



Wednesday, April 3, 2024
Lower Saucon Township Council Agenda

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

1. OPENING

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Announcement of Executive Session (if applicable)
- E. Potential Action on Executive Session Issues (if applicable)
- F. *Appointment of Acting Township Manager
- G. Public Comment Procedure
- H. Jr. Council Member Report

2. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS

- A. Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce/Hellertown-Lower Saucon Chamber

3. DEVELOPER ITEMS - NONE

4. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Review of LST Police Department Resources at Saucon Valley School District
- B. Police Department Purchase of Two Body Cameras
- C. Resolution #40-2024- Township Secretary
- D. Resolution #41-2024 - Township Planning/Zoning Administrator
- E. Resolution #42-2024 - Transfer of Funds to Capital
- F. Review Prepared Draft Ordinance for Advertisement and Necessary Steps to Move Forward with Possible Enactment of the Ordinance Setting Council Term Limits
- G. Review Prepared Draft Ordinance for Advertisement and Necessary Steps to Move Forward with Possible Enactment of the Ordinance Amending Section 125.6A of Chapter 25 Entitled Peddling and Soliciting
- H. Town Hall Park Tot Lot Addition
- I. Saucon Valley Community Center - 2024 Summer Recreational Program Agreement

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Approval of March 6, 2024 Council Minutes

6. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS

- A. Assistant Township Manager, Cathy Gorman
- B. Council
- C. Solicitor
- D. Engineer

7. PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEMS - 5-MINUTE TIME LIMIT

8. ADJOURNMENT

A. Move to Adjourn

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

A. Parks and Recreation Board: April 8, 2024

B. Environmental Advisory Council: April 9, 2024

C. Council Meeting: April 17, 2024

D. Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: April 22, 2024 (Coopersburg Borough)

E. Zoning Hearing Board: April 22, 2024

F. Planning Commission: April 25, 2024

G. Landfill Committee Meeting: April 30, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)

1. **OPENING**

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. with Ms. Priscilla deLeon presiding.

B. **ROLL CALL:** Priscilla deLeon, President; Laura Ray, Vice-President; Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, Jason Banonis, Thomas Carocci, Council Members, Cathy Gorman, Assistant Manager & Director of Finance; Steven Goudsouzian, Solicitor; Stacy Werkheiser, Administrative Assistant; Junior Council Members, Rudra and Nitya Thakkar.

C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved to amend the agenda for this evening. They added an agenda item.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon asked if the public would like to say anything? Hearing none, Council, any discussion?

Mr. Carocci said you are going to amend the agenda, what are you going to add to the agenda to amend? The public needs to know that. Ms. deLeon said they are amending the agenda to include the agenda item to appoint an Acting Township Manager. Mr. Carocci said so what's the motion? All you did was make a motion to amend the agenda, not what for. Ms. deLeon said the first step in this is to amend the agenda because of an inclusion of an item that was not sent out originally. She guesses they are ready for roll call.

Mr. Banonis said no, you haven't had comments from Council on this. Ms. deLeon said she's waiting. Mr. Carocci said she hasn't announced the Executive Session, gee that comes before this. Ms. deLeon said she was going to do that after she amended the agenda. Mr. Carocci said the order on the agenda, amend the agenda for the order. Mr. Banonis said he knows it's hard...Mr. Carocci said it's like A., B., C., D., she can't follow it, but that's fine. Ms. deLeon said okay, let's just get it together everybody. Mr. Banonis said lead by example. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said can we do a roll call? Mr. Carocci said for what? They didn't have the announcement of the Executive Session. That's D., next, right after Pledge of Allegiance on the agenda. Ms. deLeon said again, she's going to make a motion:

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved to amend the agenda to include an agenda item that wasn't included when the original agenda went out.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said she has a motion on the floor and she has a second. She opened it up to public comment. Does Council want to say anything? Mr. Banonis said she opened it for public comment before telling the public what the subject was. Ms. deLeon said and now she just did if he would have listened. She told them. Mr. Carocci said he wants to make a motion.

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved that they follow the agenda order and the announcement of Executive Session is next.

Mr. Carocci said does he have a second?

Ms. Ray said there's already a motion on the floor, so he can't do that. Mr. Carocci said can he have a second? Ms. deLeon said there was a second. He is out of order. Victoria seconded it. Ms. Ray said yes, she did. Mr. Carocci said he didn't hear that and he is sitting right next to her. Mr. Banonis said there hasn't been comment from Council yet. There can't be a roll call. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said are you going to make a comment? Mr. Carocci said yes. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she doesn't have any comments, she's okay.

Mr. Banonis said he thinks this is ridiculous to have to amend the motion. He brought the subject up two meetings ago when Mark Hudson announced that he was leaving the Township and Mr. Banonis suggested at that time that we consider rather than hiring, what is it, Keystone Consulting, whatever they are, in Harrisburg to do a new Manager search, to consider appointing Cathy Gorman as the Interim Township Manager. The majority of this Council loves slapping an interim tag on people. For example, the gentleman

to his right is an Interim Solicitor; and at that time, that recommendation or suggestion was met with complete silence. It's obvious and they've known for a month that the Township Manager was going to be leaving the Township effective March 31st. They've had two meetings since then and now rather than be transparent with the public and let them know that they are actually going to finally address this issue that was the elephant in the room for a month, you instead now, seek to amend the agenda under the guise of some emergency. There's no emergency. They knew about this and they just failed to pay attention to it. So, to amend the agenda at this point, and he has nothing against Cathy filling in, in this position, in fact he recommended it and suggested it. He thinks she would be perfectly capable in doing this. He suggested she take on that position and that Council give it a shot to see if it works out because maybe she will turn out to be a stellar Township Manager. She certainly fills in on an interim basis as the Assistant and now instead of giving it the due consideration that it deserves, they are going to change the agenda to try to shoe horn this in when they knew about it. It's ridiculous. It just shows the utter lack of competence among the three of you. It shows the lack of transparency among the three of you. They don't know what the hell they are doing.

Ms. deLeon said okay, Laura did she have anything to say? Ms. Ray said no.

Ms. deLeon said she just wants to say they are following the Sunshine Law for changing the agenda. So, roll call please Cathy.

ROLL CALL: 3-2 (Mr. Banonis & Mr. Carocci – No) - Motion passes.

Mr. Banonis said imagine that, covering up their mistakes. Mr. Carocci said incompetence, not a mistake, incompetence. Ms. deLeon said the meeting is called to order. They are out of order. Mr. Banonis said no, he's not.

D. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)

Ms. deLeon said Council did meet in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss litigation regarding Hellertown Borough (HB), the Hellertown Area Library (HAL), the Bethlehem Landfill, a real estate issue, and a personnel issue. No official action was needed at this time. So moving on.

Mr. Banonis said he'd like to be heard on that. Mr. Carocci said sure, he agrees. Mr. Banonis said may he be recognized? Mr. Carocci said yes. Ms. deLeon said go ahead. Mr. Banonis said just so the public is aware of what took place in the so-called Executive Session. So, they entered into the Council meeting room and immediately the Interim Solicitor, Mr. Goudsouzian, sought to exclude the Acting Township Manager, Cathy Gorman from those proceedings. Now, he's never been in an Executive Session where the Township Manager has not been present, other than for matters perhaps related to employment concerning the Township Manager, Acting Township Manager. So, even though the number of items to be covered during this Executive Session were not limited to personnel issues, the Interim Solicitor sought to, sought to exclude the Manager, the Interim Manager, who now has been subjected to an amended agenda, to be considered for that role. It just tells you the absolute incompetence of the people that are involved in the administration of this Township. He finds it mind boggling that a person who is acting as a Solicitor would not understand the need to have the person acting as the Manager participating in the Executive Session, particularly when multiple subjects covered did not deal with the personnel matters related to that individual. It's mind boggling to him. On top of that, one of the subjects that came up was a so-called conversation between the Solicitor, the Interim Solicitor, and unnamed, unidentified representatives of HB regarding litigation pertaining to the HAL and other aspects dealing with the Borough; and when pressed for the identity of the individual or individuals that the Interim Solicitor allegedly met with, he refused to provide that information to the majority of Council. He would not identify with whom he was negotiating on behalf of this Township, with whom he was negotiating while billing the taxpayers of this Township \$180.00/hour. He would not identify that person. So, consider that for a moment. We have a rogue Interim Solicitor who is out conducting business on behalf of the Township. He's not a permanent Solicitor because he was never identified as the permanent Solicitor. He's out there negotiating on behalf of the Township with individuals that he won't even tell the members of this Council, won't tell the members of this Council who he's talking to and what they are discussing. So, we're supposed to just accept in a vacuum what he tells us and go along

with what he tells us. He pointed out to him in this conversation that he owes an obligation to the members of this Council and that he owes an obligation to the members of this Township to act in good faith with regard to those discussions. In particular, Rule of Professional Conduct 1.4 that applies to all lawyers, all lawyers in this Commonwealth, says “a lawyer shall promptly inform the client of any decision or circumstance with respect to the clients informed consent as defined in rule 1.0(e) as required by these rules. 2. Reasonably consult with the client about the means by which the client’s objectives are to be accomplished”. That didn’t happen here. In fact, it was asked of him to share that information and he absolutely refused to share that information. “3. Keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter”. That didn’t happen here. He again refused to provide us with the identity or identities of the individuals with whom he met and with whom he was negotiating on behalf of the Township using your taxpayer dollars. Okay, it goes on and on; and he’ll point out to you, if you look at the Second-Class Code, the Second-Class Code sets forth what the duties are of a Solicitor. In the Second-Class Code 5-1.2 Officers and Employees, Township Solicitor, talks about the Solicitor being a person or firm learned in the law at an active legal practice. It goes on and on and it says, “the Solicitor shall furnish legal advice and opinions to the Council, the Manager, the Chairman of any committee of the Council, and to all officers, departments, boards and commissions on any matter in connection with their official powers or performance of their official duties”. Consider that, consider that. That’s what he’s supposed to do and he refuses to do that. He refuses to cooperate and share information with the members, the elected members of this Council, elected by you people in the public. He thinks it’s a travesty and he’s certainly inviting upon himself an investigation from the Ethics Board because for him to refuse to share with them who he is negotiating with, what he’s discussing, it’s a travesty. If he was a taxpayer, well, he is a taxpayer, but if he was a taxpayer not here, he would be outraged at that conduct. He’d find it absolutely outrageous.

Mr. Carocci said are you done Jason? Are you done Jason? Mr. Banonis said yes, he’s done, thanks. Mr. Carocci said may he be recognized? Ms. deLeon said yes, you may be recognized. Mr. Carocci said do you know who Suzy met with, our Solicitor? Ms. deLeon said no, she does not. Mr. Carocci said so if we do a RTK, this is why he’d like to point out, Jason files RTKs, because this is why they have to file them. The Solicitor that the Township is paying is hiding information from them, who he’s has met with. The majority is assisting him with hiding that information. So, this is why RTKs need to be filed and are filed. That’s how they found out last meeting about Priscilla’s recusing herself 20 years earlier for the same property that was in discussion in the Conditional Use Hearing. She didn’t bring that, she wasn’t forthcoming about that. She was hiding that and she didn’t bring that to the public. They had to file the RTK, go through the documents, and find that information, and then she finally recused herself. He believes she didn’t even turn everything over. He thinks there were some missing documents in that so even when they do file a RTK, she failed to turn certain communications over and he thinks Jason has an example of that later. That’s why there are RTKs. They have a Solicitor who is hiding things from them and operating covertly and they have a majority that is assisting him with that cover up. So, there will be more RTKs and they will find out who he met with eventually and, but this is, that again costing taxpayers money because our Township staff has to put the response to the RTKs together and then give it to us. Instead of Mr. Goudsouzian... Mr. Banonis said he’s lining his pocket with it. So, we got to send a RTK, then he gets to bill the Township for dealing with the RTK for information he’s not turning over in the first place. Mr. Carocci said this is how he practices law and it’s a disgrace. He’s turning on taxpayer’s backs, all of us. All he has to do is give them a name back in Executive Session. He didn’t even have to make it public, but he wouldn’t do that, and now the taxpayers will bear more cost for his nonsense and Priscilla’s complicity with that nonsense. Ms. deLeon said are you finished Tom? Mr. Carocci said yes. Ms. deLeon said okay, moving on then.

- E. **POTENTIAL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ISSUES (IF APPLICABLE)** – None
- F. **APPOINTMENT OF ACTING TOWNSHIP MANAGER**

Ms. deLeon said she would like to move to:

- MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to appoint Cathy Gorman, Acting Manager, retroactive to 03-28-2024 tonight and with her motion, have an agenda item on April 17th agenda for the salary.
- SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Banonis said he’d like to be heard. Ms. deLeon said go ahead Jason. Mr. Banonis said he agrees with this. He brought this up before. Unfortunately, it did not make the agenda when it was initially set

and now it's been amended to include this issue. The one concern he has and it's a grave concern is that Cathy serves the role as the Assistant Manager and also as the Finance Director. It's a position that's very important to the Township and she does a very good job in administering those duties. Now, that she is going to have the added burden of taking on Township Manager duties, he's concerned that it's going to put undue pressure and demands upon her that are going to potentially affect her ability to continue to do her other roles with the same effectiveness. Because of that, he knows they are going to be discussing salary later, he thinks that it's appropriate for her to make a salary that is greater than what they were paying Mark Hudson when he was their Township Manager and he says that because there are two distinct roles that do have some overlap, but to effectively do both roles requires a tremendous amount of time and energy and to, for this Council, the majority of this Council, to place those burdens on her and not expect her to be paid for the services is a disservice to her and a disservice to the residents of this Township. So, his recommendation when they get to the point about salary on April 17th is to pay her greater than what they were paying Mark Hudson on a pro-rated basis because of the added responsibilities that she is taking on in addition to those existing responsibilities as the Assistant Manager as well as the Finance Director. Ms. deLeon said are you finished? Mr. Banonis said he is.

Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Carocci said yes, he thinks Cathy is the right person for this job, for the past five years, he thinks she's great. He's afraid that the majority eventually won't see it that way because they politicize everything whether it's the Solicitor. They hired two Solicitor's that have been political hires. If Linc Treadwell was still the Solicitor here, Mark Hudson would still be the Township Manager here. He knows that for a fact by having discussions with certain people. They politicize that for the first time ever. Linc was the Solicitor for 23 years. He's sure they want to politicize this hiring as well and that's disgraceful. It shouldn't be like that. It should be the most qualified and competent person and you see by the incompetence of our current Solicitor what trouble that gets you into. They received a disturbing email from the firm that the majority decided to hire for the, to assist with hiring a Township Manager where he basically states that we should keep all of our argument and debate in Executive Session so that perspective candidates don't see how contentious some of our meetings can be. Basically, sell a potential candidate a bill of goods, you know, like you are selling a car whose transmission is going or something like that. Sell the perspective candidates a bill of goods until you get them in the door, and then go back to your normal debate. So, he thought that was, that seemed right up, the firm that they hired seems aligned with them, cover things up, and misrepresent things, until he can get something done. He guesses it is par for the course with Ms. deLeon.

Ms. deLeon said she goes next. When they hired the Interim Manager when Leslie left, he wasn't here during the whole time. He was only here a couple days a week. So, his duties as Manager was not full time like Mark's was. Mr. Carocci said they also had Linc with 23 years of experience as a Solicitor, not someone now, who has never been a Solicitor of a Township. Ms. deLeon said he is out of turn. He is out of turn. Mr. Carocci said never been a Solicitor of a Township. Ms. deLeon said excuse her. We are going to go into recess. Mr. Carocci said Chief Barndt was also helping out. That's right, Chief Barndt was also helping out. Mr. Banonis said he'll go into recess all night long, all night long. You know that song, all night long, Lionel Ritchie. Mr. Carocci said all night long. Mr. Banonis said like Man in the Mirror.

Ms. deLeon said who is next, Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's in favor of appointing the Acting Manager and having the salary on the April 17th meeting.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said she agrees. Mr. Banonis said of course she does. Ms. Ray said she doesn't appreciate the smart remarks all the time and the unprofessional...Mr. Banonis said...Ms. deLeon said one at a time please. Ms. Ray said unprofessional, very unprofessional. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't like when she encouraged people to come to his house on Christmas and protest at his house...Ms. deLeon said Laura has the floor now. Mr. Banonis said kind of unprofessional like that, let's talk about that. Ms. deLeon said Laura has the floor. Mr. Banonis said kind of unprofessional like that. Let's get into that.

Mr. Goudsouzian said go ahead Laura, you were going to say. Mr. Ray said she agrees that they should appoint Cathy as the Acting Township Manager and then address the salary on our next agenda. Mr. Carocci said she's at her word limit.

Ms. deLeon said at this time she's going to open it up to the floor. Would anyone in the audience like to speak? Remember there's a 5-minute limit.

Ms. Andrea Wittchen said she's fine. They have set a new record tonight. They are barely 10 minutes into the meeting before they heard the first lie. Banonis told us that the Solicitor insisted that the Acting Township Manager not be a part of the Executive Session. Mr. Banonis said was she back there with them? Does she know what happened? She wasn't even here at 6:00, was she? So how is that a lie, Ma'am? How is that a lie? Explain to him how that is a lie because she wasn't here. She wasn't here. Ms. Wittchen said then why are they voting on this motion now to...Mr. Banonis said she was not here. Ms. Wittchen said an Acting Township Manager. Mr. Banonis said she was not here. Ms. Wittchen said you said, he said, that Goudsouzian said that...Mr. Banonis said she wasn't here. She is lying, Ma'am. She is lying. Ms. deLeon said he does not have the floor; the resident has the floor. Mr. Banonis said she makes attacks on him and Ms. deLeon allows it to happen. She's calling him a liar. She's calling him a liar when she's the one who is standing here lying. She wasn't even here to know what was going on. Ms. Wittchen said she doesn't have to. All she knows is that he stated at 6:35, that she was the Acting Township Manager. She was not. You are voting on that right now. That's what's called a lie. Mr. Banonis said okay. Ms. Wittchen said secondly, he stated we have to accept in a vacuum what Solicitor Goudsouzian...Mr. Carocci said right. Ms. deLeon said please, one at a time, you don't like people interrupting you. Ms. Wittchen said do you understand about voting...Mr. Goudsouzian said hold on, wait...Mr. Carocci said here we go, now Steve goes, Goudsouzian wants to get in here. Priscilla is elected now Steve's going to run it. Suzy's going to run it. Ms. Wittchen said they were also informed that they needed to accept in a vacuum what Solicitor Goudsouzian was doing. That would be identical to the behavior that they understood was the proper way for a Solicitor to behave when Lincoln Treadwell was here and he was given total control over the library issues and that's how they ended up with over \$400,000.00 in legal fees in a single year. Third, while she's very supportive of asking Cathy if she is interested in having this position and if she has had the appropriate human resource discussions with her, and she is willing to have this public, she thinks that's a fine idea. What was not a fine idea were the last two meetings at which Mr. Banonis behaved in an appalling disreputable, despicable manner by asking Cathy...Mr. Carocci said those are personal insults...Ms. deLeon said she has the floor. Mr. Carocci said he thought they had a code of conduct about personal insults. Ms. Wittchen said by asking Cathy in public...Mr. Carocci said are you going to enforce the code of conduct or not? Ms. Wittchen said in front of the people she would serve and because she is a paid employee, there is a power differential that needs to be understood here. If you knew anything about human resource management, you would understand how completely inappropriate it was to ask Ms. Gorman in front of the public, do you want this job? That's what happened and it was disgusting and it just shows how much Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci do not know about running an organization, particularly one that deals with human resources and with the needs of employees. It was appalling. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't even think he was at that meeting. Ms. Wittchen said she hopes...Ms. deLeon said she can have more time because she was interrupted. Ms. Wittchen said she hopes you are willing to do this because frankly, she doesn't think we are ever going to find anybody else. Mr. Banonis said maybe she could do it. You can blog about it too. Mr. Carocci said they had a, they would still have Mark Hudson if they wouldn't have fired Linc. They'd still have Mark Hudson.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else dare to even come up? You are more than welcome.

Mr. Ozimek said congratulations Cathy if she accepts this position and may she do the best for the Township. We need good people. Ms. deLeon said thank you Mark.

Mr. Banonis said Mr. Ozimek, while you are at the podium, he'd like to ask him a question. Why did he change his Facebook picture to a picture of himself, his wife and his kids that were dressed up in their home? Why did Mr. Ozimek pull that picture from his wife's Facebook page and use that as his

Facebook page? Ms. deLeon said what does that have to do with the Township? Mr. Banonis said he'd like to know an answer to that. Can Mr. Ozimek share that with the public as he finds it interesting? He also finds it to be threatening. Can he answer that question, Sir? He guesses not, he guesses not. Maybe he'll follow him out of the meeting again out to the parking lot like he did last time trying to intimidate him so the Police Officer had to follow him out, Sir. Maybe that will happen again too. Ms. deLeon said please take the stand.

Mr. David Boulin said this is interesting, 5-minutes, wow, that's great. He knows they are supposed to follow the rules here and actually that's something that he wanted to talk about initially. So, when he got ready this afternoon to sit down and think about where there's some topics here that might be worth talking about, with the Council, before he got to the Council, he realized that he got an email and it said something like today at noon he got this amended Council agenda. If he's right, there's a resolution called 31-2024-A., that says and it's signed by our Council President. He hopes that's not intimidating. He knows you're not intimidated. Ms. deLeon said she's not intimidated at all. Mr. Boulin said it says, good, that's a good thing. The Council and provide names for public review at least three days prior to comment for each meeting. Three days, okay. This was more like 6 hours. Now, he may not be a whiz at math, although he does, have done considerable amount. Ms. deLeon said the Sunshine Law, they changed the rules about two years ago that you could amend the agenda and they did it the proper way and add something to it. Mr. Boulin said so where does it say you can add something in this resolution, which by the way has got about six more items on it than the original from the previous administration. Where does it say that you can just willy nilly change anything you want so the public, excuse him...Mr. Carocci said don't interrupt. Ms. deLeon said she tried to answer, but she'll hold back. Mr. Boulin said they all make mistakes even him. So the bottom line is where does it say that you can just willy nilly change it wherever you want. Now, he sees in here, by the way, he actually did read this resolution finally and he sees all ambiguities and redundancies about what you can and can't do and we are all here to promote an atmosphere of reasoned expressions and ideas. He doesn't find that to be the case and he hopes to speak about that a little bit later. It's not clear to him even was he going to get a chance to speak about this appointment for Cathy Gorman, who he holds in very high esteem but he doesn't just find two positions. He finds three in his agenda. There's two new ones. Did anybody say anything about that? Laura Ray? She looks like a deer in the headlights there, he's sorry. So, there's a Township...Ms. deLeon said that is out of order now. Mr. Carocci said Andrea Wittchen...Mr. Banonis said she attacked him, and you are going to stop him. Something as mild as like a deer in the headlights. She is such a clown. Mr. Carocci said that's the nicest thing that was said from that podium all night compared to what was said to Jason and she's calling him out on that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said can we have a point of order. Mr. Carocci said you are such a hypocrite. You are such a hypocrite and a fraud. Mr. Boulin said that's nice to see that a few more of the Council members are now awake and ready to go. Anyhow, it does say that if he is reading it correctly, and by the way, he didn't read the resolution fully, but there's one for the Township Secretary, that would be a second job; and then there's a Township Zoning, a Planning/Zoning Administrator, that's a third job. Wow, if you keep going, she'll be running the whole town and doing everything, which in his opinion, would be just wonderful. That's not what he's complaining about. He's complaining about you are not following your own resolution, 31-2024-A. and he will give examples of that later if you will let him as he'll run out of time very quickly if he starts going through them right now. He would like to know if we have all these rules and regulations, it's just like the Police, if you are speeding and those lights show up in your rear-view mirror, you get a ticket and you pay a fine. What happens when the Council people don't follow their own resolutions, especially when they are made up by one person in particular and not necessarily voted up by the remainder of the Council? That's a question. He knows they never get their questions answered so if you just sit there and everybody smiles, we'll all be great. He doesn't like it a bit, alright. That's really one of them. So, if the Council President can expand the individual comment periods they just saw that, and by the way, people in the audience aren't supposed to make comments which clearly, even now and then, he laughs and does, but he doesn't find it right and he wants to see something stop about that, and as far as these threats that people make, they are getting pretty tough, he'll tell you. He did walk outside the other evening and who does he see out there in the far distance, but one of the people that was at this meeting who was making threats, he will say, was out there being calmed down by one of our Officers, thank gosh, but if people knew what really what goes on here, if the public knew,

public, you wouldn't show up either and yes, he has several people that have said to him, women...Ms. deLeon said he only has 15 second left. Mr. Boulin said 18. The bottom line is they don't come anymore because they are scared to come because they are scared to walk outside because some of these people that are here yelling and screaming and pointing fingers and you did this, and you did that and we are going to get your family. He would like a reply at some point and he'd like it in writing so there's no ambiguity. Thanks.

Ms. deLeon said okay, next. Ms. Kathy Pichel-McGovern said she is not afraid at all coming to a Township meeting. She's not afraid of being threatened by anyone. What she is tired of hearing is Banonis and Carocci wasting everybody's time, dragging it out, paying the Solicitor longer. You talk about using our money, spending our money foolishly and we sit here every other Wednesday till 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, listening to the two of them going back and forth, back and forth. There's no credibility and she's not afraid of her own Township, ever, actually. Thank you. Mr. Banonis said can he ask her a question about credibility? So, she stood up at that podium and she said he was related to Mark Inglis and Jen Zavacky, that they were family members. Mr. Carocci said yes, you did. It's in the minutes. It's in the minutes. Mr. Banonis said so they are related? Mr. Carocci said it's in the minutes, you are crazy Kathy. Mr. Banonis said they are related? So, he assures her that they are not and she stands there and she talks about credibility and wasting people's time and yet she can spew garbage like that. No offense to Maryanne Garber, who is here from the landfill, but literally garbage comes out of her mouth and she talks about wasting time. Mr. Carocci said right. So, you are saying that Jason, Jennifer and Mark were all related as a family...Ms. deLeon said that's not appropriate...Mr. Carocci said we should also disclose family relationships. He knows for example that Priscilla...Ms. deLeon said roll call please. Mr. Carocci said Priscilla, her brother is Mr. Ozimek and you know, you can tell obviously the resemblance is quite...Ms. deLeon said there's a roll call on the floor. Mr. Carocci said they look exactly the same. Ms. deLeon said they are calling for a roll call. Mr. Carocci said their personalities are the same. He'd just like to see the power lines that they grew up next to. Ms. deLeon said there will be a roll call. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said can we go back to them maybe? Cathy, start all over again please.

Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis. Mr. Banonis said the motion is to appoint Cathy as the Township Manager? Mrs. Gorman said as the Acting Township Manager, yes. He will vote yes then.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Ms. deLeon said congratulations, Cathy. Mr. Carocci said you are the only thing that brings them together here is she is more competent than the three of them and the Solicitor combined. Mrs. Gorman said thank you for your confidence.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURE

Ms. deLeon said next, we have the public comment procedure. The Administrative Code, there's a Code of Conduct copy out in the doorway. Mr. Banonis said make sure you follow it because the Chair doesn't. Mr. Carocci said she can insult us but not her. Ms. deLeon said there's a 5-minute Public Comment Period for each agenda item. There's a 5-minute Comment Period for non-agenda items at the end of the meeting. So, just be mindful of that.

H. JR. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT

Nitya Thakkar said so on April 25th at Saucon Valley High School in the auditorium, there's going to be the Sr. Saucon Pageant, which is basically where Saucon seniors perform, she guesses and people can donate money and the money goes to pediatric cancer instead of Mini-THON this year. So, it goes to a good cause so if anyone wants to come, it would be appreciated. Ms. deLeon said what's the date again? Ms. Thakkar said April 25th at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Banonis asked if they could advertise that on the Township to get some additional views and perhaps draw some additional traffic to the event? Mrs. Gorman said yes.

Rudra Thakkar said on April 8th, the Saucon Valley Future Business Leaders of America Club is going to Hershey for the State competition. So, about 20 kids are going. They are leaving at 5:00 in the morning. Ms. deLeon asked if he was one of them? Mr. Thakkar said this year, no. This year he didn't elect to go

but 20 other kids are going to compete at the State competition and they'll see who ends up making Nationals in Chicago this year. Ms. deLeon said congratulations. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said send them the best of luck.

2. **PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

A. **GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/HELLERTOWN-LOWER SAUCON CHAMBER**

Ms. deLeon said Aaron Gasparetti was present. Elyse Cuttic was also present. Ms. deLeon said she said always forgets Ms. Cuttic's name. Hi, you wanted to come and talk to us about the nice things that the Chamber does. Mr. Gasparetti said certainly, thank you for having them again. They appreciate...Ms. deLeon said make sure the green light is on and you are talking into the microphone. They might want to raise it up a little. Mr. Gasparetti said that sounds good.

Mr. Gasparetti said thank you again. He's joined here with Elyse Cuttic. They make up the Hellertown-Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce. They are joined virtually with Kylie Weiss-Adams and Jessica O'Donnell-Gower. They are one of thirty chambers and councils that make up the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce. They've recently become a larger regional Chamber to kind of brought in their reach and strengthen their relationships across the valley. Their goal is to stimulate the economy and improve the quality of life here in the Lehigh Valley. Over time, they've grown to be the 6th largest Chamber nationally as well as the largest Chamber in the State. They often partner with municipalities such as yours to promote existing initiatives and bring in new initiatives to the public's needs and just kind of create, activate, and engage the community in different ways. Their favorite way to do this is through ribbon-cuttings, through new business activation. They generate a lot of buzz for new businesses coming into town and celebrating anniversaries. They just had one in LST last week or two weeks ago with Jersey Mike's coming into town. That was a huge, huge, huge buzz. They greatly appreciate it being a part of that day. They can do a number of other things, such as during the pandemic, they helped support the counties through dispersing CARES and ARPS funds. They were selected by the counties to, not negotiate, but field the applications so all the businesses can receive proper funding to thrive and survive through...Ms. deLeon said she remembers that. Mr. Gasparetti said part of their initiatives are the Main Street LV Foundation. They do a number of beautification projects, such as park benches, new lights and stuff like that to really help out the community as a whole and boroughs, townships and municipalities can apply for matching grants through their foundation and they can provide additional funds to do things such as handicap accessible, playground equipment, new sidewalks, stuff like that. It's a super, super program to be a part of. On your desks, there's a QR code that links to the pdf that is up on the screen. That just goes over your member benefits. Each one of you are members of the Chamber, as well as the Township as a whole, so they can do things like promote their activities if they have any Easter egg hunts that went on the last couple of weeks, send it to them. They can post it on social with the groups going to the different school events and what not. They can post that stuff too in support. Get more eyes on what they are trying to accomplish here in LST. Their number one event that they do in LST is the semi-annual restaurant week. They had a number of restaurants around here such as Yianni's Taverna and Plaza Azteca and they had the Art Café actually made it onto WFMZ and they had a great, it was a couple minute interview segment and it was beautiful. They really like to drive the businesses to the local treasures that are around and he feels like sometimes people miss it. So, they do their best to promote and support the existing establishments here and create a stronger community for everybody. Please feel free to reach out in any types of ways. They left their business cards for Council so they would love to be supportive however they can to make LST just a beautiful place to work, play and thrive.

Ms. deLeon said well thank you. Did she want to say something too? Ms. Cuttic said thank you for having them. She knows Aaron kind of covered it all and he takes lead in Hellertown and LST, so if you guys need anything, just reach out to them.

Ms. deLeon said okay, does anybody on Council have any questions? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she just wants to thank them for coming and thank them for the presentation and she's been to a couple of

ribbon-cuttings and she thought they were wonderful. So, thank you for supporting our community and our businesses. Thank you.

Mr. Gasparetti said they are happy to be here and please come out. They've love to shout you out and have the Council support at these events. It means the world to these businesses. Sometimes you see, like the tears on their face, and you can see all of their hard work and everything they pour into it. It really means a lot, so they'll try to keep you folks just posted as possible and if you hear anything coming into town, please let them know so they can generate as much buzz as possible down here in LST. Ms. deLeon said well thank you for coming. Mr. Gasparetti said they appreciate it, thank you again.

3. **DEVELOPER ITEMS** – None

4. **TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **REVIEW ON LST POLICE DEPARTMENT RESOURCES AT SAUCON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT (SVSD)**

Ms. deLeon said this was requested by Mr. Banonis and there's no accompanying data or information. Mr. Banonis said he had asked for this because as some of you know when they had the last Council meeting, he had announced, he had received a message that SVSD was going to be closed for another day. That was a result of the bomb threats that were called in that caused tremendous disruption to our community. This is, seems to be an ongoing issue. They had this issue of the threat of violence against the school around this time last year as he recalls with regard to the Satan's Club and the school was closed at that time, and again, it was closed for a few days just a few weeks ago. So, he's just interested in hearing any updates that the police can provide with regard to those issues and if they can get an overview of the LST police resources that have been devoted to addressing these crises that are taking place at the SVSD campus. He certainly commends our police officers for their diligence. He knows that they were there investigating when those threats came in and they were also there on campus as they always are, but certainly with a heavier presence to portray or to provide greater visibility to hopefully provide some comfort to the public and the parents and guardians that are dropping their kids off at the school. So, he's interested in hearing that and he thinks Chief Barndt can share some information that may help the community at ease and also provide the perspective on these things because, you know, it wasn't that long ago that they weren't having these sorts of repeated threats and it wasn't that long ago that our police resources were being so heavily devoted to addressing them so he'd like to see if Chief could give them some information on that.

Chief Barndt said sure, Jason. He can give them as much as he can because it is an ongoing investigation so please bear with him. Some things he's not going to be able to share. As most of you are already aware, they had three threats at the SVSD. One was reported on March 19th. One was reported on March 20th and another one was reported on March 21st. The first school threat closed school on March 20th. The second one closed school on March 21st. The third one did not close school and was found to be non-credible through some investigative sources. As far as resources, their detective to this day is working on it diligently, has worked on it since the first threat. From the first threat, they had officers assigned that were night shift. They did a search of the school with school staff, which follows their protocol for threats. Day shift also followed through with that and then they had another day shift officer doing some follow-up out of the area as well. The second threat, the night shift officer took the report. Detective Marth followed up with the investigation and then during the day Sgt. Leidy oversaw a K-9 sweep with four K-9s from Northampton County (NC) through the school campus in an attempt to keep it secure and locked down so that they could hopefully go back to school on the third day. That did happen. They ended up with the third threat and was found non-credible. The school was secure and he put an extra police presence into the school on that Friday when school reopened. As far as extra presence, he assigned day shift officers to deploy to the high school, both at the student arrival time and dismissal time and he had two other officers assigned to the campus between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. during the school day to patrol the school hallways, interior and outside to show an additional police presence. He was also there in the morning for arrival time as well. The day went off without a hitch. There were several students and faculty who were missing, but that was their prerogative and they made it through the day. As everybody should be aware, there was a press release put out by the District

Attorney's office. They did make one arrest and the following day or two days later they made a second arrest of juveniles and like he said the investigation is still continuing.

Ms. Ophof-Cordaro said Chief, was there any mutual aid from other municipalities that or other agency groups that came to assist the township. Chief Barndt said the explosive detection K-9s that came in. there was one from the Pennsylvania State Police, the Bethlehem City Police Department, the NC Sheriff's Department and Palmer Township Police Department.

Mr. Carocci said were there any assistance from the HB Police Department? Chief Barndt said he did not request any assistance from them and he did not need it. He does know the day that they had the extra police presence, their patrol cars did come through the lot because his officers did tell him that they were patrolling the areas and he knows when he went to the school, he saw them sitting on Walnut Street as well.

Mr. Banonis said did we have extra officers working overtime at that time? In other words, he knows you typically have a schedule and he isn't asking him to disclose what the schedule is, but were additional police resources required other than what was regularly scheduled for that period of time?

Chief Barndt said the two officers that monitored the campus between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. were on overtime. There was three different officers. One of them pulled the whole day. Mr. Carocci said may I ask why Chief Barndt wouldn't call Hellertown for assistance? Chief Barndt said they could handle it in-house and they are right there if Chief Barndt needed them. He knew they were going to probably patrol the schools and come through the lot just like they did. Mr. Carocci said so when they don't have any officers on duty at all and they call the State Police for assistance, they also call you and tell you that, correct? You told us that at an earlier meeting. Chief Barndt said correct. Mr. Carocci said but when we have a threat, Chief Barndt doesn't even bother, is it a waste of time to call them? Chief Barndt said no, it's not a waste of time. They were aware that we had the threat and they also were aware that we were going to have an extra police presence there. That has happened in the past as well. Mr. Carocci said do you think having a permanent Resource Officer at the school would be a good thing in light of threats like this? Do you think that would have had any bearing at all of the threats even being made if the police were in the school and more imbedded with the student body? Chief Barndt said he can't answer that if it would have any effect on the threats. Does he support a School Resource Officer (SRO) in our school district? Absolutely. Mr. Carocci said we offered that he believes and the school board declined, he believes.

Mr. Banonis said they did. It's a new school board and if it's something that you support and feel that LST police resources are being diverted from their ordinary duties or requiring additional resources being committed to that particular location, is there any reason why he would not engage in those discussions again to see if they have a different position? He recalls this was probably two years ago or so that we had discussions with them, he believes Chief Barndt did and Linc Treadwell and it may have been Mark Hudson or it may have been Peter, he's not sure. Chief Barndt said it was Peter, Linc, and himself and then also he and Mark Hudson did go to another meeting. Mr. Banonis said at that time, they did not have an appetite for it but since then they've acquired, as he understands it, a paid security force that they have at least one security guard in the entirety of the campus. It seems perhaps that their views on that have softened a bit or changed a bit. That may be because of the circumstances. These things are happening more regularly. Chief Barndt said he has no issue approaching the school and starting discussion and dialogue about a School Resource Officer.

Mr. Carocci said what role, if any, did their private security officer have in search or any assistance over the past week? Chief Barndt said he knows that Friday, that school reopened, that they were monitoring the security cameras in their office and they were going to walk through the school because his officers also told him that. Mr. Banonis said that's what they normally do, right? They didn't alter their behavior necessarily. Chief Barndt said not that he aware of. Mr. Carocci said you know, one of the things when they proposed a SRO was that we would pay 25% and they would pay 75%. It would be a Township officer because the Township officer would be at school every day. That's why they would pay 75%.

The school districts are the largest property taxes that our residents pay, by far, not even close to the Township or the County taxes and they've been raised recently and our Township taxes, although they were raised by the current Council, hadn't been raised in a while and the County taxes have actually been cut over the past couple of years. He means we are spending our tax dollars on overtime for officers to conduct these searches. You know, he thinks, quite frankly, we should send them an invoice. They are the largest taxer of property in the Township. They don't want a SRO there. They don't want to pay for it. You know, we should be asking them to pay for it if they don't want a SRO.

Ms. deLeon said Tom, it is her understanding there are two officers over there? Chief Barndt said there's a security specialist during the day and there's also one that works a second shift for after-school activities, he believes until 10:00 p.m. Ms. deLeon said they have somebody there. Mr. Carocci said they're not officers though. Chief Barndt said they are not officers. They are security specialists. Mr. Carocci said are they in a uniform or plain clothes? Chief Barndt said they wear polos with an identifying patch on. Mr. Banonis said so it's not even as if they are anonymous to the school, the student body. The student body would know who they are just as they would know who a police officer is because a police officer is in uniform. Chief Barndt said a police officer would be much more visible in a uniform just like this. A SRO would be nothing but a benefit to all of your children that attend the school and the faculty at that school as well as to the police department to carry on that dialogue and get that connection with the children.

Mr. Carocci said he believes Chief Barndt told him one time, a year or two ago, that the police had to respond to the school, in one year, 180 times. Now that's not just during the school day. That's on weekends, football games, or have been there 180 times, and to him, that's also a time police officers are spending there that we aren't being reimbursed for by the school district that they are not out patrolling the Township whereas if we had a dedicated SRO then our normal officers could be out doing what they normally do, patrol the Township and investigate crime.

Chief Barndt said correct. He doesn't recall that exact number but he could tell you that he did some investigating today and yesterday. So, just since January 1, 2024, they responded to 46 calls for service at the SVSD. He broke it down to the point where there was 33 during school hours, and 13 after school hours. After school hours could have been a burglar alarm or something similar to that.

Mr. Banonis said what is the start date for that data? Chief Barndt said he went back to January 1, 2024. Mr. Carocci said so about 90 days. Chief Barndt said yes, roughly. Mr. Banonis said so there's at least one call every other day. Mr. Carocci said 46.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she has a question. If there's like an incident at school where, and it's hard to say, but let's say hypothetically speaking there was an SRO at school and there was an incident at school. Would the police department still have to respond to that incident irrespective of the SRO on the campus? Chief Barndt said the SRO would handle most incidents at the school instead of one of our patrol officers going there. So, for instance, when he gave that number of 33 calls since the beginning of the year during school hours, most of them probably could have been resolved by a SRO. He can't say all of them because he'd have to go back through them all.

Mr. Carocci said but instead an officer is pulled off patrol, sent to the school district in response to that call? Chief Barndt said that is correct. Mr. Carocci said so technically, the rest of the Township, excluding the school property, is down an officer while he's at the school. Chief Barndt said correct. He's answering a call for service at the school. Mr. Carocci said right.

Mr. Banonis said he misspoke. He said it's about every other day. In fact, when you look at the calendar, he thinks there were about 60 school days in January, February and March, so you are there 46 separate calls. It's almost one per day. Mr. Carocci said it's one per school day. Mr. Banonis said correct. Mr. Carocci said about half the time for 90 calendar days. Some of these may have been on weekends if there's a sporting event. Chief Barndt said some could have been. Mr. Carocci said some could have been.

Mr. Carocci said he's still in support of the SRO like Chief Barndt. Mr. Banonis said he'll make a motion.

MOTION BY: Mr. Banonis moved to have Chief Barndt engage in discussions with SVSD Administration for the purposes of exploring a possible SRO staffed by a LST police officer.

Mr. Carocci said he will second the motion because one, it's needed and would be beneficial, the most important thing is school safety. He doesn't understand their unwillingness to spend any money on that.

SECOND BY: Mr. Carocci

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said to be clear, are you looking to reallocate one of our current police officers as an SRO or are you looking for the exploration to be hiring an additional police officer who would be identified as an SRO with some kind of sharing between the Township and the district? Mr. Carocci said yes, so yes, Mr. Banonis made the motion, but he seconded it.

Mr. Banonis said his thoughts are, he'd like to hear back if they are interested in it. If they are interested in it, then we'll figure out the staffing. We have, he believes we are fully staffed now as a department or we may be down one, right? Chief Barndt said we are missing one officer. Mr. Banonis said so there's going to be a hiring need there and to the extent that if this can gain some traction and move forward, as he thinks it should, for the safety of our school campus, you know, he'd refer to the Chief as to the staffing needs for that. He's not putting the cart ahead of the horse here. He thinks that's premature.

Mr. Carocci said so he is also saying to the Chief to decide whether he wants an additional officer or he doesn't want an additional officer, but he would like the Township to ask the school district. (*Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was speaking at the same time as Mr. Carocci – was inaudible*) Ms. deLeon said one of you at a time. Mr. Carocci said well she shouldn't have cut him off then. So, he would ask that they get the 25% from us and 75% from the school district. (*Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was speaking at the same time as Mr. Carocci – was inaudible*)

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the reason she asked a question is, is your making a point that (*inaudible*) where our Chief doesn't have enough (*inaudible*) staff right now (*inaudible*) we are going to take the same officer (*inaudible*) SRO. Ms. deLeon said one of you at a time. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said that I think would be appropriate to identify whether or not (*inaudible*) current staff or hire a new staff to cover the extra time that we're looking to make up from all of these calls because we've talked about the situation where we send an officer every day. If we are going to reallocate one of our officers that we already hired for our Township business, that doesn't make much sense to her if we are taking...Mr. Carocci said nobody said that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said taking something away to do the same thing they are doing now. Mr. Carocci said nobody said that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if we are going to do that, it would make more sense to say we are going to hire somebody on top of the staffing that we thought was appropriate at the time for our Township.

Mr. Carocci said Victoria, you should leave the...Victoria, you don't know. You should leave the staffing decision or recommendation to Council up to somebody with expertise and it's not her obviously. It's Chief Barndt. If he decides that this should be a new hire, then Mr. Carocci would be willing to go along with it. If he decides we can do it from our current officers that are hired, that's fine too, but he would ask that the school district reimburse at least 75% of this individual's salary if he's going to be over there 180 days plus a year that we do get some money from the school district. That's a decision that, it's way above your head, way above your head. Ms. deLeon said insulting.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if we are going to make an argument about staffing that currently we are putting the Township at risk because we are allocating our current staff to respond to the school district. It doesn't make any sense to reduce our staff to fill the need. If you want to add staff...Mr. Banonis

said he didn't suggest that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said to fill the need, that would make sense to comport with the concerns that you brought up about our officers responding on a daily basis and taking away from other Township needs. So, that's the point she's trying to make. It's not about whether Chief Barndt can or can't allocate his staffing. It's about the argument of using our resources in our Township to help the school district. That's the point. She thinks if you are going to engage and use our staff's time, more of our staff's time to engage the school district, it would be appropriate to at least give them some criteria and say we're looking to add on top of because our current staff it's putting our Township at risk.

Mr. Carocci said you are going to give the police criteria, that's great. Ms. deLeon said she has two questions. Has the school district been in contact with you over that their officers that they have on duty, like they need help or anything, like in the normal time? Mr. Carocci said we have officers. They are security guards. Don't denigrate our officers by calling those people officers. They are security guards, not officers.

Ms. deLeon said okay, you know what she's talking about so can you answer? Chief Barndt said he has ongoing dialogue with the school but never to assist their security specialist. We are always called there for calls of service whether it's a medical call, whether it's to assist them with stuff that he will not discuss further, fights, disturbances, stuff like that. Ms. deLeon said right. So, we have a school district that's you said had how many calls, what's the second one? Is that the most instances? There's businesses, there's the Giant, there's all kinds of other places that they respond to. Chief Barndt said he didn't do any research on that. He knew he was coming here for the school and he just wanted to give a brief number as to the amount of times they were there. Maybe to help the situation out, if he opens discussion and dialogue like you are going to pass the motion, he believes, he would open that up and see if he can get cooperation from the school. If the cooperation is there and they are in favor of it and this Council is in favor of it, it would clearly be his recommendation that we hire an additional officer to fulfill that position for the 9 months out of the year, which would give them the 75/25 that Mr. Carocci is talking about or whatever kind of financial agreements are worked out, whether it's grant money, stuff like that. He would make a request that we hire an additional officer. With that being said, let's understand that this doesn't happen overnight. First of all, we have the hiring problem as we are all well aware of. Second of all, in order to go in as a SRO, you have to be trained as a SRO, and it takes a special person to do that. So, there would have to be interviews there. So, that hopefully might answer some questions but he would definitely request an additional officer.

Mr. Carocci said it's going to take a while so he thinks that's why we should pass this motion tonight to at least start the conversations of this possibly happening with the goal that if the school district agrees, that something could be in place hopefully by September of next year when school goes back into session. We do have time, it's only April 3rd. He knows it's going to be a while to find that special person you are looking for, but if we start that process tonight from our end, hopefully it can be done. Chief Barndt said the more time, the better and he doesn't think there's a better time than right now. Mr. Carocci said he agrees.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Chief is your recommendation that, do you think that it's appropriate for him to approach the school district to discuss this issue? Chief Barndt said he has no problem. Mr. Banonis said he's already done it before. Chief Brandt said approaching the school district. He did it before and he has a lot of documentation to it, and our neighboring departments that have SROs have also reached out to him prior the last time and the time before that if he ever needs any assistance. So, the resources are there and he's not afraid to use them.

Mr. Carocci said and all of our neighboring districts have SROs, all of them, all of our neighboring districts. Mr. Banonis said in fact just about every...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said to clarify her question, her question was whether or not...Ms. deLeon said she's speaking. Mr. Banonis said his question again is...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said not whether you can, whether you think it's appropriate for us to have him go to the school district to request it. Does he think this is a need? Chief Barndt said yes, he does find it as a need. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said thank you.

Mr. Banonis said to be clear, SVSD may be the only school district in the entire Lehigh Valley that does not have a licensed police officer serving as a SRO, correct? Chief Barndt said he believes we are one of a few, yes. Mr. Banonis said this is a situation where we don't want to be in the minority, yet again. Chief Barndt said correct.

Ms. Ray said she thinks it sounds like a good idea to approach the school and see what they think. Maybe they have a different thought than they did last time and then we can move from there.

Mr. Carocci said there was a motion on the floor and a second. Ms. deLeon said we had Council discussion. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said may she just clarify that the motion would be to add an additional officer...Mr. Carocci said no, the motion is to approach the school district. Mr. Banonis said you are talking about hiring people. First thing we have to do, it's very logical. He understands logic is lost on some people on this Council, but the logical process as Chief had explained, is for him, because he's done...hello...can he finish? Mr. Carocci said please finish. Mr. Banonis said the logical progression of this is for Chief Barndt, who has done this before, who had conversations with them before who has the information and also has access to other departments that do this, to approach the school to see if they are interested in it. If they tell him that they are not interested in it and go pound sand like they did before, well, then at that point, he doesn't know why we are even hiring another police officer or doing anything else, because that's where it ends. So, how about the Chief goes and does what we ask him to do, that he uses the skillset that he has and the information he has to go and get an answer to that question, to see if there's interest, and then if there is, then we figure out how to staff it.

Mr. Carocci said Ms. Opthof-Cordaro fails to understand the basic concept that if the school board doesn't want, if the school board doesn't want, a police officer, they don't have to have one even though the school district is in LST. She fails to understand that basic concept. (*Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was speaking at the same time as Mr. Carocci*) Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I think he clearly indicated it would be (*inaudible*) so I just want to make sure (*inaudible*) that you are not going to discuss the item of either we're adding an additional officer or not. Mr. Banonis said his motion is his motion. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said okay. Mr. Carocci said your failure to understand is absolutely incredible. It was a simple basic motion to engage in conversation with the school board and the school district about possibly a resource officer. That was the motion made, that motion was seconded. She fails to understand that even though the school district is located in LST, you-can't just send an officer in there that they don't want all the time. You only respond to calls, is that correct? Chief Barndt said correct. Mr. Carocci said or maybe do a regular patrol of the parking lot or something like that, but actually going into the school, I know. Ms. Opthof fails to understand basic concepts ...Ms. deLeon said you know what, we can say a whole bunch of stuff about you too, but she really holds her tongue...Mr. Banonis said go ahead, he'd love to hear it. Ms. deLeon said no, because she wasn't raised that way. Mr. Banonis said oh yeah, okay. Mr. Carocci said yes, you were. You and Mr. Ozimek weren't raised that way? Ms. Ray said can we do roll call on this motion so we can carry on. Mr. Carocci said you and Mr. Ozimek weren't raised that way, your brother? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said can you state the motion one more time?

Mr. Banonis said his motion again is to have Chief Barndt contact and engage in discussions with the SVSD Administration about interest in having a SRO staffed by a LST police officer for the purposes of providing SRO services within the SVSD along the lines of what we've already discussed before which is a 75%/25% split because the school isn't open all 365 days a year.

Mr. Carocci said that was the motion and he seconded it. That's the motion they had before, and he doesn't understand people can't understand it. Mr. Banonis said it's a very complicated motion. Mr. Carocci said very complicated. Mr. Banonis said public safety is very complicated. Mr. Carocci said way above, way above...Ms. deLeon said she's going to end Council discussion and open it up to the audience, whoever wants to speak.

Kathy Pichel-McGovern said thank you Chief Barndt, she appreciates it. Tom, why you would cause animosity between LST police and Hellertown police is beyond her. In his own Administrative

Legislation, the LST Council rules Chapter 17, is Inter-Municipal Police Cooperation. If she needs a police officer, she wants a police officer. She doesn't want Hellertown, LST to be fighting with each other and the Council member that supports that is an atrocity. Mr. Carocci said is Jason related to Mark Inglis or not? Mr. Banonis said he offered to take a DNA test but it was never taken up. Ms. deLeon said come on, you know...Mr. Banonis said he will gladly prove his lack of familial relationship to others that once were on Council.

Ms. deLeon said there's someone at the podium, Mark. Mr. Ozimek said thank you Chief Barndt for your work with the school. He has a recommendation of his own. He recommends that the Council, provided two of you could behave, is that the Council request that the school board come here for a meeting, everybody in attendance. Mr. Banonis said there's something called the Sunshine Law, Sir. Mr. Ozimek said he hasn't studied the Sunshine Law. He doesn't know if you can do that or not, but he doesn't see why you couldn't. It's a matter of public safety for kids. The school board should be interested in coming to the Township and saying, look, can we come up with a plan Can we work together to make sure that the kids don't have a problem in school; and you know what, this wouldn't be coming from a 13-, 14- or 16-year-old Mr. Ozimek. He says that because we're the ones that had barrels of beer on the bus going to Vo-Tech. We're the ones that smoked a whole bunch of pot on the bus going to Vo-Tech. He came from the east side of Allentown. He knows what goes on in schools. He might be 64 years old but he's not so far gone that he's stupid that he forgot everything. So, that would be his recommendation to the school board and the Council. As far as the Sunshine Law, that's up to you to figure out and discuss. He thinks it would be a good thing to do and he thinks it would be a good thing to have certain members of the public available to view it also or be here, parents, students, people that are actually going to get some good out of it. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else? Go ahead. She thought he had something more to offer. Chief Barndt said no, he would say that if the motion passes tonight, if you can give him until the first meeting in May, and he'll come back and give you a report as to where they are at, hopefully it progresses and we can move forward from there. Ms. deLeon said okay, roll call. Mr. Banonis said he hopes Chief Barndt brings them good news.

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she votes yes, just so the public and the school district understand, she's not going to be rigid with respect to the funding allocation identified and it's her personal view as what Chief Barndt had indicated that this would be in addition to the current police force in LST. Thank you. Mr. Carocci said she has no idea what she's talking about. Ms. deLeon said she's voting yes because she thinks a discussion is appropriate and depending on what results from there, she might change her mind, but for right now, she thinks he should have the conversation.

Ms. deLeon said thank you Chief. Mr. Banonis said good luck. Mr. Carocci said thank you Jason for putting that on the agenda. Mr. Banonis said he appreciates Mr. Carocci's second in support of that. It sounds like two members of Council are not that inclined to go with it, but we'll see.

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT PURCHASE OF TWO BODY CAMERAS

Ms. deLeon said the Police Department is looking to purchase two new body cameras to replace two malfunctioning cameras no longer under warranty.

Chief Barndt said they received their body cameras several years ago. The warranty expired at the end of 2023 and since then, some of them have been falling off and malfunctioning, which that piece of equipment is one of the most important pieces they have in this day and age of law enforcement. He's requesting to purchase two new ones with a 5-year warranty, which will allow them to have a spare and then when their additional officer gets sworn in full-time, he will have one so they are at full tilt. Also, he has applied for some grant funding preliminary. Hopefully he can get that. If not, he will be back for the 2025 budget to replace all 20 of them. If he's able to get these two, they will be put into the rotation for the next 20 of them.

Mr. Banonis said are the body cameras a type of device that need to be certified or validated in terms of what they capture? It came to his mind like a breathalyzer machine, where that has to be calibrated to make sure it's doing its job correctly. He understands that what a body camera is capturing is not physical evidence in the terms of a blood alcohol content, but video evidence, and for that video evidence to be admissible in criminal proceedings, is there any sort of certification that is required for those cameras? Chief Barndt said no. Mr. Banonis said okay.

Ms. deLeon said okay, Tom? Mr. Carocci said he's a big support of body cameras and we should have one for each officer and looks forward to voting for the new ones next year. Mr. Banonis said he would just bring up that...Ms. deLeon said you already had your turn. Mr. Carocci said he's going again. He recognized him. He recognizes you Jason, go ahead.

Mr. Banonis said as he recalls before he was on Council, the department did not have body cameras and in fact, body cameras were put in place and you had implemented and created a policy for that. The purpose of it was really not so much gottcha to capture crimes taking place, but largely for risk management purposes for the police officers so that when the Township would get sued under a frivolous abuse, excessive force or constitutional right violations, that the Township and the officers are protected in performing their police duties. He thinks it's a critical element that keeps our police department protected and keeps our Township protected, as well as serving an evidentiary purpose but he thinks the evidentiary may be secondary.

Chief Barndt said that is correct. They did not have them and he applied for a grant. They didn't even pay anything and the grant was fully funded by the PCCD and the Chief's Association. They did negotiate a policy with the Police Officer's Association and have had no issues since. The officers wear them diligently. They have no issues.

Mr. Carocci said he recalls when they had that consultant to help us hire a new Chief which ended up being you, and Priscilla was on that committee. He forgets the name of that consulting firm and the gentleman from North Carolina. Chief Barndt said John Scruggs. Mr. Carocci said John Scruggs but he had a study that, he forgets the exact number, but it was over 90%, that 90% of the time that the video was needed and viewed it exonerated the officer around the country. It didn't implicate the officer. It showed the officer was following procedure, which helps the Township if there's any type of dispute or lawsuit. So, they are valuable. They are valuable to taxpayers. They save a lot of potential false claims by defendants.

Ms. deLeon said okay, it's her turn if she's not interrupted. She supports this. She always supported these body cams and they are here to protect the officer, in her opinion. So, anyway, is this out of this year's budget. Were these budgeted for 2024? Mrs. Gorman said they were not, that's why they are being brought back to Council. Ms. deLeon said so we have money in the budget to pay for this? Mrs. Gorman said yes. Ms. deLeon said okay, thank you.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's in full support. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said she's in full support as well. She just has one question then on the subscription fee. Is that like maybe for cloud storage for the video or what does that cover? Chief Barndt said good question. They don't have cloud storage. They have a server that is secured in their evidence room so everything downloads right to that when the officers come back and put them in the docking station. Ms. deLeon said she saw that on TV. Ms. Ray said does that get backed up? Chief Barndt said yes. That is clearly the warranty, which he could assure you that the last warranty has been very beneficial to us whether it was batteries or malfunctions. They would send them a new camera and we would send the old one back and there would be no questions asked. Ms. Ray said that's great. It's not worthwhile buying the warranty on them. This is great.

Ms. deLeon said at this point, she's going to open it up to the public. Anyone in the public would like to come up and speak on this matter. She doesn't see any, so may we have a roll call please. Mrs. Gorman said you have to make a motion.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved to purchase two new body cameras to replace two malfunctioning cameras no longer under warranty for the amount of \$4,110.00.

SECOND BY: Ms. Ray

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Ms. deLeon said be safe out there everybody.

C. RESOLUTION #40-2024 – TOWNSHIP SECRETARY

Ms. deLeon said Resolution #40-2024 has been prepared appointing Cathy Gorman as Township Secretary.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved for approval of Resolution #40-2024, appointing Cathy Gorman as Township Secretary.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion, Jason? Mr. Banonis said nothing. Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Carocci said nothing. Ms. deLeon said she's in favor of it. Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's in favor, thanks. Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said she's in favor. Ms. deLeon said public discussion, would anyone out there like to speak on this issue?

Mr. David Boulin said somehow he doesn't think the first time he said it, it stuck, alright, so this is the second job that Mrs. Gorman is taking on in addition to the, what did it say...Mrs. Gorman said Acting Township Manager. Mr. Boulin said right, okay. So, she's acting right now, if he understands that sign correctly. Correct, so now she holds two jobs and that should be worth original salary of Mark plus salary she's getting and now we have actually a secretary's salary added to it. Is that correct? Just nod.

Ms. deLeon said try looking in the Administrative Code. Okay, anybody else like to speak? Okay, roll call.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Ms. deLeon said okay, thank you Cathy, congratulations again.

D. RESOLUTION #41-2024 – TOWNSHIP PLANNING/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. deLeon said Resolution #41-2024 has been prepared appointing Cathy Gorman as Township Planning/Zoning Administrator.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved for approval of Resolution #41-2024, appointing Cathy Gorman as Township Planning/Zoning Administrator.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion, Jason? Mr. Banonis said no. Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Carocci said no, she's more competent than the three of you and the Solicitor combined. Ms. deLeon said she's in favor of it. Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's in favor, thanks. Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said she's in favor.

Ms. deLeon said just the public out there understanding these. These are all jobs in the administrative code that is assumed by the Manager, so there's really no extra pay, right? Mrs. Gorman said correct. Ms. deLeon said it's just kind of part...Mrs. Gorman said it's part of the Manager's job in the Code. Ms. deLeon said right, it's part of the job, so with that, public comment anyone?

Kathy Pichel-McGovern said she just doesn't understand Township Planning/Zoning Administrator, so do you like handles all the phone calls that come in to the Planning? Ms. deLeon said no, she oversees all of that. A Manager would oversee all of that. Mrs. Gorman said she would work with our Zoning Officer, Mr. Young and oversee Zoning Hearing Board agendas and Planning Commission agendas. Ms. Pichel-McGovern said thank you for the clarification. Ms. deLeon said it's in the Second-Class Code and our administrative code of the Township. Mr. Carocci said and it's common sense. Ms. deLeon said since there's no one else ready to speak, may we have a roll call please.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

E. RESOLUTION #42-2024 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO CAPITAL

Ms. deLeon said Resolution #42-2024 has been prepared following the presentation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at the March 20th meeting, and is attached for Council's review and approval. That was in your packet, everybody can see it online. She asked Cathy if she wanted to go over that?

Mrs. Gorman said sure. As we discussed in the CAFR presentation last meeting, transferring funds from one to another does require a resolution by Council and the amount of money that is being transferred is in accordance to approved Township policy. So, what they are asking Council to do is to approve this resolution so she can officially move the money that we had needed to pay for the improvements on the Easton Road ballfield and the other projects that are outstanding out there.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said so just to be clear, we are obligated to pay those amounts as they come in pursuant to the approval of things in 2023. Mrs. Gorman said yes. Yes, when HEA reviews the bids that come in, then they will be presented to Council.

MOTION BY: No motion made.

Ms. deLeon said Jason do you have any comments? Mr. Banonis said no. Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Carocci said no. Ms. deLeon said Victoria already went. Laura? Ms. Ray said yea, she understands this is to cover our contractual obligations that were made at the end of 2023 so this is just normal transfer. Ms. deLeon said okay, she'll open it to the public. Anyone would like to speak? Okay, roll call.

ROLL CALL: 5-0
**See April 17, 2024 Council Minutes*

F. REVIEW PREPARED DRAFT ORDINANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENT AND NECESSARY STEPS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH POSSIBLE ENACTMENT OF THE ORDINANCE SETTING COUNCIL TERMS AND LIMITS

Ms. deLeon said we all remember this was on the ballot as a referendum and it passed, so now we have to implement it. So, she guesses we need a date. Does anybody have any ideas on like what agenda item this would go on?

Mr. Goudsouzian said what you would do is you would go ahead and move forward with advertising and then we could set it for a particular date after the advertisement is completed or we can do as you want you can make the motion to advertise it and then have staff report back as to put it on the agenda for a particular date because sometimes it takes a while to get in front, to get the advertisement to reference the time and so on. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't think we are in any rush right now because it's not going to affect us until next year. Mr. Goudsouzian said the idea is to move forward with the advertising now. Ms. deLeon said okay.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved for approval to go forward with the advertising for the ordinance for setting Council term limits.

Mr. Banonis said he'd like to ask a question about the terms of this proposed ordinance. The actual question that was placed on the ballot is as follows: "Do you favor the adoption of an ordinance that would amend the Township's optional plan of government and administrative code to impose a two consecutive term limit, eight total years, for LST Council elected members commencing with the terms that begin on January 5, 2026 and continuing thereafter for all elected Council members, any years of service by an individual who is appointed to Council should not be included in the eight total year limitation, yes or no?" As he recalls, that referendum vote passed overwhelmingly. He thinks it was around 80% to 20% in favor of it. He would point out, never mind, he won't point out. He'll just leave it at that because the effective date is included here in the proposal. It's in Section 2, not in Section 1.

Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Carocci said this was something the previous Council put on the ballot and he thinks it's good. He thinks eight years is more than enough for any one person to serve. He means Priscilla is the poster child of politicians why we need term limits. She's been here for 35 years and has done nothing. Ms. deLeon said 36. Mr. Carocci said she's been paid tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars and put it in her pocket. This is her job. She doesn't work. She's been on disability and Workers Comp for 20, 25 years? You tell him, he's asking her a question. Ms. deLeon said she's not going to answer that. That's personal. Mr. Carocci said okay, okay, personal, right. Living off the, is it a private Workers Comp or is it the taxpayer dollar. She's been doing that for about 20, 25 years. Mr. Banonis said he thinks it's disability. Mr. Carocci said disability, right, right. Ms. Ray said point of order. Mr. Carocci said disability that allows her to spend all her time at the Township and get money, but she's the poster child. Ms. Ray said the topic is Term Limits. Mr. Banonis said he's explaining why it's important to have term limits. You get rid of dead weight that's taking taxpayer dollars and lining up their pockets and get nothing done. Mr. Carocci said exactly. Priscilla is Exhibit A. She's a poster politician, and Bob Freeman too. He's glad this passed. He thought it would. He knows Township residents liked the idea and we should definitely advertise it. Priscilla might have to get a real job, he doesn't know. He doesn't know how long her disability runs for. She has to pay taxes from her real job.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's in favor of moving forward as the motion stated.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said she had a question though on how this is worded in the term limits in Section 1. There it only mentions two term limit. It doesn't say anything about consecutive though, so it seems different or it is different. Should that be worded differently, that's her question, before it's advertised?

Mr. Goudsouzian said so we have two options. We can go ahead and advertise as is or if somebody, if we wanted to amend the motion, to have the change indicating instead of a two-term limitation to have it be so it matches the language a two consecutive term limitation. Ms. deLeon said right, it should match the thing, right. Mr. Goudsouzian said the other option is you advertise as is, which will always give you the opportunity to amend it at a later date too since all you are doing is advertising it. Since you caught it, he thinks the better way is to, if we are inclined, the person who made the motion, amends their motion.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved to amend her previous motion for approval to go forward with the advertising for ordinance for setting Council term limits to reflect the new language.

Mr. Banonis said may he get clarification as to who prepared this draft ordinance that did not match the referendum? Mr. Goudsouzian said his office did. Mr. Banonis said oh, your office did. Okay. Mr. Carocci said at \$180.00/hour and you couldn't get it right. Mr. Banonis said it's just a cut and paste, it's already there. Mr. Carocci said what were we billed for this? Did it take two hours, three hours, Mr. Goudsouzian? Ms. Ray said she recalls quite a few resolutions that had errors in them before... Ms. deLeon said this isn't kindergarten. There are better kids in kindergarten. Mr. Goudsouzian said Ms. deLeon amended her motion.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said how about public comment? Mr. Dave Boulin said by law, he has to give his name and address, may he speak? Ms. deLeon said he doesn't have to give his address though. Mr. Boulin said so, he read that and he read it about five times and thought the same thing. It seems awful complicated, as Ms. Ray pointed out that, that had to be so verbose in order to state a simple thing that we, the Council, are implementing this, which the voters have mandated, okay, or something very simple to that. Yet, as he says, it's so convoluted and now we find out it's goofy and it's got to be rewritten and he agrees. We need people that are sharp here in the Council, all the time, whatever it may be, well read up on the subject, understand it, at least somebody caught it here. Understand it and we move forward on it so there's no debate. If you get it right the first time, somebody already said that, then you don't have to ask again and again and have a big argument about it, so he'd encourage the Council, they get paid handsomely, he knows, to really review these things and if you have questions, try to resolve them in your own head first, okay.

Ms. deLeon said thank you, anybody else? Roll call please.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Mr. Banonis said this includes the amendment to fix the error that the Solicitor's office made. Mr. Carocci said the incompetent Solicitor, yea. Fix the error of the incompetent Solicitor.

G. REVIEW PREPARED DRAFT ORDINANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENT AND NECESSARY STEPS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH POSSIBLE ENACTMENT OF THE ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 125.6A OF CHAPTER 25 PEDDLING AND SOLICITING

Mr. Goudsouzian said this was an ordinance to have the local LST ordinance match to the PA Code with regard to peddling. There was a conflict before and this matches it up regarding to time and dates. Ms. deLeon said the previous ordinance was prepared by our past Solicitor. So, she'll make a motion.

Mr. Carocci said what exactly was the change? What exactly was the conflict? Mr. Goudsouzian said the conflict was that the existing ordinance provided or restricted peddling more than the PA Code. There was a potential challenge that we received from an attorney and the thought was that rather than litigate this matter, simply amend the ordinance to match the PA Code to avoid any potential future litigation or potential litigation.

Mr. Carocci said what were they complaining about specifically? Mr. Goudsouzian said the hours. Mr. Carocci said the hours from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.? Mr. Goudsouzian said and the date also he believes too, but primarily the hours. Mr. Carocci said okay. Ms. deLeon said so the new language is fixing that to match the State law, we're good then.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved for approval to advertise the ordinance amending Section 125.6A of Chapter 25 Peddling and Soliciting.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion, Jason? Mr. Banonis said do we know when the existing ordinance, the one that's currently on the books, when that was enacted? Mr. Goudsouzian said he does not know, Mr. Banonis. Mr. Banonis said okay. The reason he asks that is because Priscilla deLeon just tried to take a pod shot and said that one was prepared by our former Solicitor. She didn't mention him by name but he's sure that's an underhanded way to try to suggest that Linc Treadwell had something to do with it and...Mr. Carocci said it could have been Ed McCarsky. Mr. Banonis said it could have been anybody. Mr. Carocci said McCarsky was the Solicitor before. Mr. Banonis said it seems to him that might have been an underhanded way to try to attack him and provide more cover...Mr. Carocci said again, with no evidence, with no evidence of anything. Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Banonis said he's not done. He's not done. Mr. Carocci said you're recognized Jason. Mr. Banonis said thank you Tom, he appreciates that. He just wants to make sure that, unlike the last ordinance that did not match the language of the referendum, does the language that's contained in this ordinance accurately reflect what

is contained in the State law that we are trying to be not more restrictive of? Can he get an answer to that from the Solicitor, can he answer that question? Ms. Ray said if you read it, it does. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't have the State law in front of him, that's why he's asking. Mr. Goudsouzian said you do. It's the 5th whereas. Ms. Ray said right there. Mr. Banonis said that's what it says, it's not...Mr. Goudsouzian said it is, it's a quotation. Mr. Banonis said okay. His question is...Ms. Ray said Section 52 PA Code Section 111.9...Mr. Banonis said is he speaking? He knows she likes to mutter all the time and talk to herself, and sometimes she answers herself. He's not asking her to answer him. He's not talking to her, he's talking to the Solicitor. Mr. Carocci said he didn't recognize you Laura, he recognized Jason. Mr. Banonis said can you control her please, Priscilla? Ms. Ray said you're not running the meeting either. Mr. Banonis said he would like the President to get control to allow him to finish speaking. His question is does that language reflect what's there? He understands you put quotation marks around it. He's asking is that accurate to what is contained in 52 PA Code, 111.9? Mr. Goudsouzian said he believes it does. Mr. Banonis said you believe, alright, he guesses we'll rely upon that. Thank you for answering the question that he presented to the Solicitor. He sees that you are making progress, that's very forthcoming. Mr. Carocci said that's the funniest thing Laura ever said, she doesn't think he runs the meetings. Ms. deLeon said are you finished, Jason? Mr. Banonis said he's done now. Thank you for asking.

Ms. deLeon said Tom? Mr. Carocci said he has no he has nothing besides what Laura said very funny, thank you.

Ms. deLeon said she has nothing. Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said nothing.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said no. Ms. deLeon said okay, after Council discussion, we have public comment. Would there be anyone in the audience that wishes to speak on this? Seeing none, oh, you want to speak? She doesn't do sign language.

Mr. David Boulin said what was the conflict, the actual conflict, was it the hours? He heard that and the reason is because yes, he gets peddlers at his house and he wonders whether they should be there or not. So, he didn't even realize we had a peddling law. Tell him a little bit about what did we have for hours and what are you proposing to match the State with hour per hour?

Mr. Goudsouzian said the proposed matching is 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. during the six months from October to March. Then 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. from April to September meaning there are later hours in the summertime. Mr. Banonis said 8:00 p.m. Mr. Goudsouzian said he's sorry, thank you, 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Boulin said thank you, okay. So, Chairman, is it possible we could have on some of these things just a little brief detail of what goes, what's being proposed and that's really trivial but really easy to understand and it's off the item and on to the next agenda item. Ms. deLeon agenda item description, and then in there is the "click on" to see the actual document. Mr. Boulin said things like proposals, he's really blown away when he walks in here and somebody has got this long-winded proposal, which has been well prepared but it does not appear in our sheets, okay, as part of our, you would say "packet", but our online material. Some things are very important and we don't get to read them or understand or see them until they are actually read by a Council member and he finds that to be heinous. He really does because he's interested in what goes on and if he doesn't understand, he can't understand it like this agenda because he gets it 6 hours before the meeting, yea, that just says he's just wasted a lot of time and so did a lot of other people who don't even show up here, so yes, was that a yes answer? Ms. deLeon said this agenda was published on Friday with this item in it. Mr. Boulin said right, but not the minute details of it that would be helpful to the public to understand, yes? Ms. deLeon said she doesn't put the agenda together. The Manager would put the agenda together. Mr. Boulin said he understands that she puts it together with the Manager. The Manager consults her also. Is it possible to put that in there or don't or should he be talking to our Interim Manager? Ms. deLeon said we'll work on that, right? Mrs. Gorman said yes, we can do that. Mr. Boulin said so we'll have an answer perhaps on some of these. Just a little more, it only takes a little bit more of typing. Ms. deLeon said right, thank you. Mr. Carocci said she's lying about that. She clearly puts the agenda together with our former Manager,

Mark Hudson. The RTK emails showed that she's clearly directing him what to put on the agenda for all the meetings in January, February, and the first one in March, at least. We got the January and February emails anyway from the RTK. He doesn't think we have the March ones yet, so she's lying when she says she doesn't set the agenda. Mr. Boulin said that's unfortunate if that's true. Mr. Carocci said it is true. They have the emails. Mr. Boulin said okay. Ms. deLeon said since no one in the audience wants to speak, we will have roll call.

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Mr. Banonis said he would just point out before he votes to the public, that there is a do not solicit list that you can get on if you don't want people knocking on your door. The Township has that and you can get that on the Township website so by voting yes does not necessarily mean that he does endorse door-to-door solicitation but he will vote yes because we need to comply with State law)

H. TOWN HALL PARK TOT LOT ADDITION

Ms. deLeon said the Township applied for a \$50,000.00 grant and was awarded \$20,000.00. Council will discuss the quotes received.

Mrs. Gorman said if you remember, last year we applied for a grant through the State Local Share and the Keystone Grant to pay for the improvements to the tot lot at the closer to the softball field which is work is beginning. They are going to be scheduling with the contractor soon. Later in the year, they were afforded an opportunity to apply for another grant through NC and the Council had approved to apply for a grant for the lower level for a younger age bracket inside the fenced area to replace some of the equipment out there that was a little, is obsolete and it's over 20 years old so parts of the playground equipment cannot be replaced at this time. So, we brought this back to Park and Rec. Park and Rec has made a recommendation that's in your packet and we are asking Council to consider either going with the original plans of the improvements at the lower level and if we do that, the cost would be \$97,900.00 total for both projects. If we did the, if we removed some of the smaller features of the proposal, it would come down to \$77,497.00. That can even be reduced by \$18,000.00 depending on whether or not we have to buy additional rubber mulch for those projects. So, at this point, we are asking Council's consideration as to which direction they would like to go.

Ms. deLeon said what does Council wish? Mr. Carocci said hold on, there's some, he needs a point of clarification. The numbers you gave were \$77,000.00 and \$97,000.00...in his packet it's \$78,796.00 and...Mrs. Gorman said yes, one is \$78,000.00 is the quote and \$99,199.00. She's sorry, the amounts she was giving you was for the rehabilitation of both parks. She apologizes for that. Mr. Carocci said he thinks it's a good project. He thinks our parks should be much better than they are. He's for the full amount, he supports that. He would like to point out when we were doing this baseball field and it's going to be great, and people were like, some of the people opposed that were like well not everybody plays baseball, so we shouldn't be spending money on it or not everybody plays Pickle Ball, we shouldn't be spending money on the Pickle Ball courts. Well here we have tots. Tots don't even pay taxes yet. Their parents do and we're going to spend \$100,000.00 hopefully on a nice park for them because they deserve it. It just shows that not everybody is going to use we spend money on in our parks but it doesn't mean we can't have great parks that have a lot of different things for a lot of different people of different ages and he knows we have a lot of whiners on Parks and Rec right now and some of them on this Council and he just wants to point out their hypocrisy of, well, he's sure they are going to vote for this, as they should. He hopes they vote for it. They should, so he'll make a motion.

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved for approval of the Town Hall Park Tot Lot at a price of \$99,199.00 for the full tot park and all the great things that come with it.

Mr. Carocci said who says he doesn't run these meetings. Mrs. Gorman said she would also like to add that the ADA equipment is going to stay. Ms. deLeon said she's glad they are supporting disabilities or the ADA.

SECOND BY: Mr. Banonis

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said with respect to the grant money, we talked about like initial cost of \$50,000.00 and then the grant of \$20,000.00 she thinks, is it \$20,000.00 then we were talking about a cost of \$70,000.00 and \$90,000.00 so can she clarify out of the \$99,000.00 which is the current motion on the floor, how much of that is granted?

Mrs. Gorman said they received a grant for this addition to the Town Hall Park, we received a grant for \$20,000.00. The total cost for this would be \$79,199.00. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said \$79,199.00, so where do we get the \$99,000.00? Mrs. Gorman said the \$99,000.00 was the original quote. They are going to pay the contractor \$99,199.00...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thought we were paying...Mrs. Gorman said the net result will be \$79,199.00.

Mr. Carocci said the Township is paying \$99,199.00 as we are taking the \$20,000.00 grant and turning that over and we are taking the other \$79,199.00 out of Park Capital money, so the Township is paying \$99,199.00, we're not paying \$78,000.00. We get a grant; we still have to use that grant money. The grant was to the Township, not the contractor of the park. Basic stuff.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria, she went. Tom was talking. Jason do you want to say something? Mr. Banonis said he's going to reserve his comments till after the public speaks if they speak at all. Ms. deLeon said that's not in our procedure, but...Mr. Banonis said well he's going to do that. Mr. Carocci said he recognize you Jason for doing that. Ms. deLeon said amazing, whatever. Laura? Ms. Ray said she likes the all the bells and whistles because it includes special equipment that was like musical, which is very different and she knows somebody at Parks and Rec was talking about how, you know, not all kids can do the things that the other playground equipment has like climbing on ropes or up and down the slide. So to them, maybe banging on a xylophone or making the bells ring would be great for them, so she thinks it's a neat addition.

Mr. Carocci said do the Jr. members on Council asked how they felt about tax dollars being used for this Town Park like they were for the baseball field? Ms. Ray said...Mr. Carocci said they weren't. Mr. Holum didn't show up, didn't show up tonight either.

Ms. deLeon said okay, she'll open it up the floor, does anybody want to speak? Seeing no one, Jason go ahead. Mr. Banonis said so he would point out as Tom had mentioned earlier, this park according to the quote we have from Burke. It says Burke proposal 56-169491-2024 pricing ages 2 to 5. Again, ages 2 to 5. So when you look at the U.S. Census Bureau data for LST, how many people do you think are under 5 – 4.9%? So 95.1% of the Township is not under 5 and will not use this playground but yet we had hysteria, literally hysteria, about building a ballfield, a baseball field where LST doesn't have any lighted ballfield. Hellertown doesn't have any lighted full-size baseball field. You have hysteria from people. He doesn't hear Ms. Wittchen standing up and clamoring about this. Mr. Carocci said hypocrites and frauds. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't hear...Mr. Carocci said hypocrites and frauds, hypocrites and frauds. Ms. deLeon said Tom. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't hear Mr. Ozimek yelling about it. He doesn't hear Ms. Pichel-McGovern yelling about it, but they are here. He doesn't hear Jerry Holum here. He doesn't see Jerry Holum standing here at the podium complaining about this. He doesn't see him saying what about the tax dollars being spent for this? You know, in this Township, over 65 years old is 23.6% of the population, okay. He doesn't see the over 65-year-old crowd, almost a quarter of the population playing on the tot lot that we have here in the Township. The Township has, excuse him, he's speaking. The Township, disabled people in the Township, are 10.1% of our population. Priscilla helps that number out, disabled people. So, 89.9% of the population is able bodied and potentially could use this. Even 10% can't use it and he's not disparaging disabled people because they can't use a park, what he's doing is disparaging the fools that will stand here and yell about building a baseball field that kids are excited to use. A kid is at a Parks and Rec meeting and is asked about what he thinks about a baseball field and he gets criticized because he should be commenting about the use of tax dollars when all the kid wants to do, him and his friends, want to just play baseball, okay. Just like 2-year-olds, 3-year-olds, and 4-year-olds and 5-year-olds want to use a playground. They want to use a playground and they are going to be provided with a playground but the hypocrites on this Council and the hypocrites

out there in the public are going to stand up here like a bunch of jackasses and yell about something that's decent for the community but yet they are dead silent on something like this when it's going to benefit 2 to 5 year olds, it's designed and built for 2 to 5 year olds and that's great that 2 to 5 year old toddlers got a place to go and play on playgrounds. He's not against that all. What he's against are the fools we have on this Council that will waste our time...Ms. Ray said and there's a big difference, there's a big difference...Mr. Banonis said hello, hello, will you shut up your colleague? Ms. deLeon said how do you like it? Mr. Banonis said will you shut up your colleague? Mr. Carocci said he didn't recognize her. He didn't recognize her. Mr. Banonis said will you shut up your colleague or not? Would you like your colleague shut up or not? You got the gavel. Can he have it to shut her up because Ms. deLeon isn't using it? Ms. deLeon said no. Mr. Banonis said you don't know how to use it. You know how to use it selectively. Ms. deLeon said okay, everybody, Jason had the floor. Mr. Banonis said okay, there we go. There we go, thank you, a little bit late Priscilla. It just proves there is more hypocrisy. Hypocrisy about the baseball field. Hypocrisy about running the meeting. Hypocrisy about who gets to speak. It's a clown show. You know some people say there's three stooges, Moe, Larry and Curly. Well, there's a lot more. There's a lot more. There's Shep, there's Curly Joe, there's Joe Besser and a lot of other people that are out there. He's not talking to you Sir. He's not talking to you, so don't yell out at him. Ms. deLeon said do you have more to say on this agenda item? Mr. Banonis said yes, he'd like to know where is Lynn Hill? Lynn Hill was the Inspector General on all things related to the baseball field, the hypocritical. Where's our Controller on this? Shouldn't she be jumping up and down holding her breath over this like she was before with hysteria? Mr. Carocci said right. Mr. Banonis said come on. Mr. Carocci said she showed up at one meeting. Mr. Banonis said clowns. Mr. Carocci said Jason asked her three questions and she's been hiding ever since.

Ms. deLeon said okay, so Victoria, did she go?

Ms. deLeon said she's lost here. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's ready for a roll call she thinks. Ms. deLeon said Laura did you want to say anything else? Ms. Ray said she'll just point out there's a big difference between a \$3.5 million thing for a ballfield versus \$99,000.00. That's a big money gap there. So, it's not hypocrisy. Mr. Banonis said it's about the money now, it's not about who is going to use it. Before it was who was going to use it. Now it's about the money. Ms. Ray said it's a very small population...okay, you are talking over her again. Mr. Banonis said be real quick with it on him. There we go. Ms. deLeon said she guesses we are ready for the roll call.

ROLL CALL: 5-0 (Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she says yes and reiterated we have \$100,000.00 approximately spending for a population from 2 to 5 which would seem relatively appropriate considering what we are looking at here. It's a lot different than \$3.5 million that requires more additional maintenance and doesn't even include the cost of HEA's review. Thank you. Mr. Carocci said we have plenty of money for good parks, you got a landfill for the next 25 years that's going to give us money under the Host Municipal Inspection Agreement, so we have plenty of money for parks like this and we should have better parks than we do but Priscilla's been on Council for 35 years. Mr. Banonis said Parks and Rec is too busy chasing invasive species. They can't worry about the parks. Ms. deLeon said stay on the topic. Mr. Banonis said Parks and Rec. Mr. Carocci said they were on topic. Ms. deLeon said playground equipment. Mr. Carocci said please don't interrupt him, he's trying to run this meeting. Yes, he votes yes.

I. SAUCON VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER – 2024 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Ms. deLeon said the agreement for the Saucon Valley Community Center's 2024 Summer Recreation Program has been prepared for Council's review and approval. The program is structured similarly to previous years and maintains the nominal fee of \$10.00 for one child and \$5.00 for each additional child. She's assuming that's in the same family.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved for approval of the execution of the Saucon Valley Community Center 2024 summer recreation program agreement not to exceed \$34,900.00.

Mr. Carocci said why don't we put that for each additional child of the same family, why are we assuming that? Ms. deLeon said she just caught that now. Mr. Carocci said he knows. He's glad she caught it. He did not catch it. He will give her credit for catching it. He will give her credit for catching it. He did not catch that. He's saying why aren't we adding it? Ms. deLeon said Cathy is looking. Mrs. Gorman said we can add that.

Mr. Carocci said with the sum of \$34,900.00, is that an increase over last year? Mrs. Gorman said she believes it is a slight increase only because the cost of hiring staff. Mr. Carocci said if she doesn't recall of the top of her head, that's alright, but it's more than last year, \$34,900.00? Ms. deLeon said she doesn't remember what it was last year. Did she find it in the document? Mrs. Gorman said it is noted in Section 14, they can add the language "per family". Ms. deLeon said okay, she will amend her motion. Mrs. Gorman said per household? Mr. Carocci said why don't you do per household because some kids might have different parents but live in the same household. So, why don't we do \$5.00 for each additional child of the same household?

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon amended her previous motion and moved for approval of the execution of the Saucon Valley Community Center 2024 Summer Recreation Program Agreement not to exceed \$34,900.00 and adding the language as stated above.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Banonis said the only question he has, and he's not suggesting Council should direct the SV Community Center how to administer their program, but as he recalls last year, there were requests that were made to this Council by Donna Louder, specifically because of Steel City's lack of proximity to where the summer recreation programs take place over here at Town Hall Park, generally, that it had an effect to not have kids from Steel City there, so he just wants to make sure there's going to be, if we know, if we can inquire about programming, is that accurate? Ms. Ray said one of the sites is Steel City. Mrs. Gorman said one of the sites is Steel City. She believes last year we paid less because the Steel City program wasn't up and running. They will try to do more community outreach and maybe speak with Mrs. Louder to try to get more activity. Mr. Banonis said he just wants to make sure Steel City is, folks at Steel City, you know, regardless of their feelings towards him, some of them, that they are going to have the summer recreation program again.

Mr. Carocci said it's a long way for them to drive to Township Hall. Was it every week? He thought it was only certain weeks at Steel City. Mrs. Gorman said the program runs the same for each park. Mr. Carocci said at both parks, okay. Ms. deLeon said simultaneously. Mrs. Gorman said there's three parks listed, Town Hall, Southeastern and Steel City. Mr. Carocci said they didn't have the Steel City up and running last year. Mrs. Gorman said last year she believes the enrollment wasn't there. Mr. Carocci said okay, so they didn't have the participation. Mrs. Gorman said so the children that did enroll were asked to go to Southeastern. Mr. Carocci said okay.

Ms. deLeon asked Mr. Carocci if he was finished. Mr. Carocci said yes. Ms. deLeon said she supports the program, Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks it's a wonderful program.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said yes, she's in support of the program as well.

Ms. deLeon said after Council, any public discussion, anyone out there would like to speak? Hearing none may we have a roll call please?

ROLL CALL: 5-0

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MARCH 6, 2024 COUNCIL MINUTES

Ms. deLeon said the March 6, 2024 Council minutes have been prepared and are ready for Council's review and approval. She asked if anybody had any corrections, deletions, additions. If not, is there a motion for approval.

MOTION BY: Ms. deLeon moved for approval of the March 6, 2024 Council minutes.

Mr. Carocci said he has a point of clarification here. He doesn't understand this. On page 31 of 60, it's on line 13 and 14, it says, they are talking about Kathy McGovern and she says, again she will remind you that we had his family members on this board and that Ms. Pichel-McGovern said there is one right here on LST Council, Jennifer Zavacky and Mark Inglis. Mr. Banonis said asking, are these his family, what is she talking about? You can't even understand the transcript about family members. Ms. Pichel-McGovern said yes, that they were. Mr. Carocci said so is there a clarification of whether Jason is a family member with Mr. Inglis? Mr. Banonis said he can answer that question. He is not a family member with Mr. Inglis. Mr. Carocci said did you take a DNA test? There was a DNA test. Mr. Banonis said he offered many times to do that Tom. He thinks it's appropriate to clarify this. This is apparently of importance to the residents of the Township. Maybe they can do it on Maury Povich or a show like that where...Mr. Carocci said if Ms. Pichel-McGovern, he obviously thinks from the resemblance, Mr. Ozimek and Priscilla are brother and sister. It's obvious. He doesn't need DNA. He'd like to see the power line...Ms. deLeon said stick with topic. Mr. Carocci said he'd like to see the power lines they grew up next to. You see their personalities, they emotionally interrupt and emotionally immature, but so is that clear though Jason? Is that what happened? Mr. Banonis said no Tom, it's not and in fact the concern he has is on line 16, it says as if he stated this, "Mr. Banonis said they are his family, what is she talking about, family members". He never said they are his family. He questioned the allegation of the baseless absurd allegation that they are his family, so at this point, he thinks the minutes need to be amended to reflect a question mark after that sentence and certainly that he is not stating anything there that they are my family, but to the contrary he's questioning the basis for her preposterous comment. She's no longer here. She left the meeting. He guesses maybe she knew they were going to bring this up and maybe it's embarrassing to her to be called out for such an absurd thing, but he thinks he would ask if these minutes are going to be a motion to approve them, that it be amended to reflect at least, at a minimum, a question mark after that sentence that he talked about because he clearly did not acknowledge that they were his family members. They are not. Mr. Carocci said right and Ms. McGovern is completely wrong. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's not comfortable with amending anything unless the tape is reviewed because we do have You Tube and she thinks anybody who wants to amend the minutes can compare the typed-up minutes to whatever is on You Tube and if they need to be amended, that would be fine. If they don't need to be amended because of what was stated, then that's what it is. That's what she is comfortable with. Mr. Carocci said why don't we just ask...Mr. Banonis said just so he's clear, he'd like a point of clarification from Victoria. She was here, he thinks she listens, maybe not, but she's suggesting that somehow this Council should validate what she knows is a blatant statement by Ms. Pichel-McGovern. Is that what she is saying? He's trying to understand. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said first, you are saying what he thinks she knows. Mr. Banonis said he is asking her a question. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said what you are stating is what you think that what she knows, and she doesn't think he's able to say what she knows and what she doesn't know or what is true and what isn't true from her perspective. That's her perspective. She's stated that if you want to make an amendment to our minutes, the way to do it is to have them compared to whatever is on You Tube because it's in there on You Tube world for all everybody to see, for all time, and it's easily done in an objective way but doesn't include additional language or misstatements, which sometimes happen here. Mr. Carocci said all we are asking is for the transcriptionist to listen again and see one, if all of that is accurate, and if it is fine and then if that question mark instead of a period there, he'd like to see that as well. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you are saying you agree we should do it whatever is on You Tube...Mr. Banonis said can he get a clarification on your motion? Mr. Carocci said does she use You Tube or does she use the audio? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she doesn't know what she uses...she thinks she should use the You Tube. That's not what the motion was, nothing to do with You Tube. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she said they should compare it to You Tube and...Mr. Carocci said you don't even know what she uses, and he's saying if she uses the audio, she can go back and listen to it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said exactly. Mr. Carocci said there may be mistakes but that's not You Tube, that's the audio. Ms. deLeon said what are you talking about, who is she? Mr. Carocci said whoever is doing the transcription. Ms. deLeon said okay, he didn't say that, she didn't know who "she" was. Mr. Carocci said who is our transcriptionist? He doesn't know. Ms. deLeon said she has no idea. Mr. Carocci said

is it a he? Ms. deLeon said she doesn't know. Mrs. Gorman said Diane Palik. Mr. Banonis said Diane. Mr. Carocci said oh yea, he forgot. Ms. deLeon said well we'll have Diane re-listen to that section and let us know what it is so we can have it on the next agenda. Mr. Carocci said he'd make a motion to table the minutes. Mr. Banonis said he's trying to understand what your motion was Tom, if he may speak. So you are asking to have Township staff take their valuable time, when we are already without a Township Manager, hold on, let him just get it out. We are without a Township Manager, we have an Interim or Assistant Interim Manager serving who also has all these other responsibilities and she's now been tasked with the Secretary and everything else, and all it would take for Victoria to simply say yes, she agrees to put a question mark in there, but instead she wants to waste the Township staff's already limited resources and they are spread thin...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks it's his waste of...Mr. Banonis said he's speaking, he's speaking and he'd prefer her to be quite. He knows it's hard for her. He doesn't know if it's a condition she has or whatever, he doesn't know what's going on over there. Ms. deLeon said come on guys. Mr. Banonis said let him just get his statement out. You'd prefer to have Township staff waste their time in what clearly is understood as being not an affirmative statement by him...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she prefers that the minutes reflect actually what was said, not what you think they said, or ...Mr. Banonis said is he speaking...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said what she thinks they said. Ms. deLeon said come on guys, let's behave up here please. Mr. Banonis said he's not interrupting, she is. She's rocking away over there; he doesn't know what's going on over there. Mr. Carocci said at the minimum, there needs to be a question mark there and he would agree with a motion for that. It's obviously a question from Mr. Banonis and why there's a period there...but if you want to table it until...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the motion was to table it...Mr. Carocci said no it wasn't, he made the motion. Mr. Banonis said no, you made the initial motion and he trying to understand your initial motion and he's seconding your motion...Ms. deLeon said wait, Tom you made the motion to table, Victoria seconded, because he wanted to go back and re-listen to that section. Mr. Banonis said no, your motion was...Mr. Carocci said no, he wants Diane to go back...Mr. Banonis said your motion was to change it right now, wasn't it. Mr. Carocci said it's obvious there's supposed to be a question mark there. You can either change it right now to a question mark...Mr. Banonis said he made a motion to make, he made a motion...Mr. Goudsouzian said he can't do that as there is a motion on the floor. Mr. Carocci said it doesn't matter. He would love to, it doesn't matter. We will table it because he'd love to get into this again. We will table it and get into in again next meeting. Mr. Banonis said yes, let's do it. Mr. Carocci said it's tabled. Ms. deLeon said she started making a motion and then she was interrupted. Mr. Carocci said by Victoria right. Ms. deLeon said no, no. Mr. Carocci said how can he interrupt her; she's running this meeting. Ms. deLeon said let me count the ways. Mr. Carocci said he thought she said he wasn't running the meeting...Mr. Goudsouzian said motion on the table is to table and it's been seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Carocci moved to table the March 6, 2024 minutes.
SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon asked if there was any other Council discussion before she opens it up to the public? Ms. deLeon asked if anybody in the audience would like to speak? Go ahead, just don't keep shaking your head.

Mr. David Boulin said gee folks, he sits here and he watches and he listens and he really wonders. It's crystal clear what was said and if you actually read the minutes...how many...he would love to know how many on the Council literally read the minutes. Ms. deLeon said she reads the minutes. Mr. Boulin said did you catch that? Ms. deLeon said she read it as it was. She didn't make the comment, so she doesn't know. Mr. Boulin said well, it just sticks out like a sore thumb, and to sit there and debate this when it's very simple. Now his understanding is one of our Council members aside from the two males here, is an attorney and should be able to glide over that thing and get it in a heartbeat and yet we sit here for 10 – 15 minutes and discuss whether there's a question mark or not, and should somebody listen to this again, simply to correct it or not to correct it, and we waste all this time. So that's really goofy. It's no wonder he has to, Dave Boulin, has to sit there and read all this stuff because half the time the comments that are getting made by certain people, it's clear they didn't read the material. It's really

sad. Anyhow, he encourages you to read the material. No, Sir, he was saying that includes the attorney also, Solicitor. Mr. Carocci said so-called.

Ms. deLeon said would anybody else like to come up the podium, if not, roll call.

ROLL CALL: 5-0

6. COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS

A. ACTING TOWNSHIP MANAGER – Cathy Gorman

- She said the only item she has to report is that Reading Drive construction is in process. UGI was out there last week and the beginning of this week to finish up their work and the road will be posted and the residents have been notified that the work will be started to put in the culvert, and we are hoping that everything will be done by the end of April. Anybody who is driving around, please be careful of our Public Works Department employees out there working. Thank you.

B. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Banonis

- He said he would like to bring to the public's attention, particularly those who would stand up red faced, hysterical waving their hands in the air, about the time limit that this Council had and also the requirement that this Council had for residents and taxpayers only to be permitted to speak as to both agenda and non-agenda items. There were many of you who constantly criticized that issue. He would just direct your attention most recently to the pending changes in the City of Bethlehem as well as the City of Easton. In the City of Bethlehem, you may have seen in the news, that a pro-Hamas group of individuals attended a City Council meeting and kept the Council members there for four or five hours and the Council was unable to conduct Township business. As a result of that and a reaction to it, the City of Bethlehem Council is now considering and may have already passed, he doesn't know, a requirement that residents and taxpayers, you must be a resident and taxpayer to speak at a City of Bethlehem Council meeting and the City of Easton is considering the same thing, he believes. So, he doesn't hear where the outcry is over that. He doesn't hear where that outcry, he knows Victoria had many times had criticized that. He's wondering where's the problem in that? He's wondering if Joe Bubba is going on behalf of St. Luke's and with the authority of Rick Anderson to those cities and standing up and demanding to speak, although, perhaps they are property owners there, but he guesses they don't pay taxes, do they? Mr. Carocci said no. Mr. Banonis said so, but, he just finds that to be interesting that, he guesses, this Council was cutting edge in the way we conducted meetings and unfortunately, that role was taken away and there's people that complain about the length of these meetings and he thinks, in part, some of the people that come to our meetings and decide to speak up may not be residents and taxpayers of the Township and it's costing us money because of that. So, it's just an interesting observation to see how it's okay over there, but it's not okay over here.
- The other thing that he would like to revisit was going back to his comments at the last meeting about having the evidence of a knowingly inaccurate budget and the knowledge that these individuals that Priscilla, Victoria, and Laura knew about, excuse him? Who is using the Lord's name in vain out there? Ms. deLeon whose what? Mr. Banonis said somebody is saying... Ms. deLeon said she doesn't hear anything. Mr. Carocci said he did. Mr. Banonis said he heard it out there or over there, over towards Ms. Wittchen, he doesn't know. Mr. Carocci said somebody is cursing out there, inappropriate and rude. Mr. Banonis said yes, so what he brought up at that time, and he was talking about the Hillary Clinton server in the closet, not a Township server. So, on February 17, 2024, Dave Willard, a former Council member, who was not re-elected a while ago, sent to the three personal email addresses of Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, Laura Ray and Priscilla deLeon emails and he deliberately sent those. He understands the requirements, Mr. Banonis presumes Mr. Willard understands the requirements of open records and Sunshine, and he sent to their personal email addresses "rather than your LST emails because I want to keep this message private" and he was recommending a spreadsheet showing

taxes. He had acknowledged that I, Jason Banonis, was correct to state that the budget was off by \$620,000.00 and he concluded that with “free advice from your informal, unpaid advisor”. So, they were getting free advice from a self-proclaimed advisor who is not only un-elected but also was expressly rejected by the Township voters having lost his election. Mr. Carocci said point of clarification, he was a donor also. Mr. Willard and his wife were donors to their campaign. Mr. Banonis said that’s a very good point, Tom. In fact, he believes their finance records show that they, the Willard’s, had donated over \$1,000.00 to the campaign for these three and he believes that he also held an event at his home for them. He’s not positive of that, but you know, here it is, he’s admitting and deliberately sending this to them in secret to circumvent the open records and he pointed out at that meeting that only Victoria and Laura were the ones that came forward with that email despite it being written to all three. He’s not giving any credence to Victoria and Laura for being above board in that. Perhaps they just didn’t have an opportunity to talk among themselves as to what they were turning over or not turning over. He doesn’t know, he’s just speculating. When he brought that up, he pointed out the fact that Priscilla did not turn over that email and she said “I did”, and he said he didn’t remember seeing it. Of course, he was right, and she sends an email to, this is on March 25, 2024, to Carol Schneider here in the Township offices, and she also copied Steve Goudsouzian on it, he believes stephen@sng-law.com and also herself at some Priscilla deLeon email but she blacked out the email address that it came from. It says the following “it was alleged at the March 20, 2024 Township Council meeting that the RTK request that Jason Banonis did not receive a copy of an email from David Willard to me. I believe that I provided all the requested information for RTK request 1820, 1831, and 1832 and forwarded them to Carol Schneider at the Township. After the March 20, 2024, blank, I searched again and found that this email was in my “draft folder and was not sent. I am sending now. See below, Priscilla.” She did in fact, forward that email that he had pointed out that she failed to forward to us, but it raises a couple of points for him. One is, it’s not until Priscilla is confronted with written information that proves her to be unscrupulous in what she is doing. For example, if it was not for the RTK request with regard to the cell phone tower in Steel City, that we would not have known of the prior matter 20 years ago where she recused herself and it wasn’t until she was embarrassed into recusing herself from those proceedings so at least she could maintain some air of credibility by being consistent in the way she conducted herself in participating or not participating in that vote. Then we have the example here of the email that she didn’t produce to us, to him, in response to the RTK request and in response to PA Law, in violation of PA Law, he would suggest, that she did not produce this until she was embarrassed and confronted with it. Perhaps she didn’t want us to know about the secret counseling that she was getting from her campaign donor, Dave Willard behind the scenes and in violation of at least seemingly, designed to circumvent the opportunity to be found and disclosed in response to a RTK request. So, that’s what we’re dealing with here folks. We’re dealing with that and who knows what else is being hidden on the secret server in the bedroom closet but more RTK requests will come and we will see what they turn over and you know, if there’s going to be a pattern of suppressing and hiding information, he doesn’t think that’s going to look very good, if and when, an appeal is needed to be taken to the Office of Open Records or even the Court of Common Pleas or beyond. He thinks that’s all he has. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said things that you pointed out as being illegal...Mr. Carocci said thank you, Jason, thank you Jason. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you didn’t file an appeal already...Mr. Carocci said thank you Jason, he recognizes himself. Ms. deLeon said are you finished? Mr. Banonis said yes. He said thank you, he’s done. Mr. Carocci said he recognizes himself.

Mr. Carocci

- He said we might actually get out of here by 9:15 p.m., so you’re welcome for running your meeting, Priscilla. Mr. Banonis said thank you. Mr. Carocci said he will get us out of here by 9:15 p.m. She runs an inefficient meeting. When he runs the meeting, we get out of here by 9:15 p.m. Alright, again, our Solicitor will speak, he guesses after us, and again will not tell us who he met with at Hellertown regarding anything, just who he met with. He’d urge people in the public to stand up and ask him what he’s hiding and why he’s hiding it. Again, it gives credence to the RTK is why we have to do the RTKs is because the current majority of Council

and our Solicitor are hiding things that the public should know or at least elected members of Council should know.

- Other than that, he doesn't need a DNA test from Ms. deLeon or Mr. Ozimek to make sure they are brothers and sisters, but he again would like a picture of the power lines that they grew up next to. He needs that explanation. So if he can get that for the next meeting, that would be great. Ms. deLeon said you need what? Mr. Carocci said a picture of the power lines you grew up next to. That's all he has. Ms. deLeon said where do you get that power lines she grew up next to? Mr. Carocci said Rosetta, right? Ms. Ray said just a rude comment, that's all.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

- She said thank you. First and foremost, she wanted to highlight something that she saw in the news. She thinks it was Lehigh Valley News, or it might have been Morning Call, but they discussed and they were comparing the train derailment to a grant that was allocated to the Allentown Fire Department for firefighting foam and other safety apparatus. So they were at least, the news was insinuating that perhaps Allentown received the money because of the train derailment but they did clarify that the request for the grant money from, this is from Norfolk-Southern, was made before the train derailment. So, it just got her thinking and she thinks it would be appropriate if we direct our Township to perhaps send a letter to Norfolk-Southern indicating the amount of resources that the LST volunteer fire department, Allentown has a paid fire force. We have volunteers that put their lives at risk and certainly in this situation with Norfolk-Southern. They arrived on the scene not knowing whether there were any hazardous chemicals, hazardous waste and what type of safety and danger they would put themselves into in trying to rescue people from that scene. Thank goodness there were no hazardous chemicals, but certainly the people responding didn't know that when they went and put their lives at risk, as volunteers. So, she would like to direct our Township to send a letter to Norfolk-Southern providing them with information on Lower Saucon Fire Rescue (LSFR). They can coordinate that with Ty Johnson and other members of our LSFR about the information for our response to that incident. She thinks that Norfolk-Southern should realize that in this particular instance it was volunteers that were the first responders here, first and foremost. Any amount of money that Norfolk-Southern can provide our volunteer force in helping to keep LST residents safe would be greatly appreciated.

Ms. Ray

- She said she is going to wait until the crumbling is done here. She thinks that's a great idea though to prepare a letter to Norfolk-Southern perhaps requesting some sort of donation to our fire department, our volunteers. She thinks that's great. She read that same article too, but she did catch where it said the grant was requested afterwards. She also read another article where Norfolk-Southern, the way it was stated, they only had \$2.5 million of damage but it had the word "only" there. So, she doesn't know if a reporter just snuck that in or if that was really what they said, but you know, it's like wow, if it's only \$2.5 million, maybe we can get a donation for our volunteers. Mrs. Gorman said the previous....Mr. Hudson, did send a letter to Norfolk about the municipal expenses and they did pay what we had expended which was minimal; however, she will reach out to Chief Johnson to see if they had communicated with Norfolk to see if they have...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's not specifically requesting, first it's appropriate that they pay for expenses that were actually incurred, so she doesn't know whether the fire department has actually calculated the gas that they expended to get there, the maintenance cost, you know, whatever wear and tear on the trucks to be there. You know, all that stuff, the food and stuff, whatever that is. What she's saying Norfolk-Southern should be aware of is these were volunteers and that they expended their time to come out and put their lives at risk to help Norfolk-Southern and the community and she thinks Norfolk-Southern should consider providing those volunteer firemen, fire women and our volunteer fire company some compensation, donation to our fire force to continue keeping our community safe. Mr. Carocci said but you won't ask St. Luke's for a donation. We respond to Fountain Hill 87 times over the past three years but because they are joined her parents in a lawsuit against the landfill, she won't call on St. Luke's to make that same donation. Mr. Banonis said and they donated to their campaign. Mr. Carocci said yep, they donated to their campaign, too. Mr. Banonis said at least their President did, Ed Nawrocki did. Mr. Carocci said Ed. Mr. Banonis said they

already donated to them. Mr. Carocci said right, they already donated but you won't call on St. Luke's to make that donation because your parents and them are in a lawsuit or were in a lawsuit, your parents were in a lawsuit and 87 times we go to St. Luke's according to our police, or our Fire Chief.

Ms. deLeon – No report.

C. **SOLICITOR** – No report.

D. **ENGINEER** – Not present.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS – 5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT – OPEN TO EVERYONE**

- Maryanne Garber said she represents the Bethlehem Landfill. At the last Council meeting, Jaramillo Zamora, she thinks she's pronouncing his name correctly, presented his Eagle Scout project to Council. He's proposing to build a Gaga Pit and two benches at Polk Valley Park. He came and asked Council to contribute financially to that effort and it estimated the cost of the materials to be \$1,500.00. It sounds like a fantastic project. She went back and spoke with Astor Lawson, who is the District Manager for the landfill and Astor asked Ms. Garber to come here tonight to tell Council that the landfill would like to donate that \$1,500.00 directly to Jaramillo for his project. She knows that the estimate for the materials was just that, it was just an estimate. So, they'd be happy to consider any additional costs for the materials that he proposed for that project. Ms. deLeon said that's very nice of you. Thank you so much and then this would be like a donation in your quarterly reports as what you do for the Harms Benefit Analysis? Ms. Garber said no, it wouldn't because that's not something that they put down as a benefit in their Harms Benefit Analysis that was already conducted...Ms. deLeon said that would show up with your other grants and scholarships and stuff like that as a donation? Ms. Garber said the benefits that are associated with the landfill expansion are the benefits that are tied to the expansion. They are making a donation to an Eagle Scout for the materials for his project and they are happy to do that. It sounds like a fantastic project. Mr. Carocci said this is above and beyond the other donations. Ms. Garber said correct. One has nothing to do with the other. Mr. Carocci said you have to spoon feed it to her; she doesn't get it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said, I am sorry, so you will or will not be listing this donation on your DEP report for benefits to the community? Ms. Garber said so without belaboring the point, when they go through an expansion, they present benefits that are associated with the expansion. This has nothing to do with their expansion. This is something...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you won't be listing it then as a financial donation...Ms. Garber said no, because it has nothing to do with the expansion. She thinks she answered that three times now. It's completely independent. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she just wants to make sure because that's...Mr. Carocci said Ms. Opthof should be recusing herself from all landfill related subjects. Her parents were in a lawsuit against the landfill. Ms. deLeon said she's seen documents that every quarter you give scholarships and you give bicycles and you do a lot of things for communities and that's all appreciative. Ms. Garber said just to be clear, this has nothing to do with the expansion nor does it have anything to do with the Harms Benefit Analysis. They are making a contribution to an individual person as an Eagle Scout because they think it's a great project. Mr. Banonis said may he make a suggestion? Rather than dealing with the fools here, contact the Eagle Scout himself directly and just tell him you are going to give him the money because clearly, it's lost on the people that are here. Ms. Garber said they'd be happy to do that. Mr. Banonis said she said four times how it's being treated that you are just making a donation, a benevolent donation to help out this Eagle Scout and to also help provide an added resource at one of our parks. They don't understand this. So don't waste your time and breath. Mr. Carocci said Ms. Opthof has a clear conflict. Her parents own property out there and they are part of a lawsuit. She shouldn't be speaking at all. Ms. Garber said just for the record, she would agree with that, but they are not asking Council to take any action, which is why she is not raising any kind of conflict issue. She's happy to coordinate with Cathy. If you want to communicate with Jaramillo and let him know that they are happy to make that direct donation, she would really appreciate that. Mrs. Gorman said they will. Mr. Banonis said he appreciates the kindness and generosity and he thinks many of the public do as well, so thank you for that. Mr. Carocci said thank you. Ms. deLeon said anybody else in the audience. Mr. Carocci said Dave first, Dave first, Dave go first, go. He wants to hear what Mr. Boulin has to say. It's very important.
- Mr. David Boulin said he thinks that's wonderful. He doesn't know how somebody could misconstrue that offer. He'd have to agree. He doesn't know, maybe he just, the laboratories does something to you

when you really, really work with super smart people. If you don't catch up, you are long gone. The bottom line is he has a couple of questions here. He remembers hearing that the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was going to be looking into this clear-cutting problem where they stripped half of the side of the hill and it was supposedly well PA's law and we couldn't do anything. That's funny because he looked into our statutes, okay, here at Lower Saucon and there's a whole raft of things that you must follow. He was going to get some kind of report and it was a little early on and EAC was redoing itself, but he believes Laura Ray was going to come back with those kinds of answers. What they did? What they found? Who went out there and actually one of the people who showed the clear cutting is now a member of the EAC. He hasn't heard a peep about that. Somehow denuding of the whole side of the hill, having all that stuff run down into the Lehigh, the famous Lehigh. By the way, did anybody notice how much rain we got? Hey, it must have been a big release today from our sewage friends. Of course, that doesn't do anything to help the river. Neither here nor there, but that's not on the agenda. Here's what should have been on the agenda and that's HAL. He did hear something said about HAL and by the way, he's still hot about HAL because he goes back and he looks at the ruling by Judge, the Judge who said HAL has to turn over all of those records, or they are going to be found in contempt, in which he turned around and ruled they were in contempt, okay? He can't find it here. Alright, here it is here, and by gosh, because nobody seems to listen to this stuff. This is order of the court, 11th day of October 2023, the Judge is a fellow by the name of, and maybe you guys know him, because you are all legal, right? Probably practiced in front of him. His name is Daly. Mr. Banonis said he's the President Judge, the President Judge. Mr. Boulin said conclusion on the last page, "for the foregoing reasons the appeal is granted and the library is required to provide all responsive records within 30 days", and, what do we have? We have a Council here that as soon as the Solicitor gets appointed, this whole thing gets swept out just like the sewage out of the plant. He doesn't know who wrote those exemptions for the Solicitor so that he would not have to say, yea I was involved and whatever, but this is what happens when that goes down. Even the dumb mathematician physicist like him gets it, okay? You win the election and you can do whatever you want. He doesn't go for that and he will be seeing Judge Daly. He is now getting into Northampton more often. He was there yesterday. He was there today. Yea, he'll be talking to him. He'll find a way. Okay, he wants to know where that's going and he wants to know how Judge Daly can make those rulings and yet, we are still going to spend a minimum of \$150,000.00 and get nothing. He wants to know from Victoria, how negotiations are going, okay, because she said you were going to be handling the negotiations. So, that's that. The other thing, he only has a minute left here so let's see here. That's HAL. Easton, yep, he heard Sal Panto, he doesn't know anything. He's only been there 17 years. He says he's never seen anything like it, and yet, this Council, some of the Council, voted to, hey open it up to anybody that wants to come along. So, guess what? When the group shows up from Hamas demanding that we write a letter to Israel and does that for four or five hours, you guys won't have a leg to stand on because of this ruling of this Council. Panto was very exact about "I only want business in this town to be discussed here", and that was not. Finally, he's not going to say a lot more about it, but he will say getting back to this 31-2024, there were exactly eight, the speaker, the last speaker at this dais here, violated at least eight times the laws of this agreement, eight different ones. That includes walking around showing each person his phone. That was a verboten. Ms. deLeon said wrap it up, please. Can you wrap it up? Your time is up, almost up. Mr. Boulin said it wasn't when he listened to her, okay? Can he finish? Ms. deLeon said yes, she said wrap it up. Mr. Boulin said promote an atmosphere of reasonable expression and ideas. These are ideas and they are reasonable, right? What he is saying, you Priscilla deLeon, Mrs. Chairman, Ms. Chairman, have the right and the authority to gavel this kind of nonsense down. So, a person walks around with a phone, showing everybody all this thing, nobody in the public can hear what's going on, right? Then he does it again with this something he's got and Mr. Boulin hears a hole in it and then he gets up and rants and raves for another seven minutes, look at your clock, it's on the clock at the very end, and starts yelling and screaming at Jason Banonis and Tom Carocci, yelling and screaming at the top of his voice, not controlled like Mr. Boulin is now. Right, by the way, and if you think that's not a problem, and it doesn't form a madness in people, when he walked out of here, he walked out and gee, low and behold there's two figures, one is a Council person walking down the side and there's another person following him with a policeman right behind him. Okay, there's a problem. You have been put, as this person said last time, on notice, okay? There are dangerous situations going on and you need to pay attention to them. Ms. deLeon said okay, thank you. Mr. Carocci said he agrees. Some people just don't know how to behave themselves.

- Andrea Wittchen said you should stick around Janus, Jason, this is the...Mr. Banonis said his name is Jason. Ms. Wittchen said Janus was the actual two-headed Roman God, two-faced Roman God. Mr. Banonis said what was Medusa? What was Medusa? Ms. Wittchen said this has to do with...Mr. Carocci said come on gavel...Mr. Banonis said come on, gavel, what are the rules? Mr. Carocci said gavel...Mr. Banonis said come on, gavel. Ms. Wittchen said Janus is not a swear word. If you'd have had four years of Latin like she did, you would know what it meant. Alright, first of all, 40 minutes were wasted in this meeting tonight at \$9.00/hour, that's \$360.00 that will be added to the total for the last three meetings. Secondly, it was not a group that was protesting on behalf of Hamas in Bethlehem, they were protesting on behalf of the Palestinian people. There is a difference, some people don't know that and don't understand it. Third, it's getting really tedious to have to correct Banonis' math but 4.9% of 11,000 people in this Township comes out, who are under the age of 5 or between 2 and 5, divided into the roughly \$100,000.00 that we have set aside for the tot lot comes to a cost of \$186.00 per user. The baseball field, rounded down to \$3 million, and divided by the 600 users, that the baseball management people told us were the actual people who would be using that diamond, comes out to an average of \$5,000.00 per user as far as the cost is concerned. \$186.00 for a bunch of 5-year-olds is a far different number than \$5,000.00 per user for the baseball field, but we already know that Mr. Banonis obviously skipped the economics part of his law training so, she just wanted to make that clear and she wanted it on the record because what he was saying was actually incorrect and deliberately misleading. Ms. deLeon said thank you.
- Mark Ozimek said he's not really sure if he should do this, he's probably gonna. You know me, he doesn't shut up. At the last meeting, when it was over, Banonis and Carocci left and they walked out together. So, there were two people walking out in the parking lot. When they left, he decided to follow them out to the parking lot. He decided, he hopes you are listening public, he decided to follow them out to the parking lot because he doesn't trust either one of them. There's more than once he worried about his truck out there, about having to drive home. He guesses he knows too many bad people in his life. As for somebody saying that he was outside in the parking lot and he was acting up, and the police officer had to calm him down, he doesn't think that's true. He's pretty sure it's on body cam. He's pretty sure it's on the building camera, which he didn't go for yet, but he probably should before it overlaps itself. Where are you going, Dave? You wanted to bring this up. Ms. deLeon said Mark, you can't, you can't speak to the audience. Please. Mr. Boulin said have a good day. Ms. deLeon said you're not supposed to speak to him either. You, you are not supposed to speak to the audience either, it's the speaker, excuse her, she used the wrong word. (*Mr. Boulin was speaking as he was leaving, and said he shouldn't speak to her, but he does, okay. He tried being civil.*) Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said what happened to rules. She thought he liked the rules. Mr. Goudsouzian said why don't we just continue. Mr. Ozimek said so anyway, like he said when the new people on Council were running, don't ever lie to him. If you want to lie to each other, that's fine. If you want to lie to your co-workers, do whatever you want to do. Don't ever lie to him. Here's another thing, don't ever lie about him. Part of the other reason he walked out into the parking lot is the same reason he's going to tell him because he was there last week and it's on body cam. So, the reason he walked out is because some of the Township paperwork has a place in there for you to fill in the suspect, criminal activist, whatever you want to call him, when you file charges against somebody, has a place on there for a description of their vehicle and a license plate number, particularly what he went out for, if you're interested, because his mission for him lying to Mr. Ozimek is to put him in jail. Banonis committed a felony, a misdemeanor, testifying under oath and signing the paper with Chief Barndt. Does he got anything recorded or on video? No, it would be his word against theirs. Ms. deLeon said do you want to be saying this publicly? Mr. Ozimek said but hey, he put it on Facebook, he said it here. As far as his wife and kids on Mr. Ozimek's Facebook page, no, they are not on his profile, but he did share a picture of them because she has it on hers and it is public information, and what he put on there was the fact that does anybody know this woman because somebody should inform her that she should come talk to him about what her husband is doing to him. Ms. deLeon said okay, Mark, she doesn't think this is appropriate. Mr. Ozimek said he knows, he knows, he's too personal, but he doesn't bull people. Ms. deLeon said thank you.
- Bob McKellin, LST resident said he's been on a lot of committees and groups and meetings and when they have minutes, the minutes are recorded as what people said, not if there's truth or false as far as mathematics go in the past, there's been a lot of untruths. Whatever is said in the meeting, even some of the stuff that was said tonight, about power lines and derogatory things, are all going to be in the

minutes, but the minutes are the minutes and just because somebody says something wrong doesn't mean it has to be amended. That's all he has got to say. Ms. deLeon said thank you.

- Joann Kramer said she's lived in LST for over 30 years. She has never come to a Township meeting until this last year and she wants to tell you, that she's very disappointed in the behavior of the two who have since left. There's a Code of Conduct we've put together for us as people in the audience, but there doesn't seem to be a Code of Conduct for those on the Council, specifically the two that have left. She doesn't know where that goes or how that changes, but she worked her whole career in a corporation and that kind of behavior did not, was not allowed in any meeting or to any employee. So, she just wants to say she's very disgusted at their behavior and she's been making a point to come to these meetings, but she really would like to go back to not having to come, but it's unfortunate that it's come to this. So, hopefully in the next election we have the opportunity to change the last two that are on this Council because we really do need people who are going to work together and she doesn't know Cathy, but she has a lot of things that have been put on her shoulders based on her attendance here at these meetings, but that shows that she's willing to work towards the best for this Township. She doesn't get the feeling that the other two are willing to do that and it's a very bad situation when we have students who are seeing behavior that doesn't show respect to anyone else speaking at these meetings. The name calling, she didn't even know who Suzy was when he was speaking, but she assumes that was directed towards the attorney. She doesn't know. Those names, the name calling is ridiculous. So, never came to meetings until this last year. She never spoken at a meeting, but based on what she's seeing the last 6 or 8 meetings she's been to, it's been very disappointing. They need to grow up. Ms. deLeon said thank you.

Ms. deLeon said she'd like to have the record reflect that at 9:05 p.m., Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci left the meeting.

Ms. deLeon wants to make one comment before we adjourn and she would like to apologize to our residents for the blatant disrespect of our residents and disregard of the Code of Conduct passed by this Council. Gaveling does not help. They just, it's a mockery. So, we're here. They are trying to do their best. They appreciate your confidence in them and...Ms. Ray said the code does apply to all of us as well. They just do not follow rules and they are elected officials, so in their mind that means they can do anything in any way they want, and it's so inappropriate and unprofessional. Ms. deLeon said and our Jr. Council members, this is not how government is supposed to work, really because she ran many meetings and she never had to deal with this, so just remember that. What you see, you are not going to do. So, with that, she'd like a motion for adjournment.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Ms. Ray moved for adjournment. The time was 9:16 p.m.

SECOND BY: Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she'll just add to what Ms. deLeon said before, she thinks it's important for the public to see that despite the attempts to delay our meetings, to bring them to 2:00 a.m., to interrupt and to prevent people from moving business forward, that at least the majority of Council sitting here and they are getting their business done and they are working for the residents. So, she thanks you all for your support and continued support and they will continue to work for you.

ROLL CALL: 3-0 (Mr. Banonis & Mr. Carocci – Absent)

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- A. Parks and Recreation Board: April 8, 2024
- B. Environmental Advisory Council: April 9, 2024
- C. Council Meeting: April 17, 2024
- D. Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: April 22, 2024 (Coopersburg Borough)
- E. Zoning Hearing Board: April 22, 2024
- F. Planning Commission: April 25, 2024

G. Landfill Committee Meeting: April 30, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)

Submitted by:

Cathy Gorman
Acting Township Manager

Priscilla deLeon
Council President