



**Wednesday, January 18, 2023**  
**Lower Saucon Township Council Agenda**

**6:30 PM**  
**Lower Saucon Township**  
**General Business and Developer**  
**3700 Old Philadelphia Pike**  
**Bethlehem, PA 18015**

*01/19/2023 Amended Agenda from the  
01/18/2023 Council Meeting  
Added agenda items have been highlighted*

**1. OPENING**

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- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Announcement of Executive Session (if applicable)
- E. Public Comment Procedure

\* Motion to Amend Agenda to Move Resolution #32-2023 Recognizing Thomas Anderson for his Service to Lower Saucon Township before Public Comment

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - RESIDENTS/TAXPAYERS ONLY - 3-MINUTE TIME LIMIT**

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**3. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

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- A. Resolution #32-2023 Recognizing Thomas Anderson for his Service to Lower Saucon Township
- B. Proposed Ordinance 2023-02 - 412 Area Zoning Map Amendments

**4. DEVELOPER ITEMS**

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- A. Steel Club Phase 2 - 700 Linden Ave - Extension Request to Complete Conditions of Approval for their Land Development

**5. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

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- A. Authorization for Payment Release #4 Final to DESSCO for Lower Saucon Road Culvert Replacement Project
- B. Financial Investment Policy Update
- C. EAC Chairman Designation
- D. Approve the Purchase of two (2) 2023 Police Vehicles
- E. Authorize Collection of 2023 Real Estate Taxes
- F. Set Hearing Date for Conditional Use Application CU01-23 Bethlehem Landfill
- G. Discussion and establishment of procedures for Conditional Use Hearing

**6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS**

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- A. Approval of December 7, 2022 Council Minutes
- B. Approval of December 21, 2022 Council Minutes
- C. Approval of December 2022 Financial Reports

**7. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**

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- A. Township Manager, Mark Hudson
- B. Council/Jr. Council Member
- C. Solicitor
- D. Engineer

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEMS - RESIDENTS/TAXPAYERS ONLY - 3-MINUTE TIME LIMIT**

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\* Motion to Amend Agenda to Authorize Action from Executive Session

\* Motion to Authorize Township Solicitor to Send a letter to the PA State Attorney General regarding allegations in the complaint filed in Northampton County Court of Common Pleas, Docket # C-48-CV-2023-57, the matter captioned Borough of Hellertown v. Lower Saucon Township.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

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A. Move to Adjourn

**10. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

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- A. Zoning Hearing Board: January 23, 2023
- B. Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: January 23, 2023 at Upper Saucon Township
- C. Planning Commission: January 26, 2023
- D. Parks and Recreation Board: February 6, 2023
- E. Environmental Advisory Council: February 14, 2023
- F. Township Council: February 15, 2023

**I. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. with Mr. Jason Banonis, presiding.

**ROLL CALL: Present:** Jason Banonis, President; Mark Inglis, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Sandra Yerger and Thomas Carocci, Council Members; Mark Hudson, Township Manager; Linc Treadwell, Township Solicitor; Brien Kocher, Township Engineer; Cathy Gorman, Assistant Manager & Director of Finance; Stacy Werkheiser, Administrative Assistant.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)** – Mr. Banonis said that Council did not meet in Executive Session before today’s meeting but do intend to meet at the conclusion of this meeting.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT – TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY – 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Mr. Banonis said the Public Comment procedure is available on the table. We have a three-minute comment period for residents and taxpayers. If anyone would like to speak on any agenda items, please come forward and identify yourself. Before we get into Public Comment, he wants to make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to amend the agenda as he would like to move up the Presentations/Hearings, Part A. which is Resolution #32-2023 recognizing Thomas Anderson for his service to (Lower Saucon Township) LST.

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**III. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS**

**A. RESOLUTION #32-2023 – RECOGNIZING THOMAS ANDERSON FOR HIS SERVICE TO LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**

Mr. Banonis said Resolution #32-2023 has been prepared honoring Tom Anderson for his years of dedication to the residents of Lower Saucon Township. He read Resolution #32-2023 (*please see attached Resolution*).

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for the approval of Resolution #32-2023 recognizing the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of Thomas Anderson for his service to Lower Saucon Township.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. deLeon

Ms. deLeon said we go way back and she just appreciates all he has done to make the LSA what it is today. Thank you. Mr. Banonis said before we vote on the resolution, is there anything that you would like to say to us, Tom? Mr. Anderson said no.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT – TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY – 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

- Bob Blasko said from his understanding when this landfill was sold to the next company, there were already agreements with IESI and those agreements laid out certain rules and regulations. Some of them are actually codified law where they are violated. These truck drivers can be fined. One of the things in the rules and regulations is a designated truck route. There are three of them depending on which direction they are arriving. Anybody coming from east or north of here, is supposed to be traveling I-78, get off I-78, come in Route 412, make a right on Shimersville Road and a right on Applebutter. They are not doing that. They are coming up Island Park Road, some are going across Saucon Road and some are going down Applebutter. They are not supposed to be anywhere near us when they are doing that. Why does that continue? It has been brought up over a month ago. You started these transactions for the landfill a month ago but yet nothing is being done on the regulations already in existence. There are not supposed to be any trucks that are leaking material on the road. He’s seen it plenty of times. The truck tires are supposed to be washed before leaving the landfill, get this, on the days they are washing tires. Why hasn’t that been amended before you leave, the truck tires have to be washed period. These are problems with the existing landfill. He can’t even imagine what is going to come if this goes any further and they end up expanding. This is absolutely

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ridiculous. You've heard all the complaints before, it's about time you do something about it for our benefit, not some outside firm.

- Bruce Petrie, said he's not going to get into the legalities of everything. He and his wife are lead appellants in a motion to stop the nonsense that's been going on the last couple of months probably longer. He's going to tell a story that has to do with the landfill. They live in a house that was built in 1775. It's older than this country. When they purchased it, it was its own landfill itself. The caretaker and his son who lived there fixed cars up and just threw spark plus everywhere. He can't tell you how many car tires, spark plugs, windshields, other various items they had to pay money for to get hauled off the property to turn it into a pristine area. For those of you in the springtime, we would love anyone who is a resident of the Township to show up and we'll show you where this expansion of the landfill is going. You can throw up all the maps you want to, but it's not going to show the trees. It's all covered with trees. You can't really even see through the trees, that's how dense it is. They are going to have to mow down all those wonderful trees. They put a fair amount of their property in open space to keep it open and the expansion of the landfill would butt up to their property and he can't tell you the impact to the wildlife, not to mention the runoff in the Bull Run and subsequent Lehigh River. He's been there about 33 years. It's a beautiful old farmhouse built by the Shimer family. The farmhouse is listed on a map dated 1860. It's got the number of free coloreds on it, that's pre-Civil War. We have a map up of that as well. We spent a lot of blood, sweat and tears making this a beautiful place and only to have the regs turned on its head to turn it into a garbage dump. Anyone who wants to come out and see it come springtime, they would love to show you. They have a nice overview of where they want to put the landfill and he'd love to have you out.
- Matt McClarin, said he's just here as he's against the agenda item on the board which is the application for the ordinance change. Going off of the topic here, there's going to be some in-depth conversation on this, he doesn't think it's fair to the citizens for something of this magnitude that gets discussed tonight to have to speak before the item even comes up or before there was even a vote cast. In the past, there's been a wealth of knowledge in this room on any agenda item that comes up before this board. There's been a wealth of knowledge for anybody in this room and he believes that part of good governance is letting some of the public speak on any one of the agenda items as they come up directly after the discussion that Council has. It's good public policy and he doesn't know why we got away from that. It's kind of tough when you read the board packet and you try to read through all the information. He was just sitting here trying to read through this permit application and it's a lot. There might be some really in-depth discussions that take place. You might have people in here that are Civil Consultants that have different opinions. You might have landowners that have different opinions of what the landfill says. For a decision like this, the public is limited to comments basically before the meeting or after, not right before the vote is kind of against good public policy. He hopes that can come up on a further agenda and have you rethink about that. No matter what you have to say in three minutes, it's not going to kill anybody if they allow the public to speak right after the agenda item if it could save the Township money or come up with an alternative idea.
- Tim Murphy said he disagrees with the rezoning that occurred from special exception use to conditional use. He also disagrees with the expansion of the landfill in its entirety. He doesn't believe enough research has been done regarding the landfill expansion. He doesn't think the long-term effects have been reviewed in-depth. He doesn't think enough research or review has been done on the long-term negative effects of groundwater or on its effect on digamous fauna and flora. He thinks Priscilla outlined several of those reviews that should have taken place prior to. He doesn't think enough review has gone into its effect on the Lehigh River water quality or on the Bull Run water quality. He finds it hard to believe that the Commonwealth is not going to be involved when the Lehigh is a major tributary to the Delaware River and the Delaware River provides over 50% of the water to Philadelphia. He doesn't even see how that can go through. He's also disappointed that you approved the zoning change so quickly after hearing all of the different people who live adjacent to the landfill like the gentleman who just spoke before and several people in the last meeting. He doesn't think you guys are really considering a lot of your constituents. Lastly, he thinks some data was shown about the EPA saying how much money if you save and invest in fresh groundwater, it

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saves you for like \$1.00 used to save on conserving fresh groundwater, which saves \$27.00 for your water treatment. It's well worth it to do an in-depth review of the long-term effects of groundwater contamination rather than hurry through it and approve it and then in the future have to spend 27 times that to correct the groundwater pollution.

- Sean Hartnett said the last time he spoke here he was pretty mean to all of you, maybe deservedly so. Tonight he's going to take a different approach than calling you all names. You all have a pretty easy job and that's to serve us. Some might be wondering what does that mean. Maybe you can start with protection. We have police here somewhere in this building so your job is to protect us. Your job is to ensure our lives are enriched, that we are healthy and safe. He fails to see how this achieves that. This doesn't enrich us as you are going to diminish the value of his property as well as hundreds of other constituents with a dump going up. He doesn't know how that helps the tax revenue either. This isn't like we are debating whether or not a target is going to go up over there and you want to repurpose that forest land. That would be something we'd all be willing to debate here the value and merits of that. We are talking about a literal dump. He said this last time, but this is like an episode of the Simpsons. When did we prioritize a dump over the needs of the citizens? That's us. He knows Mark you are up for election next. He's going for you but he's going to flip this Council and he is going to run as a Republican as he knows that's what you are and the two Democrats need an ally and he'll be that ally. Then when he does beat you, he's going to do everything he can to ensure that this company is not able to operate in any terms of solvency. He's going to have the EPA so far up their butt and he's going to fine them, he's going to tax them to hell, and make sure this deal goes to hell.
- Lynn Hill said she's going to start right off with something on the LST website. It says the Township is known for pastoral farmlands, tranquil woodlands, and gently rolling hills. That's what we want to be known for. We don't want to be known for a big landfill. Our Township has a history of tough environmental standards but members of this Council seem to disregard all environmental concerns and have even modified our Township code to simplify the landfill's expansion process in a watershed area, an important natural resource. Why is this a double standard? Council members Banonis, Yerger and Carocci should recuse themselves from all matters pertaining to the landfill including the request for expansion that would desecrate an area of woods and fields currently in a conservation easement. It's been all over the news that the landfill's parent company funded a PAC that contributed \$75,000.00 to the Banonis-Carocci-Zavacky campaign. It's also been widely reported that Sandra Yerger and her colleagues campaign received over \$146,000.00 in the relatively same matter. The landfill has indirectly funded enormous sums of money, much more than individuals can afford to donate to campaigns. It wouldn't surprise her at all if these Council members felt a heartfelt sense of loyalty to the landfill. Our Council President, Jason Banonis, practices law for a firm called Marshall Doheny Law Firm but according to its website Mr. Banonis is a shareholder in the firm. The firm represented defendants in the 2006 wrongful death case called Wilson vs. IESI New York in U.S. District Court for the middle district of PA. IESI New York is a sister company of IESI Bethlehem. On its website, Marshall Doheny describes its environmental and toxic tort practice group as having long been one of the most active and quoting "active practice groups in its litigation endeavors in the states of PA, FL, etc." The website also says that Marshall Doheny's toxic tort litigation attorneys have handled numerous environmental matters. They have represented a great number of clients in litigation arising out of superfund landfill cleanups, private cost recovery actions, soil or groundwater contamination, drinking water contamination and so forth. Mr. Banonis said your three minutes are up if you could wrap up this idea, we have other people that need to speak. Ms. Hill said she's just asking why do we have this double standard in this Township?
- Claire Sadler said she's the Executive Director of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor (DLNHC) and their organization is directly named in...Mr. Banonis said are you a resident or a taxpayer of LST? Ms. Sadler said she is not. They are directly named in the easements. Mr. Banonis said are you a resident or taxpayer of LST? Ms. Sadler said she is not but she'd be happy to let one of her other employees speak. Mr. Banonis said okay, thank you. Ms. Sadler said thank you.
- Brittney Kondravy said she'd be happy to read the statement. She's the Conservation Coordinator at the DLNHC. Our organization is directly named in .6 and .8 of both conservation easements for

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the two parcels in question. They have been contacted by LST residents and multiple regional partners related to their standing as a party sited in easements. She is here to express their objection to reducing the zoning requirements granting the landfill designation as conditional use and weakening the conservation protections placed on these important parcels. The DLNHC was designated by the U.S. Congress in 1988 under President Reagan to preserve, protect and celebrate the nationally significant industrial heritage of our five-county region, Bucks Northampton, Lehigh, Carbon, and Luzerne. This is their 35<sup>th</sup> year of making connections focused around their four pillars of the mission that include industrial heritage, nature and environment, health and wellness, and economic development. They believe considering either of these parcels for landfill expansion, in any capacity, is a mistake for the whole region and generations to come. They specifically feel this would go against each pillar of their mission for the following reasons. Industrial heritage – the Redington Historic District within the land area supported the work force of the Coleraine Furnace Company in the 1800's, before Bethlehem Steel used it as a testing area and shell filling plant through WWI and had rail line service in the area, all related to the strong industrial heritage of this region. This land is within the view shed of the D&L trail built along the former Lehigh navigation towpath following the historic pass of canals and railroads from Wilkes Barre to Bristol. As far as nature and the environment goes, clearing the steep wooded slopes leading to the Lehigh River would be detrimental to the entire watershed and river corridor that many generations have worked hard to clean up since our society degraded it with their prior industries. We must learn through our mistakes and be sure to balance the environmental and economic benefits. These parcels make one of the largest continuous wooded area adjacent to the Lehigh River and we cannot get something like that back. Health and wellness – yes we all need an area to put our trash and should all be working harder to reduce it but the recreation benefits of getting a nature of having good air quality, good water quality, are all critical to maintaining the health of our population. Expanding this landfill and taking on a majority of trash from out of state is detrimental to the open space and our community. The D&L trail is well on its way to being the longest multi-use trail in PA, longer than the Great Allegheny Passage and it can bring in tremendous economic growth for small business, hospital outfitters, and retailers. We are discussing clearing the wooded area within the view shed of the trails that go through Bethlehem and Freemansburg in expanding the landfill. We ask that you highly consider what you are doing because if we use up this land we don't get it back and as you can see there are multiple ways that we already benefit from this land and that generations can continue to do so.

- Frank Palumbo said he can't believe he is here again. He will be here for every meeting until this dump is dumped. The ink barely even dried from our last Council meeting; and he remembers Linc saying this is just a preliminary hearing and it's going to take a long time. To his surprise, what's on the agenda this evening, said hearing for conditional use application for the dump. Wow. You guys really act quick. You might even get a bonus from the dump to get this pushed through as quickly as you guys are. His door is still open for you guys to tell him why this dump is good for our community. Clearly everybody in this room and others who probably couldn't make it tonight feel the dump is not good for anybody here. The only person it benefits or the only outfit it benefits is the out-of-state corporation which we've been hosting this dump for way too many years. For the life of him, he's still shocked why we want this dump expansion. This is just mind blowing. He doesn't know if anybody here understands and can explain to him why this dump is good for us. He says we put this up for a referendum. He said this last time. Nobody clearly wants this, Jason, Sandra, Mark and Tom. He knows Priscilla doesn't want it. You guys are human beings. You guys have families in this community, what is the purpose? Please try to explain this to him. His door is open and he invites every one of you to come to his house. He'll give you a dam beer if you need it. He just wants to get an understanding of what is the purpose of this dump expansion. It's mind boggling. The D&L just got a couple million bucks in the Lehigh Valley to connect the trail and it's going to go right through this area. He's already contacted Representative McNeill about this. Their office wasn't even aware and she was instrumental in getting all this money to connect the D&L throughout the Lehigh Valley. Is this what we want with people coming through Lehigh Valley and smelling that crap, the dump? This makes no sense. He can't for the life of him understand what's going on here and what's going on behind the scenes that all you guys are involved in potentially.

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- He doesn't know, he's just speculating and he has nothing to prove any of that. On the surface, there's no reasons why he can see this dump expanding, it makes absolutely no sense.
- Jackie Palumbo thanked all her fellow citizens for coming out here. Obviously we are against dump expansion. Against, that means no. She didn't vote for you, fair enough, but some people here did. She's betting they are not going to be voting for the dump expansion. Even though they voted for you, you may think it's a good idea but you are their voice and they are saying no. You're supposed to uphold what your community wants, not what you want. What they want. It's a democracy. You just don't get to make the rules and decide what's going to be good for us when you have a whole room of people saying we don't want it. You can change course. You can just throw away that last vote you had and just abandon this whole idea of expanding the dump and that will be it or you can just follow through with it and keep on going. She's going to find out what she needs to do because if you are not promoting the will of the people, she's going to find how to get you out of that chair and put someone in there who will vote the will of the people because you are not doing that. From what she can understand about a democracy, you are not even listening to us. Right now you are probably sitting there thinking about what you are going to be doing tomorrow. She'll tell you what she'll be doing tomorrow. She'll be looking for a way to talk to Mr. Shapiro who just got in yesterday. She's not going to go there right away, but she's going to talk to the Governor. She's going to put all this in front of them and tell them this is how our elected officials are treating our community and she'll see what they have to say and what other people have to say. So either you can abandon this and just change your mind, do the right thing what everybody wants or we can find out what happens. That is up to you.
  - Curt Balch said he's sorry to see you all again. It looks like in spite of the holiday spirit and a hundred or so pleas, your hearts failed to grow three sizes that day. To sway your votes against approving this conditional use of the landfill, he's going to forego any pleas to your passionate attempt to appeal to your pride instead. As you may recall Jason and Tom, he voted for you. His apologies, but he was under the impression that you were Republicans. He expected these Republicans to at least have some passing understanding of "The Heart of the Deal". It's a book, written by a former President and there were a lot of copies. "The Heart of the Deal" demands that if you want something, it's essential to figure out what your prospect really, really wants and convince them that you can give it to them. He assumes that for Waste Connections to get you to actually break down legislative barriers to this landfill expansion, all in the face of massive opposition from your constituents, that you must have gotten something really, really good for this Township – something huge that this Township really, really wanted. Maybe you got an agreement for a tenfold increase on tax revenue on landfill zoned property. Maybe you got Waste Connections to agree to fund a stadium, parks and playgrounds for the schools. Maybe you got them to pull those big Texas strings to bulldoze down the vacant Neighbors Garden Center and put up a Trader Joe's. Then he realizes no, he bets what you did was you negotiated a massive expansion and improvement of the Hellertown Area Library, oh my God, I bet that wasn't it. Sorry. Mr. Banonis said no it wasn't. Mr. Balch said it wasn't any of those, but from what he can tell you didn't negotiate for anything. From what he can tell, Waste Connections came in here with their big ass for 275 acres of protected wooded acres leading to the banks of the Lehigh River and instead of squeezing them for every promise and penny that was possible, using the leverage that your voters have given you, we're just going to stand here today and let you expand a conditional use landfill over 275 beautiful acres. Is this what we get for sending lawyers instead of a salesman to do the job? Maybe you did negotiate for what you really, really wanted and you got it, but what you really, really wanted, you can't tell us. What you really, really wanted was never for any of us.
  - Laura Ray said everybody is covering the landfill so she's going to hit all the other crap. Financial Investment Policy update, so given the fact that she no longer has any degree of confidence that the majority on Council act on behalf of the best interest of residents, she has to question everything. Who will truly benefit from an agreement with Great Eastern Management? Does somebody up there have a connection with them? The memo dated January 12<sup>th</sup> states the firm has the ability to research banks for multiple areas that we do not have access to in order to secure the highest interest rate. It noted rates as high as 4.9%. With a simple Google search, she found that same 4.9% at a bank that was FDIC and it also had their stability rating. For Act 72 compliance, public depositors

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can and should request monthly reports on each institution's collateral status. That sounds like something easy enough for a Finance Director to do. Is it worth it to pay a fee to have an outside firm do this for LST - .15% sounds small but on very large investment it adds up to a lot of money? The policy would also increase maximum turns on CD's to five years. It doesn't list what percentage that we would put at that term, that was missing. Current policy has 20% at 6%, 40% at one year and 40% at two years. What would the new breakdown be, that isn't shown in the policy. Have you all read the details and will you ask any questions before you vote on this. In the financial reports, she noted that there was another \$18,311.61 asked for Eckert Seamans in December for an unnecessary legal battle with the OCL. Then regarding the designation of the EAC Chairman, she's going to say she went through several years and she doesn't see that we approved the Chair the last two years. It hasn't been since 2020 when this actually happened and it wasn't a separate agenda item, it was done under the Manger's Report and approved. It seems like spiking it as a separate agenda item is very suspect to her. When they had their meeting and voted to change Chairs, it was such a big ordeal that it really shouldn't have been. Other boards change their Chairs all the time. It's a normal thing. She expects our Chair to be approved and if not, she would love to hear the reasons from you if you are voting no.

- Michael Ciccarello said he lives in the area of the landfill and he has well water. Waste Connections should be answering to you. Not you answering to Waste Connections. They are here to make money in our community and they are doing it inefficiently. As stated before on the 21<sup>st</sup>, they could be incinerating and reducing their fill and creating electricity and making their money off of PPL. He doesn't know why you haven't thought about putting any kind of restrictions on them to work with them so they are benefiting our community. He also doesn't know of any tests that you have done to see where any of the aquifers actually flow underground. Where is all this research that has gone into your decision? He would love to know that. Have you walked the ground? He bets you haven't. He doesn't know what else to say. If you go through with this expansion, at this point without any research whatsoever, it's unethical and it's irresponsible and you are affecting a lot of people's health with their well water and anyone that plays games with that should be expecting a big fight.
- Claudia Markellos said they moved here almost three years ago from a lot further south in the state and they found a house they love and want to stay there until they die. Now they are faced with this problem. She'd like to combine her two concerns to say that since they moved here she read and heard plenty about a division that seems to be between Hellertown and the rest of the Township. It's a large Township. She wonders where does that come from? Why does it seem like Hellertown is on the back end? Why is there an issue with the Compost Center? With the library? With the landfill? Something doesn't seem right about that. She doesn't understand why there aren't other options for the landfill. It's a big area. They deal with different ways; they are not just scoping up a whole bunch of acres and filling it with garbage. She would like you to find other options that would be more acceptable to the entire Township.
- Russ Sutton said he's deathly against this landfill expansion. When they were here before Christmas when this occurred, he turned his back and you voted to approve it. The last time we had an expansion it went into five or six meetings before that happened. It didn't happen in one meeting. He wonders what is your legacy – the dump? Is that what you are going to be proud of – the Lower Saucon dump? That's going to be your legacy. We used to have a good relationship with Hellertown and they were going to join with the Police force, with the fire department, everything, that's all gone. Why, he doesn't know. He thinks someone up there has an axe to grind and he thinks they are using that as a platform to do it. He lives in Steel City for 36 years and they had to get city water because their water was contaminated from the dump. What do you think larger amount of dump property is going to do to the rest of the environment, plus the Lehigh, which goes into the Delaware which goes into the Chesapeake? You are destroying all of the whole ecology system. You can see the landfill from 33 if you go out to Lowes, you can see that mess. You can see it from the St. Luke's campus. It's a mess. It's not something you can be proud of. Your motto was rolling green hills. You better throw that out the window. You should make it say come see our wonderful dump because that's all you are going to be remembered for. When he was here last meeting, 100 people came up here and told you no. A hundred people said no. What did you do – vote for it. They can't



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ask you questions, which to him makes it a hierocracy, not a democracy. We should know why you voted for this dam dump. Is it a secret, it should be out in the open. This is a democracy, not a hierocracy. There's been no environmental studies on this land or its impact to the area and what it's going to do and for the health of people as well. Most of you up there don't even pay attention when we are talking. You should be ashamed to pass this and your legacy is just going to be a dump.

- Walter Zagwoski said he lives in Steel City. One of the things that's been irritating him since he's been coming to these meetings, he didn't realize that the dump dumps a million gallons of sludge water into the city sewer system. He passes the sewer system every day. He could put something in a bucket and throw it over the hill and we're not connected to that, but we are going to process millions of gallons of sewer water that they can't handle that type of material which is going into the river and contaminate the river. Up until about 8 years ago, Steel City property values started going back up because the dump was closing. Our property values were high and now they are started going in the toilet. He can't even go in the toilet as it doesn't go over there. We are going to go down if we get our houses reassessed. He got a beautiful property and it's worth a lot. If it starts going downhill, he's not paying taxes. He's going to say this property is worth zero. He can't sell it. If you can't sell a property because the dump is in your backyard and it's getting bigger and bigger, it's just a monster growing. You guys got to come out and look and see what we have. You are going to wreck our town. You are going to wreck Steel City. It's not going to be a town, it's going to be a dump too as no one will want to live there. You can't sell a house if the back yard is connected to a dump. All these people on Redington Road have beautiful properties, and they are not going to be able to sell their properties. They were just getting their value back because the dump was closing. People were coming in from NY and NJ to buy their houses as it's nice but it's not going to be nice when the dump is in their backyard making a bigger mountain than what we have now. We were happy it was closing in 8 years. He has lived there 43 years and had to put up with them. Not now, they aren't closing, you guys just wrecked everything again. Starting over and starting at zero. It's going to take them another 100 years to fill that dump. Their property values are going to drop as soon as they start cutting those trees down and he'll guarantee he's not the only person that's going to go down there and change our tax property assessments, everybody in Steel City, everybody that is concerned about this dump. You aren't going to pay \$20,000 on property taxes and have to look across the road and see a dump. It's insane. You guys got to look at what we put up with. All you worry about is what's over here, you don't worry about what's in the rest of the Township. It started to come back and these people spent tons of money on their house, an 1800-year-old house and fixed it up and wanted to make the area nice. They knew the dump was closing, you guys wrecked everybody's dream by doing this and you didn't get anything out of it. At least get us hooked up to the sewer. Mr. Banonis said your three minutes are up if you can just wrap up that idea.
- Kyle Cambiotti said where does he begin. His great grandfather came from Italy to Steel City in 1910. They never left. He's the fourth generation of that town. He just recently bought his house a year ago and then he bought a piece of property that means a lot to him in Steel City, right next to the hill climb. There are specific people that are buried there. You are going to throw that away. He understands that the dump wants to make money. They are a business. Just like any business people are. His only question for you – what's in it for you? Are you going to make the right decision for him and his community to make it a better place for your children and maybe perhaps one day he might have kids and he wants to raise them in Steel City. He won't be able to ever do that and then he won't have any money.
- Diane Hollowell said tonight she wanted to talk to you about your senses, specifically your sight, your hearing and smell. She's only directing this to the Council members who are so eager to expand this landfill. In December she sat through a meeting where over 100 Township residents pleaded with you to oppose taking 275 acres of land. She is assuming you did not hear them and she did enjoy the residents who expressed their dismay in voting for you. At that same meeting, and she sees it here now, she sees it, huge displays of photos of the beautiful land you want to make into a garbage dump. Apparently you did not see them. Now let's talk about your sense of smell. She cringed when she heard a mother talk about her daughter not being able to enjoy their pool because the smell was so bad. She read the Hanover Engineering report on the inspection conducted on the

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landfill on January 5<sup>th</sup>. They reported waste water odor and gas odor. She figures the only way to appeal to you is through your sense of smell, so everybody in this audience, next time you come to these meetings, do a workout, don't put deodorant on, and let's make them smell it. She does not understand what your incentive is for this dump. What are you personally getting out of this because you are not listening to anybody who comes up here to speak?

- Mark Ozimek said he'd ask for a moment of silence. Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the power of the glory and the kingdom of God, forever and forever, Amen. There's several phrases within the bible that he does not study that say you are not to pollute the earth. When you spill blood on the earth you pollute it and it will be resolved by the spilling of your blood on the same earth. Be the best you can be and use your talents to have positive impact on others. Jump in and put experience, good sense, and expertise back to work. Get what you want, make the world a better place for yourself that includes all of you too. Then it will be a better place for others, all of us. Otherwise we are doomed to continue to living in a world where the richest and not necessarily the most honest and selfless rise to the top of power. If we could only see the potential in ourselves as we see in us. If only we could swap brains and vantage points and see ourselves through the eyes of those who admire us. We would ride through life walking taller with more confidence in our actions, our ideas and ourselves. During the 50's and 60's America was more a nation of joiners than it is now. There is an abundance of hot rod motorcycle clubs, social clubs, bowling leagues, various kinds of special interest clubs, lodges, fraternities, sororities, sporting teams, charitable groups, church and religious groups, business associates, people have all joined and belong to such groups. Now everything is far more specialized and suited for one individual. That is from deceased Sonny Barger, from the Hells Angel Motorcycle Club and to have various other sayings that could be used. Between the bible and commonsense, this dump doesn't need to expand. Mr. Banonis said your three minutes up, please wrap up your thoughts. Mr. Ozimek said when he went down Applebutter Road at 8:30 a.m. yesterday to go to work, it was like driving through a dust cloud at the bend where they are putting the gas pump up. If he has it on film, he'll put it on You Tube and will show you the dust cloud and it smelled like driving through a cloud of garbage. They can't take care of what they got now.
- Cindy McKellin said less than a month ago after the zoning change to the land adjacent to the landfill, which also happens to be owned by the landfill, we find there is a conditional use application by the Bethlehem Landfill for a hearing date on tonight's agenda. She was able to review the document on line and saw it was submitted on January 6, 2023. The application alone is 68 pages long. It seems that this document was prepared and ready and waiting at the time the landfill zoning change was approved. In that same meeting, Mr. Treadwell was explaining the zoning change of the property adjacent to the landfill. He claimed "the proposed change from RA to LI would permit any property owner to propose improvements and/or developments of those parcels in the LI district in accordance with the Township's current LI district regulations. We've heard some comments that this is solely about the landfill. It is not." In answering Mr. Inglis query, "all we are talking about is zoning, correct"? Mr. Treadwell replied as he said before "it is not about the landfill expansion. He knows that it's going to get a large response from the crowd, but technically, it is not. This ordinance happens and the landfill can submit an application to expand, but this is not the expansion itself." Did Mr. Inglis believe that voting his approval, knowing that this was not about the landfill, well he may be naïve enough to believe that it was not about the landfill expansion, but the rest of us were not fooled. Since the landfill owns the land, hello, what else was the landfill going to do with it. Were they going to build a theme park for all of the LST residents to enjoy, she thinks not. The landfills intention is to decimate this natural area of producing contamination and ugliness in its waste. This decision is far bigger than the five Council members. It has far reaching and long-term effects. Once those trees are cut, there's no getting them back in our lifetime. Council needs to provide environmental and economic studies conducted by independent non-partial experts for us to review. She can see that this Council is determined to steam roll and use everything in its power to get this expansion through before the Council loses its majority.

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- Victoria Opthof-Cordaro said she's being polite to the people that have small children in trying to get home tonight. She appreciates you letting her come up here tonight when her name was called during the audience applause. She agrees with everyone who spoke so far in what a travesty this is that you came before us on December 21, 2022 and told us this was a long process, don't worry, it's not about the landfill, we have to do this because we might get sued. Here we are less than 30 days later and we are faced with a conditional use application by non-other than the landfill. The landfill came. They did exactly what we told you they were going to do and what exactly you knew they were going to do. It's disgusting that we even have this on the agenda tonight. There are not one, but two appeals pending that challenge the validity of that zoning. You all are aware of them, they were served upon you. To come here tonight and try to "steam roll" this through tells us that there's no other agenda for us. This is an agenda for the landfill. She'd like to see the environmental study, the economic study, the land study, the water study, the air study. There's a million different studies you should have done before you even considered rezoning that property. Before you even did that, that would show some integrity but we haven't done that. Instead we said we've said we are not here for the landfill, but guess what, we are all here for the landfill because of the landfill. She implores you that you do your jobs for the residents and taxpayers of the Township that can only speak here because God forbid the D&L who has standing, can't speak because you changed our right to speak in our first amendment rights, because you don't want to hear what we have to say. She implores you to please, please unplug your ears, open your noses, drive by the landfill, open your eyes to these people and do what we people elected you to do. She didn't vote for you but the ones that are for the landfill right now, you still owe it to these people who did vote for you.
- Amber Palos said she is here because she opposes the approval of the conditional use application for the Bethlehem Landfill. She's also here because on December 21, 2022, she also opposed the rezoning from RA to LI. She doesn't have a speech in front of her and will just talk to you as a resident. She's a fairly fresh resident of LST. A little bit about her and her family, they quite literally just spent the last two years going through permitting and approvals with LST to have their house be built at 2596 Redington Road. Funny enough, thousands of dollars of their hard-earned money is still being held hostage by LST until they can get 30% more grass coverage so they need the minimum 70% grass coverage on their 2.2 acres of property in order to get their CO. That just boggles her mind because here we are and we're talking about decimating hundreds of acres of forest land to look like what you see in the bottom left hand corner that Russ took images of. She may not know everyone here, she cannot speak for them, but she speaks for herself and for her husband, she has a 2 and 3-year-old, and they went through this process for their dreams for their boys. They bought that land as they fell in love with the beauty that surrounded it. They fell in love with the idea that it was zoned RA because to us, that meant that their children's futures would be preserved. That is gone as of December 21, 2022 so how can she not stand here and oppose the Bethlehem Landfill expansion. She understands that the Code of Conduct says that the Township Council members do not need to engage in dialogue but she also believes that is what a democracy is about, having a dialogue and all that she's heard from December 21<sup>st</sup> and now is the citizens opposing this and she has not heard the dialogue back from the Council members as to why this is beneficial to our Township.
- Jennifer Helton, said she is here to speak about the EAC designation for the Chairmanship. She wants to make sure that you all understand that we all voted after a long discussion about who should chair the EAC. Dru Germanoski who was here, has been on the board for years and he has knowledge of the environment, not only environmentally, but geology, hydrology, and his expertise is exactly the leadership we need on the EAC at this time. She also would like to make note that the EAC is a non-political committee. We make sound environmental decisions based on facts and we consider the community's welfare. She'd like to say, Tom, that's very disrespectful. She'd like to ask that you do not set a date for the conditional use application CU01-23 for the Bethlehem Landfill as it does have pending lawsuits that were filed on Friday and Tuesday of this week.
- Zachary Thomas said he's the third generation Steel City. His dad grew up there, he grew up there. Take a deep breath, do you smell this? It smells good like good air. He woke up this morning at 5:30 and he walked to his front door and smelled trash. He smells a dump; he can barely take a deep breath. He's also speaking on behalf of his father and his mother and his father's father who was

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always against the dump and they can't be here right now because of health reasons. He opposes the dump and he would like to know what you think is the greater good for the dump. Is it good or bad for your future, his future, everyone else's future in here as we the people who he is here to speak for? Hopefully he was able to get his point across and thank you for letting him speak.

- Ginger Petrie said she is next to the proposed dump and she has a little thing written because she gets so emotional that she needs to stay focused. There was a young woman who just spoke, Amber Palos, and when she showed her the property that she purchased from them, she was really proud and there's beautiful fields behind her house and behind her sister's house. They put that in open space for a reason. She's going to get the point of what she opposes, but they put that land because they were proud to be in the Township. They were proud of where they live. They are proud of the animals, the topography, everything. They have fields, they have streams, they have trees, and they have animals. Their property parallels what is now going to be the dump. That area they were proud of. That has history, it was the proving grounds, and they have the cliffs. It has a steep slope and then all of a sudden now, bigger and bigger and bigger, when they stand anywhere they go, all they see is the dump across the top. She promised Amber that we would have these beautiful fields staying and if we are going to get to the point in this, where we are now going to get rid of the conservation easements on this property, that's next and she'll get to the point. When you get to that, she'd like all of you to think about how she had to prove to you that they were going to be great caretakers of their property. They were going to keep it beautiful and make it beautiful again. They have worked very hard to do that and they are very proud of that. They are proud to share it with people and they are glad if anyone wants to come on their property, somebody like Dru who is an expert in environment. Sandy, Priscilla, you've all been there and you know how many different animals and plants are there. Listening to Amber talk, it makes her look like a liar. If she can't represent what she was supposed to represent, on this property and this Township and be proud and she's always been proud. She's just going to say this, for the record, but she doesn't have any time left. She wishes she was Luke Bryant up here, maybe he wouldn't have to walk away, and she could do that song that says "Buy Dirt", oh right, landfill dirt. She might as well give up her time.
- Pam Hartnett said she's here about the landfill. One thing she noticed in following all the documents that are posted on line, is she's very concerned about the financial responsibilities of this Council to the Township. She's heard we're afraid of getting sued, we want to be financially responsible, and she agrees with being financially responsible but right now she's not really seeing that in action. We are battling our local library. We are spending more money to send money outside of the Township, outside of the County lines. We're quarrelling over a compost recycling center, which is a good thing to have, but yet we are very easy to say oh my gosh, we need that \$2 million from the landfill. But we don't, but now we might as we can't get out of suing our local community partners instead of truly partnering with them and being adults and working this out and doing the right thing for our local community. She can't figure out where the financial responsibility truly is and why we aren't taking a deep hard look at that. We have financial experts in this room. We've got lawyers here. We should not be afraid of getting sued or getting bullied around by a landfill if we are that tough and she thinks we are. Let's not get bullied by a landfill and figure out how to make reparations with our local community. These kids share schools, we need to be good role models for the next generation and right now she doesn't think we are doing the best that we can be doing.

Mr. Banonis said that concludes the public comment agenda items only.

**B. PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2023-02 – 412 AREA ZONING MAP AMENDMENTS**

Mr. Banonis said Township Staff had prepared a Zoning Ordinance amending and revising the code of Chapter 180 (Zoning) to revise the Zoning Map by:

- Changing approximately 32.10 acres of land from the R40 zoning designation to the GB zoning designation;
- Changing approximately 7.29 acres of land from the MH zoning designation to the GB zoning designation;
- Changing approximately 22.16 acres of land from the MH zoning designation to the R12 zoning designation; and

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- Changing approximately 18.51 acres of land from the R12 zoning designation to the GB zoning designation.

Attorney Treadwell said what you have in front of you tonight and what's in your packet is proposed Ordinance No. 2023-02. This is a proposed zoning map amendment only, no text amendment. The area you see up on the screen is just outside of Hellertown on Route 412, it's in the area of the Giant shopping center. The proposal set forth in this ordinance is to change the area you now see outlined in red with the white grayish type color in the middle, to all General Business (GB). This is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan (CP) that you recently adopted. It changes a number of different parcels up and along Route 412 to GB, which will allow for more commercial uses there and it's on the agenda this evening to consider whether you want to authorize advertisement.

Mr. Banonis said we talked about this when we did the CP. The properties that are in this area are largely commercial and not consistent with what it was previously zoned. He appreciates the Solicitor and staff putting together the proposed language and he'll make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval to advertise Ordinance No. 2023-02 – 412 area zoning map amendments and revising the code of Chapter 180 (Zoning) for a public hearing.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Inglis

Ms. deLeon said here's an example for the residents sitting here that this has been discussed over a period of time, probably several years. We talked about it when the Multi-Municipal Comp. Plan was approved and it finally got together unlike what happened with the landfill recently.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Ms. deLeon said who is going to set the date. Attorney Treadwell said we need to send it out to the LVPC and our Planning Commission for our review so it will probably be sometime in March. Ms. deLeon said we did not do that for the landfill rezoning. Mr. Banonis said yes we did. It went to LVPC. Ms. deLeon said we voted on it that same night. Mr. Banonis said you don't have the floor because he's calling the next agenda item and we are done discussing this one. That item is done and we are moving on. Ms. deLeon said you be rude and show everybody that you are rude.

**IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS**

**A. STEEL CLUB PHASE 2 – 700 LINDEN AVENUE – EXTENSION REQUEST**

Mr. Banonis said the Steel Club is requesting an extension through January 31, 2024 to complete the conditions of approval associated with their land development. Someone was speaking in the audience. Mr. Banonis said sir, you can't just blurt out and interrupt the meeting. This is our business meeting, sir, oaky.

Attorney Treadwell said this is a submission from the Silver Land LLC and it came from their attorney, Mr. Preston, and they are working to complete the conditions of approval and they are asking for an extension of the deadline to complete those conditions through January 31, 2024.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the Steel Club extension through January 31, 2024 to complete the conditions of approval associated with their land development.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Inglis

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**V. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT RELEASE #4 FINAL TO DESSCO FOR LOWER SAUCON ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Mr. Hudson said Hanover Engineering Associates is recommending payment #4 final to DESSCO in the amount of \$20,606.24 for the work done on the Lower Saucon Culvert Replacement.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of payment release #4 final to DESSCO for Lower Saucon Road Culvert Replacement Project in the amount of \$20,606.24.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**B. FINANCIAL INVESTMENT POLICY UPDATE**

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Mr. Banonis said the policy update is to modify the Budget Investment Policy to allow the Township to purchase CD's with longer time frames up to 5 years.

Mrs. Gorman said they are requesting Council to update the Investment Policy that was passed in 2015. She asked Priscilla if that was the year. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't remember; Mrs. Gorman is the one who works here. Mrs. Gorman said you were on the committee with her, that's why she asked. Ms. deLeon said she knows but you work here. Mrs. Gorman said the policy stipulates its investments from six months to two years and they are requesting to extend that to a five year investment policy considering we have significant reserves in the Open Space Fund and items like that. They would like to optimize the most interest they can get. Currently interest rates are higher at a shorter term because of the variability of the interest rates from the Feds, but they would like to be prepared if it does go down a little bit that they would have more leeway and options for extending the terms of any CD purchase.

Ms. deLeon said didn't she read somewhere there was a recommendation in the financial report that somebody suggested we do this? Mrs. Gorman said we had discussed this at Reorg. Mr. Hudson said the auditors have said that. Mrs. Gorman said yes, the auditors. Ms. deLeon said if she pulls it up on the internet, can you guide her to the page, what did it say in the auditor's report. She looked through it today and couldn't find anything. Mr. Hudson said that would have been last year. Mrs. Gorman said she doesn't know the page, it's usually an itemization on there that does say that we have CD purchases and they are secured and the other assets we have are secured by Act 72. Ms. deLeon said can you pull that up on the internet? That would be 2021. Mrs. Gorman said it would be in almost every audit report we had. She asked Mrs. Werkheiser to please pull up the last audit report. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't think you have them all up there. Mrs. Gorman said we are just finishing our audit for 2022. They haven't done the reports yet. We'll get it in June or July. It's probably closer to page 45. She's really doesn't know what page it's on, she can refer it to her at a later time. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't know why it took them this long to bring it to Council's attention if we got the report. Mrs. Gorman said it's not a major issue of sorts. We discussed it with our auditors and we are covered under Act 72 with the funds we have. If we do go outside the state of PA, which would be required to get better CD rates, that would be an option that we would need to extend it for a five year term and address any of the Act 72 and the FDIC requirements which are the \$250,000. Ms. deLeon said will you tell her what page it's on? Mr. Banonis said she already told you no, and that she will send you that information later. Mrs. Gorman said she can get that to you tomorrow. Ms. deLeon said the vote is tonight.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the policy update to modify the Budget Investment Policy to allow the Township to purchase CD's with longer time frames up to 5 years.

Ms. deLeon said it would be very helpful for you to ask for additional comments. Roberts Rule says that, please be a good President and run the meeting properly.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

**ROLL CALL:** 4-1 (Ms. deLeon – No, she feels the staff we have here is very capable of going online and finding the best rates we have. We do not have to pay an outside firm. She feels very strongly about that. We have all these people working here.)

**C. EAC CHAIR DESIGNATION**

Mr. Banonis said at the January 10, 2023 EAC Reorganizational meeting the Environmental Advisory Council nominated and approved Dru Germanoski as the Chairman. Township code requires that this comes before Council. Mr. Banonis said he attended that EAC meeting as well as prior EAC meetings. It was very clear to him what was going on.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of Tom Carocci as the Chairman of the Environmental Advisory Council.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Inglis

**ROLL CALL:** 3-2 (Mrs. Yerger and Ms. deLeon - No – she supports Dru Germanoski as Chairman, this is an outrage.)

Mr. Carocci said we're on EAC. Ms. deLeon said the motion passed, you can't speak now. You are out of order. Mr. Banonis said he hasn't moved on. Ms. deLeon said you have to treat all of us the

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same. Mr. Banonis said he didn't move on to the next agenda item. Ms. deLeon said come on Jason, you are doing this in front of so many people. Mr. Banonis said Priscilla, Tom has the floor.

Mr. Carocci said he was at the meeting as well and he feels that the EAC has become political and he will give you some examples. The Secretary of the EAC, Laura Ray, removed the Manager and himself from the EAC email chain in an email dated November 4, 2022, that should have gone to everybody. It's that kind of stuff that's happening with the EAC and the people who want to run it. To him, it's unprofessional and there's absolutely no integrity in that. So he would like to see that EAC gets back to its purpose and he hopes he can promote that in discussing environmental issues that face the Township and to do public education, research, promotional programs, everything that it did at one time. He wants to get a focus on that. One of the things that he wants is to have Mark and Linc look into how we can get them back into that, but also it seems to be too much for them. He'd like to see what options we have for spinning off the open space. Creating an Open Space Committee, what that would entail? That would be a separate committee from the EAC which would just simply identify potential open space for either purchase or preservation, would score that property, and then make a recommendation to Council as to whether Council should purchase it or possibly preserve it. That would be separate from the EAC. He'd ask Council to direct Mark and Linc to look into that to see what it would entail and report back to us.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Carocci moved to direct the Manager and Linc to look into creating an Open Space Committee and see what that would entail.

Mr. Banonis said just to be clear, Sandy you were probably the first citizen who donated land to the Township as open space and you actually donated it. Mrs. Yerger said she didn't donate it. She actually did it even before the Township had an Open Space Program. She did her own family property with the Heritage Conservancy. Mr. Banonis said you founded the EAC with the understanding that it would be used for open space assessment. Mrs. Yerger said that was part of it. It wasn't the only thing. Ms. deLeon said there's a handbook...Mr. Banonis said Priscilla you don't have the floor. Mrs. Yerger said they have a handbook with everything from environmental education and at one point we worked with the watershed to make rain barrels and we did a lot of other programs in the past and it was all environmentally oriented. We did native plant sales, things like that. Mr. Carocci said he hopes we can get back to that. They need to focus on things like the native plant sale, recycling, things like that and away from the nonsense. There's other emails from the EAC Secretary berating Townships Council. Mr. Banonis said who sent those? Mr. Carocci said Laura Ray, the EAC Secretary. We have those emails if you'd like to see them. On December 24, 2022 to all of Council at 1:22 a.m. like "what a crock of garbage". Part of what the EAC is supposed to do is make recommendations to Council. Here we have the Secretary of the EAC who nominated Mr. Germanoski and put him in as Chairman earlier; and she was being somewhat belligerent in emails to the Council and the Township Manager and we're supposed to give these recommendations credibility. "What a crock", "it's BS", "it makes me sick", and that's at 1:22 in the morning on Christmas Eve. Then the next one there is "your lame argument we need to rezone 275 acres???". All this. "Oh, you read an article in a magazine, now you're an expert". Just dismissive, insulting things that show a lack of integrity, lack of professionalism and so we have another email yet again at 1:53 a.m. where ... audience speaking out loud...Mr. Carocci said no one is saying she doesn't have a right to send these, but you have to judge someone's integrity by what they write and what they say and that's what we are simply doing. Here's another one, "you're the worst, infuriating", all of this and then Jason you may want to talk about an Internet post.

Mr. Banonis said this is a post that was sent to him on Christmas Eve, there's an account identified, I guess this is Facebook, Laura Ray, and there is a recommendation and we redacted the home addresses here, but there was a post by her that is called doxing, he doesn't know who is aware of that term. Essentially identifying us on Council, our home addresses and encouraging the public to come to our homes and to protest and harass us 24/7. He recognizes we aren't on the U.S. Supreme Court, but it shows a lack of decorum professionalism and this is somebody who wants to be elected to Council and this is the kind of conduct they engage in and encourage, so he thinks it just shows that this is not the right person to be making decisions on the direction of EAC and this is why he made a motion for Tom.

Mr. Carocci said it's passed. Ms. deLeon said she is so sorry and very embarrassed to see that Dru's last name wasn't even on the agenda item as he does have respect of the position that he carries. You just recommended the study on all of this other stuff and you didn't even do that for the library. Where was your study for the library? You guys kind of decided. Mr. Carocci said he's on the EAC. Ms. deLeon said she's done as this is useless. Mr. Banonis said as to Tom, he is on the Planning Commission and the EAC by-laws actually suggest there should be a representative of the Planning Commission on EAC to help coordinate those efforts. Ms. deLeon said that's why Sandy was there. Mr. Banonis said and then Sandy was not so that's why Tom makes natural sense as he's able to be the liaison or the connection between those two organizations.

**D. APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2023 POLICE VEHICLES**

Mr. Banonis said as approved in the 2023 budget, the Police Department is requesting that Township Council approve the purchase of two new police cars. Mr. Hudson said we would like to get our order in as soon as possible. We are having issues getting vehicles like all Townships are. Any orders that got in late February of last year were cancelled so we'd like to get our order in as soon as possible. This is just for the vehicle, which is \$40,950.00 so the total cost for both vehicles would be \$81,900.00. We would then be getting a quote for unfitting which is putting a computer in, the lights in, all that kind of stuff. We want to get this in so we get the vehicles this year. We are still waiting for the vehicles we bought last year. We did get the vehicles but they are still at the upfitters.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval to purchase two (2) 2023 police vehicles as approved in the 2023 budget for a total of \$81,900.00.

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Mr. Banonis said we talked about this at budget time or earlier to avoid this situation next year where there's a shortage of vehicles, can we identify what our needs may be for the subsequent years so we can start that process earlier to make sure those are in the production line or have been requested. Mr. Hudson said we can work on that for next year and have it ready in December.

**E. AUTHORIZE COLLECTION OF 2023 REAL ESTATE TAXES**

Mr. Banonis said Council should consider authorizing Keystone Collections Group to collect the 2023 Real Estate Tax in the base amount of \$2,354,582.60 of which \$343,357.60 is for the Fire Tax based on an assessment of \$458,090,000.00 presented by Northampton County.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for authorization to collect the 2023 Real Estate Taxes in the base amount of \$2,354,582.60 of which \$343,357.60 is for the Fire Tax based on an assessment of \$458,090,000.00 presented by Northampton County.

**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**F. SET HEARING DATE FOR CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION CU01-23 BETHLEHEM LANDFILL**

Mr. Banonis said Council will set a date for the Conditional Use Hearing to begin. Attorney Treadwell said the Bethlehem Landfill filed a conditional use application on January 6, 2023. Pursuant to the Municipality Planning Code (MPC) the Township has 60 days to commence the hearing, so the hearing would need to be commenced by March 6<sup>th</sup>, it's probably March 3<sup>rd</sup> as you have to take a couple days out, so it's on the agenda tonight for Council to consider their setting a date and time to commence the hearing.

Ms. deLeon said what about the lawsuits that have been recently filed for this? Attorney Treadwell said we have 60 days to start the hearing, period. Ms. deLeon said even though we got served with two lawsuits? Attorney Treadwell said yes. Ms. deLeon said just so the record reflects that.

Mr. Banonis said what are our options here? Attorney Treadwell said he would set it prior to the 60 day time period. That could change, he's had discussions with Council for the objectors and there's a possibility a Court could grant a stay, but at the moment we have to start the hearing in 60 days.



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He would say shoot for the last week in February, maybe start it on Monday, the 27<sup>th</sup> and pick a time and we have to decide whether we are going to do it here or go to a bigger location.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval to set a hearing date of February 27, 2023 for the Conditional Use hearing for application CU01-23 Bethlehem Landfill. Considering the last hearing lasted several hours, he would add that the hearing will start at 9:00 a.m. and we can conduct the hearing at the Lower Saucon Fire Rescue station, if they will accommodate us, because they have a larger space so we don't run into the same issues we had here.

Ms. deLeon said did you say 9:00 a.m. in the morning? Mr. Banonis said yes. The Township offices are open at 9:00 a.m. People work at 9:00 a.m. Some people work in the day, some people work at night. Mr. Inglis said that gives us enough time, but what if we get a blizzard or something like that. Mr. Banonis said we can set the date and move it if necessary. Attorney Treadwell said we basically have that entire week to start it. Mr. Carocci said it's his understanding that you have to start it but you don't have to finish it within 60 days. Attorney Treadwell said correct. Mr. Inglis said he didn't know if we gave ourselves an extra week. Mrs. Yerger said you don't have to finish it. Attorney Treadwell said correct.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

**ROLL CALL:** 4-1 (No – Ms. deLeon)

**G. DISCUSSION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES FOR CONDITIONAL USES HEARING**

Mr. Banonis said Council will discuss and establish procedures for the Conditional Use Hearing. Attorney Treadwell said the last motion was February 27, 2023, 9:00 a.m., Lower Saucon Fire Rescue as the location formerly known as Se-Wy-Co.

Attorney Treadwell said the next discussion is the procedures for the Conditional Use Hearing. You have a couple options how to conduct that hearing. One of them being conducted by full Council, the other one being an independent attorney appointed as a Hearing Officer, and the other possibility being appointing a single Council member to conduct the hearing. Those are the three options. Mr. Banonis asked Priscilla if she wanted to be that single Council member to conduct the hearing. Ms. deLeon said she just voted no to the Conditional Use Hearing, so she doesn't think so. Mr. Banonis said he thought he'd offer it to her. He thinks it makes sense to have an independent Hearing Officer to conduct this hearing to compile the facts and conclusions of law.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval to direct the Township Solicitor and Township Manager to identify an independent Hearing Officer and bring recommendations to Council at the February 15, 2023 meeting.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

Ms. deLeon said the information that was in our packet, the attachment, Section 180, the zoning article II, was that wrong, was that supposed to be in there. Was that the correct regulation? Attorney Treadwell said that's how the hearing gets conducted with the notice and shall be held within 60 days. Ms. deLeon said it's not ZHB, it's conditional use. Attorney Treadwell said understood, but we don't have our own procedures for conditional use so the conditional use is the process follows the ZHB on terms of advertising. Ms. deLeon said we have had Conditional Use Hearings for cell towers, so what process did we use for that? Attorney Treadwell said this one - 180-11.

**ROLL CALL:** 4-1 (Ms. deLeon – No)

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 7, 2022 COUNCIL MINUTES**

Mr. Banonis said the December 7, 2022 Council minutes are ready for Council's review and approval. Ms. deLeon said page 13 of 16, line 36, "On December 14, 2022, she watched a You Tube video. It should be U-Tube. Mr. Hudson said it's actually spelled You Tube. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't know how to do that. Mr. Banonis said so you don't want to make any change. Ms. deLeon said she's not finished. She watched the video Linc went to which you attended, the Upper Saucon Township Council. Mr. Hudson said it is Southern Lehigh. Attorney Treadwell said he went to the school board meeting. Ms. deLeon said so the school board would be called Southern Lehigh School District, so it's not Upper Saucon. She guesses there's no corrections.

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**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the December 7, 2022 Council minutes, with no proposed changes.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci  
**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**B. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 21, 2022 COUNCIL MINUTES**

Mr. Banonis said the December 21, 2022 Council minutes are ready for Council's review and approval. Mr. Hudson said there were some spellings that were pointed out on page 16, we had admitting and it's emitting. We had repots and it's reports. The other one is atrocity. Ms. deLeon said on page 22, line 13, it should be gas lit, not gas licked.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the December 21, 2022 Council minutes, with corrections as stated above.  
**SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger  
**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**C. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2022 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mr. Banonis said the December 2022 Financial Reports are ready for Council's review and approval.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the December 2022 Financial Reports.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Inglis  
**ROLL CALL:** 4-1 (No – Ms. deLeon)

**VII. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**

**A. TOWNSHIP MANAGER – MARK HUDSON**

- The Township had been notified we had two successful County grants, one for the purchase of security cameras and one for the purchase of a license plate recognition device. The Township was also notified by DCNR that our grant application for the special round was not successful. Vehicles are very hard to get at this time. The CDL truck that the Township ordered in 2022 we just got an updated build date of May 15, 2023. It started out as a 3Q 2022 build and now it's May 15, 2023.
- You had approved to redo the audio and visual in this room and he met with the audio-visual contractor and they are working on finishing up the design and ordering the equipment. They expect to install the equipment in March 2023. Ms. deLeon said beginning or end of March? Mr. Hudson said probably the beginning of March if the equipment is available.

**B. COUNCIL/JR. COUNCIL**

**Jr. Council**

- Rudra Thakkar said there's some events coming up at SVSD, one is a play that is going to take place sometime in February and he will give an update on that at the next Council meeting.

**Mr. Inglis**

- He had his first Rail Trail meeting on Monday so if anyone has any comments or questions you would like him to ask, just send him an email and he'll bring everything up. He's a strong believer in the Rail Trail, it's a wonderful thing for the Township.
- He has Parks and Rec. coming up in a while. They haven't had a meeting but there are a couple of things they are going to work on. He wants to try to find a place to put a turf field. The benefits of it are you can play year-round on it. You aren't worried about weather. It really goes a long way for kids getting outside. A turf field is probably equivalent to two to three grass fields. For example, right now you couldn't play on a grass field, you'd destroy it. A turf field you are all set to go. If you go to Lehigh Fields, you will notice they use the turf field year-round.
- Another nice thing we have going is the YMCA, it's projected to go down in Upper Saucon Township but serve all of Lower Saucon Valley which would be Coopersburg, Lower Milford, all the surrounding areas, Hellertown, LST, and he thinks they are trying to get 1,000 members. They are in the donation stage right now. That's looking very promising.

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They will have some pools, basketball courts, gyms and a lot of nice classrooms and programs. LST should get behind that.

- He had a meeting with Mark over at the Heller Homestead and they were looking at the windows. We have a grant for the windows. Mr. Hudson said we have a grant for the windows and are working on looking into what the grant will allow to hopefully come back in February with a bid request to have the windows in the Widow House repaired. Ms. deLeon said that's been years and years to do. It needs to get done. Mr. Hudson said we are working on it. Ms. deLeon said who are you looking to do the windows. Mr. Hudson said they have the gentleman that does a lot of work for Bethlehem Historic Association along the Monocacy Creek. Ms. deLeon said she was curious. Mr. Banonis said the YMCA issue, it sounds very promising and the way they described it, it would be a southern tier YMCA and it would include LST, Salisbury Township, Upper Saucon, Coopersburg, Upper Milford, Lower Milford and maybe others. It's going to serve a big area. Mr. Inglis said they have one in Bethlehem, they have one in Allentown, a brand new one on 663 which is state-of-the-art. We think of YMCA's as dingy and run down. This will be state-of-the-art and will be beautiful. Mr. Banonis said it sounds great and it's in a great location.

**Ms. deLeon**

- A gentleman spoke tonight about truck traffic. Could you please look into that? Mr. Hudson said yes.
- She wants to bring to the Manager's attention the format of the 2023 Reorganization meeting. We passed Resolution #31-2023 that all regular and special meetings of LST Council shall be conducted to the following order of business. The January 3, 2023 Reorganization agenda did not include Presentations/Hearings, which we had none, but it should have still been listed. Developer items were none. Under Township Business items, that would be the proper place to put the reorganization information. Then Miscellaneous Business items would be none. Council and staff reports was missing and it deprived her the opportunity to speak and ask questions on various issues so she thinks we need to follow our own regs and our resolution states that we need to follow the format as the way it's stated.
- She received many emails from concerned citizens regarding the position we are in with HAL. She tried to respond but most times she doesn't know how to respond to their questions. Last night she attended the Southern Lehigh Public Library (SLPL) meeting. As a courtesy of those attending, they provided a FYI packet in the back of the room. It was refreshing to hear during the meeting the Solicitor provide updates to the board on various subjects because we don't have an update on the library. Contrary to our board, who really hasn't provided the public with any behind the scene activities to the whole Council at a Council meeting. Not very transparent. She's glad people are taking advantage of the \$40 but when she opened up the packet, she read in the SLPL December minutes in part said Board Solicitor said Joe Leeson said that he had a conversation with Attorney Treadwell who represents LST Council and the conversation was described as informal. Mr. Treadwell asked if the SLPL Board would accept a month-to-month agreement and he said that the Township would be willing to pay \$10,000/month and a long discussion was held. Why would you put that number out there without even bringing it back to Council? Attorney Treadwell said he's had maybe two or three conversations with Attorney Leeson and he also had conversations with the attorney that previously represented the SLPL and he doesn't remember her name, but he's had multiple conversations all under the concept of looking for other library services which Council directed him to do. Yes, he had conversations about a whole bunch of different things. He never offered anything that would bind the Township. They were discussions and they were all prefaced with Council and would need to be approved whatever it is that gets discussed. Mr. Carocci said Council specifically authorized him to do that January 19, 2022. Attorney Treadwell said he's had multiple, multiple discussions about library services for the last year. Ms. deLeon said he was authorized but when it comes to a specific dollar amount, it has to come back and be approved by Council. Attorney Treadwell said absolutely it does. Ms. deLeon said she'd like to throw this out there, no one from the beginning of January, whatever date it was on the Council agenda, you really didn't do your homework in the operations of the library. A responsible person

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would make sure library services would still be provided to our residents while searching for another library. It is not right to continue to use the library from February to the end of the year with no payment to HAL. That is just an atrocity. A \$50,000 donation is not the same thing in her opinion as a formal contract.

- She has a letter that she would like to read that all Council received today and she has his permission to read it. “Dear Lower Saucon Board Members, from what I understand by the majority of the board who wanted to leave the HAL service area are that there isn’t transparency in how HAL spends its money. A feeling that the library’s services may not be sufficient and a feeling that the contract is too expensive. There may be other reasons I am missing but as far as I can tell those are not the stated reasons. If that is the case, I don’t understand the deal that Lower Saucon Township Solicitor, B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr. Esq. proposed to SLPL Solicitor Joe Leeson. According to a draft of the SLPL Boards Directors General Business meeting minutes for Tuesday, December 20, 2022, Mr. Treadwell had an informal discussion with Mr. Leeson where Mr. Treadwell offered \$10,000/month on a month-by-month basis for LST access to the SLPL. As this was not a formal discussion, it doesn’t sound like anything specific was mentioned about representation from LST or any other details”. Then he starts asking questions. “Did Mr. Treadwell approach SLPL Solicitor on behalf of the board because there was no discussion idea at any LST meeting?” so how would you answer that? Attorney Treadwell said he didn’t know you were asking it to him. He will answer the question. Ms. deLeon said you pretty much answered that a couple of minutes ago. Because there was no discussion of it at any LST meeting. Attorney Treadwell said what’s the question. Ms. deLeon said the date was January...Mr. Banonis said look at your notes, what’s your question? Ms. deLeon said since you aren’t understanding her question, she’ll move on to the next one. Attorney Treadwell said are all these questions for him? Ms. deLeon said she’s asking them and maybe the Manager can help, maybe you can. She’s not privileged to any of the behind the scene discussions. The next question is “If you extend that \$10,000 to over a calendar year, that’s \$120,000. If LST does find another library contract before the end of the year, they would need to pay the new contract for the remainder of the year along with the \$10,000/month proposed to SLPL. Why would LST be willing to spend \$120,000 for the equivalent if another contract is made before the end of the year for library access if it doesn’t not want to spend \$105,000 for the HAL access? Did Mr. Treadwell or the board think that a month-by-month contract would allow residents to have PA access to other libraries in the state, if not, how would this contract be any better than the contract with the HAL”? Since you were negotiating that Linc, how do you answer that? Attorney Treadwell said he didn’t even hear a question; he heard a statement. Ms. deLeon said “did Mr. Treadwell or the board think that a month-by-month contract will allow residents to have PA access to other libraries in the state, if not, how would this contract be any better than the contract with the HAL”? Attorney Treadwell said he didn’t discuss any contract. It was an informal discussion and that’s what it was. Ms. deLeon said fine the record will reflect that. “Did Mr. Treadwell or the Board think a month-by-month contract will allow access to the LCC Partners Library”, she thinks it’s Lehigh Carbon County. This is a resident that has questions and nobody is answering questions. Attorney Treadwell said he can call him and ask him all the questions he wants to. Ms. deLeon said so all the residents can call Linc tomorrow, is that what you want to happen? Mr. Banonis said maybe they should call you first to see if you have the answers and then they can call Linc. You want to be involved in these issues. Ms. deLeon said “did Mr. Treadwell or the Board get a copy of SLPL last budget to review it and approve how the library was spending its money”? Did we ever do that? Attorney Treadwell said he thinks he has a copy of their proposed budget this year, he’s not sure about last year. Ms. deLeon said “how would this contract be any better than the contract with HAL especially since the Boards issue was a lack of access to HAL’s budget”. That’s true, the Township said we didn’t have access to their budget. Attorney Treadwell said that’s not true, we always had access to their budget. Ms. deLeon said lastly, “can the Board add a library discussion to the February agenda as an update”. Can we do that? Mr. Banonis said he doesn’t think there is anything to discuss about the

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library. When there's something to discuss, we can put it on the agenda. Ms. deLeon said okay, everybody heard that.

- Tomorrow there's a landfill meeting and we do have landfill people in the back of the room. She was pleased to read that at the time of this meeting with the DEP on December 27, 2022 that all areas requiring temporary cap have been completed as per the approved capping plan. Geo-synthetic material for final capping has been placed in all required areas and is waiting soil placement. You finally did it? Mr. Banonis said Priscilla this is a Council report not a question and answer period to the public. Ms. deLeon said that's your opinion. Mr. Banonis said that's what it's called on the agenda, it's not cross examination of people out in the audience. It's your chance to give a Council report.
- She's been asked about what the benefits are, we hear the landfill has benefits to the community, how many people want to know that, so in 2022 these annual reports are issued, like 2023's will be issued in May or June 2023, so they are behind. Approved benefits in the harm and the DEP's harm benefit analysis and this is filled out by the landfill. For each approved benefit, identified in the DEP harms benefit analysis review, please answer and address the following statements. The approved benefit by DEP is scholarships. They have in 2022 awarded ten scholarships at \$1,000 each. Then it goes to say with a little asterisk, the Bethlehem Landfill wasn't able to donate this money to scholarships in 2021. BLC was able to make over \$15,000 in contributions in 2021 to the following: Dewey Fire Company, Hellertown-Lower Saucon Little League, HAL, Steel City Fire Company, Lehigh Valley Phantoms, Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Lower Saucon Adopt-a-Road signs, Quakertown Booster Club, she's assuming this is a typo, Saucon Valley Conservancy, and the Christmas Promise Bike Build. That's one thing, then they go on to say another approved benefit was the Great PA Clean Up they do that you hear about once a year. They participated in that 100%. Then it goes on to say about the host fees paid to the Township. Then they talk about local benefits attributable to operating expenses, capital expenditures, payroll payments and tax revenue. That would apply to any business that would be on that site. They claim it as a benefit. The site continues to purchase goods and employ personnel, etc. Then it goes on and they have emergency management capabilities, that's a benefit. Then they have an approved drop off center as a benefit. For 2021, again, they have contribution scholarships, and they have ten scholarships awarded at \$1,000.00 each. Due to COVID, BLC wasn't able to donate this money to scholarships. BLC was able to make over \$12,000 in contributions in 2020 to the following: Dewey Fire Company, Hellertown-Lower Saucon Little League, New Jerusalem Food Bank, Southern Lehigh School District, Steel City Fire Company and the Christmas Promise Bike Build. Then it goes on to say pretty much what the other one did about the Great PA Clean up, about the host fees, about the operating expenses that they pay for taxes, emergency management capabilities and then recycling drop off center. The last one she has is for June 2020 and again they talk about the scholarships and again it just says ten scholarships were awarded at \$1,000 each, it doesn't identify where they went. It talks about the Great PA Clean Up and talks about the host fees and it talks about the local benefits with the payroll stuff and emergency management capabilities and the recycling drop off center, so there's your benefits from the landfill everybody. Mr. Carocci said that's great. It's nice of them for these benefits to the Township and you take responsibility for that, you voted for every landfill expansion for the past 35 years. Ms. deLeon said she told you why at the last meeting. Mr. Carocci said thank you for helping with those benefits. Ms. deLeon said she'll repeat this, when a landfill comes before us and she hopes you are listening Maryann, they are in a box, they have their zone, they are LI and that's their zone. When they present us with an expansion plan, not a rezoning plan, we have the responsibility to review that plan, have our experts look at it, come up with recommendations, have them go back and forth, and when the consultant says and Brien always says, yes, they've met their plans. Correct? She always looks at him and says have you done that. She has no choice but to say yes. If she had a reason why not to approve it and they took us to Court, we would lose. When a rezoning comes in and they go outside their box, she votes no. Mr. Banonis said are you done? Ms. deLeon said yes, but she'll repeat it again if anyone needs to hear it.

**Mr. Carocci**

- The Fire Company merger with Steel City is coming to fruition. There are some pictures that he sent to the Township of the Steel City Building, now it's called the Steel City Fire Station from Lower Saucon Fire Rescue (LSFR). They have the sign up and their number up. They've taken the building over and have the deed. The fire services will talk about improvements to the Steel City Fire Station as well as some of the other stations entry to get some ideas of what the cost would be. They rebranded the trucks with their number and the LSFR logo so it's pretty much complete. Steel City filed dissolution paperwork with the State to dissolve as a 501(c)(3) and they are just waiting for that to come back. The trucks and property were already transferred to LSFR is the understanding and they've updated the equipment. Congratulations to those guys for all the hard work and getting this done. It's nice to have one fire company for all of LST.
- He dropped his and the neighbors Christmas tree off at the Township last week and he wants to commend Mark and our Public Works guys for the great job they did. He knows they were busy January 7<sup>th</sup>. There is one more this Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> when you can drop your Christmas tree off for this year until we have composting available in spring then you can certainly bring yard waste and all of that.
- He was glad to see HAL offering library cards to our residents for purchase. Cathy, how many have we done so far? Mrs. Gorman said we received 23. Mr. Carocci said that's excellent. They submitted the paperwork. When will they be reimbursed? Mrs. Gorman said this week. The checks are ready. Mr. Carocci said somebody told him that the Southern Lehigh Public Library has continued to honor LST residents at their library for at least until their next meeting which is in February, so we have some good library services there.

**Mr. Banonis**

- With regard to LSFR, he wants to acknowledge Tom's efforts on that. He really worked hard and worked well with the fire companies to bring it to reality. That's been an issue that's been hanging out there for well over a decade. He's glad Tom spearheaded that and was able to bring it to a conclusion. It just shows the benefits of having somebody with a level of competency and the importance of being a liaison to certain organizations. Mr. Carocci said thank you. He wants to thank Scott Krycia and Ty Johnson as they really did a lot of the legwork on that. Scott's in the back of the room.
- He also wants to thank Township staff, Mark and everyone else. Mark has done a great job and staff has done a great job with regard to providing updates on library services. We know that library services are important to the public and Mark has been very good and staff has been very good about getting information out through the website and responding to Township residents.
- A couple of things he would like to address with regard to that, Priscilla you made some comments earlier about, I guess it was in an email you read from a resident, and just so the record is clear, this Council voted to give HAL \$50,000 no questions asked and now they are taking \$40/family. Perhaps that's more lucrative, he doesn't know but whatever it is, Priscilla you said you're not privileged to issues with regard to the HAL and Hellertown, but he looked at the Hellertown Council meeting minutes and they had identified you as having spoken at a meeting in December (Ms. deLeon is heard saying wait, wait) and that was a meeting they authorized a lawsuit against LST and they identified you I think as a collaborator. Is that accurate? Ms. deLeon said back up, start off again. Mr. Banonis said you said you are not privy to the dealings of the library (Ms. deLeon said the library) and issues with regard to Hellertown and you did speak at a Hellertown Borough Council meeting and it's in their minutes and they identified you in those minutes as collaborating with them. Mr. Banonis asked if that is right? Ms. deLeon said she doesn't know if she'd use the word collaborating. Mr. Banonis said what word would you use? Ms. deLeon said she doesn't have the statement in front of her. She'd have to see the minutes. Mr. Carocci said did you tell them you supported paying them money for the Compost Center, and library? Ms. deLeon said she'd have to look and see what she said. Mr. Banonis said you were there weren't you? Ms. deLeon said yes, she was, she was on Zoom. Mr. Banonis said you participated. Ms. deLeon said show me.....she's not commenting on that as you are

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trying to put words in her mouth. Mr. Banonis said no, he's not, he is just asking because you claimed...Ms. deLeon said she was at the meeting and she made a comment and she'd have to go back to the minutes and see what it would said. Mr. Banonis said you made a comment during your statement today that you aren't privileged to what was going on but yet Hellertown Borough minutes say that you were collaborating with them, that's all he wants to know, is that true? Ms. deLeon said that's a wide range. Mr. Banonis said, alright, that is fine. Mr. Carocci said the question is....Ms. deLeon said she is not in court. Mr. Carocci continued and asked if she supports paying the Compost Center? Ms. deLeon said you guys...Mr. Banonis said he'll move on Priscilla because obviously you don't want to answer the questions. Ms. deLeon said no, I didn't say I didn't want to answer it.

- You wanted to talk about benefits of the landfill earlier. He doesn't know if the public subscribes or reads the Morning Call, there was an interesting article in there on January 9, 2023, and the title of it is "How a Bethlehem Power Plant Helped Keep the Heat On During a Frigid Christmas Weekend". We all know how cold it was at that time. For those who may not be aware, the PJM Interconnection manages the electricity grid and the Calpine Energy plant across from the landfill. The Calpine property across the street was generating electricity and they received an emergency grant from the U.S. Dept. of Energy to increase electricity output to its maximum level and the reason for that was there was such a tax and demand on the electricity grid that there were concerns about having rolling blackouts and things like that. One of the things you talked about were benefits, we've learned and it's come before this Council in the past, that there's actually another electricity generating plant that's being built by Aria, and that would be generating electricity from landfill gas. Another benefit he would think from the landfill, if and when that power plant comes on line, is that it supplements the electricity grid so we don't freeze during Christmas week and we can have our Christmas lights on. Ms. deLeon said then perhaps the landfill can include that in their...Mr. Banonis said he's not finished; he did not yield her the floor. You want me to have a conversation and he's trying to clarify the record so it's clear those are some of the benefits that people should consider.
- Because our December meeting ran so long, what we typically have done in the past at the end of the year, we've always gone through a list of our accomplishments – all the things we've done through the year, both Council and staff. We didn't have an opportunity to do that and put on the record the things this Council and Township staff have accomplished in the past year.
  - Fire Company merger
  - We hosted three very successful Movies in the Park
  - We transitioned the Keystone Collections for property taxes and also provided them with an office location right across from the Township office building
  - We hosted a land conservation workshop
  - We organized an electronic recycling event
  - We replaced the carpets and had the rooms painted in portions of the Township building
  - We made our website ADA accessible
  - We organized the Southeastern Park beautification volunteer project
  - We hired several new staff, three administrative personnel, two part-time and one full time Police Officer, and one in Public Works
  - We enacted a stormwater ordinance
  - We implemented Board Docs for the production of our board materials
  - We obtained three grants from Northampton County for the Reading Drive culvert, for security cameras for emergency services including license plate recognition for our Police Department
  - We have ongoing grant work
  - We applied for \$1.5 million for next year for the Easton Road Ballfield and Town Hall Ball Park improvements

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- We closed out grants from the prior year for \$600,000 for the Town Hall pole building, police building, Seidersville Hall improvements and PennDOT bridge funding
- We provided modification for the PVP trail replacement of \$170,000
- Heller Homestead windows
- Seidersville Hall improvements
- We resurfaced 4.94 miles of Township roads
- We resurfaced the entirety of Saucon Valley Terrace
- We replaced the Lower Saucon Road Bridge
- We refurbished the Old Philadelphia Pike bridge
- We added a new pole building to the Township Complex for the K-9 police and a sign room
- We migrated all vehicle traffic from network to Verizon improving tracking capabilities and reducing monthly cost
- We implemented Net Cloud for advance and secure file sharing
- We upgraded the Town Hall basketball court lights with LED lights
- We cleaned up the stormwater detention basin in the Roeders Glen subdivision per MS4 requirements
- We provided a number of improvements for the Steel City Park
- We raised the stage at Town Hall Park
- Public Works staff attended nine training sessions
- We created a full time Police candidate eligibility list
- We conducted 25 community solving details for speeding complaints and things like that
- We conducted 39 traffic details funded by the PA Traffic Safety Grant which resulted in 253 violations and 10 criminal arrests
- We conducted 21 DUI roving patrols funded by the PA Traffic Safety Grant which resulted in 94 violations and 11 criminal arrests
- We deployed electronics speed signs at various locations
- We hosted a car seat check event with three other police departments at our complex
- We hosted the SV High School student job shadow with our Detective
- K-9 Officer Kunigus and K-9 Titus conducted eight K-9 demonstrations throughout the community
- Our Chief and Detective spoke with two career classes at SVHS
- We continued our school walk through program at SVHS
- We held a very successful Night Out at Town Hall Park, the best ever
- We successfully completed our third PA State Accreditation Assessment thanks to Sgt. Leidy
- We donated 287 lbs. of food to New Jerusalem for our fourth annual food drive
- Held our third Toys for Tots Drive and donated five large boxes of toys
- Detective Marth, Sgt. Leidy and Chief Barndt obtained their FBI LEEDA Trilogy Award
- Corporal Connell, Werkheiser and Hagerty completed the FBI LEEDA Supervisor and Executive Leadership training
- The officers were able to staff three traffic posts between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. for the week of the U.S. Senior Open at the Saucon Valley Country Club
- Hosted six outside training classes and became part of the Lifesaver Project for people who wander off due to dementia and Alzheimer's
- We increased library funding 33%
- We donated funds to the Hellertown Sportsman's Association
- We implemented policy and Code of Conduct for Council meetings
- We extended the contract for the feral cat program
- We provided COVID pay for the part-time police officers
- We provided variances to the LSA for a new pump station on Leithsville Road
- We recognized an Eagle Scout and State Champion wrestling team



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- We retained an Interim Manager and hired a new Manager who is doing a great job for us
- We have a new Assistant Manager as well and new Administrative Assistants.
- We obtained a new Mack dump truck
- We funded the Saucon Valley Community Center
- We adopted the Comprehensive Plan
- We conducted conservation workshops
- We did a mailing to landowners for open space
- We funded the Saucon Valley Community Center summer programs
- We provided staff with bonuses
- We did an engineering traffic study for Ringhoffer, Countryside and Sherry Hill
- We obtained bids for the Easton Road ballfield
- We obtained bids for the Reading Road culvert project
- We funded the School Resource Officer for the SVSD
- We did a market study for administrative positions in the Township
- We disposed of old antiquated records
- We paid installment No. 2 to Lower Saucon Fire Rescue for the ladder truck
- We funded the Hellertown Halloween parade
- We repaired the Heller Homestead sign
- We repaired the shutters at the Lutz Franklin Schoolhouse
- We improved the back stop at Southeastern Park
- We provided conservation easement for another 41.5 acres
- We amended the zoning map for Applebutter Road

We did all this while holding the line on taxes. It's important to put on the record all the things we'd done because there are some people who may not have a view of some of the things we accomplished.

**Mrs. Yerger** – No report

**B. SOLICITOR** – He will remind everybody that he'd like to have a brief Executive Session after the meeting to discuss the litigation that Hellertown Borough filed against the Township.

**C. ENGINEER** – No report

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEMS – RESIDENTS/TAXPAYERS ONLY – 3-MINUTE TIME LIMIT**

- Laura Ray said it's interesting that you always say there's never an update, that's why it's not on our agenda, but somehow, we manage to pop up on agendas all over the place around the area. Last night she did attend the SLPL board meeting since we were on their agenda. As usual we learned a lot more there than we are ever told at our own Township meetings and that's just wrong. We are aware looking in their minutes they offered to us that there is an offer of paying \$10,000 a month which is being dangled out there to them. They have a lot of questions and a lot of skepticism as well which they should. They noted that if they did some month-to-month agreement it still would not provide PA Access to other libraries. So it would be solely for that library alone. They said there's only 262 LST residents that have cards at that library as opposed to over 3,000 at the HAL. At \$10,000/month that's about \$38.17 per month per person or \$468 per year per person and that's sounds like a much better deal than we had with HAL, doesn't it? They would not expect that there would be a large influx of patrons because it's not convenient for LST residents as you well know. Our home library was blocks away from the school where the children could access it and walk to it. The SLPL current per capita rate would put us at \$13,805 per month and that's \$165,660 per year which is about 65% more than we were paying. She really doesn't want to hear how you think you are fiscally responsible with the numbers that are out there and the number we've been wasting on lawsuits.
- Russ Sutton said the question he has is the hearings on the 27<sup>th</sup> is that going to be open to the general public or just the residents. It should be open to everyone as it affects a lot of people other than just us. Attorney Treadwell said he doesn't think we close this room to anybody that's not a Township resident. Mr. Sutton said you only allow Township residents to come. Attorney Treadwell said to

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speak. We had some non-residents here tonight. Mr. Banonis said there was at least one. Attorney Treadwell said the room is open on the 27<sup>th</sup> to anyone. There's no comment public period during a Conditional Use Hearing. You can watch it. The buildings open.

- Diane Hollowell said did you clear it with the fire company beforehand? How do you know a wedding is not going on in the morning? Mr. Banonis said we just got an indication from the gentleman in the back room. Ms. Hollowell said the last meeting she asked if any of you guys had a degree in Finance and somebody who is not in attendance on the phone replied yes. Correct? So, regarding the HAL, in LST there are 3,320 residents with a HAL membership. Right now they can get \$40 and LST is going to reimburse them. So let's do some math. That comes out to over \$133,000, so please everyone in this audience, encourage all your neighbors to go to the HAL and get a library card. Bring it here and you get your \$40. Please pass that on. She said \$133,000 is a little more than the amount of money you objected in the beginning with this partnership. Let's not forget all these legal fees that are piling up. How much did we have to pay Mr. Treadwell for his almost one-hour plea at the Southern Lehigh School Board meeting? What about all your multiple, multiple meetings? It's about \$240/hour and this keeps adding up and the \$50,000 we gave to the SLPL who is in another county. What's your end goal? She wants to talk about the Compost Center, she dropped off a pile of branches. Thank God for those guys that she had it on a tarp that they pulled out as it's basically for anyone who goes there – you just throw it on the macadam, where does it go after the macadam? She can't wait until the fall when her van is filled with leaves and she's going to just dump them on the macadam. She's encouraging everybody, please, please, please go get your \$40.
- Robert Feriara said he lives there for 53 years. He was always proud to live in Steel City. You guys are ruining it. He talked to his wife and she said she would not leave Steel City unless she's in a body bag. You guys might put her there. He doesn't realize what's going on here. He listens to people coming in here telling you don't do it. You guys are going to do it anyhow. He's here tonight and he was here last week with the other meeting and he went through it years ago when they had the first expansion for the dump. He was at every meeting and finally it stopped, there were no more meetings. All of a sudden they find out the dump got the power to go ahead. That's all he got to say, he's disappointed in you guys.
- Mark Ozimek said if anybody is interested in the EAC meeting and the comedian bullshit act that was there, you get first hand visual of Tom's action which you need to visualize yourself. He'd like to say everybody needs to start attending every meeting for everything that goes on in this Township because when you don't, you are not here to find out what's going on. That includes the cops, most of whom he likes. The fire department, some of where he worked at. He's at a loss for words at what's going on with their Council. As far as putting Tom on the EAC, or whatever they just did here before, it's like Biden wanted to stack the court. Honestly you guys are worse than Biden because he's running the United States down the fucking drain and you guys are running LST down the drain. He's a fair person. He gets the landfill. He gets business. He welds for himself and doesn't make a ton of money but he also has in the back of his mind that he's thinking that every resident in LST should seek out and find a legitimate lawyer who cares about the Township and take all your tax money and stick it in escrow so you bankrupt them. Put this Township out of business so it can get back on a good track. For all the things you mentioned that you did, congratulations, because they are all the things you should have done in the first place. You make it sound like you did everybody a favor. It's called doing your job. Whether you go to church or not, don't forget, God's watching. All the way to the bank, every step of the way, and one day just like he did his time, everybody is going to have to do their time. Think cautiously about what you do because honestly the same way that all you people care about us, is the same way that he's going to care about you and right now he doesn't. He told the EAC he was going to be a pain in the ass for them and Tom, and that's his intention. He's not going to quit. He's going to encourage everybody else not to quit.
- Victoria Opthof-Cordaro said you have seen her here for quite a few years, you know how to pronounce her name. She thinks. You can spell it in legal actions against her so you should know how to say it, and she appreciates you saying Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, thank you. Mr. Banonis said he's just reading the name on the list. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she'd like to bring up that it was

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very dismaying to see what she witnessed at the SLPL meeting yesterday. She had the opportunity to attend where everybody was treated with respect, both residents and non-residents, something she did not see here to the D&L representatives who came to speak here on the easements that you hold in trust to them that you will now destroy. When she was at the SLPL meeting she thought it was disgusting to see that we are spending all of our taxpayer dollars on legal fees so that we can pay a lawyer to do what you should be doing, which is having discussions and discussing things in public and not asking a lawyer to go speak to somebody else so we don't have to violate the Sunshine Law. That was another thing that came up multiple times during that meeting was the fact that the SLPL Board was very concerned, except for Priscilla, that not one of you could show your face to their board meeting in public where your comments would show up. She thinks that's disgusting that you try to pay them off to get what you want and you can't even show your faces there. They said that this is just a fly in the face of sunshine that we have to sit here and have discussions between lawyers and we can only have one or two people but they have to be behind the scenes because God forbid LST residents find out what happens, so she would appreciate if you honor the Southern Lehigh School District Boards request that in the next 30 days, before they have their next board meeting, that one of you other than Priscilla shows up and gives a public statement and maybe you should invite LS residents to that meeting as it's something they do that you don't do.

- Cindy McKellin said she is going to circle back to the library fiasco again. She was one of the people in attendance at the SLPL board meeting and to her surprise after reading the minutes from their December 20, 2022 board meeting, she learned about Mr. Treadwell's off the record discussion to provide \$10,000/month to the SLPL for services for LST. Where did this come from? With a person with common sense, her calculations determine it would be \$120,000 a year for this library service. It's \$13,000 more a year than what was requested by the HAL, not to mention all the money that has been donated and the legal fees that have already been incurred. This arrangement with SLPL is temporary and doesn't allow for LST residents to use the PA Access library system. It only allows for LST to use that library down in Center Valley. She wants to direct to Tom Carocci when he was running for a seat on Council, he was interviewed by Saucon Source who asked the question, why are you running for a seat on the LST Council? Saucon Source published Mr. Carocci's response as "I want to promote a Township government that provides excellent service to residents and is fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars. To me, this means remaining debt free. having a strategic open space policy, supporting police, fire services and the HAL and pool. These initiatives will help preserve the future of our Township for our children". She notes that Mr. Carocci said fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars and supporting HAL. Not the City library, but the HAL. Somewhere along the way, Mr. Carocci drank the Kool-Aid that was prepared by Mr. Banonis and did a 180 on his campaign promise. She sincerely hopes that other Council members have the fortitude to stand up to Mr. Banonis and restore our relationship with HAL. She said relating to the committee meetings that Council members are on and then get elected as voting members, she doesn't think Council should be a voting member of committees. They can have representation. Their job should be to bring back the information to Council but not have the ability to vote on it once in a committee and then a second time as you are on the actual Council.
- Ginger Petrie said she didn't get to say everything she wanted to say once she got upset hearing a person that bought property from her so she's going to calm herself down. She has been a very proud person to be in LST and we have a wonderful school system and we have a lot of things to offer a lot of people and that is what has been the draw to have people come here and the reason we are so upset is we feel the landfill is going to be taking away from everything that we respect. She knows it comes across that we are being rude to you guys at times, but she thinks that is because we feel you are being rude to us by not listening. She's going to read off her paper so she doesn't get emotional. She'd like it to be part of the record that she's against the change of the landfills 275 acres from RA to LI. She's also against going from the special exception category to the conditional use category. When it comes time to pull the conservation easements off, she will be against that too. They were told by the Council that this is a slow process to decide about the landfill expanding. That is obviously a bunch of crap because this thing is moving and moving fast. She imagines that some of you have played sports when you were young, basketball, baseball, soccer. Now probably golf and some of the mind games like chess. Yes, this does remind her of a chess game we are

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playing. We are watching a very expensive game of chess. RA to LI, the conditional use, conservation easements off all for the landfill is to remove the control in rock and roll. That's exactly what we know they are going to do and we are not stupid people. So trying to tell us that it's all going to all slow down is a bunch of crap again. Getting back to the sports thing, think about when you were a team player and the rules of team playing. We voted you in. You are supposed to be the home team. You will not be a superstar. You will not be a hero helping out the landfill. You could come our way. You could protect our land. You could protect our environment. You can protect our monetary investments and most of all you could protect our health. She will close with this thought. At the last meeting a lot of people asked you how you can sleep at night. She was one of them. Obviously you have no problem sleeping at night. We can all do things as we have stress and get older. We can pop a Z-quill, somebody could smoke reefer. Mr. Banonis said your three minutes are up. Ms. Petrie said maybe a good scotch. Well it will all let you sleep. She's concerned about what the heck you are thinking when you are awake because if you are acting completely oblivious to our concerns, the people we care about this land, we voted you in and right now you are showing us you don't give a dam. Her dad had an expression "know somebody long enough and they are going to show you their ass". Well, are you guys showing it.

- Dan Elane said he's going to reference a letter this committee had gotten from the OCL dated October 5<sup>th</sup>. The State Librarian of PA Dept. of Education, OCL has granted their request of HAL per regulation 141.21 to exclude LST from HAL's direct service area prior to the end of the 10-year period. Accordingly, HAL is hereby provided you with notice per regulation section 131.43 and 131.44 and intends to remove LST from HAL's direct service area as of January 1, 2023. The problem with that is he doesn't understand how that happened, why it happened and is there anything we can do at the Township level to correct this because what happened is we didn't have our home library anymore so we can't go to the Bethlehem Library. They don't recognize us anymore so we can't use any library. He understands we can go pay \$40 but will we be patrons again so we can use Bethlehem Library? That's his question and that's pointless as Bethlehem Library is the library we were using and we got stripped of that and so we have no recourse. Mr. Carocci said we are trying to get recourse. Mr. Elane said what would the recourse be? Mr. Carocci said we have a lawsuit against the OCL. Mr. Elane said who is the lawsuit against? Attorney Treadwell said the OCL. Mr. Elane said the state. Attorney Treadwell said we are doing what you just read in the letter. Mr. Elane said it doesn't say you did anything; this is the letter you got. Attorney Treadwell said the letter is what we are litigating about because they removed us from the service area of HAL without due process. They didn't tell us. Mr. Elane said it says here you asked them to do this. Attorney Treadwell said no, that's a HAL request, not a Township request. Mr. Elane said and you didn't go along with this? Attorney Treadwell said no we didn't. Mr. Elane said the problem is he can't get to the library in Bethlehem anymore. So you are saying if I buy a HAL card, I still can't use the Bethlehem Library like we used to go to. That's the library we like to use, so now we don't have any recourse on this. Now he's forced to do something he doesn't want to do, so correct the problem.
- Gail Elane said yes, we had a library membership for the Bethlehem library. Their address is a Bethlehem address but they live in LST which is Hellertown and so they were required to go to Hellertown and purchase a library membership card down there. Then Bethlehem library said they would honor that library card so they could use that library service which they have done for the last 28 years. Now that's all been taken away from us. We have no library to go to. The Bethlehem Library passed up a sheet of paper and on it were four libraries listed that they could purchase a membership to for \$40 a year. They were Parkland School District, Whitehall Township, Lower Macungie and Mary something or other. Those are so far to drive just to use a library service and the Bethlehem library was very convenient for them. It has a wide range of resources, a lot more than HAL. That was our preferred library and it's all been taken away from us because of whatever somebody's decision was to do to take away our services. It's not fair to the LST residents that we have no library that we can go to.
- Andrea Wittchen said she is speaking on the subject of the library because the minutes of December 7<sup>th</sup> that you approved tonight aren't an accurate representation of what was said that night. There was a lot of false information in there and since we are all about integrity tonight and the ability to be able to say the right things, she thought she ought to straighten some things out. Ms. deLeon

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asked at that meeting if there was going to be a mailing sent at the end of the year to all of the LST residents informing them of what the situation was with the library at the end of the year. She recalls that meeting where Mr. Carocci said oh yes, that's something that we should do and it was put into the requirements for the library services line in the budget. On December 7<sup>th</sup> he said we have a program in the budget for that. Well guess what, you didn't use it. So she doesn't know what good it was to put a program in the budget for that but it didn't happen. Then he proceeded to tell us he had gotten a Philadelphia Free Library card that had an Access PA card on it. He called it PA Access but it's correctly Access PA. She had a lovely talk with the librarian from the Free Library of Philadelphia this afternoon. Both of them went through the website about Access PA, it says to be eligible to participate, PA residents must live in a municipality in which a state-aided local library is supported as authorized by the public library code. We no longer live in such a Township. Secondly, it says PA residents living in a municipality that does not support a local state-aided library are not eligible to participate in the Access PA program. That means that she doesn't care what kind of a card Mr. Carocci got, he is not eligible for the Access PA program. First of all, Access PA applies only to physical items. If you have a virtual account as she does, you do not have Access PA capabilities. It is available to free library patrons for whom the free library is their home library and needless to say that's not Mr. Carocci's home library. She said how did he get what he claims is an Access PA card and she said either he deceptively claimed he was a Philadelphia resident when he applied in person or the front desk at the library where he applied was not keeping careful track of who was entitled to Access PA, but the bottom line is, despite what Mr. Banonis said later that day which is we have the ability to get an Access sticker through the City of Philadelphia Free Library, that's a lie. Secondly, or lastly, the real...Mr. Banonis said your time is up. You need to wrap up your idea. Ms. Wittchen said ask yourselves are you better off this January 1<sup>st</sup> than you were last January 1<sup>st</sup>?

Mr. Banonis said we are now going to recess the Council meeting as we have an Executive Session that we identified at the beginning of the meeting. We will return to the Council meeting room when we are done.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for adjournment. The time was 9:58 p.m.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Submitted by:

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Mark Hudson  
Township Manager

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Jason Banonis  
Council President

**LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**  
**Northampton County, Pennsylvania**

**RESOLUTION #32-2023**

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**A RESOLUTION HONORING  
THOMAS ANDERSON  
FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS  
OF LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Anderson served the residents of Lower Saucon Township for 35 years as a Lower Saucon Authority Board Member, first being appointed in 1988 serving as 12 of those years as Board Chairman and 17 as Vice Chairman; and

**WHEREAS**, during his service on Lower Saucon Authority, Tom was instrumental in working on projects such as Applebutter Road tank, Black River Road meter, Clauser Road meter, Hickory Hill Road PRV, Black River PRV, and the design of the Creekside Pump Station; and

**WHEREAS**, his expertise and participation in the AD-HOC Building Code Committee was vital to the implementation and adoption of the Township's building codes which are in effect today ensuring the long-term sustainability of local planning and construction; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom was born in Pittsburgh, PA in 1946 and moved to Allentown in 1968 then to Lower Saucon Township in 1976, attended Northampton Community College earning his Associates of Science Degree in 1973, then went on to earn his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Drexel University in 1982; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom had a successful career with DeMatos Enterprises for 24 years, Worth and Company for 4 years, Reading Site Contractors for 5 years, and 13 years with Navarro and Wright Consulting Engineers where he was a Construction Inspector and Project Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom and his wife Dolores have been married for 52 years, raising a son, Christopher and a daughter, Kelly, and is a proud grandfather to Cole and Benjamin; and

**WHEREAS**, in his spare time he enjoys fishing, especially in Canada, Indy car racing, rooting for his favorite sports teams, the Pittsburgh Steelers and Penguins, and spending time with his family; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom's contribution will be greatly missed as member of the Lower Saucon Authority; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Jason Banonis, President; Mark Inglis, Vice President; Thomas Carocci, Priscilla deLeon, and Sandra Yerger, Council Members; hereby honor and commend Tom Anderson for his dedicated service to the residents of Lower Saucon Township.

**ADOPTED** and **ENACTED** this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

Lower Saucon Township

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Banonis  
Council President

Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Hudson  
Secretary