stuff. Ms. Wittchen said you are projecting you might need it but at the moment you are assuming you will not. Mr. Krycia said exactly, that's just a projection. If you go back to that page at the top there's a statement there that says these are projected numbers and estimated numbers and they don't have their actual numbers yet as they are waiting for their accountant to go through their books and file their taxes and then the Township gets their 990's and that's how they can see where it was all spent.

Mr. Carocci said he requested after the last Fire Services meeting that LSFR come here tonight and present a plan to provide Township-wide fire protection coverage if Council is so inclined to go in that direction and he would like for them to present that plan.

Mr. Johnson said you can see our Mission as LSFR is to save lives and protect property through emergency medical service, fire and rescue response and fire prevention. They respond immediately when any member of our community needs help with professional, effective and compassionate service. He'll summarize as it goes through a timeline of mergers of the fire departments in the Township, the first merger would have been between Leithsville and Se-Wy-Co. The other two fire companies we were kicking around at the time, Leithsville and Se-Wy-Co just decided to go ahead and get it done. In 2016, we talked about it again, and Southeastern was able to get on board and Southeastern and Se-Wy-Co decided to make one fire company under one name. We did an operational merge to streamline the command structure, starting by buying equipment in bulk, just to try to streamline the monies. It was working really well. We put together a good solid team of officers to run that operational merge department and we decided it was kind of silly what we were doing and we just need to throw it in one pot and get this thing going and that's what we did. So far, we are doing pretty good, with 67 members, 12 pieces of apparatus, we're really busy, like the third busiest volunteer fire department in the County. We're the largest volunteer fire department in the County. We're recognized by the Fire Commissioner's Recognition Program for our pro-board certifications. We are at 75% and we'll refile for this coming year and we should be pretty close to getting the gold standard which is 100%.

Mr. Johnson said this is the Se-Wy-Co Station, it's located right down the road along 378. We have one rescue engine there, they have the new tower ladder and the heavy rescue and the traffic unit are staged there. They have 27 members who respond to this fire station. That's 27 members which is their station to respond to which is called their home station, but at any given time, members from other stations can report there if they are in the area. That's the beauty of having one fire department with one command structure and just being LSFR. We are trained on all of the apparatus. The apparatus is being designed the same. We have two engines that are the same staged at each end of the Township. That way if you are at one end of the Township and used to running one engine at the other end of the Township, you're familiar with the other engine. We are trying to have a standard there.

Mr. Johnson said this is the Southeastern Fire Station, it's located in the eastern part of the Township, out towards Williams Township, Springtown area. This station also has a rescue engine, it has an engine tanker and it has our heavy duty brush piece. Sixteen members report to this fire station. Leithsville Station is our newest station, unfortunately it had to be rebuilt after a fire, a tragic accident, so we're proud to have this station now that houses another rescue engine, a pumper tanker and a utility and small brush truck and 12 members respond to this station. Mr. Carocci said with those stations, you cover about 95% of the Township right now geographically. Mr. Johnson said actually it didn't make it in the PPT, but he does have a printout of the fire districts which he handed out to Council members. It shows you the different zones and what portion the Steel City (SC) zone is. Mr. Johnson said if anyone has any questions about those zones, we can discuss it after the PPT.

Mr. Johnson said this is our fleet, there's only four pictures here, but it is showing what we have is three rescue engines, two tankers, one tower, two field pieces, one utility truck and traffic unit and two chief officer vehicles. This slide is showing the NFPA 1720 response study. The 1720 explains the two minutes of response and it breaks down your urban areas, suburban, rural, remote and special risk areas to what NFPA thinks is a good response time. The next slide shows the call volume. LSFR in 2020 was 716 and SC was 77. In 2021, LSFR is at 315 and SC is at 24. That number has changed since that report has been put together. Mr. Carocci said this is from June 2021. Mr. Johnson said yes. He thinks they have to be pretty close to approaching 400 by now, it's been a busy three weeks. The average turnout time dispatch to en route, you can see the numbers there. Mr. Carocci said can you explain what dispatch to en route means. Mr. Johnson said it shows .69 minutes, so that's the

time from when they get dispatched until a vehicle goes en route. That could also be a Chief's vehicle that gets logged. Mr. Carocci said this is when the County logs in when there is a call. Mr. Johnson said yes, and that average is from the time someone signs on to the radio to acknowledge that we have a call. Mr. Carocci said those are pretty good numbers, and it has improved in 2021. Mrs. Yerger said that's impressive.

Mr. Carocci said he'd like to talk about the SC numbers. Their numbers are 17, so that's over 17 minutes from the time they get a call until they even start to go on the call. Mr. Johnson said yes, that's the average. Mr. Carocci said sometimes it could be more. Mr. Johnson said yes and so everybody knows this information came out of emergency reporting, so each fire company can pull the information from the emergency reporting system. Mr. Carocci said the State or County runs that. Mr. Johnson said the State does run it and they give it to all the fire companies in the State to use and that way they can keep track of numbers and know what's going on in PA. Mr. Carocci said just to be clear, this is a State tracking that is taking you 1.22 minutes. Mr. Johnson said that's not a number they made up, it's plugged into the reporting system from the County CAD notification and that's what you come out with. Mr. Carocci said and it's not SC saying it's taking on 17.14 minutes to get en route, it's the State. Mr. Johnson said right.

Ms. deLeon said on these events, or whatever you want to call them, the one that took 17 minutes, were other units responding to that incident. Mr. Johnson said here again, this is just an average, it wasn't like they took 17 minutes at any particular time, but generally, and he can't speak for them as they have their own structured dispatch set up, but he can speak from their point, let's say a dwelling fire, a house fire, they would be dispatched on that. It doesn't affect their numbers because they are units. Ms. deLeon said it's according to this colored map when the County dispatches you. Mr. Johnson said each one of those colors is a different zone. The purple would be the SC zone, he doesn't know if you want to scan it in or not, it was kind of a late thought he had, but he thought it was pretty pertinent. Mr. Carocci said what he gets from this slide is SC had 77 calls for service in all of 2020 and it took them an average of 17.14 seconds to get en route, not to get to the call for service. Someone said that's minutes. Mr. Carocci said he's sorry, 17.14 minutes. He understands now. That would be longer, you are just en route at that point. Mr. Johnson said generally a rule of thumb given traffic and what not, it could take any of us 10 minutes, 15 minutes after you are dispatched depending where it is in the Township. Friday afternoon if they have to go from one side to the other, it's busy. Mr. Banonis said what he finds remarkable is in 2021, you were dispatched to en route 0.69 minutes, that's 41 seconds, that's impressive. Mr. Johnson said thanks, the guys work hard to make that happen. Mrs. Yerger said she's sure they do.

Mr. Johnson said here's a breakdown that was put together of mileage from other fire stations including our fire stations to the SC area. As you can see on that map, SC covers more area than just the village, or the portion of SC, but they had to pick a number for the GIS, but as you go farther out, obviously those numbers are going to change depending on where the call is in the zone. You see Freemansburg is right over the bridge, we would still have Freemansburg coming in on a majority of the calls just because it makes sense. They are right there, it's happening now already and has been like that for years. Our goal is to get help to the residents as fast as we can get help there. It just makes sense to do that, and you can see the other fire companies, Nancy Run, Dewey, Bethlehem Township, and our three stations and Williams Station. Mr. Carocci said this is to SC's station. Mr. Johnson said correct. Mr. Krycia said during the day under normal driving conditions without red lights or sirens or traffic or weather, it's here from A to B and google, essentially. Mrs. Yerger said that makes sense. Mr. Carocci said do you want to talk about the Chief's LSFRO officers and SC officers. Mr. Johnson said Tom was asking about the Chief Officers, so he lives 3.7 miles from SC, the Deputy Chief Bryan Evans is about 5 miles, and you can see the response times and that's well within the standard, the NFPA. You can see the SC officers. Mr. Carocci said that would be Chris Snyder at 6.7 miles, he's the Chief. The Assistant Chief would be Scott Nocek. Mr. Johnson said he's 53, 52 would be Dave Rockstroh. Mr. Carocci said you are actually closer than Chris Snyder. Mr. Johnson said yes.

Mr. Johnson said in 2012 when the Leithsville Fire Station was lost due to fire, the rebuilding took at least two years for it to be rebuilt. During that time there was essentially no fire truck in that zone of the Township, but there was no lapse in coverage. He wasn't part of Se-Wy-Co at that time, but he knows Chief Barndt was, and he had provisions in place for some mutual aid to cover and assist so there was no lapse in the fire protection. As you can see there, we use a lot of mutual aid on major incidents. The majority of the incidents we have we can handle ourselves as we are large enough to do so out of the three current stations and the members we have. We still have Hellertown come on some of the calls as they are right in the middle of our area so depending on what the call is, it makes sense for them to come and give a hand. They average 15 personnel per incident, large scale of responses 25 and up. Generally, most of the calls we receive, 15 members are plenty of members to handle that incident.

Mr. Carocci said can we talk a little bit about this insurance service, how they rate fire companies and the auditor rating you just went through. Mr. Johnson said the ISO and Eric Billimoria has handled all the ISO meetings, but in short, they come in and they do an investigation on the fire department. They go through their training logs, response times, where their hydrants are and it affects the homeowner insurance in the Township. Right now they are currently a 5. They are saying after they met with the ISO lady, they are saying we should be around a 4, that's what they are shooting for. That means the insurance rate comes down. One problem she expressed is that she isn't able to get a hold of SC Fire Company to set up a meeting with them. Mr. Carocci said he spoke to Ms. Gavala because when he was told at the Fire Services meeting that they had a tough time getting a hold of SC, so he contacted her and she said that's still the case and he provided her with their cell phone numbers and emails. To his knowledge, as of last week, she still hasn't been able to get a hold of them. They look at training records, apparatus, hose test records, pumper test records, ladder aerial test records, deployment analysis and community risk reduction and insurance companies take this information and set homeowner insurance rates for a Township such as ours which they base what the quality is of our volunteer fire companies. It's his understanding from her that they can't even complete this for LST as SC is being uncooperative and not responding to her which is a problem and could probably lead to higher insurance rates for all of the homeowners if they don't cooperate. You guys did very well with your evaluation and she confirmed that when he spoke to her. She was impressed and said this is just another issue, and he doesn't have a solution to it.

Mrs. Stauffer said when is the ISO information due. Mr. Johnson said she has to do the whole County and it all depends how fast the fire companies respond back to her. She said for us, once they reviewed everything it would be approximately 45 days until her report comes back, but with what's going on in the Township, he doesn't know how that's going to be affected. Ms. deLeon said is this an annual type review, do they do this every year or every two years. Mr. Johnson said it's every five years. Mr. Carocci said this is our year. Ms. deLeon said do they review back five years or do they just use the last current year. Mr. Johnson said no, they go through all of their records from the last time. If you skip those tests, they take points off. It goes by a point system. They want to even see driver training logs. They want to know how many classes do your firemen attend, that also gets you a pretty decent amount of points. There's some things they have to work on that she pointed out, but overall they are in pretty good shape. Four is not too shabby of a number when you look across the State.

Mr. Banonis said he has a few comments and questions. One of your slides talks about your values and there are five different things that are listed, one is teamwork and one is integrity and he wants to thank both of you and all the members for the teamwork and integrity, not just in coming forward today with this proposal to be the sole provider in LST, but for the good faith efforts you made throughout the negotiations that have been taking place now for 9 months. It really showed and this is the combination of that. He wants to thank you for that. The other observation that he has and this is one of your other slides where you talked about the data for the calls, so in 2020 LSFR responded to 716 out of 793 calls, that was 90% of the calls that any volunteer fire service in LST

responded to. In 2021, this is just through the first half of the year, you responded to 315 out of 339 which is 93%, so your service to the Township continues to grow and you are doing it more and faster, well done. He thanks you for that. He has one question for Leslie and that is, has SC provided the Township with any of the documentation that is required for the Township to provide its annual funding. Mrs. Huhn said that normally is presented to Cathy and she doesn't think they have presented it. Mr. Banonis said the other question he has is directed to Linc. Linc had drafted a detailed letter on April 15<sup>th</sup> to the attorney for SC where you had requested a number of pieces of information based upon some transactions that Tom Carocci had brought to Council, did you ever get a response to that letter. Attorney Treadwell said he did not get a response to that letter. Mr. Banonis said his remaining questions to you are how soon can you implement this, what sort of notice is required to give to Northampton County 911 and any other oversight agency to make sure that the proper notice are being provided to you to make sure that you could fulfill the calls that are requested from the County and the Township residents. Mr. Johnson said when this started being discussed, he and the Chief Officers put together a structured dispatch for that zone. He submitted it to the 911 center last month and he talked to them today and it's in their CAD, but it's not implemented yet until a decision is made by Council on what is going to happen. Once a decision is made, they require an email from himself on their letterhead and Leslie or the Council on Township letterhead saying what the outcome is and what needs to happen. That portion is in place. It could happen tonight, it could happen this week, they are just waiting for a phone call and a letter. As far as if we would have any apparatus to put over there, they do have an engine they could sacrifice out of one of the stations. There's no place to put one currently, but just to make no mistakes about it, just because there's an engine there doesn't mean that there's fire protection there. You need people to get on the truck to respond to calls. It's going to be the same with the potential or likelihood of it being better in the near future. Our plan is once Council makes their decision on which way to go, if they decide to do something in effect to close SC or defund them, that they will do a community outreach over there and show who we are and people can come down to a meet and greet and see if they can recruit anyone for that area. They currently have one member who does live in that area, so that's a start. Mr. Banonis said so he's clear, you had talked about putting an engine over in SC, it's not just like parking a car in his garage and you plug this in and it's ready to go as this machine has computers and other electronic devices. Mr. Johnson said there are fans on board that have to be charged, flashlights, thermal imaging cameras, so you need a line to keep everything at peak operations. Ms. deLeon said who owns this building? Mr. Johnson said he believes SC owns it. Just like them, they own their own building. He doesn't know where the truck would go, and that's why they have provisions in place in their structured dispatch to have mutual aid assist until they get things ironed out.

Mr. Carocci said one of the things they talked about at the Fire Services meeting was identifying properties and you guys were in the process of doing that since our last meeting and what he said to them, they identify a good piece of property or a garage of some type that would fit their truck to bring that to Council and we have to decide if we are going to rent that to keep it there. If it's a moot point, it's a moot point, but you plan to keep a truck up there and do community outreach and he'd like to point out, there was no station in Leithsville for two years and fire services didn't lapse. He knows people feel very comfortable when they see a fire station as they should, but just because there's a physical fire station there does not mean that there is adequate fire service being provided to that area is in the response times. It's in the roster on how many people they have to respond to calls. A fire station does not mean a locality is being adequately served from a fire services prospective.

Mr. Banonis said Linc, would we need you to draft a proposed ordinance for us to vote on making this a reality. Attorney Treadwell said if Council wanted to designate LSFR as the sole fire services provider in LST, then yes, he would recommend you do an ordinance which we would need to advertise. Mr. Banonis said our next meeting is August 18<sup>th</sup>. Ms. deLeon said does that meet the requirements for advertising. Attorney Treadwell said yes, we could do it by August 18<sup>th</sup>.



Ms. deLeon asked was SC aware of tonight's discussion, were they invited to this meeting? Mr. Carocci said yes, he believes their attorney sent an email to Linc stating they were aware of the meeting and they were not going to attend. Attorney Treadwell said yes, he got that email yesterday afternoon and Leslie distributed it to all Council members. Mr. Carocci said they haven't been at the last meeting either and they are unresponsive. Ms. deLeon said are you talking about the Fire Services meeting. Mr. Carocci said no the Council meeting. As we have seen, they are unresponsive to the ISO, they are unresponsive to Cathy with their annual report and income statement, they don't respond. He honestly feels it would be irresponsible not to designate LSFR as the sole fire services for the Township. We have no idea what's going on out there as they don't share any information. We have no idea what they are paying, what they are not paying, insurance-wise. It's tough and problematic to have them on the call system when we don't know what's going on and you've told me at a Fire Services meeting when they do show up on call, it's usually very late and usually one or two guys at most. He guesses one of the things he has a question is you talked to me at the Fire Services meeting how important it is that Council does make a decision on this as you have to plan and you have already sold a truck six months ago that would have been perfect for SC if you were the sole provider of services out there and if you are going to put a plan together for the next six months and next five years, you need Council to step up to the plate and make a decision.

Mr. Johnson said it's been going on a long time. We don't want to see for the lack of a better word, a fire station close down as that's not what is happening here as they are going to work and try to build a stronger fire protection for the community. We wanted them to be part of that, it's just not panning out. This has been going on for years. This goes back when he started in 1989 they talked about it and it never happened and it was between all the fire companies. As time progressed and the Township grew, guys saw this is a good thing. There's strength in numbers and we proved it by merging with Southeastern and Se-Wy-Co, we're pretty strong and we get a lot of phone calls from across the area, how did you guys merge, people are looking to us to see what we have done. We're kind of doing something right.

Ms. deLeon said a couple of years ago, all four fire companies was supposed to put a list together of what they currently owned and future ones, and that was, in her assumption, going on all these years. She wanted to ask Cathy, do you remember when they submitted theirs last year? Mrs. Gorman said typically previously before the COVID-19, she would get their requests and all their documentation in March or April when they completed their books and she would always go back and use their prior years 990 to complete the packet as they all file extensions and to delay their funding that long would not be beneficial. We are still getting their 990's every year. It's just a year behind. Last year they had a delay due to COVID-19 and we were waiting to see if our revenues were coming in and they did and we spaced it out, but typically if it was an uneventful year, she would have gotten their information in March or April. Ms. deLeon said she's not happy about this ISO thing and about no response as that affects everyone in the Township. She always thought if you lived by a fire hydrant, you're insurance was supposed to be a little bit lower but that's all she knew about ISO's.

Mrs. Yerger wanted to thank you for your service. Years ago she was a personal recipient of your service and she greatly appreciates that. Just as important, she appreciates your transparency and doing your due diligence on your reporting as she's sure that's not a lot of fun keeping all those records straight, making sure things are in order, and she congratulates you on a job well done.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Carocci moved for approval for Attorney Treadwell to prepare an ordinance under Township Code to have Lower Saucon Fire Rescue as the sole provider of fire services for Lower Saucon Township.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

Mr. Banonis said he had one more question, if we were to implement this at the next meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>, does that give you enough time to execute what you need to do to step in there. Mr. Johnson said the only thing they really need to do is find a location to store a piece of apparatus. The structured dispatch is at the County already. That's just a letter and a phone call and they can implement it in 10 minutes. Mr. Banonis said are you looking for a private property owner that

would allow you to store this on their property. Mr. Johnson said if there is somebody, yes, anybody. Wherever they can find a spot. Mr. Banonis said have you, and he's just throwing this out there, his understanding is that the landfill provided one of the vacant buildings for you guys to do some training, have you reached out to the landfill to see if you could park the vehicle there and plug it in. Mr. Johnson said they have not. The location there is on Applebutter Road and this also goes hand in hand, we can put a truck there and make everybody feel there's fire protection there, but we need to get boots on the truck. It will take some time to build up a team in that area, but there won't be any time lapse in protection because we have Freemansburg, Bethlehem Township for like dwelling fires. The structured dispatch is built out for an engine in Freemansburg, Bethlehem Township and Hellertown and our departments, which is plenty of equipment for a dwelling fire. It's just a matter of the logistics of our location of LSFR stations to get there. It's just tough. Our Township is shaped like a U and it's not just easy to figure out to put trucks where and how to get to the call the fastest route, so there's a lot of logistics in it, and he just wants to make it known that just because a truck is there right now, it's a good start, we have something to build on, it's a good foundation. He doesn't anticipate any issues with lack of fire protection.

Ms. deLeon said we have a parking lot at the park and it isn't under cover, and there's electric there, would that be something. Mr. Johnson said it's possible but the problem is he'd have to look on the truck to see if the cabinets could be locked. There's a lot of valuable equipment on that truck. The thermal imaging unit costs \$15,000. Mrs. Stauffer said wasn't storing it outside an issue. Mr. Johnson said he would prefer not to, the engine they would move over there would be their oldest engine. It is in really good shape and well taken care of over the years and served the Township well. Any time you let anything set outside, it deteriorates and the guys took a lot of time in keeping that truck in shape. With that being said, we would have to start looking at building another rescue engine, so that's something to think about in the coming months. Another thought is and he's not sure how this works with the resolution, but if you decide this is what the Township is going to do tonight, it's going to take a whole other month to provide the proper fire protection, is he correct. It wouldn't be a done deal tonight. Ms. deLeon said no, we'd put it on the next agenda as an ordinance and it has to be another public meeting and as far as she's concerned SC has between now and then to do what they have to do. Mrs. Yerger said it wouldn't get approved until our August meeting. Ms. deLeon said can she finish, please. Mrs. Yerger said nothing is going to happen tonight. Ms. deLeon said so they would have an opportunity to do what they have to do in this next four weeks and the Council will vote that night. She will support having it prepared as she doesn't like this ISO thing and other things, but her heart goes out to SC as she knows they are short-staffed. She knows what it's like to be a volunteer, she knows what it's like to have no one help you. You guys are there to help.

Mr. Carocci said to him it's more than being just short-staffed. They are short-staffed for a reason. It's being run by three guys who are pretty unresponsive to the Township. He thinks they provided us with inaccurate roster members and the problem with that is if somebody appears on an active roster, and let's say they are running with Freemansburg, instead of LST and they get hurt, and they are on our active roster, they could go on our W/C insurance. This is a problem. It's more than just the ISO and more than this \$50,000 financial transaction that we can't get answers to, it's more than providing Cathy with the information that they always provide on a yearly basis, it's a combination of all of those things and the reason he wants to act tonight is so the ordinance can be advertised and also Ty and Scott had said to him they are very respectful of Council and don't want to get ahead of Council. There are property owners up there and those are ideas they would like to approach, but they aren't going to approach them about a truck until Council at least does something tonight and he understands that and appreciates not getting ahead of Council like that. If we vote tonight for this ordinance he made a motion for, they can start doing those things so when the August meeting comes if we vote to finalize the ordinance and pass the ordinance, they will be more ready to go, more prepared to go. His own personal feeling is if they cooperate with the ISO and August, that's not enough for him, they have to answer the questions Linc asked them. They have to explain why they are sending inaccurate rosters to Cathy.

Ms. deLeon said what she was trying to say is they know what they have to do and right now, she's supporting this, but if they do all of these things, then we are all going to vote again on August 18<sup>th</sup>, but thank you for doing whatever you are doing in trying to help the situation.

Mrs. Stauffer said she has a couple of questions. She knows SC has assets, who owns those assets, and what happens if Council takes action tonight. Mr. Banonis said the fire company owns those assets. Mr. Johnson said SC is their own 501(c). Mrs. Stauffer said what can they do with those assets, can they donate them or sell them. Mr. Johnson said that would be a question for Linc. He has an idea, but he's not a lawyer. Attorney Treadwell said the assets would need to be put towards an exact same or very similar purpose.

Mr. Carocci said he feels if Council, and quite frankly the residents of SC, should demand if this comes to pass and they donate the fire company and vehicles to LST. Our taxpayer money purchased a lot of that equipment and was used to maintain a lot of that equipment and he thinks SC residents, in particular, should be pounding on that fire station door demanding they turn over the keys if the ordinance passes in August. It's too early for that now, don't go down and pound on their doors tomorrow. Please don't. Who knows, these guys are unresponsive, and are not cooperating with anybody, not the Township or anybody else. We'll see what they do. He thinks they are masquerading as a functioning fire company. He doesn't think they are a functioning fire company. He thinks it's a fraternity house with some toys, so we'll see. He hopes they can put aside their egos and do the right thing for Township residents and donate the fire house and equipment to LSFR. He has no problem trying to shame them into doing that. We paid for a lot of that stuff. We'll see what happens. That's an August or September discussion. If this motion passes and the ordinance passes, that's the next bridge to cross. That's the next fight.

Ms. deLeon said there's been no contact about that letter in April. Attorney Treadwell said no. Ms. deLeon said the email from today did say they wanted to merge. Attorney Treadwell said their email from their attorney to him yesterday afternoon said they were interested in merging. Mr. Banonis said isn't that the same story we got in September, and then in March. He doesn't think we can rely on those assurances, we need to act, and if they choose to do what they...Mr. Carocci said if you read their entire email, it says LSFR put together a merger proposal for their attorney's review. You did that once, you did it this spring. Their attorney got it and told them not to sign it. That happened before a couple of years ago, so that's the same email they always send. Ms. deLeon said she wanted to get it on record about the email that they sent. Mrs. Stauffer said that's a good point. The question she had was earlier in the year, certain members of Council were pushing for a merger, they were written as a budget item that changed tonight. Mr. Carocci said it can potentially change, we have to have a vote. It's changed because we had one LSFR that voted to merge and we had a second one, SC that voted not to merge. It takes two to merge and that didn't happen, but that doesn't mean we can't get down to one great fire company to serve the entire Township as now we have one great fire company serving 95% of the Township and to him, SC is a fraternity house with a bunch of toys that three guys hang out at.

Mrs. Stauffer said to be clear, we are talking about decertifying SC. She doesn't know if that happens often, so in going that route, is there any legal liability or cost to the Township, what's the scope of what we're looking at? Attorney Treadwell said first of all, everybody likes to throw the term around "decertified" and he's not sure what that means. LST has the ability to name volunteer fire companies and to decide which portions of the Township they will serve. We have that authority under the Second Class Code. The ordinance if you vote for him to prepare it, won't say anything about decertifying. All it will say is that LST has recognized LSFR as the sole provider for fire services in LST. To answer the question are there any legal implications, who knows? We have the authority as a Township to do that, it's part of the Second Class Township Code.

Mr. Banonis said they haven't given us any paperwork for their \$50,000 and they haven't answered any questions set forth in your April letter. Attorney Treadwell said both of those statements are

correct. Mr. Carocci said and they haven't voted to merge, which is also required under the budget. Mrs. Stauffer said that saddens her that this will be the case tonight and she definitely wants to say she supported you guys in the beginning and she's thankful for all you do. Mr. Johnson said thank you.

Bryan Evans, Susan Lane, said he does have a concern. He understands the process for the document to be prepared for the next meeting, what concerns him is what happens now. This is publicly recorded, etc., are there no other options when we walk out of here tonight, LSFR has no authority. If we were dispatched to a dwelling fire at SC and we are cancelled we have to turn around. Ms. deLeon said who would cancel you? Mr. Evans said it's hypothetical, but they have no control of what happens there, but hypothetically if another responder were to get there, they have full authority and we would have to leave as we can't control that, etc. Ms. deLeon said she knows it's hypothetical but whoever gets there first is the person...Mr. Evans said no, the SC Fire Department still controls those dispatch assignments, and they could email or contact the County right now and have LSFR removed from responding into SC. He's not sure if there are any temporary measures or steps that can be taken. Ms. deLeon said you just said that SC could tell the County to take LSFR off. Mr. Johnson said they could because we are mutual aid to them, to their zone. Mr. Evans said that zone on the map, that 161 zone, they control, just like the other three zones. Chief Johnson could call the 911 center right now and change the response line. Mr. Carocci said after we got through this motion, he was going to make another motion just to instruct Solicitor Treadwell to send letters to their attorney and the LS Fire Relief Association where there's also assets and he believes Mr. Snyder is the treasurer of, or Mr. Gress is. If we pass this motion for the ordinance to be written, he would like to instruct Linc to deem whatever he seems is necessary to tell the County and to tell them listen, please don't change anything until we get this done. Attorney Treadwell said he doesn't think that's Brien's question. Mr. Evans said Tom answered part of it. Attorney Treadwell said what that would entail would be of what Ty spoke of earlier of notifying the County, and we would be notifying the County a month prior of knowing if the ordinance passed or not, and that's not going to work. Mr. Evans said he wasn't sure if there was any option. Attorney Treadwell said unfortunately, that's the process that we are going to have to follow and he would assume SC is going to act responsibly for the next month. Mr. Evans said he would presume that as well. Attorney Treadwell said it is what it is. It's no different than the situation today, so we will take today's situation and have it the same until the next month until August 18<sup>th</sup>, that's what it is.

Donna Louder, 2145 Johnston Avenue, SC, said this fire company has been an itch in her crawl for many years. When she was on Council, she was on the Fire Services Committee, and with that said, she wants to thank Mr. Carocci for carrying forward a lot of the things that were started in trying to bring this to fruition. She's very emotional about this, she's sorry. As everyone has heard, the standard of service has diminished within SC Fire Company leaving the eastern end of the Township with some optimal fire service. The refusal by SC to merge with LSFR basically has stifled any chance of growth within the SC Fire Company causing concern for resident's safety and questionable response time. SC Fire has received approximately \$750,000 in the past 10 to 15 years, yet the fire house is in need of repair, the fire truck was out of commission for a year and a half and the unfortunate ability to recruit volunteers which has been weakened around the country has affected this fire company's response time. She also knows for a fact that one of her neighbor's son went down and knocked on the fire company door on a Monday night when they were having drill and was told they are not allowed to join. Most concerning is the release of the questionable financial acts by SC which were disclosed by Mr. Carocci at the last Council meeting. She feels it is time to stop throwing good money after bad. It is time to rebuild the SC Fire by granting LSFR Station 16 as the sole fire service for the Township. If the determination is to disband or whatever you want to call it, SC, it is her hope that the SC Fire Company would display a sense of community and relinquish the building and equipment to LSFR being both being already 501(c)(3)'s. This act of kindness would help to expedite coverage to residents. This has been going on way too long. She knows when she was running for Council and she was appointed, the Fire Service gentlemen actually sent her everything she needed, and she just wants everyone to know that Mr. Carocci has gone above

and beyond to get this to keep the interest of the SC people at heart. He really has stepped forward for SC and she appreciates that a great deal. Mr. Carocci said thank you. Mrs. Louder said she hopes Council takes this to heart, please, please, please, when you are voting on this, please, please, that's all she can say. Think about the folks over there who lay their head on the pillow at night and wonder, please God don't let there be a fire at my neighbor's house or my house. Thank you.

Mr. Thomas Louder said just to speak about what Bryan just said, can't the police department override who comes to these calls. He's done it and you know he's done it. Ms. deLeon said when you show up at the call, you have to show up at the calls. Mr. Louder said one time they called 63 and they were taking forever and he told the County he needed 16, forget about 63, they are a joke. Mr. Louder said this was in the night time, in the dark, in the woods, they needed a thermal heater to find somebody who was running and hiding and thank God that person didn't have a gun because he was chasing him through the dark. So, 63 did not show up at all, 16 showed up for that call, thank you 16. Mr. Louder said all these men and women with 16 shirts on, they are top notch. SC Fire Department they are unprofessional, unreliable, and as a resident of SC, he doesn't feel safe there with fire services, that's just the bottom line. He thinks our community deserves better. These guys they have strong leadership, they have great training, they are top notch. What we got now is a joke. Thanks.

Ms. Kelly Schoch, 2102 Nemeth Drive, SC, thanked all the volunteers here tonight who do such hard work. She said they've lived there for over 20 years and she had to call one time this past August as a tree fell on their house. SC did show up, they were there quick and Freemansburg came later on to assist with them. She wants to thank Mr. Johnson for saying he will continue to work with Freemansburg as they also came out, but SC did do an excellent and professional job when they were at her house with her personally, and she wanted to make sure that is known as she really appreciated their help as she was flipping out with the tree in her house, so she thanks them for that. She also just hopes that it remains a priority to keep a fire station somewhere in SC or build one somewhere, whatever you guys figure out with that because sometimes as a long time SC resident, she feels like SC gets placed on the back burner as evidence by our park, so she would hate to see that no longer a priority. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said plus we're only one way in and two ways out. It's scary, she knows. Mr. Carocci said he's sure LSFR will make SC a priority as well as Township Council going forward if we're under one unified fire company. He talked to both Ty and Scott about once we get through this, if we get through this, that he'd like to put a short-term plan together, a little more extensive than what they presented tonight, and also we need a 5-year plan for the entire Township. What stations need repair, or remodeled, what equipment do we need, what type of station, bays do we need for the type of equipment, it really needs to be a study and a 5 and 10 year plan put in place to replace aging equipment, aging fire houses. Ms. deLeon said that will be happening anyhow. Mr. Carocci said it is, you're absolutely right. Ms. deLeon said no, it's not. Mr. Carocci said one of the reasons why it's not is because they've been so focused on the merger and getting that done, and now hopefully at least it's one fire company to work with and we can get back to that. You are absolutely right. Ms. deLeon said just like the Township is supposed to have a 5-year plan for the budget and repair this building or that building. Mr. Carocci said you are absolutely right and he thinks we can with LSFR. Thank you.

Mr. Kevin Kalman said in addition to being the Fire Police Captain, he is also the Vice President for the SC Fire Company. He requested to speak tonight because initially we were advised not to speak. Ms. deLeon said by whom? Mr. Kalman said by our attorney. He just became V.P. and is not aware of the entire merger discussions of the fire services. He's not going to speak on those items as he does not have first-hand knowledge of that. He is in support of the merger as we need to be more efficient, we need to have the highest standard of delivery services for this community. Although he lives across the border in Bethlehem Township, he still has the same commitment to the residents of SC of LST. It was very disheartening to listen here tonight, especially from a police officer and other

members that say SC is unprofessional, and do not have the best interest of this community at heart. That is absolutely not true. Absolutely not true. We have responded to a medical emergency for one of your relatives and provided the best in care and services. We provided reassurances. It just so happens that particular night, the other provider, which is Hellertown, was not available, so who came to respond to help, Bethlehem Township. There was nobody there from LSFR, they were not dispatched. SC Fire Rescue was dispatched and we had four personnel at that particular incident. You were there so you would know. He doesn't understand why a police officer thinks he needs to have control over the fire department response. That has never occurred in his 25 years in the fire services. As far as merging within the next month, he will do everything in his power as V.P. and Fire Police Captain of 63 to facilitate that and to assure that Fire 16 has the space and whatever else they need to facilitate their fire services for that particular section of the community. Although their numbers are few, he will speak for himself, and he feels confident on speaking on behalf of several others, that they have the best interest of the community at heart, SC and LST. Regarding the training standpoint, he has submitted his records from training. This Township Council requires on an annual basis, a record of training at least for the Fire Police. We haven't even done that this year but that's on you, not on us. He's an instructor, fully certified, not just as a Fire Police, but as a fire officer, safety officer, everything Fire 16 has he has. He knows at least one other member has, so he is not anti-merger, he doesn't want to necessarily say he's for the merger. What he is 100% for is for providing the best possible services for this community. In his time with SC, he has done that to his part to the best of his ability and with the resources they are provided.

With respect to you as a Council, to all the citizens and to the brotherhood of Fire 16, he along with Station 63, we will do what we need to do and he will personally advocate to facilitate the property transition, but be mindful that the fire service and he would hope Chief Johnson would attest to this, there's a tremendous sense of pride, and there should be some sensitivity to this process as SC will lose its identity, but he's okay with that, just like he would be okay at his home station of Bethlehem Township to providing service to the community. Additionally, with Chief Evans concerns, he respects Chief Evans, but anyone at 63 would not do anything to prevent Fire 16 or any other agency to respond. We have a mutual aid program in place. That will continue to remain in place. Chief Evans as the Township Emergency Coordinator actually has primary ability to dictate the dispatch. We have checked that with the County dispatch. We are not even dispatched to all of the zones as that has to be modified. We are at a point now that we need to come together as one. As far as your concerns of SC not cooperating or not taking the steps now that we need to facilitate an orderly transition. As V.P. of this organization, he will facilitate that. Mr. Carocci said you are V.P. of the organization and you are for the transition, if the Township Council votes tonight to give LSFR the sole authority and they pass an ordinance next month, for the transition of the assets to the Township, the fire station and the fire equipment, if you really care about the residents of SC, you'd want them to have access to the fire station and access to the equipment, so you are for that orderly transition, are you going to state that publicly tonight? Mr. Kalman said absolutely, what you said. Mr. Carocci said he'd like to hear Mr. Kalman say it. Do you support the transition of the assets from SC, the fire house and the fire equipment to the Township or LSFR if Council passes an ordinance designating LSFR as the sole fire provider? Mr. Kalman said Mr. Carocci as V.P. of the organization, he will support that, but as you are aware with each entity, being a separate and self-contained entity, he cannot arbitrarily make that decision. He would support that, he would explain the benefits of doing so, but he would be remised to say that he personally can guarantee that because he can't.

Mr. Carocci said what about the \$40,000 donation of the \$50,000 to New Jersey, an officer in NJ. Why wasn't that money used in SC for fire services? Mr. Kalman said he was not a member of the organization at that time and he cannot personally speak to that. That will be something the people who were in charge at the time will have to address. Mr. Carocci said did you question them on that? Have you questioned the people in charge about what happened to that \$50,000? Mr. Kalman said he had asked. Mr. Carocci said and what are their answers? Mr. Kalman said it would not be appropriate for him to divulge. Mr. Carocci said did you receive legal advice not to answer that question tonight. Mr. Kalman said they were told by their attorney not to speak. Mr. Carocci said

why, because it's indefensible and possibly criminal? Mr. Kalman said Mr. Carocci I understand you are fishing but there will be a time and a place for you to be able to find that out. Mr. Carocci said he understands your dodging. He understands you are dodging. Ms. deLeon said didn't you ever tell a client not to disclose information. Well, Mr. Kalman is listening. Mr. Carocci said your attorney would be very proud, you're listening to him. She will be very proud of you. Thank you Mr. Kalman, you've had your three minutes, he appreciates your offers and your sincerity. Thank you, and have a good evening.

Mr. Evans said Madam President, he apologizes but he'll be brief. Several things for the record, he by no means in any point and time, said anybody from SC would do that, he simply said that for the next month, that would still be possible and also for the record, the Emergency Management Coordinator of LST does not currently and he will defer to Mr. Cszaszar or anyone ever has been assigning the fire zones for structured dispatches in LST. The Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for the emergency operations plan, which does not have anything to do with the response of incidents in a defined area.

Ms. Andrea Wittchen said this has all been fascinating. She will share something with you that she learned as a child. "Believe what I do, not what I say". We in this Township have watched a year of foot dragging, refusing to answer questions, refusing to respond, refusing to move forward, and now all of a sudden in a month they are going to make this happen. Watch what I do, not what I say, and I urge you...Ms. deLeon said the way our meetings are set up, our next meeting just happens to be a month from now, it could be two weeks and she hears you. Ms. Wittchen said she understands, she's urging you to pass the motion tonight directing Linc to prepare the ordinance for approval next month. Ms. deLeon said she appreciates that. Mr. Carocci said thank you.

**ROLL CALL: 5-0**

Mr. Carocci said thank you guys for your presentation tonight, and thank you for all of your hard work. Ms. deLeon said what about the payment for the ladder truck, when is that going to happen? Mr. Carocci said it's not due until September or October. Mr. Krycia said October 1, 2021. Ms. deLeon said aren't you paying interest on the loan. Is there any reason we can't give them the money now, we have it in the budget, correct. Mr. Carocci said we haven't really talked about it lately, but we still want to clarify with the insurance companies. He believes they got something that the black bucket, black ladder does not pose much of a danger. We had a safety inspector saying it did. He'd recommend at the August meeting, maybe we put that on the agenda that we have both of these expert opinions from all of Council to review prior to the meeting, it should be in the agenda package, and we'll probably have a Fire Services meeting before then too, where we'll discuss it further as well. At that time if Council decides it's appropriate to make the payment at the August meeting, he has no problem voting on that right after the ordinance. Mr. Banonis said does LSFR's expert report been submitted to our expert for any evaluation or comment? Mr. Carocci said he doesn't recall. Mrs. Huhn said she doesn't believe so. Ms. deLeon said they are going to stick to their recommendation. Mr. Johnson said they are going to butt heads over it. It all boils down to, and we can bring that up later, the NFPA standard was followed. Ms. deLeon said you did the report and letter and you had all the documentation, she sees it in front of her, and she doesn't see a need to follow up on that. Mr. Carocci said he sees a need to put it in the Council packet so the public has it also. We can't do it tonight, we have to wait until August to do it. Mrs. Stauffer said she thinks that was discussed on Zoom, but to refresh everyone's memory here, she thinks everyone climbed the ladder if they so dared given the height, but we've all gotten to see it in person and appreciated your time in showing us how the new truck would service our community. Mr. Carocci said we got to see it in the dark with the lights on, that was an important thing for him to see personally and thank you for doing that. He thinks we put the information in the Council packet for the next meeting regarding payment for the fire truck and the public can weigh in and Council can vote.

**B. PRESENTATION OF 2021 SEMI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Yerger said the Director of Finance has prepared and will present the 2021 Semi-Annual Financial Report.

Mrs. Gorman said she's sure you all had an opportunity to read it. So far, halfway through the year, we have received 61.38% of our revenue in the General Fund and we spent 47.53%. All of our departments are within budgetary range for the year. Our revenues actually in the Enabling Tax has significantly increased based on what our projections are which is pretty much offsetting the tax reduction we did at the beginning of the year. We are in pretty good financial position. She is estimating we will not need to utilize any of the landfill money for our general operating to fill our beginning balance to make sure we are fully funded going into next year. Special Revenues obviously we haven't really expended anything as of yet, so we are on target with that. Our Capital Plan is pretty well funded. We identified the additional \$700,000 from last year's revenues for MS4 projects and that will be identified in the Capital Plan when that's presented to Council. We closed out a lot of our grants that we completed during the year and we're continuing working on the ones we were awarded last year and this year and getting those closed out for next year. If there are any questions, she'll be more than happy to answer them. Ms. deLeon said it will be on the website? Mrs. Gorman said yes.

**C. RECOMMENDATION BY TOWNSHIP ACTUARY TO MODIFY OUR PENSION ASSUMPTIONS**

Mrs. Yerger said in preparation of the required Act 205 filing of the Township's pension plans, the Township actuary, Municipal Finance Partners, is recommending to modify our mortality table to a newer and more applicable table.

Mrs. Gorman said at the last Pension Advisory Committee meeting, our committee had made the recommendation to Council to approve the mortality table that is being used as one of our assumptions which includes interest rates, mortality table. The mortality table is more geared towards government workers with Police and Public Works as opposed to the last mortality table. Based on our committee and how we run things, when we change those things, we bring it to Council and have Council decide. Basically if we did our Act 205 filing as of this date using the last assumptions, our MMO's would be a little more. This is going to decrease it a little bit going into 2022.

Mr. Banonis said he participated in that meeting and the actuary from Harrisburg explained to us this is a common occurrence to re-evaluate the mortality table and make adjustments and its based upon general improvement where people tend to live longer and this factors that in and recognizes the reality of what life spans are and they are changing for the better.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to modify our pension assumptions.  
**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger  
**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**D. AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE ENGAGEMENT OF COUNSEL TO ASSIST WITH POTENTIAL DATA SECURITY INCIDENT**

Attorney Treadwell said you have in your packet an engagement letter from Baker Hostetler Law Firm to authorize the Township Manager to sign so we can proceed with the recommendation from our insurance company. Ms. deLeon said she'd like to have the payment on the record of how it's going to be paid. Attorney Treadwell said we have been informed that the insurance company will be paying for this cost.

Ms. Victoria Opthof-Codaro, 1682 Woodfield Drive, said she knows you said the insurance company is paying for this data breach, is there any information that the Council can provide about what the status of this was? Attorney Treadwell said not until we engage Counsel to help us through the process. Ms. Opthof-Codaro said she wanted to confirm there is something that you have from the insurance company that verifies we aren't going to be on the hook for the legal fees associated with this right now. Attorney Treadwell said we have a verbal conversation with the insurance company but this is an issue that needs to be addressed as quickly as possible, so waiting for written confirmation isn't really an option at this point. Ms. Opthof-Codaro said who selected the attorney



group to look into this issue. Attorney Treadwell said they are one of the groups that are pre-approved by the insurance company. Ms. Opthof-Codaro said were there any pre-approved groups that had a lower hourly rate, she noticed the attorney hourly rates were pretty high for the Lehigh Valley area. Attorney Treadwell said he agrees with her on that, but no, this was the firm the insurance company said was pre-approved. Ms. Opthof-Codaro said she would ask that there might be some sensitivity on the issue but we should try to get something in writing as those hourly rates we are on the hook for that, so residents know it's like \$600/hour for a partner. Attorney Treadwell said we are all highly aware of that.

- MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval to execute the engagement of Counsel to assist with the data security incident which happened on July 9, 2021.
- SECOND BY:** Mrs. Stauffer
- ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**E. NORTHAMPTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) – URBAN COUNTY DESIGNATION RENEWAL**

Mrs. Yerger said Northampton County is a direct Federal Entitlement as an Urban County, and therefore receives an annual grant under the CDBG Program from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Every three years an Urban County must renew its entitlement designation, and in the process must contact each municipality in the County concerning their desire to be included.

Mrs. Huhn said correct, this is done every three years. They contacted the municipality and the County concerning their desire to be included. The last time we brought this to Council three years ago they decided to do it because there is no harm in continuing the designation. Ms. deLeon said we've always been the same status, it hasn't changed.

- MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval to participate in the Northampton County Community Block Grant for urban county designation renewal.
- SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger
- ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**F. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR FERAL CAT PROGRAM**

Mrs. Huhn said you have a memo from Carol Schneider as she is monitoring our feral cat T-N-R program. It has been very successful and we've had residents contact us for vouchers. So far, we have utilized 14 of those vouchers. We've had some residents contact us that they would like to repeat. We also had some people in the Township who are initially just contacting us. When we started the program, we said we would bring back to Council if we needed to replenish and that is what she would like to ask Council. We started out with the 20 vouchers and if we could have approval to replenish it back to the 20, we feel that will get us to the remainder of the year and continue to work with No Nonsense Neutering.

- MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval for 20 vouchers for the Feral Cat Program at a cost of \$490 to cover the remainder of the year.
- SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger
- ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**G. AUTHORIZATION TO REVISE TOWNSHIP CODE 135-5 REGARDING RECYCLING**

Mrs. Yerger said Township staff would like Council to authorize the Township Solicitor to revise Ordinance 135-5 to be consistent with current DEP procedures.

Mrs. Huhn said Mrs. Stauffer brought this to our attention that the licensing in our code is not following what is exactly being required. The licensing procedures are now held through the DEP. So we will be having another ordinance amendment for zoning that we would like to bring to Council this year, in order to do a codification, we wanted to ask that we also amend this and then do it with our next codification update.

Ms. deLeon said her recollection is when we were talking about this a while ago, that the haulers had to contact the Township and fill out a permit. Mrs. Huhn said that was years ago. Ms. deLeon said don't they still do that. Mrs. Huhn said it went to the County and now it's with DEP. You can check DEP's website to see if that trash hauler is licensed.

Mrs. Stauffer said they do have that. The reason this came up is she's had some residents come to her because they have some concerns about trash and recycling being dumped into the same truck by a provider that serves our Township. They are not sure things are being recycled. She called Leslie to see what we could do about this as it's a concern. The question still remains, the Township can in fact, do very little. There's only reporting it to DEP. Ms. deLeon said didn't we pick out three or four recyclables out of the list of 15 that when the residents get the recycling bucket, they only take, what do we recycle? Mrs. Huhn said we come along, again, that is set by DEP. Its plastics, glass. Attorney Treadwell said he thinks Ms. deLeon is correct. That was a long time ago, but it's all under Act 101, Waste and Municipal Act. When that act came out in the 1988, every municipality was required to come up with a recycling plan and part of that plan was picking from a list of recyclables that had to be recycled. What happened from 1988 up until now, some municipalities and some counties started requiring that these recyclable haulers be licensed by the County, by the municipality and they were already required to be licensed under Act 101 by DEP. There was triple licensing going on and at some point the Commonwealth Court said you can't do that. That took away the ability for the County or municipality to do their own licensing. Your ordinance has not been updated since that time. We stopped the practice when the case was decided, but we never went back and actually changed the ordinance. The change to this ordinance would be to change from anywhere it says the "Township license", it will now say "DEP license". Ms. deLeon said where does it say for the haulers to collect x, x, and x, like what do you do. Attorney Treadwell said he thinks that's in the DEP regulations. DEP has regulations on how haulers are supposed to comply with different things. Mrs. Stauffer said our code says Chapter 135.4 Storage of Waste, it says all collection and recyclables must occur on at least a bi-weekly basis but may occur more frequently. Ms. deLeon said it doesn't list what the recyclables are, is it cardboard, is it bottles, is it cans. At the time what Linc was talking about, we selected four of them and that's what the haulers were supposed to pick up. Mrs. Stauffer said she thinks the list would be helpful. She also thinks it's just a little bit concerning to her as a resident and also as a Council member, just because if you are concerned about how recycling is being processed, what authority do we as a Council or a Township have to do anything about it and it seems like we have to hand it off to DEP. DEP can really only do anything if there's a recycling issue, but there's a secondary issue that she wanted to mention that she doesn't know if we can do anything about either. This particular provider do not pick up their bins or they don't refund after you cancel. So you can prepay for a whole year, and someone could pass away where you could cancel service and they will say they are refunding your money and they will never, ever give it back to you. She thinks that's alarming that you have a business operating in our Township that can treat residents that way and we don't have any recourse to do anything about it other than maybe contact the Attorney General. What can we tell residents if this happens to them? Do they call, do they give it to one of us, and what can we do as a Council to protect residents from basically fraud for lack of a better term.

Mr. Banonis said isn't that a private contract. Attorney Treadwell said yes, they have private contracts for their waste haulers, but the Attorney General's office has a division of Consumer Fraud that you can report it to. It's the same question if he goes to a restaurant and gets overcharged, the Township isn't going to do anything about it, and it's up to him to take the appropriate steps.

Mrs. Stauffer said she's disappointed that we can't seem to have any protections here for residents. Mrs. Yerger said no authorizations. Mrs. Stauffer said she just wanted to mention this tonight. She's at least glad we can update our code, that's a good step. When and if residents do call about providers, she wants to name this provider, its DelGuerico specifically who has repeated experiences. It's disappointing to her that this can happen under our noses and we can't do anything.

Mr. George Gress said knock on wood, he really hasn't had any trouble with his personal trash provider, but he does know some people who do have trouble with this provider that he has, but it's different than yours, but it's throwing garbage and recycling in the same truck. His question would be, would it be beneficial to the residents and more cost effective if we had a Township-wide garbage service come in and contract it out for the residents in the Township. He sees Linc snickering, but he's just asking. Attorney Treadwell said he raised his eyebrows, it wasn't a snicker. Mr. Gress said for him, he lives on Old Philadelphia Pike and gets a lot of truck traffic anyway, but with as many trash haulers as there are out there, if you live in a nice quiet cul-de-sac, you could have seven different trash trucks coming on different mornings taking your trash. That becomes really annoying. His trash guy comes sometime at 11 in the morning, sometimes he come at 3:00 in the afternoon. There's a lot of municipalities around us that do city-wide trash. Hellertown does that and he's not advocating that in any way, shape or form, as that is an odd thing. With the amount of contractors out there for trash, would it benefit the residents to do a bidding process for Township-wide service? It's just a question, he doesn't know, maybe something to look into.

Attorney Treadwell said he raised his eyebrows because he just had this conversation in another municipality to go the other way, to go from should we go from Township-wide collection back to individual collection because when you talk about it, there's a limited number of collectors. So you go out to bid, this is what you have to do as a municipality, you are at the mercy of the market as to what the price is. What happens is we put it out to bid, and it comes back with a number of \$1,000 a year per household, per resident which you may be able to get a better deal negotiating yourself than we are going to get in a bid as we only have three or four companies that are going to bid that big of a job. The other thing that you run into with a municipal-wide collection is, are you going to limit the number of bags you put out because the price goes up depending how much you put out. Mr. Gress said if he does that, they don't take it. Attorney Treadwell said they don't take it. If you bid unlimited garbage collection, you wouldn't believe the number that comes back. It's a huge number. The other thing Act 101 has pretty specific rules about how you are supposed to put your recycling out. If your recycling is somehow comingled with your garbage then the hauler will and is required to put it into the garbage. Your recycling has to be recycling. If they see it's mixed in with other stuff or...Mrs. Huhn said or in any way contaminated if there's any food in it, they will move on and the other thing that Diane found out, and she doesn't know if your hauler does this, but some of the newer trucks are capable of taking both trash and recycling, there are two bins. There are two hoppers in them.

Mr. Gress said they had issues years ago and they don't even get the newspaper anymore, but their provider wouldn't take the newspaper, it didn't matter how you packaged it, they said they won't take it. Mrs. Huhn said there's no money in it anymore.

Ms. deLeon said we picked four things. Mr. Gress said how long ago was that. Ms. deLeon said it was back a long time ago. Mr. Gress said recycling has come so far since then. Ms. deLeon said these haulers were supposed to follow our instructions. Attorney Treadwell said and we lost the hammer because the hammer will take away your license, and you can't do that anymore. Mr. Gress said now they recycle everything.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said George just brought up a good point and made her think back to a time so you are aware, she had the opportunity to work with Cindy Oatis, and she was a contractor who worked with municipalities in negotiating Township-wide trash and recycling systems and she worked with her in Palmer Township when they were negotiating a contract. At that time it was beneficial to residents and it was cheaper to go with a Township-wide hauler and because the contract was so large, it allowed some hammer on the provider if they weren't picking up garbage properly or picking up recycling properly as residents would call and complain and then the Township would say they are going to re-negotiate their bid if you are not a compliant hauler and keep that in mind the next time we re-negotiate. It is a process, but it's something that might be helpful to look into. Whether or not in LST, with the number of providers that come and service our area, we don't know

whether it's going to cost us money or not, but it wouldn't hurt us. There are people that are able to negotiate and have the expertise to really have those providers sharpen their pencils and get us the best rate and we would have some leverage. She just wanted to throw that out there. She worked with Cindy. Mrs. Huhn said she's on our EAC. Mr. Carocci said we can ask her about it. Attorney Treadwell said the Township that he was discussing previously, we used Cindy Oatis. It is still the same issue, to get a price that is affordable for everybody, you have to limit the garbage, so we did. We limited the number of cans or bags that could be put out and then you have 300 people at a meeting saying you limited it too much, we'd rather pay more and then 300 more people saying it's not enough. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said those big bins is what Palmer Township had. It was mixed use and that was a big factor in negotiating. She's somebody we can talk to as she could negotiate those things for us and make sure we have a good balance between little garbage and too much garbage. Attorney Treadwell said it's not a question of negotiating it's a question of writing the bid specs so you get it the way what you want and what we are going through in this other municipality now is 7 or 8 different options in the bid specs and then you have to figure out what the cost of each option is when the bids come in and how many people want Option A and how many want Option B. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said with Cindy, it wasn't like that. She helped us prepare that and we were able to send it out. Just an option, that's all she wanted to say.

Ms. Wittchen said she's glad George brought this up as this is something that has bothered her since she moved here 15 years ago. Her company is iSpring Associates, they do sustainability consulting. They designed the waste management system for the entire Swarthmore College campus. One of the things to keep in mind when we discuss this issue, is not just the cost, but the externalities that are associated with trash pickup and it's not just what Tom or George said about how many trucks show up as far as noise in the morning. On her street which is a quiet suburban street, it's trash day five days a week. That means that those very large garbage trucks are driving up and down that street every single day that costs the Township money. They are heavy trucks and they do damage to the roads. Now you've got every street in the Township potentially being driven over by those garbage trucks five days a week. It's not just the immediate cost to the people who live in the Township. It's the generalized wear and tear on the Township facilities and she thinks this is an issue the Township should seriously consider going forward as a possibility. She thought when Linc rolled his eyes, he was thinking of the long history in Bethlehem of trying to do this which has been the political graveyard of so many Bethlehem politicians. Frankly, she's arguing against her own best interests because since she's of a sustainability interest, she creates virtually no garbage and no recycling and what she has she takes to the City of Bethlehem and sticks it in their recycling center. On behalf of the best use of Township resources for the whole Township, she thinks this is something we should seriously consider and not just let's go out and get some bids. Let's look at what the real long-term cycle costs of individual haulers versus a consolidated system and she'd be more than happy to offer her services to the Township for free if you want to at least have a presentation on what the pros and cons are on that in the future. They would be happy to put something together for you. They have also negotiated contracts on behalf of colleges and other institutions for things like composting and recycling, so it's a complicated issue but she thinks people tend to look at what's it going to cost me at the end of my driveway and not what is the wear and tear of all those garbage trucks on your street.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval for the revision to the Township Code Section 135-5 regarding recycling.

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Stauffer

Mrs. Stauffer said she thinks it would be helpful if we could get this on a future agenda and look at some more of our options.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. APPROVAL OF JUNE 16, 2021 COUNCIL MINUTES**

Mrs. Yerger said the June 16, 2021 minutes are ready for Council's review and approval. Ms. Wittchen said she had two corrections. On page 19, line 9, "hardily" should be changed to "heartily". On line 14, "he" should be changed to "she".

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the June 16, 2021 Council minutes, with corrections.  
**SECOND BY:** Ms. deLeon  
**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**B. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2021 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mrs. Yerger said the June 2021 financial reports are ready for Council's review and approval.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the June 2021 financial reports.  
**SECOND BY:** Ms. deLeon  
**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**VII. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**

**A. MANAGER – Mrs. Huhn**

- She said LSA has received a resignation from Ms. Lara Goudsouzian, who will fill out her term until the end of August 2021. Bill Ross is actively looking for someone to replace her on the Board. He has posted it on their page and we have shared it on our Facebook page. If anyone is interested, they should send their letter of interest in, he has a couple already.

**B. COUNCIL**

**Mr. Carocci** – No report

**Mr. Banonis** – No report

**Ms. deLeon**

- She would like to recognize Abby Gress for an act of heroism that she did and saved her dad's life as he's a special person and she's a special girl. You will go far in your life as you thought quick and Ms. deLeon just wants to thank her.
- She attended a Chamber meeting. They talked about Hellertown providing them with a list of businesses and she knows we talked about this before. Is there any way the Township, when a new business comes in, we can track that so we can send it Jessica so they can be in touch with the new business. Mrs. Huhn said she thinks that is in place so they should be receiving that. Ms. deLeon said Jessica asked again. Mrs. Huhn said is there a business specifically that she is talking about that she didn't get information on. Ms. deLeon said they haven't gotten anything. Mrs. Huhn said let me check with Jim.
- She said they were in Executive Session and talked about how to purchase a parcel and we really need to vote on that so the letter goes out tomorrow. Attorney Treadwell said there was a parcel of property that was offered to the Township by another organization. The discussion in Executive Session was that we were not interested, so if someone wants to make a motion. Ms. deLeon said the reason she brought it up was you can't vote in Executive Session.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to decline the offer to acquire the organization's property.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. deLeon

Ms. deLeon said do we have to identify the parcel number and property. Attorney Treadwell said do we know the parcel number. This wasn't a parcel number as it didn't go through the open space program. It was just somebody that said, hey do you want to buy this. He doesn't see any number on it. It's enough, we know what the history is and discussion was.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**Mrs. Stauffer**

- She said the Historical Society has received a large donation of the Valley Voice newspaper archives which is quite a bit. Ms. deLeon said you mean they got every Valley Voice newspaper. Mrs. Stauffer said yes, she doesn't have the start year. It's a pretty big pile. There is also a History through Photography contest which ends September 1, 2021.
- The library recently switched their reader if you like to read on your phone or E-reader, you can use Cloud library. It's pretty user friendly. If you have a library card you can jump right on it.

**Mrs. Yerger**

- She thanked Leslie and Council for approving this whole feral cat program. She knows it works and she's seen it done in other communities and she's glad to see its working as this is the only way you are going to get this under control.

C. **SOLICITOR** – No report

D. **ENGINEER** – No report

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – NON-RESIDENTS ONLY** – None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for adjournment. The time was 9:15 p.m.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Submitted by:

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Leslie Huhn  
Township Manager

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Sandra B. Yerger  
Council President