



**Wednesday, May 1, 2024**  
**Lower Saucon Township Council Agenda\*Updated 4/29/24**

**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. \*\*Amend Agenda to Hear the Following Matters in the Following Order in Section 4: C. \*Resolution #49-2024 Appointing Special Projects/Assignments Solicitor D. Edwards Variance #03-24 / Mark & Hannah Edwards /1304 Evergreen Drive B. Resolution #48-2024 - Appointment of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor A. Firing and/or Acceptance of Resignation of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor/Discussion.
- G. Public Comment Procedure
- H. Jr. Council Member Report

**2. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS**

---

- A. Resolution #44-2024 - Recognizing National Police Week - May 12 to May 18, 2024
- B. Resolution #45-2024 - Recognizing International Firefighters' Day - May 4, 2024
- C. Resolution #46-2024 - Recognizing National Public Works Week - May 19 to May 25, 2024
- D. Public Hearing Resolution #47-2024 - Authorization to Acquire Property Located Along Alpine Drive - Approximately 25 acres

**3. DEVELOPER ITEMS**

---

- A. Decision - Conditional Use Application of Allentown SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless - 4235 Lewis Ave

**4. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

---

- A. Firing and/or Acceptance of Resignation of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor/Discussion of Payments of Services
- B. Resolution #48-2024 - Appointment of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor
- C. \*Resolution #49-2024 Appointing Special Projects/Assignments Solicitor
- D. Edwards Variance #03-24 / Mark & Hannah Edwards /1304 Evergreen Drive
- E. Beethoven Waldheim Variance #02-24 / Beethoven Waldheim Holdings LLC / 1991 Waldheim Road
- F. Consider Waiving Saucon Creeks Watershed Annual Rental Fee at Seidersville Hall
- G. Compensation of Acting Township Manager and Administrative Assistants

**5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS**

---

- A. Approval of March 20, 2024 Council Minutes

**6. COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**

---

- A. Acting Township Manager

- 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: May 6, 2024
- B. Environmental Advisory Council: May 14, 2024
- C. Council Meeting: May 15, 2024
- D. Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: May 20, 2024
- E. Zoning Hearing Board: May 20, 2024
- F. Planning Commission: May 23, 2024
- G. Landfill Committee Meeting: July 18, 2024

*At approximately 6:25 p.m., while Council was in Executive Session, the Township building lost power and was running on backup generator until approximately 6:53 p.m. The Township was unable to stream the beginning of the meeting via YouTube. A manual recorder was used temporarily until power was restored.*

Ms. deLeon asked Ms. Werkheiser if she was recording. Ms. Werkheiser said she was. Ms. deLeon said good. Mr. Carocci said she needs to call the meeting to order, come on. Ms. deLeon said she will in a minute, Tom. Okay, she has the gavel now. Ms. deLeon said she would like to explain to everybody what they will be doing; we are going to have a short meeting and then we will delay everything to the following meeting. Mr. Goudsouzian said, perhaps what would be helpful is, Cathy, if you could just relay to everyone, before we even open the meeting, what she knows about the electrical issue because that may help. Ms. deLeon said that could be on the tape. Ms. Gorman said that there was a wire fire up at Old Philadelphia Pike and Seidersville Road, so all the power in the area is out. Right now, we are running on emergency generators. Unfortunately, it is not hooked up to the dais and any of the equipment up here. That is where we are at. Lower Saucon Fire Rescue was already dispatched, so we do not know when power will go back on. Ms. deLeon said thank you for the update.

1. **OPENING**

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:39 p.m. with Ms. Priscilla deLeon presiding.

B. **ROLL CALL:** Priscilla deLeon, President; Laura Ray, Vice-President; Victoria-Ophof-Cordaro, Jason Banonis, Thomas Carocci, Council Members, Cathy Gorman, Acting Township Manager & Director of Finance; Steve Goudsouzian, Solicitor; Brien Kocher, Engineer; Stacy Werkheiser, Administrative Assistant.

C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Carocci said see what happens when you stand for the pledge, Steve? Mr. Carocci asked if this was still being put on YouTube? Ms. deLeon and Ms. Werkheiser were discussing the status of streaming to YouTube. Ms. deLeon asked why it wasn't making noise, the mics aren't on. Ms. Werkheiser said her computer keeps turning on and off. Ms. deLeon said we will go with the flow and see what happens. Mr. Boulin said excuse me, your camera is waking up. He also said he would like to make a request that we are being recorded properly and also videoed properly. Ms. deLeon said we are being recorded because we have a little recorder. Mr. Boulin said that is insufficient. Mr. Carocci said he agrees. Ms. deLeon asked what you do you suggest? Mr. Boulin said we spent thousands of dollars.....Mr. Carocci said wait for the camera to work.....Mr. Boulin said perhaps somebody can go online and see if we are visual. Mr. Carocci said, he knows she likes to hide things from the public, Priscilla. Ms. deLeon said Oh my god. Mr. Ozimek from the audience said, not me, I got three copies and none of them are ever edited and then said thanks Jason, I did it just for you. Mr. Banonis said don't address me. Priscilla, would you get control of the audience? There is a gentleman yelling at me. Would you get control of this? You are the President of Council; would you get control of this meeting? Ms. deLeon said I am controlling the meeting. Mr. Banonis said you don't have control, this gentleman is yelling at him. You know his background; you know what he does. Ms. deLeon said Stacy is.....Mr. Carocci said his microphone doesn't work. Mr. Banonis said come on, you are going to excuse that? Are you going to provide cover for him again? Ms. deLeon said I am waiting for her to....we are on a little bit of a technical difficulty right now everybody, so just, where is everybody's patience? My god.....Mr. Carocci said what's the rush? It's only 20 to seven. We will be here until 3 in the morning, what's the rush? Ms. deLeon said are we good? Thank you. Ms. deLeon said okay, back to the meeting, she would like to announce....Mr. Banonis asked if it was being recorded? Mr. Carocci asked if it is being recorded? Ms. deLeon said it is being recorded right here. Mr. Banonis asked is it video recorded? Ms. deLeon said no, we don't have the capability. Mr. Banonis said what do you mean we don't have the capability; the power is on. Mr. Carocci said what are you trying to hide? Mr. Banonis said this works, the microphone, can you folks hear me out there? Ms. Werkheiser said everything is coming on. Mr. Banonis said alright, good. The microphones are working, but what about the cameras? What about the rest of the world that wants to see your coverup week after week after week? Let's turn on the cameras. Mr. Carocci said she won't turn them on, she won't turn them on. Mr. Banonis said can you get control of Mr. Ozimek, he keeps yelling at me. Please? Can you do that? Ms. deLeon said no I am not going to do that. Mr. Banonis said you are not going to do that? Thank you for acknowledging your are not Priscilla. Ms.

deLeon said I am not going to do that, write it down. It's on record. Mr. Banonis said we are going to have a show tonight. Get ready. Buckle up. Ms. deLeon said we are going to have a show? Mr. Banonis said you want to have a show? We are going to have a show. Ms. deLeon said no I don't want to have a show. Mr. Banonis said you are going to allow that comment to happen? We are going to have a show tonight. Ms. deLeon said everybody is talking because the meeting is not being.....Ms. deLeon said the meeting is in recess, the time is 6:44 p.m. Mr. Banonis said who made a motion to go into recess? Ms. deLeon said she made the decision. Mr. Banonis said where is the second and where is the vote? Ms. deLeon said you don't need a motion. Mr. Banonis said sure you do. I mean, you have been doing this for 36 or 37 years, you should know that by now. Ms. Gorman asked is there a motion? Is there a second? Mr. Banonis said he didn't make the motion. Ms. deLeon said alright, to satisfy Jason, I will make the motion to go into recess at 6:44 p.m., is there a second? Mr. Carocci said disability for 40 years. That's the real recess, is being on disability for 40 years, right? Ms. deLeon asked can we have a roll call please? Mr. Banonis asked what are we.....Ms. Gorman said motion to into recess until we figure the.....Mr. Banonis said until we figure out the video system, the technology? Sure, I agree yes. Mr. Banonis said until we figure out Ms. deLeon's disability for 40 years? Is that the question, or recess, or her to go back to work? Yes. Ms. deLeon said we are in recess now. Ms. Gorman said motion passes 5-0.

Ms. deLeon reconvened the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

**D. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)**

Ms. deLeon said Council did meet in Executive Session prior to the meeting. Mr. Banonis said he'd like to speak to that, please. Mr. Carocci said he recognizes him. Ms. deLeon said she's not finished with her statement. They met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss litigation regarding Hellertown, the Hellertown Library, and the Bethlehem Landfill. She would like to make a motion as follows:

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to authorize the Township Solicitor to continue to pursue the direction outlined by Council regarding Hellertown and the Hellertown Library.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Ms. deLeon said can we have a roll call? Mr. Carocci said no, we have comment on it. We have comment on it. Public comment on all of this. Don't you know the Sunshine Law? Mr. Banonis said whenever you are ready to recognize him, he's ready. Ms. deLeon said she's recognizing him, go ahead. Mr. Banonis said you are? Mr. Carocci said the public gets to speak too. Mr. Banonis said he is sorry; he didn't hear her; did she recognize him? Ms. deLeon said she just said yes. Mr. Banonis said he didn't hear her. Mr. Carocci said speak up. Mr. Banonis said he's sorry, she didn't hear him either, so. You can call him Mr. Sunshine because he's going to shine the sun here. Once again, Victoria Opthof-Cordaro advocated vociferously with regard to the Township's position on the landfill and the position that she is taking is consistent with the position that her parents have taken in litigation against the Township and against the landfill.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the motion is about the Hellertown Library. Mr. Carocci said don't interrupt, don't be rude. Mr. Banonis said hello, I am speaking. Hello, hello.... once again, she's taken a position...Ms. deLeon said stick to the subject, this is not about the landfill. Mr. Banonis said are you done? Ms. deLeon said no, we're talking about Hellertown and the Hellertown Library. Mr. Banonis said that's fine, he's talking about it too, he's talking about litigation there. He's talking about litigation. Mr. Carocci said he was recognized. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I don't think he should be recognized unless he stays on topic. Mr. Carocci said he was recognized; he didn't get there. Ms. deLeon said you got to stay on topic. You're not on topic.

Mr. Banonis said so once again, once again, Victoria took a position in these private conversations that took place back in the Council Executive Meeting Room, and her position that she took once again supports her parents completely. This is brought up at the last Council meeting, at length, during the non-agenda items by Maryanne Garber, who is the attorney for the landfill. She's pointed out these egregious injustices and abuse and violation of the Ethics Act and it continues. She clearly did not heed that warning. She did not recuse herself from those discussions, and in fact, she took a position that was

advocating very strongly in favor of the position that supports her parents. That's what he has to say. It's out there, part of litigation, he's sure.

Ms. deLeon said Tom, did he have something to say? Mr. Carocci said he did. Did she want to speak first, she seems ready to go. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks she just wants the record to reflect that number one, we are not on topic. Number two, she...Mr. Banonis said this Council's never been on topic. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she has been told to shut the hell up by Mr. Carocci when I am not speaking. Mr. Carocci said when Mr. Banonis is speaking, that's right. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said he'd like the record to reflect what are the comments and insults that are made by some members of our Council during our meeting... Mr. Banonis said Ms. deLeon won't control the meeting to allow him to speak. Someone has to tell you to shut the hell up. Mr. Carocci said right. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said and contrary to what our rules of conduct and our code of conduct state. Mr. Carocci said you interrupted him, she just broke the rules of conduct by interrupting him. Mr. Banonis said you encouraged Mr. Ozemik to come up here. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it's appropriate for them to continue with the direction we indicated so she is in favor of the motion, she votes yes. Mr. Banonis said you encouraged Mr. Ozemik to come up here and approach me and now you are going to talk about rules of conduct. Give him a break.

Mr. Carocci said he'd like the record to state that Ms. Opthof is the one that interrupted Jason and she's the one who that's violating the rules of conduct, if anybody. Jason is absolutely correct. She has a huge conflict of interest, a definitive conflict of interest and she's back there advocating for her parents and herself against the landfill. This should be made public because it's a huge conflict of interest and it should be dealt with. As far as the library is concerned, he means, he doesn't even know why we even need a motion for this. Mr. Goudsouzian is continuing to talk to these people, he guesses, he won't really tell them who he speaks with, but...Ms. deLeon said that's a lie. He told you...Mr. Carocci said that's not a lie. At our April 3<sup>rd</sup> he refused numerous requests to disclose who he spoke with. There's going to be some consequences for that. Mr. Banonis said so send an email with regard to that he ignored and didn't respond to. Mr. Carocci said that's correct, that's correct. So, Mr. Goudsouzian is also part of the cover up, Susie there. That's all he has for now. He'll be back.

Ms. Ray said they are looking forward to keeping...Ms. deLeon said you have to talk louder. Ms. Ray said they are looking forward to having our solicitor keep working with Hellertown. They will get these things resolved to get our library back, our compost center back, and all the services that we used to run jointly with them. Mr. Banonis said in other words, they want to give your money away.

Ms. deLeon said her comment is that she also supports this, and with that, can they have a roll call please. Mr. Carocci said public comment. Ms. deLeon said it's an Executive Session item...Mr. Carocci said it's a motion, public comment, public comment. He calls for public comment. What is she trying to cover up? She doesn't want the public to speak? Please come to the podium, Sir. He recognizes him. Thank you for coming to the podium, he recognizes him. Ms. Ray said you're not running the meeting.

Mr. Banonis said rules for me, but not for thee. Rules for me, but not for thee, go ahead. Mr. Carocci said please speak. Mr. Goudsouzian said you normally would not have public comment for executive session but if you want to provide the courtesy to do so in an overabundance of caution...Mr. Carocci said he'd like to provide the courtesy. Ms. deLeon said start the clock please. Mr. Banonis thank you; he didn't identify himself yet. So why would you start the clock? Ms. deLeon said that's not her fault. He knows what the rules are. Mr. Banonis said does he, you didn't tell him. Ms. deLeon said she can't hear him. Mr. Carocci said he's waiting to be recognized if you would run the meeting properly, he's waiting to be recognized. You never did that. You said start the clock. You generally recognize the person at the podium. Mr. Banonis said reset the clock for the gentleman that would like to be recognized. Mr. Carocci said reset the clock. Reset the clock. Ms. deLeon said absolutely, we will. Mr. Banonis said can we get a vote? Mr. Carocci said Priscilla wants to cover-up.

Mr. Dave Boulin said can he have the floor Madam? Ms. deLeon said yes, 5 o'clock. She means 5 minutes. Mr. Banonis said its 5:00 somewhere. Mr. Carocci said disability. Mr. Boulin said it's easy to lose track of what goes on here after 4 years and the way he recalls it when the library committee came in, in a late December meeting, demanding that the Council, he's sorry Ms. President, are you listening to him? Ms. deLeon said she is listening to him. Mr. Boulin said and giving him courtesy, thank you. The bottom line is when they came in and did all of that the question that was asked and he hopes the public is listening and the camera because this is the way things are going. The bottom line is when they came in and said we need to have this \$150,000.00, the question was asked, who on the Council has seen this bill, etc., etc., and the answer was nobody on the Council including a Mr. Treadwell who had been here for 23 years was asked if he'd ever seen this legal document and he said no, no. Nobody had seen it yet there was a demand on the floor that it be signed. Here we are over 4 years later and now we have a solicitor, Mr. Goudsouzian, are you with us? Mr. Goudsouzian said he is listening. Who he understands has gotten some kind of, and you can correct him and he'd welcome if you did, agreement that was offered by Ms. Opthof-Cordaro over here, that if you were hired, that we could forget about any conflicts you might have had like your wife being on the HAL library board and now you are going to run that investigation or whatever we're talking about tonight. Boy, if that isn't just wonderful, yep, fox right there in the hen coup. Correct him Sir if he's wrong. Hearing nothing, he is going to assume it's correct. That's really outstanding. He hopes the public is listening to this. This is what you brought in here. We have three new people who don't know upside-down from right side up and right from wrong as best as we can tell and understand if you do not see the Council's picture, he understands here from his poor eye sight that we have not gotten any response from our tentative, he thinks, solicitor whatever it is. That's coming up later. He will address that later. He would like to see, he doesn't even know what this motion was but it's ridiculous to have somebody represent HAL when the bottom line, he's got conflicts and will not acknowledge them. He'd like to see, by the way, that document that Ms. Opthof-Cordaro had and referenced this, what appears to be a sweet heart deal, okay. Correct him, he's been wrong once in a while.

Mr. Carocci said he would like to, Susie, when a resident who is paying your \$180.00 bill fee, is at the podium, he'd appreciate it if you would listen to what they have to say. Not do work on your personal computer like you are doing, right he's doing emails there Jason? You know and then double billing, you are probably billing that client, and billing us. This is a resident, a taxpayer, who pays your bill, so he'd ask him to please give him consideration, at least pretending to pay attention to him. Can you do that for us, Susie? Ms. deLeon said he has BoardDocs up on his computer. Mr. Banonis said Tom, to your point, he was looking at emails earlier...Mr. Carocci said he double bills. He double bills, he bills his clients, he bills the...Mr. Banonis said I'm not billing the Township. I'm not an employee of the Township, okay? He's billing us by the hour...Ms. deLeon said would anyone else like to speak on public comment? Mr. Carocci said thank you.

Ms. Maryanne Garber said she represents the Bethlehem Landfill Company (BLC). She understand that the motion on the floor has to do with the library; however, in light of comments that Mr. Banonis made about what took place in Executive Session, with respect to litigation regarding the Bethlehem Landfill (BL), and Ms. Opthof's participation in and discussion about that, as she noted at the last Council meeting, Ms. Opthof-Cordaro has a clear conflict of interest with respect to any matters related to the expansion of the BL and in particular, but not limited to, the litigation to stop the expansion of the landfill, which her parents have been parties to three separate pieces of litigation to that effect demonstrating that she has a fiduciary interest in the outcome of that litigation, which renders her incapable of voting on any of these actions to the extent that anything in that Executive Session resulted in a direction to the solicitor to take action, she's going to reiterate that that's in violation of the Sunshine Act and what she will say, although the library is not her dog to fight, that to the extent you are taking official action on the library, that was not listed with any specificity on the agenda and that in and of itself is a violation of the Sunshine Act to the extent that the next motion that's made here as a result of the Executive Session is to direct the solicitor to do anything with respect to the BL litigation, or the BL expansion generally, that in and of itself is a violation of the Sunshine Act because there's absolutely no specificity listed on this agenda with respect to that official action. She will again reiterate that Ms. Opthof has a clear conflict of interest and should not and cannot participate in any deliberation, any

discussion, or any official action with respect to the expansion and with respect to that litigation specifically and she's going to reiterate for the people who weren't here at the last meeting or weren't watching at the last meeting, these are just some of the facts evidencing Ms. Cordaro's conflict of interest. Her parents, Lawrence and Margaret Opthof have claimed under oath that the proposed landfill expansion will decrease the value of their property. That is their belief. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro has publicly taken the position that proximity to landfills has a negative impact on property values. That is her belief. Her parents were parties to....(someone from audience is speaking but is inaudible) and if that's true, then she should not be allowed to vote on anything with respect to that litigation because her parents have a direct fiduciary interest and that is illegal. You do not know the law on this issue so she would suggest that you step down. Ms. deLeon said quiet in the audience, there is a speaker speaking. Ms. Maryanne Garber said Ms. Opthof-Cordaro is well aware of these rules. She is a licensed attorney barred in the State of PA. She's a lawyer who worked directly with the attorney retained by her parents and other individuals that are fighting the expansion of the landfill, Gary Asteak, and upon information belief, and she witnessed it with her own eyes and she has documents to support this, she did substantive legal work in those cases, legal research and fact finding. She worked with Gary Asteak to develop legal strategy. She assisted with the retention of experts. She acted as a liaison between Mr. Asteak and the individual opponents to that litigation. She sat at the Council table with Mr. Asteak in various proceedings. In fact, the court reporter in the Conditional Use Hearings listed her as attorney of record for the opposition and she was the founder and spokesperson for and the media contact for Citizens for Responsible Development. This is a grassroots landfill opposition group whose tagline on their website is "fighting LST landfill expansion". She's raised funds on countless occasions to raise money to pay for the legal litigation cost and for expert fees in all of the various pieces of litigation including litigation that's currently pending before the court. This goes far and beyond just having an opinion on an issue that is important to the Township. She's making decisions on something that is affecting all of the Township and her parents have a direct interest and that is what she is fighting for. So, she demands that Ms. Opthof-Cordaro recuse herself from any issue related to the landfill expansion and, in particular, this litigation. She wants the record to reflect all of those objections.

Mr. Carocci said not only is she, she's advocating, she's advocating her position and her parent's position in Executive Session. She's advocating her parent's position. She's not just representing; she is advocating it. Ms. deLeon said, Tom you don't have the floor. Mr. Banonis said not just a mere discussion of participation, it was outright advocacy. ...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she'd asked for the floor to be recognized. Mr. Carocci said who has the floor? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said will you yield the floor so she can be recognized? She has asked to be recognized. Mr. Carocci said yes, yes, of course.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said number one, everybody in this room and everybody in the community who had been following everything that's been happening, is well aware of her public activity that occurred in 2022 and 2023. Certainly, her position, and it remains her position, and it will not change is that she does not have any pecuniary or financial interest in any outcome of any litigation. Mr. Banonis said but your parents do. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said her parents, first of all, she has the floor. Would you please let her finish her statement? Mr. Banonis said he's just trying to clarify for the record. Ms. deLeon said she has the floor. Mr. Banonis said now you are going to follow the rules. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said will you yield...will you follow basic decorum and follow directions and let one person speak at a time. Mr. Banonis said why don't you ask the President to follow the rules and enforce the rules? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she is asking you to let her finish her statement. Mr. Banonis said when that occurs, he will too. You spoke over him, Ma'am, you spoke when he was speaking, okay. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she is asking him to let her finish her statement. Mr. Banonis said so you want rules for me...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she has the floor. She has asked to be recognized. Mr. Banonis said continue to make a fool of yourself...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you interrupted her; you can't hear the statement.

Carocci said hey, hey, what are you doing officer? What are you doing officer? Get him out of there. Get him out, get him out. Mr. Banonis said call the meeting to order, get control of the meeting. Mr. Carocci said he's a convicted criminal. He's a convicted criminal. Why did he approach her? Why did he approach her? He approached her, why did he approach her? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she makes a motion for a recess. Mr. Carocci said why did he approach her? Well talk...take him out and ask him.

Ms. deLeon said she's sorry. Mr. Banonis said outrageous. Mr. Carocci said you don't do anything about it, Priscilla. Mr. Banonis said do anything.... Ms. deLeon said let the police officer...Mr. Banonis said you are the Council President, you run the meeting, get control of it. Mr. Carocci said you are his biggest supporter, Priscilla. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she would like to make a motion for recess. Mr. Carocci said get him out of here. Get him out of her.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for recess.

Ms. deLeon said is there a second? Ms. Ray said she will second that. Mrs. Gorman said there's a motion on the floor. Mr. Carocci said he's made threats to Jason. Ms. deLeon said this takes precedent. Mr. Carocci said will you please get your brother and...*(Someone in the audience was still screaming)* Ms. deLeon said okay, Donna.

Mr. Banonis said we didn't ask your opinion. Get the Council President to get control. Ms. deLeon said we can only hear one person at a time. She's sorry this incident happened, Donna. No, you can't do that, there's a.....Mr. Carocci said you can if you want. Ms. deLeon said order please. You can't have people talking. Mr. Carocci said he threatened, get him out. Don't attack her. Russ, leave her alone, leave her alone, Mr. Sutton. Leave her alone. Ms. deLeon said Donna, I ...Mr. Carocci said leave her alone. Leave her alone Russ. Why are you bullying her for Russ? Yea, what are you bullying her for? Ms. deLeon said we need to call this meeting to order. Mr. Carocci said why are you bullying an innocent woman? Ms. deLeon said any more outbursts will have to be taken outside. She thinks Victoria was speaking last.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she was. She had asked for the floor. So, what she will continue to say is her public position on the situation that occurred in this Township in beginning of October and November of 2022 and continuing remains the same because it is her belief that what occurred and what she said publicly was improper and what happened in our Township was improper that our prior Council behaved in such a manner that was improper and against the health, safety and welfare of our residents. So, those public statements speak for themselves. Anybody can go back and participate. There's been no information out there or no information that's secret to anybody. You can go look at every public meeting she attended. You can look at all of those things and you can judge for yourselves and that's what she asks you to do. Judge for yourselves what you think happened and what her position was. Certainly she ran part of her campaign was running on the issues that occurred in November of 2022 through 2023. She ran on those positions. In no way shape or form does she have any pecuniary interest. She can appreciate Ms. Garber's request or demand for her to recuse herself, but frankly, Ms. Garber is hired by a large company, a billion-dollar corporation, to represent their interests...Mr. Carocci said St. Luke's? Ms. deLeon said Tom, you are out of order. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she is hired...Mr. Carocci said she is hired by St. Luke's? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said presumably an hourly rate to come to meetings and promote the landfill's objectives, one of which is to continue on the course of conduct of expanding their landfill. That's what she's hired to do. She is hired to come to the podium and make statements and certainly make legal positions. That's her right and that's her job. She wouldn't be doing her job. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro's said her job is to represent the residents of this Township. They elected her to do a job and she's doing it and she will not recuse herself. There is no need for her to recuse herself. That's her position. It's not changing. So we can have shouts back and forth all evening. We can have shouts from the audience. We can have claps. You can have roars, but her position is not changing. If you would like to take it someplace else, you have every right to do that. Ms. deLeon said okay, thank you.

Mr. Carocci said he'd like the record to note she did recuse herself for her sister's...Ms. deLeon said we have public comment going on. Mr. Carocci said and he asked to be recognized. Ms. deLeon said you are out of order, Tom. Mr. Carocci said he wants to be recognized. Ms. deLeon said no...Mr. Carocci said you recognized her. Then he'll recognize himself. Ms. deLeon said you are not being recognized. Mr. Banonis said Tom, he'll recognize him, go ahead. Mr. Carocci said thank you. So, a couple of weeks ago, her sister's development...

Diane Hollowell said she's just making a comment...Mr. Carocci said and wanted Council to act...Ms. deLeon said she's going to keep gaveling until she gets order. Tom, you are out of order. Mr. Carocci said and when Council acted...Ms. deLeon said Tom, you are out of order...Mr. Carocci said she recused herself, she recused herself because her sister owned a property in that development. So, that was even a pecuniary interest. Ms. deLeon said public comment, Diane, you have the floor.

Ms. Hollowell said she knows somebody came up here and said they had poor eye sight and don't know if they saw over here while they were talking, she noticed that Tom was looking down most of the time. So, please, like show a little respect to everybody who comes up here; and she has to say, she's a little freaked out Tom, that she doesn't know if he's checking her out on social media but some of the questions he asks her up here, she knows the two of you must be like looking into her. If you want to talk to her afterwards, she'll tell you all about her. Mr. Carocci said he's not on social media. Ms. deLeon said okay thank you, Diane. Anyone else like to go for public comment?

Ms. Kathy Pichel-McGovern said she has a very quick comment about the library. As she recalls, they had a dual relationship with the library and as she recalls, it was called the Hellertown Area Library because it was supposed to include both Hellertown and LST. She don't recall it being four years, it might have, but she doesn't think so. She thinks it was two years. She also remembers that we gave \$50,000.00 to Southern Lehigh for nothing. She also knows that Southern Lehigh Public Library fell apart. She knows that their board is completely restructured now. They don't do anything the way they used to do it because of the impact of LST. She thinks it's a disgrace and she thinks we should have been partnering with the library all along. The amount of money that we have spent on the library, she can only imagine what those legal fees are and that would have paid for our portion of the library a thousand times over.

Mr. Banonis said you know if they would have given us usage data and justification for the expenses, we know what they were going to use the money for. If they didn't kick us out without notice, maybe we wouldn't have litigation either, but those facts don't matter apparently. Selective memory that you have.

Chris Guro said just a comment. She just wants to thank Priscilla deLeon, Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, and Laura Ray for continuously taking the high road here in these meetings. Their excellent representation of the LST residents who overwhelmingly voted for you. Thank you.

Robert Blasko said yes, he is a resident. There have been close to a dozen and a half times that the bed buddies up there on either end of the podium, of the dais rather, excuse him, brought up things stating oh, there is sure, there is sure to be lawsuits to follow. Yes, as sure as they are, he hasn't seen either of the bed buddies invest their own money in those lawsuits. Ms. deLeon said thank you, next.

Ann Marie Slavick said she lives in LST. She would say that it seems like a big inconvenience to have everybody yelling and everybody going back and forth and people asking questions and people interrupting people. It's a big inconvenience. So, when she was out door-to-door talking to people about the election last year, a lot of people brought up the library, of course. You know, she didn't grow up here but she gets confused about the convenience versus let's do things the right way, right? Like it's an inconvenience to go to a different library. It's such an inconvenience. It's such a pain. It's such a problem, but you know what? Everybody, when you are asking people for money, that money is not the government's money. Let her reiterate that. The money that you are spending is not your money. It's not the government's money. It doesn't fall out of a tree. It comes from taxpayers, which she represents here tonight. So, all the people in the audience that have a problem with things going back and forth, and questions and asking questions, and one side seems like angelic and one side seems so nasty, but the bottom line is this, if there's an organization coming up and asking for money, we should be able to see the financials. There shouldn't even be a question. It doesn't even make sense why we can't see the financials of HAL and where the money is going. It makes no sense. So, it's an inconvenience when sometime down the road, somebody in the government is stealing money, which is happening, right? Everywhere? People are stealing money from the government every day, all the time,

because they think they are entitled, because they need money, because they are poor, because something happened, whatever the reason, they are stealing money. So, the point is, let's look into it ahead of time to make sure that doesn't happen and you have an obligation to the taxpayers. You do. She knows you think that this is your gig, the three of you...this is your gig. You are on the ethical side. You are on the good side. You are so sweet and nice but the bottom line is it's not your money.

Mr. Banonis said Ms. Slavick, can he get some clarification on something? He's on the Ethics.PA.gov website. This is the official ethics website. Here's the question. What is a conflict of interest under the Ethics Act? Under the Ethics Act, a conflict of interest exists when a person uses the authority of their public office employment or confidential information received through their public office employment, which is used for the private pecuniary benefit of the public official, public employee himself, any member of his immediate family, any member of his immediate family, or a business which he or a member of his immediate family is associated. So, if he is understanding your comments correctly, that's exactly what you're pointing out all this blather that we heard out of Victoria Ophthof-Cordaro's mouth is utter nonsense when she says there's no conflict when the State law says specifically that it is because it is an immediate family member. Ms. Ophthof-Cordaro said it's your opinion, it's not law. It's your opinion. You can have an opinion...Mr. Banonis said hello, he didn't interrupt her, same courtesy, come on. Slavick said on another situation, if you worked in the private sector, you don't get away with any of this. You recuse yourself. If there's a conflict of interest, you get in trouble, you get fired, you get fined and that's how the real world works. So, again, people who are complaining why are we asking so many questions? Why are we asking so many questions? Because the government needs to be ethical because again, this isn't your money. This isn't your gig. This isn't your thing. This isn't your money. This is the taxpayer money. This is the Township. You can't come in here thinking that you guys are right and whatever you think is right; therefore, you can break all the rules because you think you are right and that's what's happening in the Federal government. That's what's happening in the State government; and that's what's happening here. So, it's just trickling down. Just because you think you are right doesn't mean you are. It's your opinion and also you should recuse yourself if you should. You need to, just do it. That's all we're asking. We wouldn't be going back and forth here. We wouldn't be complaining. Just recuse yourself.

Mr. Carocci said exactly, worried about the stealing of the money. Priscilla's been on disability for 40 years, collecting a paycheck and doing nothing. So, you are right about people stealing money. Priscilla hasn't worked a day in 40 years except for the Township, of course.

Ms. deLeon said she's sorry you were interrupted by the lady that spoke before you. She apologizes. Ms. Strock from LST. She belongs to HAL for many years. However, she wants to know, she wants to see those financials. She has a right as taxpayer. All of us should be interested in that. You don't invest in anything unless you really see what's going on. As far as the \$150,000.00, what percentage of their budget is that \$150,000.00? Mr. Carocci said it was 75, 80, it was most of it. Ms. deLeon said she has no idea. Mr. Carocci said Hellertown was only going to fund about 20 – 25%. We were about 75%. Ms. deLeon said when we belonged to the...Mr. Carocci said and not only that...Ms. deLeon said she's talking. Mr. Carocci said we asked for emails and they wouldn't turn emails over. Ms. deLeon said that's not true. We got the financial information. Mr. Carocci said that's not true. Ms. deLeon said the Township has it here. We have their 990's. Mr. Banonis said and they wouldn't give us usage information. Ms. Strock asked can it made public? Mr. Banonis said they couldn't justify the numbers. Ms. Ophthof-Cordaro said it was made public, they are a 501c3 and they have to file taxes. (*everyone talking at once*) Ms. Strock said she has the floor, all of you. She said if you have the financials why can't we see them? Ms. deLeon said you can do a RTK request and ask for the... Ms. Strock said you can get it out since this is part of the conversations at all these meetings, you should have it here. Ms. Ray said the 990s are available online. You can look them up, the 990s for any non-profit and they are online. Ms. Strock said she will check that out.

Mr. Banonis said the 990s aren't itemized and it doesn't identify the expenses or anything else of what they are using the money for. It shows their assets, their expenses, generally. It offers no detail into the financial operation. They never provided that information to us. They also never provided to us any

usage information to justify the outrageous figures that they were demanding from this Township. They sought to extort from this Township money that they could not justify for their purposes. Mr. Carocci said and they didn't turn over, we had a RTK for emails, between them and the Borough and they wouldn't turn them over. They still didn't turn them over. They hired an attorney and fought it in court. That's how much they didn't want to turn those over.

Ms. Strock said the other question is did we have equal representation on this board if we're paying three-quarters of their budget? Mr. Carocci said no, in fact they had a...at that time, at that time, they had a majority on the board and that was not going to change. As they say, it's the Hellertown library. It's not the Lower Saucon library, it's the Hellertown library. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's sorry Ma'am, the figures provided to you are not accurate. She thinks it would be appropriate for you to see that material but to be just throwing numbers out in the air, 75%, 80. Mr. Carocci said that's what it was though. Mr. Banonis said it was actually 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s and 1/3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro and then you are relying on those numbers, she doesn't think it would be appropriate. Mr. Carocci said there's about 150 for us, 50 for them. That was it.

Ms. Strock said so at the very least, if it's three-quarters, then it should be Hellertown-Lower Saucon Library if you are going to do that, but the fact remains, there are a lot of questions. Mr. Banonis said he thinks it should be Lower Saucon-Hellertown if we're paying more. Ms. Strock said there you go, there you go. She's just saying you just do not give money over without having questions and making sure the public which is all of us in this room, get to know everything. Just stop passing over it, let's get down to it. Let's get the answers. Let's present it here before we hand over money. Thank you. Mr. Banonis said Ms. Strock, he'll just add to a point that she brought up. You're talking about just handing over money. That's exactly what they did. They handed over money secretly in an Executive Session and then they realized that what they were calling was an invoice which is not an invoice that was due. There was never a contract that made those invoices payable or owed. So then they recast that in public finally...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the characterization is inaccurate. Mr. Banonis said they recast that at a subsequent meeting and they had a vote on it to bring it out into the sunshine because what they did was actually improper. What they claimed to be paying...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said another inaccurate statement. Mr. Banonis said paying an invoice but was not owed, that it was not owed at all. Then they cast it as a donation, that's how this worked. Ms. deLeon said inaccuracies. Mr. Carocci said they gave them \$98,000.00. Ms. deLeon said the lady in the yellow jacket has the floor. Mr. Carocci said they never got the emails and we never got the finances. We never got the emails and we never got the finances. Ms. deLeon said she's sorry, the lady...Mr. Carocci said when Victoria interrupted Jason you didn't gavel anybody. Ms. deLeon said the lady has the floor. She's trying here but they don't listen. Mr. Carocci said why didn't you gavel Victoria when she interrupted Jason? Mr. Banonis said you are doing a good job. Ms. deLeon said you can say whatever you want Jason. Mr. Banonis said he's telling her. You are acting like a fool. You will gavel him and Tom but you will not gavel anybody else, uniformly apply the rules.

Mr. Goudsouzian said do you have anything else? Ms. Strock said she'd like to say it's questionable at best. It does not look good. You sit up there and represent us and the Township. You shouldn't have this hanging over you. You should really want to get to the bottom of it and clear it up. Thank you very much. Mr. Carocci said thank you. Ms. deLeon said thank you, anybody want to go next?

Russ Sutton said he lives on Saucon Avenue. He has a question for Jason and for Tom they are bringing up about the dump. He'd like to know something. Did the dump help fund your elections the last time? Mr. Banonis said no. Mr. Carocci said no. Mr. Sutton said really? Mr. Banonis said no, he has a campaign finance report Sir. It's filed, it's a public...you asked him a question, let him finish to answer the question. You want an answer to the question, he'll give you the answer to the question. Okay, do you want to hear the answer? Mr. Sutton said yes. Mr. Banonis said the answer is no, N-O, big N-O. Not one single dollar came to their campaign from the landfill or its PAC or anybody else. Mr. Sutton said you're lying. Mr. Banonis said no, you're a liar, Sir, and don't call him a liar, don't call him a liar because it's a public...there's a campaign finance statement. Your proof is the campaign finance statement shows exactly who donated to their campaign. Okay, so if you want to be part of this

defamation lawsuit that that clown over there is subject to, welcome aboard. They will bring you on board because it's an outright lie and we have integrity...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said ill remind you of insults and the characterization...Mr. Banonis said will you shut up, would you just shut up and...Mr. Carocci said again, she won't gavel, again she won't gavel Victoria. She won't gavel Victoria. Mr. Sutton said he has the floor. Mr. Banonis said you want to slander him, let's bring it on, we'll do this dance. We'll do the dance...Mr. Sutton said shut up. Mr. Banonis said his campaign finance report shows exactly where the money came from and if you are too lazy or ignorant to go to the courthouse and pull those out...Mr. Sutton said he did go to the courthouse and he had...Mr. Banonis said go and get it, go and get it and see what's on there. Mr. Sutton said he has it...Mr. Banonis said zero dollars, Sir, zero dollars. He knows you don't like facts. Facts hurt, words hurt. He's sorry if you are going to stand up here and throw shots and ask a question, he's going to give it right back to him, okay? Get your head on straight and know what you are talking about because you don't know what you are talking about. Mr. Sutton said he tried...Mr. Banonis said you do not know what you are talking about. You're ignorant Sir...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said let him finish so he can say what he's talking about, but you can't let him finish. Mr. Goudsouzian said go ahead sir. Mr. Sutton said let him finish what he's saying. Mr. Banonis said you asked a question and he gave you the answer. Mr. Sutton said he's talking now, he does not have the floor so shut up. Mr. Banonis said he answered the question and he doesn't like the answer, Sir, that's why you want him to stop talking. You don't like the truth, okay? You don't like to hear the truth so go on. Shoot your mouth off all you want sir. Mr. Sutton said he has it documented. Mr. Banonis said welcome aboard. Mr. Sutton said you wouldn't admit it at Se-Wy-Co at the hearing and you would not allow it. You tried to throw him out of the meeting. He had the document and he wanted to put it in evidence and you disavowed it. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't know what he's talking about. Where is it? Where is it? Bring it now. You are talking....abstract....a document...Mr. Sutton said he doesn't have it now. He will bring it. Mr. Banonis said Sir, he will bring the campaign finance report to the next Council meeting and he will show it. He will put it on the Township website for the whole world to see, Sir. He's got nothing to hide. Okay, he's an ethical person even though he doesn't think he is, he likes to shoot his mouth off at him. He's an ethical person. He's sorry you don't like it. Mr. Carocci said he forgot to feed his cats over there.

Ms. deLeon said Mark, address the floor, the Chair please.

Mr. Mark Ozimek said ethical, huh? Mr. Carocci said sad that these people lose all their money. Mr. Ozimek said LST. If anybody knows him for 23 years he's been in his house, they should know he hasn't threatened anybody. Mr. Banonis said I disagree with that. Mr. Ozimek said especially the one that made lies...Ms. deLeon said Mark has the floor. Mr. Ozimek said but anyway, back to...Mr. Carocci said you were found guilty. Ms. deLeon said Mark, please, just ignore them, talk. Mr. Ozimek said Mr. Goudsouzian, if you or your wife have any issues or conflicts with the library, please resolve them for the public, not for the girls, not for Banonis, not for anyone, for the public. Our taxes pay your money. As far as getting the library back in shape to work, yea, do that because the kids need it, not because adults need it, but because the kids need it and the kids deserve it. As far as morals and ethics, did we ever get a report on Southern Lehigh Library expenses and where the \$50,000.00 went or was it more than that, that we don't know about? Sir, you keep staring at him, he can do this. Ms. deLeon said okay Mark. Okay, we need to...Mr. Ozimek said so no dumb conversation, no nothing, run the library, keep it there and get through this meeting. He doesn't want to be here until 2:00 a.m. Mr. Banonis said then go home. Mr. Ozimek said no, he's not going home. He's staying and the reason he's staying is because of you. Mr. Banonis said great. Ms. deLeon said okay, okay. Thank you, anybody else? We are going to close public comment.

Mr. Carocci said he thinks the public should know who Mr. Ozimek is. Mr. Banonis said he'd like to know who Mr. Ozimek is, Tom...Mr. Carocci said may be recognized? Mr. Banonis said he recognizes you Tom, go ahead. Mr. Carocci said okay, thank you. Ms. deLeon said public comment. Mr. Carocci said Mr. Ozimek is a LST resident...Ms. deLeon said you do not have the floor, Tom. Mr. Carocci said is charged with, in 1991, was charged with...Ms. deLeon said roll call please Cathy. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis? Mr. Carocci said a fatal hit and run of an Allentown man...Ms. deLeon said that's terrible...you are terrible, Tom. You are terrible Tom. Ms. Ray said point of order, we are not on topic

at all. We are having a roll call for a motion. Mr. Carocci said so after being held for four and a half hours...Ms. deLeon said that is disgraceful. Mr. Carocci said it's true. Ms. deLeon said it doesn't matter. It does not belong to be said here. Mr. Carocci said he stood at that podium and talked about integrity. Ms. deLeon said that it not on the agenda. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro asked can we continue with the roll call Cathy? Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis. Mr. Carocci said was found guilty. Ms. deLeon said Jason you are either going to make a motion or you're not, she means a vote. Mr. Banonis said this motion is pending, he can't make a motion. There's a motion that's pending, he can't make a motion. Ms. Ray said voting. Ms. deLeon said she understands. She made a mistake, she can admit that she made a mistake. We're doing roll call and Cathy just called on you. Be respectful to at least Cathy. Mr. Banonis said he's not going to interrupt Mr. Carocci who is speaking. Ms. deLeon said Mr. Carocci is out of order. Mr. Banonis said no he is not. Ms. deLeon said he cannot be...yes he is. She's running the meeting and he's out of order. Mr. Banonis said go ahead Tom. Ms. deLeon said like it or not. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said maybe he's unresponsive, Mr. Banonis refuses...Mr. Banonis said he's responsive. Mr. Carocci said what are we voting on? Ms. deLeon said okay, Jason...Mr. Carocci said are we voting on whether he can talk? Mr. Banonis said Tom, why don't you go back over the part where he made death threats against him and was found guilty by a District Justice...Mr. Carocci said right, right. Mr. Banonis said he's already killed somebody before and he's made death threats against...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she would like to continue with the roll call. Ms. deLeon said you are disrespectful and out of order. Mr. Banonis said it's the truth, you know it's the truth. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't care if it's the truth or not. It does not belong in this meeting. Mr. Banonis said he stood up here and said he's an ethical person. Mr. Carocci said and lectured us about integrity, he lectured us about integrity. Ms. deLeon said awful, do you guys realize what he's doing to a resident here? Do you realize that? Mr. Carocci said telling the truth. Ms. deLeon said it could be any one of you had a problem and he'd be out here talking about it in front of everybody. Mr. Carocci said he wasn't arrested for running somebody over. Ms. deLeon said so disrespectful. The floor is closed for comments. Mr. Banonis said he didn't threaten himself. He didn't take a picture of his wife and kids and put it up on a Facebook page. Mr. Carocci said right he took a picture of Jason's wife and kids. Mr. Banonis said he didn't do that at all. Ms. deLeon said there's a motion on the floor. Cathy is trying to do roll call. Mr. Banonis said that's okay, that's acceptable behavior. That's endorsed by this Council. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis. Mr. Carocci said he didn't get to vote yet. Ms. deLeon said Jason is the first person Cathy is calling on. Ms. Gorman said Mr. Banonis is the first one. Mr. Banonis said Tom, are you done? Mr. Carocci said he wants to speak, but he doesn't know...Ms. deLeon said you're not allowed to speak. You are being disrespectful to a resident and that's not right. Mr. Carocci said this is a public...Ms. deLeon said it is a public meeting, but it does not belong on this agenda. Mr. Carocci said because he's talking about a criminal record, that's public. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said move on to the roll call. Ms. Ray said let's move on. Ms. deLeon said you are out of order. Mr. Carocci said it's inappropriate because he's your friend. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis? Mr. Goudsouzian said no, no, no. Have a seat. There's no more public comment. Ms. deLeon said please have a seat, no more public comment. Please sit, please sit Mark. Jason, you're being called for a roll call, what's your vote? Mr. Banonis said he'll vote and then when it's your turn you can finish your comments, okay, before you vote. The motion is what? Ms. deLeon said the motion is to authorize the Township solicitor to continue to pursue the direction outlined by Council regarding the Hellertown, regarding Hellertown and the Hellertown Library. Mr. Banonis said no, never, he means, he's such a conflict of interest on this. His wife was on the board. There's a tremendous cover-up, to allow that to happen is just wrong. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis. Mr. Banonis said he said no. Mrs. Gorman said sorry, Ms. Opthof-Cordaro. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said yes. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Carocci. Mr. Carocci said well, the and also the former library attorney, now works for him. He hired the former law attorney for the library. You know, so his answer would be no. He'll have more on Mr. Ozimek later. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Ray. Ms. deLeon said what was your vote? Mr. Carocci said he said no. Ms. Ray said yes. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. deLeon. Ms. deLeon said yes.

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

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to authorize the Township solicitor to continue to pursue the direction outlined by Council regarding the Bethlehem Landfill (BL) to ratify the actions of the Township solicitor in joining the preliminary objections. She believes she stated that correctly.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said any other discussion by Council? Mr. Banonis said yes, you are talking about continuing the direction. There was never an initial direction that was provided. This Council never...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said because you were too busy talking...Mr. Banonis said hello, hello, he's speaking. Hello. Mr. Carocci said why won't you gavel? Why won't you gavel? Why won't you, you won't, will you Priscilla? Mr. Banonis said wow. Ms. deLeon said please, please. Mr. Banonis said again, this was never voted on initially to commence any direction. The solicitor undertook action apparently unilaterally and the position was never, ever discussed in public and brought to light. Ms. Garber brought this up at the last Council meeting. She brought it up again earlier today. The solicitor has joined in a brief that was filed by the objectors, including St. Luke's, the Petries and others and has taken a position adverse to the Township and he thinks that he's put the Township in great peril as a result of this. There was never any deliberation on this. There was never any instruction that was made. There was never a vote or a consensus, so to tell him to continue the direction seems to gloss over and endorse his earlier actions, which were never, ever considered by this Council. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said they absolutely were. We had an Executive Session and...Mr. Carocci said there you go, there you go, Priscilla. Mr. Banonis said he thinks she has a condition, doesn't she? She just blurts stuff out all the time. She can't help herself. Mr. Carocci said and you want us to not interrupt, Priscilla. You want us to not interrupt. Ms. deLeon said he has the floor right now. She asked him if he was finished? Mr. Banonis said no, so to his point again, to continue seems to give a pass to the earlier conduct that was never, ever deliberated. It was never, ever endorsed and certainly it was never, ever voted upon by motion in public as it was correctly pointed out by the attorney for the landfill. So, you know, you are again trying to cover up bad deeds and those bad deeds are going to come back to bite you and the taxpayers are going to pay a lot of money for it or they are going to...well, he'll leave it at that. They are going to pay a lot of money. He said he yields, thank you.

Mr. Carocci said may he be recognized? Ms. deLeon said yes, you're next. We do it alphabetical, so you are next. Mr. Carocci said thank you. Yea, the, how are you, he never knows how you are looking at him, you're weird. But yes, Susie back there was trying to cover up his mistake from the earlier Executive Session when he didn't get permission to do any of this. His hands were shaking. He was, he's trying to cover up. He knows he screwed up and listen, he's never been a solicitor for a Township before. He was a solicitor for West Easton Borough which is 0.3 miles and has 1,500 people. 1,500 people and 0.3 miles, so you know, he's not up to the job to say the least. You know, he's definitely just trying to, the whole reason to have that Executive Session today, in his opinion, was to try and cover his tracks from the previous ones where he really, really messed up and really didn't....violated the Sunshine Act in his opinion. Also, violated numerous professional code of conducts for attorneys so that's a problem and hopefully all of that will come out.

Ms. deLeon said okay, Victoria? She said she approves of the motion. She also thinks the public should be clear and understand that we do have Executive Sessions. We act in those Executive Sessions. It's her position that they've done everything honestly and openly and if certain members of Council want to portray a different set of opinions, that's their right, but it's her opinion everything has been done properly and she's in support of the motion.

Mr. Banonis said how do you take a position on this when you recuse yourself with regard to your sister but you don't recuse it when it affects your parents...Ms. deLeon said you don't have the floor right now. She doesn't recognize him. Mr. Banonis said I don't understand how you reconcile those two points? You don't recuse with regard to your sister...or you do, I'm sorry, you recuse with your sister but you don't recuse with regard to the landfill. Wow.

Ms. deLeon said Laura. Ms. Ray said yes. She said with regard to Executive Session yes they did discuss this and they did approve for him to be working on these matters and looking at them and

working to move forward. Mr. Carocci said if we approved them, why didn't we announce it last time, April 3<sup>rd</sup>? Ms. Ray said perhaps if you wouldn't be screaming and shouting and cursing at everybody back there, you would have heard what happened but that is what happened. Mr. Carocci said then why didn't we come out and announce it after? Ms. deLeon said you do not have the floor, she has it next. Mr. Banonis said that's a valid question. Why didn't we vote on it with a motion because...Mr. Carocci said on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Banonis said it never happened, that's why. It never happened.

Ms. deLeon said okay, she has the floor next and she supports this motion and at this point, then she'd like to open it up to public comment. So, somebody go first.

Mr. Carocci said Dave, they could have done this when they had the Executive Session if it really happened. If it really happened, they could have done that. Ms. deLeon said Tom, you do not have the floor. Mr. David Boulin said anybody with half a brain would realize that Sir, alright. Mr. Carocci said a cover up. Mr. Boulin said maybe you could help him out here a little bit here. Which item are we on here on this agenda? Ms. deLeon said this is still announcement of Executive Session. Mr. Boulin said you seem to flying around....again? Ms. deLeon said we're in the Executive Session area. We didn't get very far. Mr. Boulin said alright. We are still in the Executive Session. Ms. deLeon said correct. Mr. Boulin said oh, that's wonderful. So why didn't you announce this when you came out of Executive Action...Ms. deLeon said we did, didn't you hear that? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we are doing now. Mr. Banonis said they didn't do it last time. Ms. deLeon said we did so. Mr. Carocci said they didn't do it at the last meeting. Mr. Carocci said not when they claimed they talked about it. Mr. Boulin said there are so many things that are going on here. This conflict of interest really gets him and that's especially true of HAL, but this other issue of Ms. Cordaro, VOC here, as she likes to be called. That's outrageous and so she, this is no different than allowing the solicitor to take over the meeting and allow people at the meeting to talk about things, they are outside of the 300' perimeter and yet they are allowed to go on for hours and hours. That's a conflict too. You just keep stacking them up. Alright, we're not playing by rules that even the State of PA would normally be used to. So, yes, as a public person, he's sitting here looking at this and saying, what is happened? By the way, while we're at it, this agenda, yea, huh, this agenda, let's see here. For four years that he's aware of that he's been coming to these meetings, four years, the agenda has always come out on Friday afternoon. Congratulations, alright. All of a sudden, and he spoke to this to you, Mrs. President, to you, saying I don't appreciate having these last-minute additions because you who are responsible for this decided to put some last-minute item on the agenda which he doesn't have time to, gee whiz, we pay you \$5,000.00, can't you get it right? Get these things on the agenda instead of sending out a notice, oh by the way, we're going to have another special solicitor and we don't know want you to know who it is because we're going to rip it out there just like this fellow that's sitting here. We don't know what he stands for. What he did or didn't do, and he already spoke to that conflict. We know some of that, at least we think we do. And now, you're going to do this, this last minute announcement. That's transparency? Is that what you three women ran on? Please give us a break.

Ms. deLeon said next. Mr. Bob Hausman said he lives in LS Terrace. He's lived here a long time and he likes it. He would like to read something just briefly to you guys. You can look this up by going to the website for the County of Northampton Recorder of Deeds. This is for a parcel of land over by what used to be part of Bethlehem Steel. This is an environmental covenant. It reads and he's not going to read the whole thing, we'd be here for quite a while but he wants to get a gist of what's in this covenant. It goes down here to say, this is part of a large tract previously operated by Bethlehem Steel for the manufacturing of steel products dating back to the 1880's. As a result of these activities, the property was contaminated with substances including heavy metals, organic compounds. It goes on to mention many organic compounds, you can look them up. They are not good, none of them are good. They are all carcinogens, they cause birth defects. You know about Love Canal, that's what happened. Now here in PA when you go to PA's websites, it looks very convenient like all the contaminations stayed within the boundaries of Bethlehem Steel property. When you go down to Maryland, the reporting is different. You get a whole lot of different data from the third parties that do the chemical analysis. What you see is the contaminants, including heavy metals and all of the organic compounds that spread miles outside the borders. Now, the next page of that covenant continues to say this property is subject to the following

activity and useful mutations, which the owner and subsequent owner of the property shall abide by as far as he knows these never terminate. They just continue on in perpetuity. Whoever owns it is liable for it at that time. It goes on to say the property shall be limited to commercial or industrial activity and no eventual property or any part be used for the following purposes. Single family or multi-family dwellings, residential style facilities, parks, playgrounds, recreational areas, campgrounds, daycares, nurseries. You are getting the gist of this. If you think that's not going to affect property value, then you are from a different planet. He doesn't know what that property will do, but he can tell you this. Bethlehem Steel screwed us in a big way because they went bankrupt. So all the people who profited from this, those that were at the top of management, they left. They are gone. They got their retirement plans. They sold their stocks before it went under and they are out of any liability. The company is now bankrupt. There is nothing left to sue. That whole property is now, what isn't developed, either responsibility of the city, or it is the responsibility of the property owners that bought these individual belt properties and now have those deeds and restrictions. Here's the question, and you guys have to address this with your attorney and you should get an environmental counsel. You should not use general counsels. It's a very highly specialized area of law. Who is going to be responsible for any future contamination if there is any? There is monitoring going on along the creek that surrounds where the treatment facility is before it comes into the Lehigh. You have to write to DNR to get those results. They do test but unlike Maryland you can't see what they are so you don't know what's leaking in the creek but that property is adjacent to the landfill so you get into a legal battle with, who did it? He doesn't know but he likes living here so he hopes we don't screw it up, and we've done that in this state. Ms. deLeon said thank you, next.

Maryanne Garber said she's representing the Bethlehem Landfill Company (BLC) and just so that we're all clear on this, she thinks the motion on the floor is to retroactively authorize the solicitor to file the brief that he filed on April 15, 2024. There have been statements both at the last meeting and tonight that there was no direction given to the solicitor at the last Executive Session to make this filing on the 15<sup>th</sup> and if that is in fact the case, then that's a violation of the Home Rule Charter. If there was direction given at the Executive Session, that in and of itself is illegal and in violation of the Sunshine Act because that's an official action that should have been voted on at a public meeting. She can only assume that in recognition of the objection and the violation that she noted at the last meeting, that now this corrective action is being taken to sort of retroactively bless the actions that the solicitor either, solicitor either took without direction or took with direction in an Executive Session where that wasn't supposed to happen. So, you are coming here tonight to take official action to direct the solicitor to do something, and that's not appropriately noted on the agenda. There's no notice of the action that's being taken and that in and of itself is another violation of the Sunshine Act. So, she just wants the record to reflect the numerous violations of the Home Rule Charter, the Sunshine Act, the Ethics Law, the clear conflict of interest that Ms. Opthof-Cordaro has if she, she's already violated by participating in the deliberations in the backroom at the Executive Session that took place tonight. She has stated clearly, she's not going to recuse herself. Not only do her parents have a fiduciary interest in prohibiting the expansion of the landfill but there's also her cumulative actions since October or November of 2023 with respect to the landfill go far and beyond just having an opinion about an issue in the Township, which we hope that every Council member sitting at the dais has opinions about what happens in the Township. This goes far and beyond what is contemplated in the Second Class Township Code when they speak to Council members being permitted to vote on things that they have voiced opinions about. She's participated as a lawyer in the opposition of the landfill expansion in litigation in the past and litigation that's currently pending right now, so she will reiterate her demand that she recuses herself. She wants all of this to be clear on the record and any time that something like this happens, she will be standing up here reflecting that for the record.

Mr. Carocci said can you explain a little bit of clarification of all these Sunshine Act violations, what is the liability for a Township. He would ask our solicitor but he would ask our solicitor, but he's clueless. For example, would we be liable for your attorney fees if you file a complaint? Ms. Garber said attorney fees are something that can be claimed in a Sunshine Act complaint. Mr. Carocci said what else and other types of fines and punishments? Ms. Garber said yes, there could be fines individually on the

people who knowingly violated the Sunshine Act. The action will be undone and you know various types of relief under the Sunshine Act, yes.

Mr. Carocci said Susie, didn't you get West Easton in trouble with this in 2016? There was some RTKs that weren't responded to? He guesses there was a news article about it. Mr. Goudsouzian said number one, he's not sure what he's talking about. Number two...Mr. Carocci said West Easton Borough. Mr. Goudsouzian said hold on, and number two, he wouldn't talk about any other litigation here. Number three, he's not asking for your opinion, he's answering his question. Number three is his position as the solicitor for this Township, they've done nothing wrong and they haven't violated any act. They haven't violated any statute in an overabundance of caution. They've moved forward today with the motion that's before you to ratify what's...Mr. Carocci said you claim we made this...Mr. Goudsouzian said hang on, hang on, Sir, and where we are right now is there's this motion on the floor. You might not like it, and he appreciates that but that's where we are. It's again, our position we have done absolutely nothing wrong. He's been berated. People have called him names. He's tried to be professional. He's tried to be polite. He's tried to lead, by example. Sometimes that means...Mr. Banonis said a terrible example. Ms. deLeon said he has the floor, not you. Mr. Goudsouzian said he believes you are proving his point. He's had uninformed people make all sorts of accusations. He's had people talk while he talks. While he tries to be polite and courteous to every single person he runs into, including people, hold on, including people who disagree with him, including people who interrupt him, including people who go and say things in his ear as they walk by just to try to be rude or obnoxious. Short answer is this. They've done nothing wrong; the majority of Council has provided direction. There's a motion on the floor. That's where we are.

Mr. Carocci said so his last question is then, why didn't we do this when you are saying we allegedly talked about it two Executive Sessions ago? Mr. Goudsouzian said our position...Mr. Carocci said why didn't we come out to the public and do it then, two sessions ago when you are alleging we spoke about that and gave you this authority to make that filing, on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Why didn't we come out April 3<sup>rd</sup> from Executive Session? Ms. deLeon said one at a time. Mr. Goudsouzian said you've asked that over and over again. Mr. Carocci said no he hasn't, it's the first time he asked this question. Mr. Goudsouzian said you just did, two or three times. Mr. Carocci said so on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, why didn't we come out and have this discussion then if you say you were authorized then to do that on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and you filed something on April 15<sup>th</sup> so why didn't we have this on April 3<sup>rd</sup>? Mr. Goudsouzian said the position is we didn't need to do it then. Mr. Carocci said why do we need to do it now? Mr. Goudsouzian said we are doing it now in over abundance of caution...Mr. Carocci said to cover up, to cover up. Mr. Goudsouzian said why are you interrupting him? Why do you ask questions and interrupt him? Mr. Carocci said go ahead, he's sorry. Mr. Goudsouzian said in over abundance of caution they are doing it now. Mr. Carocci said because you got it wrong.

Mr. Banonis said why not put it on the agenda? Why sneak it in through the back door of Executive Session if it's going to be a public...Mr. Goudsouzian said because the way it normally works...Mr. Banonis said if...Mr. Goudsouzian said hold on, you asked him a question, and...Mr. Banonis said he's clarifying his question...Mr. Goudsouzian said the way it normally works...Mr. Banonis said if you are doing this to fix something you did wrongly before, why not be totally transparent and put it on the agenda so the whole public knows about this and they can see this ahead of time and say they want to be there and they want to speak out about this? Because you don't want them to know. You want to sneak it through the back door is his position.

Mr. Goudsouzian said you are welcome to have your position, but hold on, you're welcome to have your position, but normally when you have a normal governing body that has litigation, that is done in Executive Session. Strategies are in Executive Session, comments are in Executive Session and it remains there. They've done nothing wrong. They are where they are. If he doesn't like it, he appreciates it. Tom doesn't like it, he appreciates that. You are entitled to your opinion.

Mr. Carocci said the public should know. Mr. Banonis said you are giving us this advice with no past experience as a solicitor for a Township according to his resume that he submitted when he became the

interim solicitor, right? So they are supposed to take his legal advice on that. Mr. Goudsouzian said and again, he wants to move forward and not move backward, but as you may recall...Mr. Banonis said sure you do, because what's behind you, what's behind you does not look good Steve. What's behind you does not look good for you. Mr. Goudsouzian said as you recall or you may not remember, but he's going to remind him. When he was sworn in, when he was voted in, Mr. Carocci asked him, you've never been a Township solicitor. He corrected him and said actually he has. He explained to him the situation, but you conveniently forgot it. Mr. Banonis said he's looking at his resume right here and maybe he can point it out to him, where? Municipal practice, he'll go over this if you want to have a discussion about it. Solicitor Borough of Northampton, Borough of North Catasauqua, Borough of West Easton, Water Authority, Zoning Hearing Board, County Controller, Alternate Solicitor of Bethlehem Township Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board of Washington Township, Borough of Wind Gap, Moore Township Zoning Hearing Board, Wind Gap, so you talk about this but your resume doesn't reflect and this is what you submitted to us in furtherance of your credentials to get this position, so again, maybe you should spend time updating your resume if it's not accurate, what else is inaccurate?

Mr. Goudsouzian said what you can do is if you are that interested is go back and look at the tape when he was sworn in. Mr. Banonis said why didn't you submit it. He's looking at the paperwork. Mr. Carocci said Goudsouzian says over abundance of caution is why we are doing this now, it's to cover up for his mistakes. Mr. Banonis said Tom, your point about West Easton...Ms. deLeon said public comment. Mr. Banonis said \$800,000.00 is what was allegedly...Mr. Blasko said President said public comment. Mr. Banonis said \$800,000.00 in fines...Mr. Blasko said he thinks she's supposed to be running the meeting. He thinks she's supposed to be running the meeting.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Mr. Boulin, please sit down. Ms. deLeon was gaveling. Mr. Banonis said potential court fines looming like a nuclear weapon on their doorstep they buckled down and decided it was a risk worth taking even though a simple written apology would have ended the litigation six months ago. This attitude has blown the ...*(someone was whistling while Mr. Banonis was speaking)* 2016 legal fee budget out of the water, with more fees mounting every day they stand in defiance of the cases they lost in 2011 and 2015...*(someone was whistling, could not hear what Mr. Banonis was saying)*. Ms. deLeon said professionalism.

Mr. Goudsouzian said hold on, just so we can move on. You and Tom have spent a lot of time talking about West Easton in 2016 of all the things that may or may not have happened. If you had spent an inkling of time trying to figure who the solicitor was in 2016, you'd know it wasn't him. Mr. Carocci said yes it was.

Mr. Blasko said President, may he speak? Ms. deLeon said Mr. Blasko, you have the floor. Mr. Blasko said you can go back and look at the tape the night that Mr. Goudsouzian was here. Tom sat over there and Tom questioned him. The reason Mr. Banonis didn't hear it, because as he does quite often, he was in the back room. Go back and look at the tape because he made note of it. That's why he doesn't remember you answering Tom and telling Tom that you had worked as a township solicitor because he was in the back room again, that's why. Number two, as far as being supported by the landfill, you can go and look it up. You can sit there and say but it's actually a technicality as far as he's concerned because a man named Mr. Moss is a NE Governance Officer for Waste Connections, who owns the landfill. He's also the top officer of the Political Action Committee, to put out your door hangars and your flyers and you said in one interview that you knew nothing about the landfill supporting you. Well, if you don't, you are the only one in Saucon Township, Lower Saucon Township that doesn't. Now, getting to the landfill, and pecuniary gain, the bed buddies are always talking about the landfill and that if they close the taxes are going to go up. That means their taxes are going to go up. Taxes translate to money. Money translates to pecuniary gain. They campaigned on that. So, if they insisted Victoria Opthof-Cordaro recuses herself, they should also willingly, by their own definition, recuse themselves.

Mr. Banonis said he'll point out a lie that Mr. Goudsouzian shared with us and that was on, he's looking at the West Easton Council minutes December 12, 2016...Ms. deLeon said there's public comment going on right ow, Jason, you are out of order I am sorry Diane. Mr. Banonis said in 2016 he's identified

as a solicitor for the Borough of West Easton, he said he wasn't the solicitor in 2016. That was a lie. Mr. Carocci said hew as the solicitor. Mr. Banonis said it says right here in the minutes. These are approved minutes, December 12, 2016.

Ms. deLeon said Diane has the floor. Ms. Hollowell said just so like the public knows, and if you are watching on TV right there, these three ladies ran and one of their big things was you know to fight this landfill and people crossed party lines to vote for these three ladies and they won by a landslide, so just remember that. If there are a lot of people aren't here, they voted for these three women to stop that landfill expansion. Mr. Carocci said he'd like to point out that he and Jason won by a landslide too when they ran. Yes, they did. They ran...Ms. deLeon said out of order. The lady has the floor.

Claudia Markellos said she lives in LST. She pays taxes and she voted for the three of you for that reason. She felt like the Council previously did not represent us at all, did not consider their position at all. She wanted someone who was going to listen. She also have the feeling, the belief after hearing the three of you talk at other times, that you really want to do what's best for the Township on the whole. This is a big Township and she understands that's very difficult to do, but she does believe that they would do their best. Solicitor, she agrees with him continuing for us. Thank you so much.

Mr. Russ Sutton said he wants to speak to the solicitor. He wants to thank him for all his efforts and trying to maintain order here and trying to do the right thing for us even though he has to put up with two two-year olds. He's like a principal. Mr. Banonis said please don't talk about Priscilla and Victoria that way, Sir. Please don't talk about them that way. Mr. Sutton said he wants to say he really appreciates him...Mr. Banonis said be respectful. Mr. Sutton said and what he does and he feels that, he told him the first day he needs thick skin now you know what he's talking about but thank you for all your efforts.

Donna Louder said she thinks she's speaking on the agenda item that's up, but she wants to get it done so that she can leave. Ms. deLeon said you are speaking on the motion that we have on the floor. Ms. Louder said she's basically speaking on the business items A. and B. Ms. deLeon said she can't hear her. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she said she's speaking on business items A. and B. Ms. deLeon said on what items? Ms. Louder said business item A. and B., regarding a solicitor, Mr. Goudsouzian. Ms. deLeon said you can't speak on that item now. Ms. Louder said she is asking her to allow her to do that so she can go home please. Ms. deLeon said we have to get through this Executive Session. Ms. Louder said it's regarding the solicitor, please, please. Mr. Carocci said he make a motion to let her speak. Mr. Banonis said second. Ms. Louder said she would like to leave. Mr. Carocci said he'd like to make a motion. Ms. deLeon said you don't need a motion. She can speak. Ms. Louder said she appreciates it, thank you. Ms. deLeon said you're welcome. Talk loud so we can hear you. Ms. Louder said after watching the last Council meeting she was compelled to attend this meeting because she was just disgusted, so she searched Attorney Goudsouzian's web page to view his municipal law experience and found in the practice area drop down the following areas of practice, which are adoption, criminal defense, DUI, estate administration, estate planning guardianship, personal injury, traffic offenses. This site has no mention of any municipal law experience. The next site she went to was the PA State Association of Township Supervisors in search of the Second Class Township solicitor and found the following information. Appointment of a solicitor, the sole responsibilities of the solicitor and most important, the duties of the solicitor, which are as follows: Section 1103, Duties of Solicitor. The township solicitor when directed or requested so to do shall prepare or approve any bonds, obligation, contracts, leases, conveyances, ordinances and assurances to which the Township may be a party. The township solicitor shall commence and prosecute all actions brought by the township for or on the account of any of these estates, rights, privileges, trusts, ordinances or claims or demands as well as defend the township or on any township officer against any actions or suits brought against the township or township officer in which any of the estates, rights, privileges, trust, ordinances or accounts of the township may be brought in question before any court in this Commonwealth and do every professional act incident to the office, which the township solicitor may be authorized or required to do by the board of supervisors or by any resolution. The township solicitor shall furnish the board of Supervisors, upon request, with any opinion, in writing, upon any question of law. Nowhere in duties does it say that he's to run the Council meeting in the absence of the President. So, she asks you Priscilla to please hand the

gavel over to Laura Ray, who is the Vice President and keep things moving and keep things...Ms. deLeon said Donna, the MPC for Conditional Use Hearings allows, excuse her, allows them to appoint a Hearing Officer if you recall, the Bethlehem Landfill had the hearings, had multiple, multiple, multiple hearings and the Council decided that they didn't want to hear the Conditional Use Hearing so they appointed a Hearing Officer. No different than we did for the Conditional Use Hearing. Ms. Louder said she thinks...

Mr. Banonis said it's quite different because he doesn't recall us actually having a motion to appoint a Conditional Hearing Officer. There was no motion that was ever brought forward or voted upon. It was just a unilateral decision by Priscilla to hand the gavel over to someone. Ms. Louder said she thinks we just need to stick to the way things have run in the past because it seemed to have gone very smooth and she knows she knows that sitting as President in the past years. Sorry, where is she? Nowhere in the duties does it say in the Council meeting absence of the President or take action without direction of Council and that's questionable Sir. These behaviors displayed by Attorney Goudsouzian create a lack of trust and question the transparency he shows the taxpayers. This is where her concern is. She can't sit back here and watch you and believe what you are saying because there are so many things that are throwing red flags. She was a former Council member. She kind of has a little bit of background and a little bit of understanding, nothing compared to what an attorney has, but she honestly is telling you now, you are throwing red flags left and right, for the taxpayers. Her inquiry created more questions. Does Attorney Goudsouzian understand his role on Council when he initiated the legal action disclosed by Attorney Garber or was he directed by a Council member, a member of this Council, and why would this Council member breach the PA 65 Sunshine Act as well as open our Township up for litigation? She doesn't know if you were, can she ask him that question? Were you directed by a Council member to do anything with that litigation with the landfill? Mr. Goudsouzian said she cannot ask, you can ask, but he's not going to answer because it's part of litigation; however, if he may, he owes everyone in this room an apology when he said he checked his records as we were talking about West Easton. He was the solicitor in 2016.

Mr. Banonis said he checked after he told you...after he told you that...apologize to him because you essentially called him a liar. Mr. Goudsouzian said however he was not the attorney who was involved in any of the RTK requests. He wants to make that clear. Mr. Banonis said you were the solicitor since January 11, 2016 since the beginning of January. Mr. Carocci said Jason called you on it and then you came clean. Mr. Banonis said then you came clean. Mr. Carocci said you didn't come clean until he called you on it. Mr. Goudsouzian said very well, you can continue, but he wanted to let everyone know in this room.

Ms. Louder said for these reasons, she feels Attorney Goudsouzian is not a good fit for our Township and she knows you can all do better for the taxpayers in our Township. Thank you for allowing her to speak and good night. Mr. Carocci said thank you Donna.

Ms. deLeon said would anyone else like to do public comment? Mr. Carocci said officer, can you make sure she gets to her car before Mr. Ozimek approaches her and threatens her again? Ms. deLeon said oh my God. Mr. Carocci said thank you, thank you, thank you officer. We'll keep Mr. Ozimek in here. Ms. deLeon said you're unbelievable. Go ahead Mark.

Mr. Mark Ozimek said somebody want their paper clip back? He has a question Priscilla. Ms. deLeon said she'll try. Mr. Ozimek said landfill lawyer here, Ms. Garber, claims that you guys did something wrong in the private little meeting that you had back there, what do you call it? Ms. deLeon said Executive Session. Mr. Ozimek said Executive Session. How does Ms. Garber know what went on in that Executive Session tonight? Mr. Banonis said because they came out here and announced it, that's how. Mr. Carocci said on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Banonis said that's how she knew. She wasn't back there. Mr. Carocci said a court filing on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Banonis said there's three cameras going, watch your videos. Mr. Ozimek said huh. Ms. deLeon said Mark, she made the announcement that we met in Executive Session regarding Hellertown, the Hellertown Library and the Bethlehem Landfill. Mr. Ozimek said fine, but how does she know anything was done wrong? Mr. Carocci said Mr. Goudsouzian

made a filing on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's paid an hourly rate to have a legal position. Ms. deLeon said Mark please continue to speak. Mr. Ozimek said she stood here and stated there was something wrong in that room tonight. Don't ask him what it was, he doesn't care. He doesn't even care anymore. He doesn't even know why he's here anymore. Mr. Banonis said neither do we. Ms. deLeon said that is so rude and ignorant. Mr. Banonis said it's the truth, he's being honest. Ms. deLeon said you're not supposed to be making rude comments to residents. Mr. Carocci said we're not supposed to be honest, Jason, according to Priscilla. Mr. Banonis said on this Council you can't be honest, that's a prerequisite – dishonesty. Mr. Carocci said that's right, dishonesty. Ms. deLeon said okay Mark, thank you, anyone else like to speak.

Ann Marie Slavick, LST, said really quick, she's trying to understand exactly what you guys are voting on, but she just wants to say this. Victoria mentioned before that, you know, she seems to definitely be on a trend of she ran for office, which is fine. She has a set agenda and her agenda is anti-corporation. She bashed the company. She bashed the landfill company because they are a big corporation and by the way, big corporations do employ people. It seems like maybe there's a situation here that it's the, you know, the workers against the corporations. It just seems to be a trend in America these days and trend is spilling into LST. Here's her question. The gentleman that spoke about the brown, because she knows they are called brown grounds, brown areas. Mr. Banonis said brown fields. Ms. Slavick said brown fields from Bethlehem Steel. Does anybody care about that? Does anybody care about the poison that's coming out of there? Does anybody know if that's running into the streams, into the creeks, does anybody know? Good, she does too, maybe we should ask about it then. Ms. deLeon said address the Chair, you can't speak to the audience. Mr. Banonis said why don't you have the audience stop addressing her? Ms. Slavick said so, by the way, she gets in trouble by speaking back here, you don't say anything to your crowd. You say nothing to them, nothing. She just wants to make a note of it. Ms. deLeon said she notes. Ms. Slavick said anyway, she does believe that this LST Council is going towards the - we hate corporations, we hate people that make money, we don't like rich people, whatever. But like you were complaining about the landfill because it might be seeping into the ground, which the DEP said it wasn't and she thought you trust the DEP. Those are your people, right. Department of Environmental Protection, she means they are definitely, if they are telling you the landfill is good to go, then why wouldn't you believe them? But you don't have a problem, you might have a problem with, she does, but you don't have a problem with the Bethlehem Steel property, that's okay. Also, what else do we not have a problem with? Oh, the sewer plants, the sewer plant runoff we don't care about that either. She's just making a public note that there are certain things we care about and certain things we don't and if a lawyer, it doesn't matter if she's paid, by a big corporation, and she says that you violated the Sunshine Act, you probably did. So, she's confused by why you are standing up there and saying that you didn't do anything wrong and you didn't violate any laws. That's clearly, you are clearly lying and you are making it up. Mr. Banonis said Ms. Slavick, just a point of clarification, as he understands it, Victoria Opthof-Cordaro's parents or family do not have litigation against the sewer plant and they also don't have litigation against the DEP, and they don't have litigation against the estate or whatever remains from Bethlehem Steel. They only have litigation against the landfill and that seems to where her interests are aligned, only against the landfill but not all these other polluting entities that exist. Ms. Slavick said she noticed that as well. Thank you for bringing that to our attention. Again, nobody... Ms. deLeon said Ms. Slavick said she is lying, she'd like proof, okay. Ms. Slavick said what was that? Ms. deLeon said if you are accusing her of lying, she'd like proof. Ms. Slavick said you said you didn't do anything wrong. Ms. deLeon said she didn't, not that she is aware of. Ms. Slavick said well, your solicitor did. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it's a matter of opinion. Ms. deLeon said okay, whatever. Ms. Slavick wait a minute, said how can it be an opinion, it's a right or wrong, it's a rule, it's a law. You cannot... Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she said one thing, and other people say it's something else. Ms. Slavick said here's the thing, there's consequences to elections. Ms. Ray said time is up, let's move on. Ms. Slavick said there are consequences to elections, we're living proof right here, that there are consequences to elections. Ms. deLeon said order in the audience. Ms. Slavick said last year, last year the Council voted to, last year, the Council voted to expand the landfill. That's a consequence to an election. You weren't here. Right? Mr. Banonis said she actually lost in a prior election; he reminds of that. Ms. Slavick said oh, that's good to know. So, now this is the consequence. You can't just go behind everybody's back and have your solicitor file with a lawsuit. You can't. That's against the law.

So, yes, she's sorry, but that's what they did. It's against the law. You can't change it because now you are going to vote for it. Mr. Banonis said the action that he undertook, if successful will take away \$72 to \$80 million of Township tax revenue over the next 18 years....Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it's a matter of opinion and she does take exception to the allegation of the legality. It's not accurate. *(Ms. Opthof-Cordaro and Mr. Banonis were speaking at the same time)* Mr. Banonis said so in a stroke of a pen, unauthorized, he took a position that has a potential to cost the taxpayers \$72 to \$80 million. Ms. Ray said her time ended long ago. Ms. Slavick said look into the Bethlehem Steel property. Ms. deLeon said your time is up.

Stacie Micszenski said she lives in LST. So, just for clarification, the sewer plant is not on LS property. Bethlehem Steel properties are a majority of the landfill. They have been on the DEP, she's sorry, the *(word is inaudible)* sites websites for so many years, and you can fully understand that most of those properties are not on LS property as well. The Bethlehem Landfill has been spewing toxic or noxious odors from it, noxious odors...Ms. deLeon said the lady is speaking, you do not have the floor. Please sit down and let her speak. Ms. Micszenski said and we continually call the DEP about...Ms. deLeon said do not interrupt her. Mr. Carocci said she's gaveling someone on this side. Ms. deLeon said go ahead Stacie, she's sorry. Ms. Micszenski said we continually call the DEP about their odors, so don't sit there and tell her she doesn't know what she's talking about. Ms. deLeon said okay, please, address the Chair, not the audience. Ms. Micszenski said she's sorry. Mr. Carocci said that's the sewage treatment plant, not the landfill. Ms. Micszenski said no, we all know what it's from. nice try. Mr. Banonis said you mention it being in Bethlehem, but it's actually LS feces that goes into the Bethlehem Sewer Plant...Mr. Carocci said and that's run by Ed Boscola. Ms. Micszenski said it's not...Mr. Carocci said that's run by Ed Boscola. Ms. Micszenski said it's not on your property. Mr. Carocci said that's run by Ed Boscola. Ms. Micszenski said it's not on your property. Mr. Carocci said who is...Ms. deLeon said really, you people are children. Ms. Micszenski said you are children. Ms. deLeon said please continue. Ms. Micszenski said why is he sitting here? Why isn't he sitting at his seat? Is he a second grader again? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said he's currently looking up sports. Ms. Micszenski said your name tag is there, is it not. Ms. deLeon said she's sorry, please. You have the floor and you need to speak. Ms. Micszenski said so, anyway, so the landfill, the three ladies ran against the landfill and we voted for them because they were fighting against the landfill. You had two people on this Council had Conditional Use Hearings in the middle of the day when we all had to miss work for them, which was absolutely ludicrous. Mr. Banonis said not Priscilla, she's been on disability for 40 years. Ms. Micszenski said why is he interrupting her? Ms. deLeon said Tom, you are out of order. I'm sorry Stacie. Ms. Micszenski said it's ridiculous. There's rules of conduct and he's always, doesn't listen to them. Anyway...Mr. Banonis said the others don't either. Ms. deLeon said Jason, you are just as bad. Mr. Banonis said so are you and so is Victoria. At least Laura doesn't say anything. She just sits there like a mushroom. Ms. Micszenski said she'd really appreciate it if Mr. Carocci could respect the Council members and the people of this township. Ms. deLeon said would anyone else like to speak?

Mr. Boulin said let him understand, either this document that Mr. Goudsouzian sent off, either he initiated it or the Council approved it and he sent it or just arrived by itself. How did that happen? Mr. Banonis said crickets. Mr. Goudsouzian said go ahead, you want to continue talking. Mr. Boulin said pardon. Mr. Goudsouzian said he's sorry, it's public, this is not a question and answer but go ahead if you want to continue. Mr. Boulin said it's not a question and answer when he asks a tough question but otherwise it's a very nicely back and forth flowing, Sir. You are the attorney, his understanding is that if you took it upon yourself to send this document, your license could be in jeopardy. Not, by him, not by Northampton, but PA. We'll see. Mr. Banonis said he would add to that his malpractice carrier and he hopes he has \$80 million of malpractice coverage when this happens...Ms. deLeon said this was discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't think he does and if he doesn't that's going to be a problem for the Township. He thinks he's going to be underinsured and we're going to end up footing the bill for his conduct. Mr. Carocci said for his malfeasance. Ms. deLeon said you have the floor, so please continue. Mr. Boulin said that was a direct question and he noticed he didn't get an answer, so apparently there's differences between who asks it and who gets the answer. He's really interested in the fellow that was talking about Bethlehem and their waste sites, which are now capped by these huge truck infrastructure facilities and he noticed that yea, they are capped so it doesn't go up

but anybody that's got half a brain, knows it goes that way, this way, down and around and gee, he remembers hearing from the oh yea, the dump the dump people that yea, gee, it's the landfill that's polluting it and you even had a special guy in here from the streams, from the NE and he knew about every kind of fish and aquatic whatever, and he's there saying yep, it's all polluted, it's polluted as heck and the next person got up and said yep, see how that works, it's the landfill that's polluting it and nothing was said about, and here we just find about, and here's another one we just found out about tonight is that yea, there's a beautiful pollution site right under all those nice capped things that Bethlehem approved. Wow, isn't Bethlehem smart. They gave us all the junk and they got all the money. Alright, so moving on and then we got this other little site down here at Redington that used to be part of Bethlehem's wonderful experimental WWII site, nobody talks about that and that's right down there by some of the people we hear from here and have tonight, that live right down in that section. Gee, isn't that interesting. Nobody said anything about that and then we have the side of the mountain that got denuded and our wonderful agencies that everybody was so interested in, didn't even know that it had been filed for taking logging down, right, Russ, and he got to hand it to Russ because he's got umps to get up there and sit there and say look doesn't anybody care, doesn't anybody care. Look what they are doing and all that stuff's going down and into the river and there's no control and where's my environmental protection group and everything. You don't care about that, do you? Isn't it amazing what you choose, it's no different than something that is coming up next on the agenda that you will recuse yourself from and if she chooses not to recuse herself, boy, he'll tell you, he'll be out there beating the band trying to understand why that is. Mealy mouth and everything else, let's see what the court does. Just like HAL we already know that Judge Daly ruled, there's no doubt about it, ruled that they must turn over their records and when they didn't, they just to the Judge, let's see where that's going to go. Alright, let's find out how our solicitor does at negotiations. That's going to be a tough negotiation. His partner and his wife and who else...Ms. Ray said we're way off topic. Mr. Boulin said listen, people got a little ripped here, he knows she's sitting here taking that, but guess what, that maybe you put yourself in a position to receive that too. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else? She guess we are ready for the roll call please. Mr. Carocci said can you read the motion again? Ms. deLeon said the motion is to authorize the Township solicitor to continue to pursue the direction outlined by Council regarding the Bethlehem Landfill to ratify the actions of the Township solicitor in joining the preliminary objections. Mr. Carocci said on what date were those directions? Ms. deLeon said she doesn't have the information in front of her. That's the motion. Mr. Carocci said the date when that direction was, was it April 3<sup>rd</sup> or was it tonight? Ms. deLeon said that's the motion on the floor. Mr. Carocci said why can't we put a date on that? Read the motion again. When he gave us direction, when he gave us direction, this is part of Susie's cover up now, where he says out of over abundance of caution, now he won't put a date. He won't put the April 3<sup>rd</sup> date on it, he won't put tonight's date on it. He knows there's no basis for the April 3<sup>rd</sup> date, he knows that.

Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Opthof-Cordaro. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she votes yes. Mr. Carocci said so now he won't put a date on this motion, when was the direction given? Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Carocci? Mr. Goudsouzian said there's a motion before you. Mr. Carocci said no, he wants to know when the direction was given? He's asking you, when was the direction given? What meeting? April 3<sup>rd</sup> or April 15<sup>th</sup>? Mr. Banonis said it wasn't. Mr. Carocci said he won't answer that question, he won't answer that question because he didn't do it on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and he's trying to cover that up tonight. That's exactly what's going on here. That's exactly what's going on here. He didn't do it. That's why he will not say April 3<sup>rd</sup>. He knows that's a lie. He knows people will eventually probably be deposed...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said your characterizations are inaccurate. Mr. Carocci said now April 15<sup>th</sup> or May 1<sup>st</sup> now, he's saying...he's not unresponsive, he's responsive. His vote would be, he'd like to know. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said he's unresponsive. Mr. Carocci said if it's May 1<sup>st</sup>, if it's May 1<sup>st</sup>, then what happened in Executive Session is accurate. Mr. Banonis said you mean April 3<sup>rd</sup>, you said May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Carocci said April 3<sup>rd</sup>, that didn't happen so his vote is no. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Ray. Ms. Ray said yes. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. deLeon? Ms. deLeon said yes. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis? Mr. Banonis said he still doesn't understand the motion because it talks about continuing direction. That direction was never initiated so without understanding what the initiation was, he can't vote to continue something that was

never commenced, never properly commenced to begin with, so it's absolutely no. Ms. deLeon said you weren't paying attention at that Executive Session, you were cursing...Mr. Carocci said that's the defense....they weren't paying attention. Cathy was there too, we had to bring her in. Mr. Banonis said they can't even say what happened. They don't know what happened, it happened.

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

Ms. deLeon said she'd also at this time would like to make a motion to amend the agenda. Quiet please. Mr. Banonis said he'd like to talk about...Ms. deLeon said he doesn't have the floor right now. Mr. Banonis said you are making a motion and...Ms. deLeon said you do not have the floor.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon said she moved to amend the agenda to hear the following matters in the following order in Section IV. The motion would be to change Edwards Variance, the Beethoven-Waldheim Variance, and Resolution #48-2024 and the Firing and/or Acceptance of Resignation of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor and Discussion of Payments of Services. The remainder of the agenda will remain the same. So, that would be Section IV, would change in that order.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Carocci said what is the motion again? I'm sorry, Victoria was talking to him. Ms. deLeon said that's how it sounds when you talk too. You can't hear anything. Mr. Carocci said right, she was talking to him. Ms. deLeon said the motion is to amend the agenda to hear...Mr. Banonis said why are you so angry? Ms. deLeon said if that's how you interpret it, she's not angry. She is not angry, trust her. When she is angry, you will know. Mr. Banonis said oh. Ms. deLeon said she made a motion to amend the agenda to hear the following matters in the following order in Section IV. The motion would be Edwards Variance, the Beethoven-Waldheim, and Resolution #48-2024 and the Firing and/or Acceptance of the Resignation of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian and that would be Section IV.

Mr. Goudsouzian said so it would go C., D., B., and A. Ms. deLeon said right. Mr. Carocci said what are you doing here? Ms. deLeon said we are moving around, that's the motion. Mr. Goudsouzian said that's the motion and we need a second. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she seconded it already. Mr. Banonis said he still doesn't understand what it is.

Ms. deLeon said any other discussion by Council? Jason? Mr. Banonis said he doesn't understand what she's talking about. You talked in circles. What are you identifying as first on the Township Business Items...Ms. deLeon said Section IV on the agenda. Mr. Banonis said I am looking at it and he's trying to follow what she's saying, but she's blathering and not making any sense, so please be clear. Ms. deLeon said so No. A., would be C., so you'd move Edwards Variance up to A. Mr. Banonis said hold on, Laura's talking in his ear, he can't hear her, she's distracting him. Are you done?

Mr. Goudsouzian said just for clarification so we're all on the same page. The motion would change the order of IV. A. so it would go, C. would be first, D. would be second, B. would be third, A. would be fourth and the rest remains the same. Mr. Banonis said that's smart. So, hire Steve before we ask to fire or accept his resignation, smart. Mr. Goudsouzian said that's the motion. Mr. Banonis said there it is folks. Get him in the door before they can actually expose all the stuff that happened, alright.

Ms. deLeon said so that's the motion, it was seconded. Jason do you have any other discussion? Mr. Banonis said do you see what you are doing here. It's very clear. You are rearranging the...although he asked...although at the last Council meeting he asked specifically to have on the agenda Item A which was the Firing and Acceptance of the Resignation of Steven Goudsouzian as the Solicitor and Discussion of his Payment for Services. He asked for it at the last Council meeting, and it should be the first item here because it was the first thing that was requested. All this other stuff was not discussed in the last meeting, but what you are going to do is you are going to pigeon hole that and you are going to move it down the list so that you can do your own cover up again, get him in the door, as a permanent solicitor. Have at it Ma'am. Have at it. Mr. Carocci said what's Susie afraid of? Susie what are you afraid of? Mr. Banonis said it's coming, its coming either way. Mr. Carocci said what are you afraid

of Susie? What are you afraid of? Mr. Goudsouzian said there's a motion before you. Mr. Carocci said what are you afraid of Susie? Mr. Banonis said he is afraid to tell you...Mr. Carocci said Susie open up, tell me, tell me, what are you afraid of Susie. Ms. deLeon said okay, Tom is that your question. Mr. Carocci said what are you afraid of?

Ms. deLeon said Victoria you are next. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she supports the motion to allow the developers to go first and to change the other agenda items.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said no comment. Mr. Carocci said he didn't even realize she was here. Ms. deLeon said she agrees with it also.

Ms. deLeon said she will have to open this up to public comment, anyone in the audience like to comment on this?

Mr. Dave Boulin said we already, do you have a comment lady? Ms. deLeon said Dave, will you address the Chair. Mr. Carocci said get crazy Kathy. Mr. Banonis said she blurted out at him. Ms. deLeon said you address the chair. Mr. Banonis said why don't you go after her first? She's the one that attacked the gentleman that was at the podium. Ms. deLeon said audience please respect the speaker. Dave go ahead. Mr. Boulin said forget it. You know they are incorrigible, although he's slipped once or twice himself. Listen, the bottom line is he already talked to this and that was two meetings ago, he asked you to put out the agenda that was a one shot deal on Friday night, and don't make any changes. Okay, now here we go. We already have a change that came out a day ago that we have to contend with and now you want to change it again. Is there something else you can do just to mix things up? What kind of administration would do that? If you were in private industry, and you were a subordinate, you'd be out on the street. Mr. Banonis said well she hasn't been for 40 years, so she doesn't know that. She's been collecting disability for 40 years so she doesn't know about private industry. Ms. Ray said that's a lie and that's slander, so stop. Mr. Boulin said hopefully and it just bothers him because you just sit there like stone. Mr. Banonis said does the policy have anything about holding up signs behind...Mr. Boulin said smiling away, she's happy. Mr. Banonis said Mr. Boulin there's people holding signs up behind you. He doesn't know what it says. Ms. deLeon said that's legal. Mr. Boulin has the floor. Mr. Boulin said it's the jelly bean in the back asking the question, she's jolly. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't know. Mr. Boulin said are you running the show or is she running it? He thought he had the floor but he guesses he doesn't have the gavel, that's his mistake. Ms. deLeon said she said you have the floor; you are just not listening to her. You have the floor. Mr. Boulin said who is not listening to you? Ms. deLeon said you are not listening. You have the floor. Mr. Boulin said this fellow over here, he'll escort her out. Ms. deLeon said oh my God, you have the floor. Mr. Boulin said your God, please don't use the Lord's name in vain. Ms. deLeon said oh please, please, are you speaking or aren't you speaking? Mr. Boulin said he was trying to but he got interrupted by one of your followers here, this one here. Ms. deLeon said you already addressed that, okay. So now you continue to speak. Mr. Banonis said why are you getting angry with him again? Why don't you treat the man with some respect? Ms. deLeon said she is. Mr. Banonis said he is a taxpayer, he pays her bill, he pays a lot of your bill. Mr. Boulin said did you hear what he said initially? Ms. deLeon said she did. Mr. Boulin said what did he say? Ms. deLeon said you don't want us changing the agenda. You do not like that. Mr. Boulin said and late entries and changing the agenda. Ms. deLeon said she understands. Mr. Boulin said maybe the Chair can tell us why this is all of a sudden so important. Mr. Goudsouzian he's sorry Sir. You need to have a little respect for taxpayers. You don't pay a nickel to this organization. Mr. Banonis said oh he does, he's a resident, he pays taxes. He lives here which is part of the reason why we think there are conflicts...Mr. Boulin said he thought he was, whatever, alright, he apologizes. Right, when you sit out here with us, then maybe you'll feel that way but he's sure you're a lot richer than he is. Back to this again, detoured again, hello? So why do we need to change this? Why? Is there any...Mr. Banonis said there it is again. There it is again. Ms. deLeon said she can't control the audience, please. Mr. Boulin said if you can't control them, then give it to Laura Ray or gosh. You can give it to this fellow over here, he did well for four years. Ms. deLeon said there are so many people here, they have a right to do what they do. She's sorry. Mr. Boulin said he heard that so that means he can pop up and jump and yell and scream. Ms. deLeon said no, they to behave but she can't make them. Mr. Boulin said how

about you toss a few of them out when they get wild. You know what...Ms. deLeon said she will, that's why we have a police officer here. Mr. Boulin said that's what he just said. Ms. deLeon said she agrees. Mr. Boulin said okay, well good, what you need to do is do that, and he hasn't even gotten past his question and it's already been three minutes, isn't it wonderful. So the answer is? Ms. deLeon said they will change the agenda as needed whether he likes it or not. She's sorry about that but there are appropriate things they need to do and she isn't say they never were going to change the agenda. Mr. Banonis said but they gave you no justification for why they are doing this, right? Mr. Boulin said he asked that question. She answered why two and two is not six, okay? So, can you answer his question? Ms. deLeon said she has no answer that you're going to like. Mr. Boulin said well you are changing it, so you know why you are changing it. He doesn't know and the public doesn't know. Ms. deLeon said okay. Mr. Boulin said so the answer is? Mr. Banonis said crickets. Mr. Boulin said we are going to just change it Mr. Boulin and the hell with what your question is. If that's not a civil question, why are you changing it? Well, I'm changing it because I want to change it, alright. Is that the answer and the public be damned. For all you people that voted for all this stuff, it was the same kind of questions he asked about pollution and everything else and it just got blown away and now we find out that all those questions had validity. So he asks again, you are the President of the Council, you and your patriots there vote 3-2 on everything and he's asking they just voted again to do the same old thing. Smiles over here and this ones and your fit to be tied because nobody can answer that question. Boy, that's really tough. Alright, the bottom line is the heck with the public. Let them be dammed and we are going to do whatever we want as Democrats. We'll vote whatever we want and good luck. Unless you take us to court, we don't care about you and yea, we do have a very vocal group. Good, good for them. Good for Russ here whose land is, he looks out and sees it's completed denuded, lovely. Ms. deLeon say anybody else would like to speak? Mr. Boulin said let the record show that he did not get an answer.

Debra Esposito said she lives in LS. She said to her the reason they are changing the agenda is there's people waiting for variances. She remembers sitting in this Township meeting and needing a variance for her property. So to her, being very considerate of the people who need variances. So, she doesn't understand what the big deal is. Mr. Carocci said it's not all they are changing. Mr. Banonis said Ma'am, did you...Mr. Carocci said that's not all they are changing. Ms. deLeon said wait a minute. She has the floor, you do not. Ms. Esposito said the point she'd like to make is that nobody likes a sore loser. Mr. Carocci said that's right. Mr. Banonis said what they are doing is the appointment of a special project assignment solicitor, so they aren't dealing with the variances up first...Ms. deLeon said okay, so if no one has any other comments, roll call please. Mr. Banonis said if they were so concerned about you, they would reorder and put the variances first, but they're not doing that. He knows it's hard to follow, because she wasn't clear and he had trouble following it too. When she explained it, he found out what it is. Ms. deLeon said roll call please. Mr. Banonis said the first item is the appointment of the special project assignment solicitor, not you. Ms. deLeon said he does not have the floor, it's roll call. Mr. Carocci said he recognizes him. Ms. deLeon said roll call. Mr. Banonis said don't kid yourself. Ms. deLeon said he doesn't have the authority to recognize him. It's roll call. It's called roll call, do you understand those words? Mr. Banonis said this woman is concerned; she thinks they are being courteous they are not. They are not being courteous in any way. Mr. Carocci said thank you Jason, is that all? Mr. Banonis said yes, thanks Tom. Ms. deLeon said she didn't hear a word he said, roll call please. Mr. Carocci said of course not, you don't really listen. Mr. Banonis said facts hurt. Mr. Carocci said what's that? Ms. deLeon said roll call. Mr. Banonis said she doesn't hear because when he says facts, they are lost, they fly right over like Victoria's husband on the jet. It flies right over, and that doesn't pollute either. That doesn't pollute. Nope. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Carocci. Mr. Carocci said no. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Ray. Ms. Ray said yes. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. deLeon. Ms. deLeon said yes. Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis? Mr. Banonis said no. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Opthof-Cordaro. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said yes.

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

**E. POTENTIAL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ISSUES (IF APPLICABLE) - None**

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURE**

Ms. deLeon said next, we have the public comment procedure.

Mr. Banonis said he will make a motion to have this interim solicitor publicly apologize to Mr. Carocci for slandering him when he said that, he basically called him a liar...Ms. deLeon said you do not have the floor right now. Mr. Carocci said there's a motion on the floor right now, Roberts Rules or Order. He said second, motion on the floor.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved to have the interim solicitor publicly apologize the Mr. Carocci for slander.  
**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

Mr. Banonis said he was not the solicitor for the Borough of West Easton which he correctly pointed out in 2016...Ms. deLeon said public comment procedure. Mr. Carocci said he'll second. Mr. Banonis said he didn't hear him apologize...Ms. deLeon said the Council will determine its own rules and procedure, not inconsistent with ordinance or statute. Council meetings...Mr. Carocci said he seconds the motion. Ms. deLeon said regular or special...Mr. Carocci said roll call, roll call. Mr. Banonis said he has a motion and he has a second. Mr. Carocci said roll call. Ms. deLeon said you are not being recognized. Mr. Banonis said he made a motion. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't really care; he doesn't have the floor. Mr. Banonis said you aren't going to hear that motion? Ms. deLeon said no, she's not. Mr. Banonis said you aren't going to call to your buddies to apologize...Ms. deLeon said all meetings of Council, regular or special, interested citizens, legitimate matters to lay before the Council should be granted the right to address the Council. The Council may prescribe procedures...Mr. Carocci said will you repeat your motion. Mr. Banonis said his motion again was to have the...Ms. deLeon said to ensure decorum at all times and to prohibit personal or insulting language, total irrelevances and harassment either on the part of members of the Council or members of the assembly at the meeting. (*Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci were speaking at the same time Ms. deLeon was speaking*) Mr. Carocci said he'll second...Ms. deLeon said comment participation including public comment shall be within discretion and under direction of the Council President. The Council President shall in her sole discretion be permitted to expand the individual comment period. No defamatory content and/or personal attacks on the integrity of others whether present or not. Council passed Resolution #31-2024 on January 2, 2024, which is a resolution of the Council of LS adopting an agenda policy and a code of conduct for the Township Council meetings. Each get a 5-minute comment period on each agenda item and a 5-minute public comment period at the end on non-agenda items. She would like to apologize to our residents for the blatant disregard of LS regulations in the Code of Conduct passed by this Council during our meetings by certain Councilmen. Our residents deserve better.

Mr. Carocci said he seconded your motion, Jason. Mr. Banonis said roll call.

Ms. deLeon said she would also like to say that we have a little card here and they are keeping track of your last 30 seconds of your 5-minutes, so when she holds this up, she'd like you to wrap it up, so people know and she doesn't have to be rude and interrupt you. She'll just hold this up for everybody to know.

Mr. Banonis said can he get a roll call on his motion? Mr. Carocci said he seconded it. Mr. Banonis said he would like a roll. Ms. deLeon said so...Mr. Banonis said not until you recognize his motion. Ms. deLeon said she's not recognizing you because we are doing the agenda. Mr. Banonis said it's a proper motion that's on the floor.

Ms. deLeon said any Jr. Council members here tonight. Mr. Banonis said it's a proper motion, can we get a vote please, he'd like a vote. He's going to continue to talk until you take a vote. Ms. deLeon said she's going to continue to talk too. Mr. Banonis said you can do whatever you want. Ms. deLeon said she will. Mr. Banonis said we'll be here all night long Priscilla, all night long.

Ms. deLeon said Jr. Council member report. There's no Jr. Council present. Mr. Banonis said he'd like a roll call on his motion, please. Ms. deLeon said Presentations and Hearings. Mr. Carocci said he seconded it. Mr. Banonis said if Mr. Goudsouzian could just step up and be a man and actually just say he doesn't need a motion, he was wrong and he apologizes but that's too much to expect. Mr. Carocci said too much to expect, with a man of no integrity.

Mr. Goudsouzian said before we go any further, just to be clear, he thinks everyone in this room heard that he apologized and said he was...Mr. Banonis said apologize to him, not...Mr. Goudsouzian said hold on, hold on, hold on, that in 2016 he was the solicitor but not the solicitor who handled those types of matters which led to the RTK and so on requests. Mr. Banonis said you provided an explanation but you didn't provide an apology. He didn't hear an apology to Mr. Carocci. That's the difference because you also attacked Mr. Carocci's integrity and in fact it's your integrity that was put on the line, not his integrity. Mr. Carocci said he also didn't say that when you made your comment. Mr. Goudsouzian said let's move on. Ms. deLeon said okay, we're moving on to No. 2. Presentations and Hearings.

G. **JR. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT** – Not present.

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

A. **RESOLUTION #44-2024 – RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK – MAY 12 TO MAY 18, 2024**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval of Resolution #44-2024 honoring peace officers for their bravery, dedication, and heroism and designates May 15, 2024 as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" with May 12 - 18, 2024 designated as "Police Week" in Lower Saucon Township.

Ms. deLeon said she'd like to take the time to read the resolution and thank the officer that's in the back of the room, being very patient. She read the resolution (*see attached Resolution #44-2024*).

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

Ms. deLeon said Jason, would you like to say something? Mr. Banonis said he'll wait for the roll. Ms. deLeon said well that's not the procedure. We have a comment, Council comments, so. Mr. Banonis said he'll wait for the roll, he spoke. Ms. deLeon said she'd really like to thank the police...Mr. Carocci said he thought we go in alphabetical order. Ms. deLeon said to you officers and thank them, please.

Mr. Carocci said he wants to comment, he thought you are going in alphabetical order. You called Jason and then you didn't call him. Ms. deLeon said she was going next. Mr. Banonis said you just did. Ms. deLeon said go ahead, do you want to speak? Mr. Carocci said yes, he wants to thank our officers as well and he's glad Priscilla's had a change of heart. Just a few years ago she was marching in a defund the police rally in Hellertown, so he's grateful that Priscilla's had a change of heart. He wants to thank our police...Hellertown was in a defund the police something rally...Ms. deLeon said she was never there, lies. Mr. Carocci said it was in the Saucon Source. It was some type of rally, was it a defund the police. Ms. deLeon said absolutely not. She would never do that. It doesn't matter, she would never, no.

Mr. Banonis said you voted against the police contract too, didn't she? Mr. Carocci said she voted against the police contract. Ms. deLeon said not every time. Mr. Carocci said that called for 5 years in raises for them and...Ms. Ray said let's get through this...Mr. Carocci said he wants to thank the police and they do a great job, and we are lucky to have them, 16 of them, he believes, 20, 20 of them.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's honored to support the police and she's grateful...Mr. Carocci said at least she's not marching with Priscilla. Ms. deLeon said she didn't hear what Victoria said because he was talking. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's honored to support the police and she's grateful that we have you.

Ms. deLeon said thank you, Laura? Ms. Ray said she thinks we have a great police force and she's proud of them and she's glad they serve and protect us. Thank you. Ms. deLeon said public comment. Hearing none, may we have a roll call, please?

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0 (Mr. Banonis said so, he'd like to thank the police as well, particularly the police that come to these Council meetings as this may be the most hazardous duty that our officers encounter from time to time so he appreciates all that and certainly we appreciate all that you do and provide a lot of resources and hopefully this Council, the majority of this Council will continue to support our police and officers and resources and please share that with your colleagues. We really do appreciate everything you guys do.

**B. RESOLUTION #45-2024 – RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' DAY – MAY 4, 2024**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval of Resolution #45-2024 to recognize the volunteers who serve on Lower Saucon Fire Rescue in conjunction with International Firefighters' Day which occurs on Saturday, May 4, 2024.

Ms. deLeon said she'd like to read that resolution. (*see attached Resolution #45-2024 attached*).

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon said are there any firefighters here? No, okay. So, she appreciates everything they do and we are a volunteer fire company and they need to be, you have to remember to give them donations annually, so to really thank them to help what they do.

Ms. deLeon said so, with that, Council discussion, Jason. Mr. Banonis said he'll wait until the vote.

Ms. deLeon said Tom. Mr. Carocci said you should donate but if you don't donate, Priscilla will just raise your taxes like she raised the fire tax this year from .75 to 1.0 so, but he does support the firefighters. He was liaison to fire services for four years, did a great job. We merged them, we merged Steel City with the other ones so they are all one now. You know so they don't compete with each other for equipment. They get what they need and it's working smoothly. Priscilla was on Council for 35 years and she couldn't get that done for some reason and who knows why. Incompetence, it screams incompetence. But he wants to thank our volunteer firefighters. We need more of them. Anybody out there interested, please apply. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said she also supports this resolution and she has supported the firemen over the years. Mr. Carocci said you haven't marched against them?

Ms. deLeon said Victoria. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's again honored to be able to be a part of this resolution. She really appreciates everything our firemen do, our firewomen do, and she appreciates all of the hard work that they have, both in fighting fires but also making sure that we have proper equipment and proper fire services, so she wants to thank them for that.

Ms. deLeon said Laura. Ms. Ray said she would like to thank all our volunteer firemen. They dedicate a lot of hours of their lives, without pay, and she knows in May it is their annual drive so we should be receiving something shortly, hopefully to ask for donations and everybody should donate to them.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said text messages she thinks going back and forth between Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci. Ms. deLeon said is that's what's going on there. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she doesn't know, they are going back and forth with each other. Ms. deLeon said she doesn't know maybe they are taping; she has no idea what they are doing. Public comment, anyone in the audience would like to speak on the fire company. Ms. deLeon said should she smile, hi. Mr. Banonis said he can take her picture if that's what she wants. If that's what she's calling for.

Mr. Dave Boulin said he's right so every time he hears the fire truck go out, these people, you have no idea most of you how often they go out. He doesn't mean during the...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Mr.

Banonis and Mr. Carocci are on their phone at the same time while you are talking. Mr. Boulin said he's sorry, he's having a discussion with the Council. Mr. Carocci said why don't you gavel her? Mr. Boulin said can you please stop, can you please stop. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said...Mr. Boulin said can you please stop. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said...Mr. Boulin said please stop now. You did this to him once before Ms. Opthof-Cordaro where you got in his face at the landfill committee and yelled and yelled after getting 16 minutes of ability to discuss. Now you are doing it again and this time he's not permitting it. He will talk over her. He will talk over you, he will, listen this is the kind of woman that got voted in.

Ms. deLeon said she apologized. Mr. Boulin said no she doesn't. Ms. deLeon said she did...Mr. Boulin said that's you apologizing for her. She doesn't apologize for anything. Ms. deLeon said she did apologize, she just heard her. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she apologizes for Mr. Carocci and Mr. Banonis...Mr. Boulin said you don't apologize to me...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said while you are speaking...Mr. Boulin said you will not apologize to him for even the landfill and yes, the attorney was there during that 16 minutes of haranguing and then he got up to speak, stood at the podium, and you pushed him out of the way because you said somebody said something and went on and on. Ms. deLeon said public comment is on the firefighter...Mr. Boulin said well the public comment is when she can button it. Ms. deLeon said okay. Mr. Boulin said he doesn't want to hear what her private discussion is. She is still sitting there not paying attention. She's not sorry. The ends for her justify the means. He's sorry he has to speak so loud. Some people appear to be deaf. What he was trying to...Ms. deLeon said she's listening, that was Mr. Carocci. Mr. Boulin said he's sorry, do you have a comment, would you like him to yield to you, go ahead, go ahead. Ms. deLeon said no, she's listening. She doesn't know what part that...she is listening to you. Mr. Boulin said well you just made some comment about somebody somewhere, alright. What he was trying to do was give compliments to the firefighters who leave at all times, day and night. He can see the glow on Route 78 and these guys are out there and women working like crazy taking their life in their hands and to sit there and say oh, we ought to donate. You know what, maybe donating our time to them would be a lot more worthwhile because that bunch really grinds it and they don't get paid and they work long hours and they learn. That's something he got to say. They go to school to learn. They take classes to learn. He's not sure that's happening here. He thinks some of these new Council members ought to be going to some university to learn what law is, what the laws of the state of PA, etc. are. He commends these people because they do what's right. They do it automatically. They don't get beaten to death to have to do what's right.

Mr. Banonis said Mr. Boulin, he just needs some clarification on something if you don't mind. First of all he'd like to apologize to our volunteer firefighters for the conduct of Victoria interrupting you when you were trying to recognize them and acknowledge their hard work. He appreciates everything they do as well. He thinks everybody in this room does. They appreciate when there's a fire or an emergency, that somebody is going to come and help save them, so you know, credit to you for standing up and speaking with that. He's sorry that you could not speak forth throatily without being interrupted by Ms. Opthof-Cordaro. She was talking about me being on my cell phone and the fact that he is on his cell phone, and he'll acknowledge that because he's a transparent person. Where he is, he's on the blacklivesmatter.com website and it has a petition and it says here "we call for a national defunding of the police", so when Mr. Carocci spoke earlier, there was an article. It was actually Lehigh Valley Live. This was on June 14, 2020 and there's a statement in there where it says the following, give him a second. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is this about firefighters? Mr. Carocci said it is, yes. Mr. Banonis said "but where are other elected officials she asked the crowd, Lower Saucon Councilwoman Priscilla deLeon and Saucon Valley School Board member, Sandra Miller were at the rally. I know why I'm here. I'm here because black lives matter". So, when Mr. Carocci spoke earlier about her supporting a defund the police movement, he believes that's what he's referring to. Ms. deLeon said she was at a public function. Mr. Carocci said read again, read again, he didn't know it was that, but read again what's in their charter. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is this about the fire company? She thought we were trying to honor the fire company. Mr. Banonis said this isn't about firefighting but you brought up that he's on his phone. So he's addressing what she said. Mr. Carocci said exactly. Mr. Banonis said so you can shoot your mouth off and I am going to clarify what is going on here so you can try to disparage me like you always do...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I think you should be honoring the fire company...

Mr. Banonis said he's not, he's not doing anything...Mr. Carocci said the charter again, because he thought it was...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you are not honoring the fire company...Mr. Banonis said it says we call for a national defunding of police. It's right here on their website and it has a petition. Mr. Carocci said she marched for an organization that calls for the national defunding of the police. Priscilla marched with an organization...Mr. Banonis said thank you for clearing up that he's on his phone, he's on his phone pointing out what she does. Mr. Carocci said so Priscilla, if he got any of the details wrong, he's sorry but what Jason says seems to be accurate. Ms. deLeon said she did not march. Mr. Banonis said maybe you should know what you march...Ms. deLeon said she did not march. What part of that didn't you get? Mr. Banonis said the news said you were there, and your commenting...Ms. deLeon said she might have been there. Mr. Banonis said he can answer the reason why he wasn't there because he supports his police. That's why...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we're on the fire company...Mr. Banonis said that's the reason he wasn't there.

Mr. Goudsouzian said move on. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the fire company. Mr. Boulin said it's not a wonderful thing to say, move on. We know who they are too. Mr. Carocci said good one, you have 2:42 left, please let's hear. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I think that is the 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 minutes. Mr. Boulin said alright, it's true. The bottom line is they are spectacular. If you haven't been to the website, any of you in this room, probably a lot of you in this room he knows have other things to do but when you go and look at the website, you will see what goes on, on roads like 78 and they are just, and he means these guys and women are in there just taking their life in their hands, literally. He noticed on television the other night there was a memorial to all the fallen firefighters and he noticed nobody said anything about that here and there's another example of recognizing. These people put their life on the line. They don't get paid thousands of dollars to play games and do dumb things. These guys and women are just, they are right out there, every day, every night, good weather, bad weather, ice, freezing, on and on and on and nobody really, oh I just want to say how thankful I am to them. That's pretty hollow. Thank you. Ms. deLeon said anybody else in the audience? Mr. Carocci said thank you Mr. Boulin.

Diane Hollowell said the firemen that were here, she just wants to thank any, when we had that big train derailment, she didn't realize, her sister in CA called her and said it's all over CNN. What Council members actually were there to thank them? Can you raise your hand if you actually went to the site and spoke with any...Ms. Ray said yes, we did. Ms. Hollowell said thank you, thank you. Mr. Carocci said the volunteer fire services really needed three politicians to show up for a photo op when they are trying to deal with a train derailment. Mr. Banonis said right. Mr. Carocci said they really needed Priscilla there for a photo op when they are trying to deal with...Priscilla offers a lot of help, you know, being on disability for 40 years. She offers a lot of help. Ms. Ray said you liar, will you stop it? Mr. Banonis said you seem to know you called him a liar. Ms. Ray said she is not on disability. Mr. Carocci said whatever it is, it's worker's comp. Ms. Ray said this is health information, this is slander. She's sick of it. You are out of order all the time. Mr. Banonis said if she's not on disability, when she goes to PSATS she always gets the handicapped room. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said out of order. Ms. Ray said how rude. Mr. Carocci said he has an email here where she asked for a special room and special accommodations...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said out of order. Mr. Carocci said she has to file a special form...Ms. Ray said this is resolutions...Ms. deLeon said this is her personal health you are talking about here. Mr. Banonis said Laura Ray brought it up. Ms. Ray said no you brought it up, you are sitting here saying lies, and she's sick of it. Mr. Banonis said you said it was a lie, you said she's not disabled...Mr. Goudsouzian said alright next, public comment Sir. Ms. deLeon said next. Ms. Ray said it's hilarious.

Mr. Bob Blasko said Tom Carocci, first off he wants to say that he appreciates the fire team. He appreciates the police. We've had people that we've had...excuse me Sir what was the comment you made? Mr. Goudsouzian said why don't you continue talking Sir. Ms. deLeon said you got to address the Chair please Bob. Mr. Blasko said okay. So, since we've lived in LST, they have been very impressed with the police department. They are very polite, very professional. They answer calls any time of day or night. They work different shifts. He worked different shifts throughout his career. You are always tired. You don't ever get used to working rotating shifts. You just get used to being tired. As for the fire team, he appreciates them. They did have a small fire down in their field not long after

they moved in. It was Freemansburg, he believes, that answered because Steel City was on training somewhere. Anyways, he appreciates them. He was in a building that caught fire one evening when he was about 12 years old down in Riegelsville, PA. That fire team was a good team too. He knows what it means, personal experience, to have a good fire team. Tom Carocci bragged a month or so ago about being the liaison, and he brought it up again this evening, for the fire team. When he talked about it and bragged about it a couple of months ago, he said that he kept the Council well informed. Jason Banonis was so well informed that the night that the fire teams from Southeast was here, talking about needing a new building for the tanker, Jason Banonis, who was so well informed, was caught totally off guard. If you want to know what meeting that was, that was the night that Jason called a new tanker a toy. That is certainly showing your appreciation. Ms. deLeon said thank you Bob.

Mr. Banonis said Mr. Blasko just to clarify his point, he brought up at that meeting, no, because he knows he likes to throw facts around without having real facts. What he brought up at that meeting was that the length of the fire truck was never discussed at a fire services meeting. Ty Johnson thought that it was or suggested that it was, and Tom, you were there at all the fire services meetings, was the length of the fire truck and the ability to fit the fire truck into the garage at Southeastern Fire Company, was it ever discussed? Mr. Carocci said no, no. Mr. Banonis said so you are calling him out for saying he's not informed, but in fact, he pointed out a glaring disparity Sir. He's sorry you don't like what he's saying. You can put your head down and walk away, you know. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is there any more public comment? Ms. deLeon said okay, if there is no other...Mr. Blasko said he asked Ty Johnson about that, and he said he knows it was brought up. Mr. Banonis said it was never brought up. Mr. Blasko said he said he's not a liar and he said he's not a BSer. Mr. Banonis said Sir, he even pointed out the fire services report and it had nothing in the fire services capital...Ms. deLeon said anybody else for public comment, public comment...Mr. Banonis said and he can't explain that. If that's such a glaring need, it's a huge capital expenditure, why wouldn't you put it in the fire services report? Because it didn't happen, Sir. You know it didn't happen. Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**C. RESOLUTION #46-2024 – RECOGNIZING PUBLIC WORKS WEEK – MAY 19 TO MAY 25, 2024**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to approve Resolution #46-2024 to recognize the Public Works employees for... their hard work and dedication and...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Mr. Carocci is playing with his candy. Ms. deLeon said to recognize May 19-25, 2024 as Public Works Week in Lower Saucon Township.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Ms. deLeon read the resolution (*see attached Resolution #46-2024*)

Ms. deLeon said Jason. Mr. Banonis said Mr. Blasko, he has here a copy of the October 4, 2023, LST LSFR 2023 Future Planning Fire Stations and Equipment Report. It's documented right here...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said can you respect the Public Works people by staying on topic...Mr. Banonis said the Township LSFR 2023... (*Ms. Opthof-Cordaro and Mr. Banonis were speaking at the same time.*) Mr. Banonis said he can give you copies Sir if you want to go through and show him where he's wrong. Ms. deLeon said we're talking about Public Works...Mr. Banonis said we can get copies if you want...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the resolution on the floor is about the Public Works Department. Ms. deLeon said we're talking about Public Works, okay.

Mr. Blasko said reports may have been turned in, were minutes taken? Mr. Banonis said this is their report, Sir. This is their report. Mr. Blasko said he's not asking about a report. Answer the question, were minutes taken? Mr. Banonis said he doesn't know. Mr. Blasko said were the meetings recorded? Mr. Banonis said but if it's so important, why didn't they put it in these documents here. They are talk about all sorts of things. They want lots of money...Ms. deLeon said you are really out of order, show some respect...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said this is for our Public Works Department. Ms. deLeon said as

a practicing attorney, you should know better. Mr. Banonis said he's a practicing attorney. Ms. deLeon said well you aren't acting like it. Mr. Banonis said you are not acting like a Council President either...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said respect here for the Public Works Department, the fire company and the police department by Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci by continuing to discuss things that are not related to the resolution and are disrespectful to the people that work for our Township and for the volunteers. *(Mr. Banonis was speaking at the same time Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was.)* It's disrespectful, disrespectful. If you have a personal allegation or a personal dispute you bring it up in your private life. Mr. Banonis said he's offering to show that Mr. Blasko is clearly not informed about what he's talking about...Ms. deLeon said okay, so...Mr. Banonis said accusations against me that he doesn't know what he's talking about. Here's the report Sir, he can only go by what's submitted to him. Ms. deLeon said so we're on Public Works. Mr. Banonis said he apologizes sir, that's okay, we'll get it next time.

Ms. deLeon said she just read the resolution for Public Works and any discussion by Council for Public Works. She thinks they do a wonderful job and she really appreciates them so please pass it along. She really, really appreciates what they do and they are out there in the weather and we really, really appreciate them.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks they are also working right now on the culvert on Black River Road and she thinks that's really important because they have been working very hard on that to make sure it's on time and that our roads are taken care of, so she just wants to point that out too for the residents.

Mr. Banonis said he wants to comment on this. You know, I think we put our money where our mouths are in terms of Public Works. Public Works does a great job. They keep our roads clear and maintain our properties very well. To that point, this Council previously authorized numerous large expenditure paving projects, Steel City, Saucon View, he's sorry Saucon Terrace, and also the Cherrywood Development. What that did was that allowed Public Works to go forward and work on other areas of the Township so that their resources could be better focused and utilized. So, you know, this Council has been highly support of Public Works. He's not sure how that's going to continue under the current make up of Council. Hopefully they have the same sort of vision...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said a resolution to honor our Public Works...Mr. Banonis said he's talking about Public Works...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said let's honor our Public Works Department. Mr. Carocci said he's talking. Mr. Banonis said are you Council President? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said let's honor our Public Works Department. Mr. Banonis said are you the Council President? Are you running the meeting? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said our Public Works Department, be respectful...Ms. deLeon said Jason, continue what you are going to say. Mr. Carocci said why won't you tell her to be quiet? Ms. deLeon said you know what...Mr. Banonis said you know it's so disgusting. People see what you do. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said let's honor the Public Works Department. Mr. Banonis said so you are the Council President and you are going to run the meeting...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said let's honor the Public Works Department...Mr. Banonis said he's honoring them, he's honoring them by putting...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it doesn't sound like it. Mr. Banonis said he's putting money where his mouth is. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it doesn't sound like it. Mr. Banonis said like bringing them up to do other projects, he appreciates Public Works very much...Ms. deLeon said we aren't going to keep arguing, please Victoria, please Jason. Mr. Carocci said he has the floor. Mr. Banonis said to suggest that he doesn't appreciate Public Works is a gross misstatement...Ms. deLeon said she knows he does. Mr. Carocci said then tell her to be quiet. Ms. deLeon said she is. Mr. Banonis said they do a great job. Mr. Carocci said you gavel one time. Ms. deLeon said oh please. You were gaveling in Executive Session. You didn't even have the authority to bring the gavel in there. Ms. Ray said stop wasting our time. Mr. Banonis said I would like to recognize Laura Ray for telling him he's wasting his time by saying that he appreciates Public Works. Thank you, Laura for saying that. Thank you. Thank you, Laura, for telling him he's wasting time for thanking Public Works. Ms. deLeon said she didn't...Mr. Banonis said thank you Public Works, he's done.

Mr. Carocci said not only does he thanks Public Works and our police, but for the past three years, that we've given these hardworking men and women, the Township staff as well, bonuses for COVID, for inflation, and Ms. deLeon has voted against them, at least twice out of the three years and the other two campaigned against it, so when we say we appreciate the Public Works and we appreciate the police,

we put our money where our mouth is. We took American Relief Fund money and gave it to them because they worked for it and they had to deal with Biden inflation. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said sounds like a campaign. Mr. Carocci said so, we put our money where our mouth is. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said there's campaign, politics. Mr. Carocci said they like to talk about a resolution. Mr. Banonis said can you make her stop interrupting him? Ms. deLeon said please. Mr. Carocci said they like to talk about a resolution and thanking them, where they actually do it. They helped them and their families out with a bonus that Priscilla has voted against. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria you are next. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she appreciates our Public Works. She thinks she stated that and she apologizes to them for what's happened here this evening during the resolutions of all three police, fire and now Public Works.

Ms. deLeon said Laura. Ms. Ray said she fully supports our Public Works Department. They do a great job. They keep our roads in good shape and our parks as well, so she appreciates their hard work.

Ms. deLeon said public comment, anybody? Seeing none, roll call. Mr. Carocci said we got one. He's waiting to see if anyone else wanted to talk. He's being a gentleman. Thank you Mr. Boulin, you are recognized.

Mr. Boulin said absolutely these folks are top flight. He doesn't care whether it's snow removal, which he's been out there many times. They respect your property. They don't plow your driveway shut. They are great, alright. In terms, he's already talked about getting our area over in Alice Drive and the neighboring development done faster than Bethlehem could get the darn hill done. Alright, getting that paved. Now let's talk about Black River Road, well you don't live over there most of you so you don't know but that's a quick way to get back over to...you do, okay...alright maybe Ms. deLeon does. At any rate...Ms. deLeon said sorry, she had a crick in her neck, she's just kind of, she wasn't ignoring him. Mr. Boulin said are you okay? Ms. deLeon said she's fine. Mr. Boulin said okay, we don't want you to go away here. We have nobody to run the meeting. Ms. deLeon said correct. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she apologizes for Mr. Carocci laughing at you Mr. Boulin. Mr. Banonis said it as a joke...Mr. Boulin said sorry, he's not talking to you, alright, at all. If he could disbar her, he would. Ms. deLeon said okay, please keep your comments to the agenda item which is respecting our Public Works. Mr. Boulin said how about respecting our...Ms. deLeon said the agenda item is on Public Works. Mr. Boulin said okay, we're back on this, okay. They do a spectacular job, weather was a problem. They got through it and got through it by allowing you to go over the rough stuff for a couple of weeks until they could pave it. It's done. It's grassed. It's beautiful. And how about that bridge that's down there, that PennDOT is working on and we'll have it in a couple of years. So anytime you talk...you don't know which one that is? Ms. deLeon said the Meadows Road Bridge? Mr. Boulin said right. How do you operate a business like the Meadows and stay in business with a bridge being out and the county just doesn't care one bit or PennDOT, whoever they are. We're more interested in saving the boulders that made the old bridge and the new one, ah manana, manana. That's really sad, anyhow, our Township and that's what he's here to talk about, did a spectacular job, continues to do everything right that he can see, so kudos to them. Ms. deLeon said would anyone else like to speak? Seeing none, can we have a roll call please? Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Ms. deLeon said so again, thank the Public Works Department.

**D. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION #47-2024 – AUTHORIZATION TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG ALPINE DRIVE – APPROXIMATELY 25 ACRES**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to approve Resolution #47-2024 to authorize the acquisition of Tax Parcels Q8-1-4 and Q8-1-10, which is approximately 25 acres with a purchase of \$150,000.00. These properties were discussed previously by Mark Hudson. They were up for auction in late 2023 and Council approved making an offer which was accepted.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion Jason. Mr. Banonis said Cathy how much money do we have in the Open Space fund? Mrs. Gorman said approximately \$11 million. Mr. Banonis said \$11 million, okay, thank you. We have plenty to cover this and many more. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said Tom. Mr. Carocci said no, sounds good.

Ms. deLeon said she thinks this is a great opportunity.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks also it's a great opportunity.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? Ms. Ray said no comment.

Ms. deLeon said public comment. Anyone out there like to speak on this issue? Seeing none, can we have a roll call please? Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Ms. deLeon said great, you will contact the county and all that stuff, okay.

**3. DEVELOPER ITEMS – None**

**A. DECISION – CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION OF ALLENTOWN SMSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS – 4235 LEWIS AVENUE**

Ms. deLeon said she is going to turn this over to Steve with her abstention.

Mr. Goudsouzian said so just as a matter of background, we had the hearings for the Conditional Use application for Allentown SMSA Limited Partnership Verizon Wireless. There was a series of hearings. At the end of the hearings, a vote was taken. It was 2 to grant, 2 to not grant, therefore it did not pass. Pursuant to the appropriate statute, we have to file a written decision. That written decision has been drafted and forwarded and circulated to members of Township Council. The concept is that there are two individuals who voted for and there's two that voted against and that's in essence what the report says. So, what's before the members of Township Council is then to issue the decision in accordance with the applicable laws under the MPC.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro moved for approval as was stated above by the Township solicitor.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Mr. Goudsouzian so then we go to discussion. Mr. Banonis said whose running the meeting now? Mr. Goudsouzian said he thinks she's handed it over to him for this one. Mr. Banonis said is there a motion for that? Shouldn't the Vice President take over? Mr. Goudsouzian said it's still discussion. Does anybody...Mr. Banonis said there's a motion and a second, so is that, whose running the meeting? Ms. deLeon said she obviously can't because she's abstaining. Mr. Banonis said did you hand the gavel to someone? Mr. Goudsouzian said she said she's turning it over to him. Mr. Banonis said did she make a motion to appoint him? Mr. Goudsouzian said you don't have to make appointments just to handle the agenda item. Mr. Banonis said you're not elected. Mr. Goudsouzian said he's not voting. Mr. Banonis said you are administering the meeting and you are not elected to administer the meeting. Ms. deLeon said and your comments will be well noted in the minutes. Mr. Goudsouzian said so we have comments alphabetically. Ms. deLeon said that's usually what she does. Mr. Goudsouzian said so who would be next. That would be Mr. Banonis.

Mr. Banonis said so he noted in the opinion that Mr. Goudsouzian wrote, he said the following: The Township Council members who voted to grant the conditional use application incorporate the brief and the legal arguments of the applicant as if set forth at length, and he also says the same as to Laura Ray

and Victoria Opthof-Cordaro. He's never had a conversation with him prior to him crafting this opinion and for him to make a statement that he voted to incorporate the brief and the legal arguments, there was never a vote on that. So he's not sure where he got that information from. He thinks it's a misstatement. He thinks it shows poor lawyering on his part and he has an issue with that because it's not something that happened. He thinks he's taking liberty with it and that's problematic. He reaches the conclusion that the applicant should be denied the relief. He doesn't know if he necessarily agrees with that. You know, it's a 2-2- tie. It was never discussed with us whether the applicant has to carry the burden and win 3-2 or does the Township have to carry the burden by a majority of 3-2 vote? So, that's his position on this topic.

Mr. Goudsouzian said if he can address those. On the draft that was forwarded to you, it was indicated that how he drafted it and he asked for comments from the purposes of trying to protect everyone's, trying to protect everyone's position, the idea would be to if you are voting for, he wanted you to, if one was voting for, he wanted them to protect any claims they had. If one was voted against, they would protect any claims they had. He didn't receive any comments from anyone from the draft until today. If what you are saying you'd like that removed, we can remove it. Mr. Banonis said he would like that removed because he doesn't think it correctly reflects the procedural history nor his position on things. Certainly, his vote speaks for itself, but with regard to the position you took on his behalf without consulting with him, is not accurate.

Mr. Carocci said when did you send that opinion out? It was just like a day or two ago. Mr. Goudsouzian said April 24<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said more than five days you gave for the conservation easements. Mr. Banonis said are you advocating for your parents again? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's comfortable if Mr. Banonis said he wanted stuff removed, she's comfortable with amending her motion to reflect the opinion as drafted with the redaction or the removal of the portions that Mr. Banonis is uncomfortable with. So she amends her motion.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro amended her previous motion as stated above.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray amended her second

Mr. Goudsouzian said very well. Mr. Banonis is that satisfactory? Mr. Banonis said it is, thank you.

Mr. Carocci said does he get to comment? You know, some of you that witnessed that circus, it was, the Conditional Use Hearing. Priscilla participated in the hearings, asked questions, made comments, was finally called out and had to recuse herself, but the attorneys had to address her and answer her questions during the hearing. He's sure this will be brought up in the Federal suit, he's sure Fitzpatrick and Lenz are crafting right now. She had recused herself to the same property about 15 years earlier. Mr. Banonis said 20. Mr. Carocci said 20, when something else came up. Over those, so she went through the whole hearing. There were three hearing dates which she did not recuse herself. So, the counsels for both applicants had to answer her questions, listen to her comments. She ran the hearings, ran the hearings, even though she recused herself 15 or 20 years earlier. In those 20 years, she accepted free computer services from Rocky Viscito, the applicant. He'd come over and fix her, and it's even in the minutes, she even admitted to that in the minutes, so that we'll get to from March 20<sup>th</sup>. Some of these, he thinks, were in kind campaign contributions that went unreported. He said he never invoiced her for this and he did it for free. She then called when he cut some trees down on his property now, not her property, his property. He cut some trees down. She called the NC Conservation people. They came out there on him. She's called our Zoning Officer numerous times. We have emails to that effect. He went out there. She called the police once to come out when she thought a branch was in her yard. So you talk about respecting the police, and their time and what they do. She called the Zoning Officer out, Mr. Young, this was on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, accompanied by a police officer. He believes that police officer was Officer Louder because there may or may not have been a branch on her yard. So, he's sorry that your neighbor cut your trees down and unfortunately the trees won't be coming back whether the cell phone tower is put in or not, you know, so hopefully it is but he did get her a little tree to plant, to block your view of that 150'...Ms. deLeon said she's not accepting anything from you, we already went through that before. Mr. Carocci said 150' of cell phone tower, if you plant that, he calls the tree Little

Priscilla Ozemik deLeon and if you are nice to it and you plant it, it'll grow as big as that cell phone tower. So, that's your little gift, and he's sorry about the trees...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said academy award, academy, for the academy...Mr. Carocci said he's sorry about your neighbor cutting down his trees. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said for the academy. Mr. Carocci said for the academy? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said for the academy award for the acting that's happening right now. Mr. Carocci said thank you. Thank you. Ms. deLeon said did he also tell you that she left him use her electricity while he was building his entire house and no, he didn't tell you that though did he, no, okay. Mr. Banonis said that's a big extension cord, that must be about what like a quarter of a mile long. Ms. deLeon said it was pretty long. Mr. Banonis said he's surprised it didn't trip a breaker. Mr. Carocci said that's even more of a reason why you should have recused yourself earlier. You'd accepted services from him, and you also provided services to him. You had a friendly neighbor relationship so you shouldn't have been participating in hearings at all. You recused yourself 15 – 20 years earlier with a property line change, he believes, if he got that right. Mr. Banonis said lot consolidation. Mr. Carocci said she's, you know, like he said, she should have never even participated in the hearing. He's sure that this is going to be brought up in a federal court case, hopefully...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you said you're sure there's a court case and you're sure people are doing certain things, did you talk to them, are they working with you? Mr. Carocci said no. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said then maybe you're not sure then. Mr. Banonis said he's going to bet Tom's right. How much do you want to bet? He bets you that if they put this...Ms. Ray said okay, point of order. Let's stay to the agenda item. Mr. Banonis said I bet if the put this in .....they are going to sue the Township and the Township is going to have to pay to defend that case and ultimately the Township is going to lose because it's controlled by Federal Law. He'll gamble. He knows gambling is not legal, but maybe we'll go to the casino...Mr. Carocci said he'll get you a big picture for Christmas, a big picture. Hopefully little Priscilla Ozimek deLeon gets a nice home to plant, she won't take it but we'll find a good home for little Priscilla. Mr. Banonis said it's a lovely tree. Mr. Carocci said it's a beautiful tree, it's a beautiful tree and he thinks it will grow to cover that cell phone tower. It will give it nice coverage. Alright, that's all he has.

Mr. Goudsouzian said Ms. Opthof-Cordaro? She said she supports, she made the amended motion, so.

Mr. Goudsouzian said Ms. Ray? Ms. Ray said she has no additional comment.

Mr. Goudsouzian said any public comment? Mr. Russ Sutton said he's actually a plaintiff in this matter and they brought suit against Verizon for putting this up there and not only that, he thinks Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci should recuse themselves from this because they are friends with the person that owns the property. Mr. Banonis said he has to ask the solicitor if it a conflict of interest to know somebody or have some friendliness towards the person? Mr. Goudsouzian in of itself, it is not. Mr. Banonis said okay, thank you he just wanted to clarify that but go ahead Sir, you know what you are talking about. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you trusted the solicitor this time. Mr. Banonis said you proved it earlier, go ahead. Mr. Sutton said he doesn't appreciate his comment but...Mr. Banonis said he doesn't either his either. Mr. Sutton said the bottom line is this has been arranged for a period of time. This didn't happen yesterday. There were only two sites looked at and you could possibly put it at Steel City fire company and they could earn the monies for the cell tower to support the fire company. Mr. Banonis said what's the basis for that? What's the basis for that statement? Mr. Sutton said what's the basis for that? They only looked at two properties. Mr. Viscito's and the hill climb. They didn't look anyplace else in Steel City. Can you tell him otherwise? Mr. Banonis said what's the basis that it could go in at Steel City Fire Company? Are you an engineer or like a cell phone tower engineer? Mr. Sutton said let him speak. Can he please shut up for a while? Mr. Banonis said he doesn't understand what you are saying Sir, because he make no sense. Mr. Sutton said he has the floor, you don't. Mr. Carocci said you are upsetting little Priscilla, please the tree needs to be spoken to. Mr. Goudsouzian said everybody stop, you have the floor Sir go ahead. He's going to ask, pardon him ladies, ladies, he's going to ask everybody to respect the process here. Mr. Sutton said the point being is this tower obstructs their scenery, their nature and everything up in that area. The thing is they could locate it down on Riverside Drive where the signals dropped because even if the cell tower goes up where it is, it will not clear the mountain. It will not help the other part of LS because it won't go over top of the mountain. The benefits from that is Steel City, Freemansburg and Bethlehem Township. By being at the Township fire

company, they can benefit from the monies from that and it can be up to \$5,000, \$6,000 a month and he thinks that's beneficial because Leithsville has a tower on their property and they use their monies to support their fire company. So that's why he's trying to explain why it should be located there.

Mr. Banonis said he needs clarification for something he said. He needs clarification. He's all about finding alternate sources of revenue to support the Township, okay. If the cell phone tower could be located at the Steel City Fire Company as Mr. Sutton is suggesting here, he thinks that's a great idea. He sat through the meetings and hearings where this topic was discussed and he didn't hear that brought up one time by either the applicant or any of the objectors who were represented by Council here that the cell phone tower could be located at the Steel City Fire Company and provide the level of coverage that was necessary to fill in the gaps here, so if he missed something, tell him. Mr. Sutton said he was represented by an attorney and he did not bring that up. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you do not have to answer him. Mr. Sutton said he did not bring that up. He wanted him to bring it up, he didn't bring it up. Mr. Banonis said what's the basis for it? It's not here, it's not before us. Mr. Sutton said excuse him. Mr. Banonis said if that was brought into the evidence, okay we had a hearing. When there's a hearing, there's testimony, there's evidence and exhibits that we receive, and if that was brought up, maybe that was something that they would have factored in but now he's bringing this up after the fact. The hearing is done. It's closed, so it doesn't make any sense to him where he's getting this information from, so he's asking what's the source of this information because he's interested in what he's talking about. He thinks it makes sense but it was never brought up. So if it wasn't brought up, it makes him question the veracity, the truthfulness of what he's telling him. Mr. Sutton said he discussed it with the attorney and he told him not to...Mr. Banonis said he understands you discussed it, but like did you just come up to say you do it yourself or what's the basis for it? Mr. Sutton said he discussed it with the attorney. He did not want to use it. So, he can't put words in his mouth when he's representing him. Mr. Banonis said he understands that you discussed it. He's not asking to get into attorney-client privilege or anything like that, that you have with your attorney. You represented to this Council that the Steel City Fire Company is a viable location for the cell phone tower and it should be placed there so revenue could be generated from the cell phone tower to help support fire services or anything else. Mr. Sutton said correct. Mr. Banonis said what do you have that says that, that is a viable location that would be acceptable to fill in the gaps that were brought forward here before this Council, by the applicant and also by your attorney who never brought that up saying don't put it there, put it over here because you can make some money on it. Mr. Sutton said not so much the money, but the gaps are on Riverside Drive and where Steel City...Mr. Banonis said he's not asking you about that. What is the basis for that? Mr. Sutton said Steel City Fire Company, it's located on Riverside Drive. That's where the signals dropped. It would be right there on Riverside Drive and they could benefit from the monies from that rather than going to a private person. Mr. Banonis said let him ask you this way. Was there any study that was done about locating the cell phone tower at the Steel City Fire Company that would improve, that would show the same level of...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you don't have to answer. Mr. Banonis said he's not done talking here, what's her problem? What's your problem, come on. You're better than that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said interrogation. Mr. Banonis said his question is what study was done, what engineering analysis was done to say that you could put the tower there and it would be just as effective, or more effective, than where they applied to put it? Mr. Sutton said they looked at two sites. They could have looked at more sites. Mr. Banonis said did you ask them to do that? It was never brought up, saying hey why don't you look over here. Mr. Sutton said it's two sites. Mr. Banonis said it was never brought up to them saying why don't you look over here.

Mr. Carocci said another point of clarification. If they put it there, he means, it seems like a dangerous spot next to the railroad and we just had a train derailment, how would it be protected from train derailments? Mr. Sutton said what's the tower got to do with...Mr. Carocci said you put a tower right next to the Steel City Fire Company, that's right next to the train tracks. Mr. Sutton said there are towers next to railroads everywhere. Mr. Carocci said the spot where they want to put it at is not next to the railroad. Mr. Sutton said we don't know the spot. Mr. Carocci said Viscito's property. Mr. Sutton said yes, but there's a lot of property there. Mr. Carocci said there aren't train tracks up there. Mr. Sutton said even if the thing fell it wouldn't hit the railroad tracks. Mr. Carocci said he doubts it. Mr. Sutton

said they have a lot of property where they could locate it. Mr. Carocci said he was going to give him little Priscilla, but he's not nice enough. Mr. Goudsouzian said thank you Sir, anybody else.

Mr. David Boulin said please, the man hires an attorney as his mouthpiece. Spends all that money and the attorney tells him shut up and sit down, alright. That's number one. Mr. Banonis said he wishes our attorney would do that to some people. Mr. Boulin said he's been there and done that. The second, Jesus, there's just so many things that we have to retry this Mr. Goudsouzian again in the public court, right? He's still frosted about the fact, not only were the people within 300' notified and showed up but somebody took it upon themselves to allow additional people who may or may not have been within that distance. As a matter of fact, they spoke for an additional two hours, negatively, against the cell tower. He couldn't care where that cell tower goes in or doesn't. What he cares about is the process and watching you, watching Ms. deLeon finally recuse herself after months before he had told her she would be in conflict, and he's not an attorney, but even a dumb 10-year-old watches TV and understands what recusal is and there we go, and now we have two letters to understand whether she shouldn't recuse herself and he'll speak to that when this comes up for a vote. Alright, in the meantime, he'd like to know those people who sat here for an additional two hours, and talked about what they didn't like about the tower, are they being allowed to join or not join the opposition, whatever the term is. And you Sir, were here, you have the ability to answer that question and he's asking that questions and he's not going to be as long as Russ here.

Mr. Goudsouzian said anything else you want to say? Mr. Boulin said that's pretty good for a start. Are they ruled in or ruled out and who? Mr. Goudsouzian said right now Sir, you are clear on this. What's being voted on is whether we are going to issue this opinion as drafted with the modification we already discussed? That's where we are. The next steps are the next steps. Mr. Boulin said okay so does he get an answer or not? Mr. Goudsouzian said that's where we are. Mr. Boulin said you are not going to say whether it can be voted in or voted out? Mr. Goudsouzian said those decisions were already made at the time of the hearing. Whether they are addressed at a later date, they are addressed at a later date. Mr. Boulin said so all that testimony they gave, even though...Mr. Goudsouzian said is part of the record that's going to go up to the court, if it goes to the court. Mr. Boulin said go to the courts, that's what he wanted to hear because he thinks yes, this is definitely going to the courts and that's really sad. Mr. Banonis said taxpayer money. Mr. Boulin said yea, he knows. That's the problem. The taxpayer takes it and oh yea, we all got elected in big, what these people are finding out here at this meeting and he'll point that out and yes, now that he got the RTK documents, that Laura Ray so vehemently screamed about, wow, your taxing, you're killing us here, all those documents, whoa. That is a treasure trove, if the average person in this public room or on that camera and they'll get them sooner or later wants to know what's going on, you won't believe what goes on between certain people in the newly elected Council and the newspapers had to write articles what to say. It's delightful. It makes TV look like a waste of time which it is. Mr. Goudsouzian said thank you, anybody else?

Ms. Ray said she'll say she has not screamed at a meeting so.

Mr. Goudsouzian said if you could identify yourself. Ms. Stacie Micszenski said she spoke and was one of those properties that were added at the last minute. She spoke at the hearing and she just wants to reiterate and emphasize to you that Lewis Avenue, the paper road, it's a driveway. To access that driveway, you have to go on Saucon Avenue. When there's cars parked on both sides of Saucon Avenue you can barely get one car through, let alone industrial equipment, let alone construction equipment, let alone dump trucks. It's a very tight squeeze so the tertiary road is a tiny road. You are looking at a driveway that they paved for Roberts Avenue, and that driveway is on a slope that's stronger than her slope, which is a 21% grade, and it's never plowed, it's never taken care of by the Township. It has potholes and they fix it themselves, all three property owners. It's not a road. It should not be looked at as road. So, it's no place for a cell tower. Thank you.

Mr. Mark Ozimek said he's not afraid of the cell phone tower, he'll put it in his yard, he will. His complaint towards cell phone towers is that when he's out running Lower Saucon 6 for elections, there's no reception out there. What the phone company needs to look at is something out there maybe because

he has to go out and stand in the middle of the street when he calls the courthouse. Just so you are aware of it. They are trying to do stuff through the election office and the courthouse while he's out there trying to do a job is impossible, so take that into consideration and yea, you can give him the cell phone tower.

Mr. Goudsouzian said seeing no more public comment, we'd have a roll call. Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Ray. Ms. Ray said so the motion is to...Mr. Goudsouzian said to issue the decision as...Ms. Ray said opinion with parts modified by whatever Jason wanted deleted out of there. Mr. Goudsouzian said correct, if he may, just to be clear to what that is, on page 5 there is a reference and says, the Township members who voted to grant the conditional use application incorporate the brief and the legal arguments of the applicant as is set forth at length. That language will be stricken. Ms. Ray said okay. She votes yes.

Mrs. Gorman said Ms. deLeon. She said she has to abstain.

Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Banonis, he said no.

Mrs. Gorman said Ms. Opthof-Cordaro, she said yes.

Mrs. Gorman said Mr. Carocci, he said no. Mr. Goudsouzian said for clarification then if it's a tied motion then, it does not pass. That's where we are. What happens now is, is there another motion Mr. Banonis, Mr. Carocci, anybody, is there another motion that you'd like to make. Mr. Banonis said nope. Mr. Goudsouzian said what happens next. Mr. Banonis said anybody else can make a motion too, you don't have to just direct it at them. Mr. Goudsouzian said no, no, absolutely. Would someone be willing to make a motion indicating, issuing a written decision indicating simply it was 2-2 and that was the vote? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she would entertain the motion to reflect whatever the minutes reflect as a 2-2 vote.

Mr. Carocci said no, he'd make a motion to table it and he wants to see that, he doesn't trust him enough to write that. That's the only thing you are going to write and he just don't trust him enough. You lied to us plenty of times since he's been solicitor. So if you want to bring it back to the next meeting, with that simple decision, then he could consider voting for something like that, but he doesn't trust him. Ms. Ray said what date do we have this due though isn't it a certain...Mr. Goudsouzian said yes, the date is due 45 days afterwards, after the last hearing and that runs in about 4 to 5 days. Mr. Banonis said so we had this 40 of the 45 days and we're just voting upon it now and in that period of time, we'd had at least three Council meetings. Mr. Carocci said it's like a two page decision, a three page decision. Mr. Banonis said is that a fair statement? Mr. Carocci said a 45 day decision. Mr. Goudsouzian said he had it drafted a week ago asking for comments to which he received none. Mr. Carocci said he was getting around to it. He had it for 40 days. Mr. Banonis said it was given to them last week with the expectation that it would be voted upon at this meeting and wasn't given to us prior to the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. It wasn't given to us prior to the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting where they could have taken action with what Mr. Carocci is proposing at this point. So we're dealing with now and we're backed upon on a deadline that's five days from now and it was not created by him in any way. He agrees with what Tom said. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said self-serving. Mr. Banonis said can you bring this to us again at a future meeting? Mr. Carocci said if we had a solicitor that we trusted to do what he actually says he's going to do, it would be a different story but we don't and we don't because of Priscilla.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks the record reflects that Mr. Banonis initially had some concerns with how things were worded in the decision. The motion was amended to accommodate Mr. Banonis' concerns. He didn't mention any of these new concerns the first time they voted, now we are just considering literally writing the vote was 2-2 so she thinks the minutes from the vote that they had whenever the last meeting was, reflect that. The minutes speak for themselves. There's no opinion or argument made by the solicitor that you can now bring up as a concern, so if that's what the written decision says, she's fine with that. That was her motion. So she doesn't know how there could be any other concerns or complaints with a decision that literally says the vote was 2-2. Mr. Banonis said he

doesn't see it in front of him. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't see it in front of it either. Mr. Banonis said and Mr. Goudsouzian already filed a joinder brief in opposition to the landfill which he never saw either. Mr. Carocci said and we knew nothing about, and we knew nothing about that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is there a second to her motion?

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Mr. Goudsouzian said if you want he can even handwrite it as we speak. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she thinks that's a great idea. Mr. Carocci said but that's not what he's going to turn into the...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we'll turn that in. Mr. Banonis said you are going to turn in a sheet of yellow paper. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't trust him. Mr. Banonis said a yellow paper with handwriting on it, you will turn in as a legal brief on this issue? That will look real good for the Township. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you're not allowing him to type it up. Mr. Carocci said he is ethically challenged, he is ethically challenged. Mr. Banonis said type it up, he wants to see it. Mr. Carocci said he has no integrity. What he did on April 15<sup>th</sup> was ridiculous. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we could always have a special meeting. Mr. Carocci said let's have a special meeting, he loves getting together. Mr. Banonis said when are you going to advertise it? Mr. Carocci said put little Priscilla in a pot and bring her back.

Mr. Goudsouzian said just so we're clear, and here's where we are. A decision was made 2-2 after the hearing. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said should we pass the note pad around so they all can see it? Mr. Carocci said he doesn't trust him to type it up and do it right. He filed a motion...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we can have Cathy type that up, you don't trust Cathy? Mr. Carocci said you knew about it because your parents...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said what if Cathy types it up? Mr. Carocci said you wrote it for your parents. Mr. Banonis said there you go. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't trust him. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said give it to Cathy, you don't trust Cathy? Mr. Banonis said Cathy is not going to sign it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Cathy will type it up so you can see it. Mr. Carocci said she won't sign it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you don't trust him typing it up. She can type it up.

Ms. deLeon said she'd like to call a recess because she'd like to use the ladies' room. While we are doing that can she type it up? She'll make a motion for recess. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she'll second. Mr. Banonis he'll make a motion that Cathy should just stay in the meeting while we recess. He doesn't know why she's typing up documents that should have been prepared by our solicitor, so he's probably going to bill for work...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you said you don't want him to type it, you just said you don't trust him. Mr. Banonis said he wants him to type it and...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said do you want him to type it or do you want Cathy to type it, that's the question. Mr. Banonis said he wants him to type it and he wants to see it in paper and he wants to know what it's going to be just like he submitted the original one to us. He wants to see it in writing as to what exactly it's going to be. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said okay, either one of them can type it right now. Mr. Carocci said he wouldn't trust Mr. Goudsouzian to tell him what the color of the sky is. He means, you just can't trust the guy. Ms. deLeon said she has motion on the floor for a recess. Ms. Ray said she seconds.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to recess.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Ms. deLeon said roll call. Mr. Banonis said no. Ms. deLeon said no recess. Mr. Banonis said no it's 10:00 and there's people waiting and you are taking a break. Ms. deLeon said she needs to use the ladies' room, excuse her. Mr. Banonis said hand the gavel off to the Vice President and keep the meeting going. Hand the gavel off she can do it while you go to the bathroom. Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 3-2 (Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci – No) – Motion passes for recess. Ms. deLeon said the time is 9:51 p.m.

Mr. Banonis said he'd like to apologize to the public. It seems that Priscilla doesn't know the order of the agenda. She's trying to figure out what's next.

Ms. deLeon said she'd like to re-adjourn the meeting. The time is 10:07 p.m.

Mr. Goudsouzian said after the break, he has drafted a decision which he provided to members of Council that reads as follows: The following oral argument, a motion was immediately made to grant conditional use application, one Council member recused herself; accordingly four Council members voted, two Council members voted to approve and two voted to not approve.

Mr. Carocci said he wants "not approved" first. Mr. Goudsouzian said sorry. Mr. Carocci said he wants "not approved" first in the last sentence. Mr. Goudsouzian said okay, is that your motion then Sir. Mr. Banonis said he'll second.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Carocci moved to have "not approved" first in the last sentence so it will read "Following oral argument, the motion was immediately made to grant the conditional use application, one Council member recused herself; accordingly four Council members voted, two Council members voted to not approve and two voted to approve".

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

Mr. Carocci said he wants the one signed to be the right one. Mr. Goudsouzian said fair enough. So your motion just to be clear is two Council members voted to not approve, and two voted to approve. Mr. Carocci said correct. This is the one that is going to be signed. Mr. Goudsouzian said with that, would you like to see the lap top and print it up. He'll bring it over. Mr. Carocci said this is the one that's going to be signed. Mr. Goudsouzian said yes they will print it out right now. Do you want to grab it? Mr. Carocci said he can see it.

Ms. Ray said it doesn't make any difference what it means. Mr. Goudsouzian said there's a motion, and a second. Any discussion from Council members.

Mr. Banonis said again, he thinks this is unfortunate that we are getting this document assembled and handed to us five days before the deadline. He wished we would have addressed these issues earlier on. He's not sure he received an explanation as to why this was not put on the agenda earlier. We've had multiple meetings that this could have been taken care of and instead at 10:10 p.m., we are now trying to figure out a document that's going to be acceptable to carry the majority of the vote here. The only question he has here about this, are we being double billed for this. In other words are we being billed for your time sitting here as a Council, a Township interim solicitor as well as for the preparation of the document? Mr. Goudsouzian said you are not. Mr. Banonis said okay, thank you for that. Thank you for that information. That's all he has.

Mr. Goudsouzian asked anyone else from Council? Mr. Goudsouzian said he thinks we already heard from members of the public. Any members of the public with regard to this revised decision? Mr. Boulton said he agrees but here we are, publicly be damned again. You just sit around everybody while you sit on your hands while we had Mr. Goudsouzian write out this document. Alright, and yes, he noticed that also, the cell tower has been languishing for week after week and he's wondering why this isn't moving along. So here's another example, well you guys, you voted for all of us, and we're doing the best we can but unfortunately, ah, you can fix stupid but not incompetent. Mr. Goudsouzian said let's do a roll call, please. Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Ms. deLeon – Abstained)

Mr. Goudsouzian said before we go any further, Mr. Carocci would you, as a courtesy, would you like us to print this out now? Mr. Carocci said yes, by the end of the meeting he'd like to see it signed. Mr. Goudsouzian said very well, thank you.

#### **4. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **EDWARDS VARIANCE #03-2024 /MARK & HANNAH EDWARDS – 1304 EVERGREEN DRIVE**

Ms. deLeon said the applicant is requesting a side yard setback variance to construct a garage. Is there somebody here to go over the plan? Mr. Banonis said he thinks when you made your motion to amend the agenda, that was not the item you moved up. The first item you had moved up was Resolution #49-2024, appointing a special project assignment solicitor. That was your motion you made and he's sorry she forgot what he moved to make, to change the agenda, and that's why he pointed that out to that woman...Ms. deLeon said she appreciates him bringing that to her attention. Mr. Banonis said unfortunately, you are not actually being courteous in giving that variance first listing. Mr. Carocci said she's fatigued.

A. **RESOLUTION #49-2024 – APPOINTING SPECIAL PROJECTS/ASSIGNMENTS SOLICITOR**

Ms. deLeon read the resolution. (*see attached Resolution #49-2024*)

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved for approval of Resolution #49-2024.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Banonis said he'd like to be heard. Ms. deLeon said absolutely. Mr. Banonis is he recognized? Ms. deLeon said you are. Mr. Banonis said thank you. The concerns he has about this, it does not identify who the attorney is who is going to be the Township Special Projects Assignment Solicitor. It doesn't identify what special projects or assignments are currently pending that requires us to identify and appoint a special projects assignment solicitor. He's interested in knowing the credentials of the individuals that are going to be handling these matters on behalf of the Township, these special projects and assignments. He'd like to know what these special projects and assignments are that require us to have a separate solicitor to handle those matters. He doesn't know the nature of those matters or who is going to be handling them to justify a rate of \$225.00/hour. He thinks all that information is relevant to us as custodians of the taxpayer dollars. His suspicion is this, that we got a letter and those in the public may not know but April 29, 2024, our interim Township solicitor, Steven Goudsouzian was kind enough to advise Council that he has a conflict of interest. That conflict of interest is as follows:

“As you know the Waldheim Club is on the agenda for Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>”, and that's on the agenda as Item IV.E. Beethoven-Waldheim Variance #02-24 – Beethoven-Waldheim holdings LLC 1991 Waldheim Road. It's on the agenda. “This correspondence formally advises you that I have a conflict in this matter as I represented the principal of the Waldheim Club for many years and in fact for a period before LST, perhaps a year or two ago for a very brief matter regarding the Waldheim Club”. Therein is a conflict. He's been representing them for many years, but a year or two ago it was a very brief matter. He's trying to trivialize his conduct, or his contact. He says “accordingly I will not be involved in this matter. If the Township Council decides to have an attorney represent the Township's interest at the ZHB, I've already spoken to the Hoffman and Hlavac firm and they would be willing to assist in this capacity”. So, he's helping out somebody that he knows. He already reached out without any instructions from us. First of all, there's no special projects that are in front of us at this point at all. There's no justification for this and there was no instruction to the solicitor to reach out and find somebody to fill this role. So, he reached out to the firm, “they'd be willing to assist in this capacity. I wanted to bring this to your attention prior to Wednesday's meeting. Thank you”. Again, this goes back to the original meeting where Mr. Goudsouzian was appointed as the interim Township solicitor and he brought up the point of conflict of interest. He had a conflict of interest with Hellertown that he pointed out very clearly. He said there was no conflict of interest even though he said there was no conflict of interest, he ultimately resigned from his position in Hellertown. If there's no conflict of interest there, why would he resign from the position in Hellertown? To cure the conflict of interest, that's the reason why. So, that was the first thing that happened and then on top of that was he got covered by the majority of this Council and he got a conflict waiver from this Council to allow him to proceed and represent the Township. We already talked about in Executive Session earlier, the engagement of these settlement negotiations, his refusal to share with Council who he was

communicating with on behalf of the Township in trying to negotiate with. So, it brings up that point again to the conflicts that he brought up initially, and here's another example of the conflict of interest that is going to require us to go out and get a separate attorney to do the work and rather than charge us \$180.00/hour which Mr. Goudsouzian is charging us for solicitor work, we are now going to be paying the special project solicitor, presumably to handle this matter at a rate of \$225.00/hour. So that's about a 25% premium that we are going to be paying because of Mr. Goudsouzian's conflict of interest. He has a problem with that all around. It makes no sense to him. He thinks this issue could have been addressed early on when he brought these issues up initially when we were going to hire a solicitor and he brought up the fact he's going to have conflicts of interest. He pointed out the existing conflicts of interest and here we are, we have a conflict of interest. That's why this was moved up on the agenda, because then they are going to get to the other matters and are going to be able to say well I can't be involved in the Beethoven-Waldheim Variance #02-24, and instead we are going to pay somebody \$225.00/hour to go and handle this when we could have the solicitor that we had before who had no conflict of interest because he never represented this guy and he also wouldn't have tried to gloss over that representation by saying very briefly. Alright, it's not very briefly. It had to be substantive and it had to be related to the matter that is coming before Council with regard to this variance that would go before the ZHB with regard to that variance. So, he has a problem with it. It makes no sense to him. He thinks it stinks like everything else these folks do, but that's what happens in LS. It's not just the landfill that people claim stink, this Council stinks. No offense Maryanne. He doesn't believe the odor complaints.

Mr. Carocci said he also has a problem with it. We are getting robbed at \$180.00/hour by Mr. Goudsouzian for his services, which are terrible and now they want us to pay \$225.00/hour. What is your relationship with this firm? Did you take a referral fee to refer them as our special counsel? Mr. Goudsouzian said no. Mr. Carocci said you didn't take any fee. Have you ever been referred a case by them? Mr. Goudsouzian said in the past referred cases? Mr. Carocci said yes. Mr. Goudsouzian said yes. Mr. Carocci said how many? Mr. Goudsouzian said he doesn't know. Mr. Carocci said so this is payback. Do you expect to be referred cases in the future from them? Mr. Goudsouzian said no he has a professional relationship with these people. They do a good job. Mr. Carocci said so you've been referred cases in the past and you've charged for those cases? You've made money on those cases from this firm? You just said that. Mr. Goudsouzian said hold on for a minute. When they have referred cases to him, and he's been hired, of course. Okay, he didn't understand his question. Mr. Carocci said right. Mr. Banonis said you scratch my back, I'll scratch your back. Mr. Carocci said right, right. So now you are throwing them \$225.00/hour for special projects from LST because as Jason read, you are the one that found these people. Priscilla didn't even know how to pronounce the firm's name. Mr. Goudsouzian said he found these people because he wanted to provide the Township with an option because in this case, there is a conflict, which he identified in advance. Mr. Carocci said right. Mr. Goudsouzian said which is exactly what they would want him to do. Mr. Carocci said exactly. He's not talking about...Mr. Goudsouzian said no, no, no, which is exactly what they would want him to do. So he did. Not only did he advise of a conflict, he did it in writing. Not only did he explain that he had a conflict he explained why he had a conflict. Not only did he identify the problem, he provided you with a potential solution. That potential solution is before you. Mr. Carocci said right. He didn't ask about any of that, he asked about the quid pro quo of them referring cases to you, and now you giving them \$225.00/hour contract. That's what he asked you about. Now, let's talk about the future. You already admitted there's a quid pro quo here. Mr. Goudsouzian said there is not, that's your.....Mr. Carocci said they referred you cases that you made money on. You are now referring them for a \$225.00/hour job. That's a quid pro quo. Now, what happens in the future? Are you going to refuse to accept cases from them? What happens if they call you six months from now with a case and there are special projects for this, for your firm? Mr. Goudsouzian said what he would anticipate is, you'd want, the Township, would want his recommendation with regard to who to fill in if he couldn't do it. He provided you with that recommendation. Mr. Carocci said that's not what he's asking. That's not what he's asking at all. That's not what he's asking at all. He's asking if three months from now, three months from now, three months from now, will you be accepting referrals from this firm? Mr. Goudsouzian said if they are good enough to refer a case, yes. Mr. Carocci said so you won't recuse yourself from accepting referrals from this firm, your firm? Mr. Goudsouzian said if they think he's the

appropriate attorney, that's fine. If they don't, they don't. Mr. Carocci said and that's what they are getting for their \$225.00/hour. This is sleazy. Sleazy, come on, you can't recuse yourself from, your firm from a referral from them. You are giving them \$225.00/hour of taxpayer money, taxpayer money and you won't recuse yourself from taking a referral? Mr. Goudsouzian said you got his answer. Mr. Carocci said yes we did. Let the public, let the public...yep. Ms. deLeon said are you finished? Mr. Carocci said for the time being.

Ms. deLeon said she doesn't have a problem with this. Mr. Carocci said you didn't even know the firm's name.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she appreciates the actions of Mr. Goudsouzian and helping to bring this forward to us. Ms. deLeon said she's talking now. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said another important thing the public should be aware of and maybe they might want their memories refreshed, in 2023, when there was a different Council majority, there was an appointment of attorneys for special projects, Eckert Seamans. There was no identity of which attorney in Eckert Seamans were for a special project. There was no identity of what projects they were pursuing and they never heard any updates. They never even saw Eckert Seamans. They've never seen an Eckert Seamans attorney here. Mr. Banonis said he has. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said yet they've paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to Eckert Seamans for legal work done in 2023 that nobody here has seen, nobody has even provided an update. So, she appreciates Mr. Banonis' concerns and you've even heard the amount of information provided here today which is much, much more than they received. She'd also like to point out that the last special counsel we had, their hourly rate she thinks was like \$280.00...Ms. Ray said \$290.00/hour. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said \$290.00, \$290.00. So we were paying Eckert Seamans \$290.00 for special projects we didn't identify, that we didn't identify who in Eckert Seamans. There's a large firm in Harrisburg that drives back and forth to our Township. She's never seen them and we've paid them hundreds of thousands of dollars. So, if you are looking for transparency in special counsel, she would refer you back to what your conduct was in 2023. Thank you.

Mr. Banonis said will you clarify for him, you said that Eckert Seamans had never been to the Township, then you just said they are driving back and forth from Harrisburg. He can attest that they were here. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said but they haven't come to our Council meetings. Mr. Banonis said well...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said when were they here at our Council meetings? Mr. Banonis said they were here...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said did you see them in our Council meetings? Mr. Banonis said let him answer her question or do you want to just keep asking him questions? Which one should he answer? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's asking you when were they here in our Council providing information about their legal representation. Mr. Carocci said take a breath, let him answer. Ms. deLeon said don't be rude Tom. Mr. Banonis said are you done? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said that's the question. Mr. Banonis said he just wanted to make sure she was done. Mr. Carocci said she's still breathing. Mr. Banonis said they were here many times. They were here many times at the Township because they were dealing with employment matters with the police...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said when were they before Council? That was the question. When were they here to the public so the public could see what they charged? Mr. Banonis said why would they...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said and what they paid for. What we paid for, our tax dollars? Where was the money? Where was the money going? We never saw them in front of here. We never had a solicitor sitting next to us...Mr. Carocci said they were in court. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said or Eckert Seamans advising us about the special projects. Mr. Carocci said they were in court. Mr. Banonis said which question do you want him to answer? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the question she posed you now three times. Mr. Banonis said you asked him 17 questions. You asked him 17 questions. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said when were they in front of our Council at a public meeting to speak to the taxpayers. Mr. Carocci said she's getting cranky. Mr. Banonis said you never asked them to be here at a public meeting. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said exactly. Mr. Banonis said you could have asked them to be here as a resident/taxpayer. You could have stood up there and said you'd like to know where they are, but you never did that. Neither did Priscilla, neither did Laura nor did anybody else. They were hired as employment lawyers. They did an effective job for the Township, they were very good. So, you say, we didn't know who they were. They had been the labor lawyer for the Township for many years. This firm that you are talking about just became the labor firm at the last

meeting. It's unclear as to why they were hired as the labor...Mr. Carocci said Mr. Goudsouzian gets referred cases from them. Mr. Banonis said it was to get rid of Eckert Seamans, that's what it was. It was to get rid of Eckert Seamans and it was also...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said her comment speaks for itself. Mr. Banonis said no it doesn't. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if you want to complain about special counsel not being identified, you have the proof in 2023. Mr. Banonis said it speaks for ignorance.

Ms. deLeon said you are talking over each other, please stop doing that. Mr. Carocci said now we're going to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars so Mr. Goudsouzian can get referrals with the tax dollars. It will be hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars so Mr. Goudsouzian can continue to get referrals as a quid pro quo. Ms. deLeon said you're an attorney so you know how it works, right? Mr. Carocci said that's how Mr. Goudsouzian works. Ms. deLeon said yea, right. Mr. Carocci said that's how Mr. Goudsouzian works. Mr. Banonis said you just disparaged all the lawyers in the world Priscilla. Mr. Carocci said that's how Mr. Goudsouzian works. All they did was they asked that he not take any more referrals from this one firm, and he won't do it. He won't do it. Mr. Banonis said money is money, he doesn't care where it comes from. Mr. Carocci said money is money for Susie over there.

Ms. deLeon said where were we. We had Jason, Tom, Priscilla, Victoria. Laura? Ms. Ray said she'll add to that with the special projects attorney that we had, so the rate was \$290.00/hour. That was approved on the January 3<sup>rd</sup> reorg meeting and during that meeting, we also had a special approval to establish the fees for the year 2023 but made them retroactive to January 2, 2022, so that's another one of our special...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said that was an oopsie, legal oopsie, we forgot. Ms. Ray said that we approved. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you forgot to appoint your special counsel and you retroactively did it to cover yourself. Ms. Ray said and it's not really unusual to have a special projects attorney and she doesn't think you have to identify what the project might be at this point, but you have them there. Mr. Carocci said what's unusual is that firm's relationship with Mr. Goudsouzian. It's a quid pro quo. Ms. deLeon said okay, so you had your turn. So anybody in the audience would like to speak on this? Mr. Carocci said there we got, someone with legal ethics, thank you.

Maryanne Garber said she represents Bethlehem Landfill Company and she just wanted to point out obviously this issue is not relevant to the landfill; however, in looking at the agenda, it's not clear at all what this involves. So, it's this very vague appointing special projects assignments solicitor. We find out now here that it's a result of a conflict and it sounds like this solicitor would be appointed on zoning and land use matters but the attachment says labor attorney fee schedule and when you look at the attachment it just says fee schedule so again, these are just clear violations of the Sunshine Act in terms of the specificity of the agenda item. You don't know. Until you just made that statement it was completely unclear to her and she's sure to the rest of the public what kind of lawyer are you hiring? Why you are hiring them and some information with respect to what they are going to do. So again, this is obviously not related to the landfill in anyway, but she does want to just point out there's a pattern here of lack of transparency and violation after violation of the Sunshine Act.

Mr. Banonis said so when the eclipse went by about three weeks ago, it didn't leave Lower Saucon. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she appreciates that identity from last year when we had that special projects. She's sorry Ms. Garber you weren't allowed to talk last year because you weren't a taxpayer. So she does appreciate that.

Ms. deLeon said okay, Mark. Mr. Mark Ozimek said he's got confusion going on in his head. First off, Ms. Garber doesn't live in LST. She represents the landfill so why should she even give a crap about what's going on. As far as Mr. Banonis and Treadwell and the other lawyer, special needs, that you paid \$290.00 to, whatever happened to that lawsuit about filing against PA and the library and all that money. Nothing, crickets. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said that's the hundreds of thousands of dollars that they spent last year. Mr. Ozimek said he knows. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the cases are still open. Ms. deLeon said she voted no to all of that. Mr. Ozimek said he guesses that as long as what you do is within the law, and the Sunshine Act which he doesn't know, he should go home and look that up. Then you just keep on doing it because one day some people in this Township are going to dig the crap out of the hole and throw it in the dump where it belongs. This whole meeting is nonsense, every time, every night

we come here. The only good meeting he's been to throughout anything lately was the landfill meeting yesterday. He's giving you some credit. As far as this Township, it really needs a change. He may not agree with everything and he does agree with some of what comes from the public, Mr. Boulin, you're one of them. See, he's more fair than anybody...Mr. Banonis said he shouldn't be addressing...Mr. Carocci said why don't you correct him? Mr. Banonis said why does he have to keep reminding you how to do your job? Mr. Ozimek said why don't you shut up, why don't you shut and stay out of his business? Ms. deLeon said Mark. Mr. Banonis said why don't you.....in accordance with the policy? Mr. Carocci said he's telling Jason to shut up. Mr. Ozimek said about his business. Mr. Banonis said he's talking to her. He's not speaking to him. Ms. deLeon said Mark, he's being critical of her because she didn't correct him for addressing a member of the audience. Mr. Banonis said for violation of your policy. Ms. deLeon said and oh please. Where are we going to start with violation of policy? Mr. Carocci said Mr. Ozimek, he's sure Ms. Garber is just thrilled that you gave her credit for something, a man of your stature, a man of your stature. Ms. deLeon said what are you talking about? Mr. Banonis said answer her question Tom, she asked what are you talking about? Talk about her stature, talk about the stature, the things you were talking about earlier that you brought up. She asked you the question, answer her question. Ms. Ray said public comment right now. Ms. deLeon said we're into public comment right now. Mr. Banonis said you asked him a question and he thinks he has the right to respond. You said, what are you talking about? Ms. deLeon said she was talking out loud, I was not talking to him. Mr. Banonis said you said a man of his stature, so explain to her. Mr. Carocci said he's threatened Council members, he's threatened Council members. Ms. Misczenski said if the bickering of the children is done...Mr. Carocci said their families. No, he's not done. Are you going to allow him to finish? Ms. deLeon said no, you don't have the floor right now, Stacie has the floor. Thank you. Mr. Banonis said you asked him a question. You implicitly gave him the floor by asking...Ms. deLeon said she took that back. Mr. Banonis said you can't take it back. Ms. deLeon said yes, she can. Mr. Banonis said no you can't. Ms. Misczenski said any law firm that she has ever worked in...Mr. Banonis said let her ask her a question, but don't answer it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said on the floor please. Ms. Misczenski said that they require everyone...Ms. deLeon said if you had respect for women. Mr. Banonis said he does, a lot, his mother, his wife, he sure does. Ms. deLeon said that is debatable. Mr. Carocci said and he threatens, and he threatens. Ms. deLeon said that is debatable.

Ms. deLeon said Stacie the floor is yours. Ms. Misczenski said her question to all of you is, where is your process of procedure for special projects attorneys. She means every law firm that she works at, they follow everything by a standard, a policy, a process. What is the Township's process for hiring a special projects attorney? Mr. Banonis said he thinks the policy is to help out your buddies and get referrals. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said by resolution. Ms. Misczenski said she doesn't want to speculate. She wants to know where is it? Mr. Banonis said he thinks we just heard what it was. Ms. deLeon said can she say something? Ms. Misczenski said yes. Ms. deLeon said at reorganization we appoint our appointee like our solicitor, our engineers. We have a list of people and this year there was a lot of changes, and in fact, didn't Mark come up with the labor attorney? Before Mark left he...Mr. Banonis said he didn't come up with it. It was dropped on him. It wasn't like he looked for them Ms. deLeon said yes, you weren't there so, and...Mr. Banonis said and you were, so what's the answer then? Ms. Misczenski said so maybe...Mr. Banonis said if you know the answer, why are you asking a question? Ms. deLeon said she is making a statement. Ms. Misczenski said maybe you guys should put together a policy on how you...Mr. Carocci said what are you talking about? You found Mark. Ms. Misczenski said how you actually hire a special projects attorney. Mr. Carocci said yea, exactly some parameters. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it is just by resolution. Every year the Council has, it's at their discretion who they hire for different things. So they can or cannot hire a special counsel...Ms. Misczenski said right, but like dollar parameters, policy parameters. You have to have x amount of years of experience. They have to have within this amount of range of policy. She thinks it's great you went from Eckert Seamans, which is a total rip-off of a law firm. She just knows from personal experience. At \$290.00, which you probably got a mid-level attorney for \$290.00 to go down to, you are going down to, what you are going down to \$210.00? Mr. Carocci said \$225.00. Ms. Misczenski said \$225.00. Mr. Banonis said we actually had the managing partner of their office at \$290.00 so if you are talking mid-level, he's the managing partner for the firm. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said he's got him on speed dial. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't have him on speed dial, he just knows he's the managing attorney because he actually looks

into who works for the Township. He just don't speculate and shoot his mouth off and be ignorant. Ms. deLeon said Stacie has the floor. Mr. Banonis said he's not directing it towards her, Ma'am. Ms. Misczenski said it was Eckert before, she's not shooting her mouth off. Mr. Banonis said he's not directing it at her, he's directing it at Victoria. Ms. deLeon said let her speak. Ms. Misczenski said so for \$225.00 how many hours of work are you looking at doing? Like how big is this project? Mr. Banonis said it depends on how many referrals Mr. Goudsouzian gets, he guesses, he doesn't know, maybe they get a lot of work...Ms. Misczenski said in the scope of the projects, you know darn well what she's talking about. In the scope of the project, how many hours are you looking at? Mr. Banonis said he doesn't even know what the projects are. Ms. deLeon said we don't. Ms. Misczenski said we are hiring someone and we don't even know what we are hiring for? Mr. Banonis said bingo. Mr. Carocci said they are hiring him because...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we are hiring him for when something comes up and you need somebody, they are there and available. Mr. Carocci said they are hiring them because Mr. Goudsouzian found him. Mr. Goudsouzian found him and has a business relationship with them where they refer him cases. Ms. Misczenski said she's sure you go through a vetting process, don't you? Mr. Banonis said you would hope. Mr. Carocci said not, read what Steve said. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said every Council member had the opportunity to reach out to the proposed counsel...Mr. Carocci said read again what Steve...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said and look at what they have to offer and speak to the attorneys. Mr. Carocci said there's no vetting process Stacie. He's going to read you exactly what we got. There's no vetting process. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said at Council which is what we are doing now is we discuss and we decide whether we are going to reappoint the prospective attorney or not for whatever we are trying to appoint them for. In this case, we are trying to appoint a special counsel for a project that hasn't been identified. There is no project identified and if there is a project that is identified we would identify the project and say that this firm is appointed to do that project.

Mr. Carocci said but they were presented one firm that Mr. Goudsouzian identified because he has a business relationship with them, the one and only firm. Mr. Banonis said here's the vetting process. "I've already spoken to the Hoffman and Hlavac firm and they will be willing to assist in this capacity. I wanted to bring this to your attention prior to Wednesday's meeting". That's the vetting process. Mr. Carocci said right. Mr. Banonis said two sentences. Mr. Carocci said they are willing at \$225.00, they are willing. Well, we're lucky to have them. Mr. Goudsouzian is lucky to be able to pay them back with taxpayer dollars for all the cases they refer.

Mr. Goudsouzian said perhaps he can help Ma'am. The Hoffman and Hlavac firm are already appointed as labor counsel for the Township. Ms. Misczenski said the special projects labor? Mr. Goudsouzian said no there is labor attorneys there, separate apart from that. They may be appointed as special counsel if and when needed. So, the concept is the same firm that will be doing the labor work and serving as special counsel if and when needed. As indicated previously, right now there's no special project. There may be a special project that is identified in the course of this meeting; and therefore, we would have someone lined up if necessary. That's the idea. You may not like the idea. He just wanted to explain it to her. Ms. Misczenski said no that's fine.

Mr. Banonis said you may also want to know that the heritage and the legacy of this firm and the relationship with the Township goes deep. It's been going on forever for a grand total of 16 days, okay. So they became the labor lawyer 16 days ago at the last Council meeting. We have no experience with them whatsoever.

Ms. deLeon said she would just like to say that before Mark Hudson left, he was looking for a labor attorney. That was the name that he came up with. Mr. Banonis said we had a labor attorney. He was looking for one at whose direction? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we didn't have a labor attorney. Mr. Banonis said sure we did. We had the Eckert Seamans firm. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said they were never appointed in 2024...Ms. deLeon said never appointed in 2024. Mr. Banonis said we had one, we had one. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we never had one. They were never appointed. Mr. Banonis said for many years we had them.

Mr. Goudsouzian said Ma'am, it's still public comment. So let's let her finish please. Ms. Misczenski said so for \$225.00 give them a shot. It's only \$225.00. You don't even know what you are looking at yet but only is right. Okay, she does know how much attorneys cost, thank you. Ms. deLeon said Stacie, talk to the chair please...Ms. Misczenski said so how much was Mr. Treadwell per hour? Ms. Ophhof-Cordaro said \$235.00. Mr. Carocci said \$220.00, \$230.00 at the end. Ms. deLeon said we gave him a raise the last couple of years. Mr. Carocci said he deserved it, he's the best solicitor the Township ever had and we wouldn't be in half this mess and Mr. Hudson would still be here if Linc was still here. Ms. Misczenski said so you said \$235.00. Mr. Banonis said \$220.00. Ms. deLeon said something like that. Ms. Misczenski said what's Mr. Goudsouzian's rate? Mr. Carocci said \$180.00. Ms. Misczenski said so there's your savings right there. Mr. Banonis said yea, but you get what you pay for. Mr. Carocci said what you pay for, exactly. Ms. Misczenski said Mr. Treadwell was not all that great. Mr. Carocci said he was good. Ms. Misczenski said he wasn't that good. Mr. Carocci said compared to Goudsouzian. Mr. Banonis said the meetings were a lot shorter. Ms. Misczenski said no, he wasn't that good. Okay, then you also have the library lawsuit. Mr. Carocci said an attorney like Goudsouzian should be serving Linc Treadwell's lunch. Ms. Misczenski said at the rate and death and breath of what you don't know what you need to hire this guy for, \$225.00 is worth a shot. So, if you got no other standards going on there, just run with what you got then. Mr. Banonis said let's just hire somebody and we don't know what we are going to use them for...Ms. Misczenski said you did it for Eckert. You had no protocol. You had no guidance, you had nothing. Mr. Banonis said we gave him a specific assignment. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't have a problem with the rate, he has a problem that Mr. Goudsouzian has a relationship with this firm. Ms. Misczenski said you have a relationship with half the Township, all the attorney's around here. Everyone does. Mr. Carocci said he's not the one referring them for taxpayer, to be paid with taxpayer dollars, taxpayer dollars. He never referred anybody. I would say we put it out for bid and we post it. Keep putting it out for bid. There will be people who apply for that at \$225.00/hour. People will apply for that, absolutely. Ms. Misczenski said but you haven't gotten any hits. Mr. Carocci said they haven't put it out for bid, it hasn't been advertised.

Mr. Boulin said is this going to go on for 20 more hours here? Ms. deLeon said she has the floor right now. Ms. Misczenski said her point is if you don't have a process and a procedure in place, then you really can't complain about any of it because you have nothing to go off of. Mr. Carocci said it's the majority. Ms. Misczenski said go with this guy and if you don't like him then you figure something else out.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else? Mr. Boulin said please start the clock and he will talk according to the clock not according to the Chair's desires, okay. Yes, he has some thoughts on this. Yes he was the guy that complained that this thing just popped up on the agenda, thank you. Alright. Ms. deLeon said you are not supposed to address the audience. Mr. Banonis said now you enforce it, now you enforce it. Mr. Carocci said now you enforce it. Ms. deLeon said she said it how many times. Mr. Carocci said you didn't say it once to Stacie. Mr. Boulin said really. Ms. deLeon said she did too. Mr. Carocci said you're such a joke, you are such a joke. Mr. Boulin said leave the clock run. The bottom line is we're in this mess because we didn't vet the current testing solicitor. Mr. Banonis said interim. Mr. Boulin said oh, interim, he stands corrected. Don't stop the clock. And he objected to that then and he remembers as soon as, yep, look the other way. She said and I want to have Goudsouzian or he's sorry he is bad at pronouncing his name. The bottom line is and the question was well good, what are his credentials. Nothing, 3-2 vote, he's in. Now, we have the same guy which the, Laura Ray, don't look away. He's talking to you too, you know, he is equal opportunity here. The bottom line is that the three of you just steamrolled everything over. We're not going to ask who he is. We're not going to find out what his credentials are. By the way, whatever you said about Linc Treadwell, he did serve this community for 23 years. He didn't? Mr. Carocci said he did. Mr. Boulin said I see you shaking your head. Ms. deLeon said no he did, I wasn't a fan. Mr. Boulin said well then go yea he did and by the way, if he recalls he worked for you. Now all of a sudden they are all out the door. This is the new way that we run things, okay. By the way Ms. Ophhof-Cordaro, the bottom line is did you ever ask about Eckert Seamans? He never recalls in all the years he's been watching this, you ever said anything about them and yes, by the way, if you don't know there was a resolution about the library, let him try for the 50<sup>th</sup> time and if you want, he will mail it to you. It's the ruling about Judge Daly on HAL saying you

must, 501(c)(3) if you know what that is, you are, you must turn over those records and you know what they did? You guys got in office and Mr. Goudsouzian or you wrote up this resolution that there will be no more lawsuits. We are just going to terminate it, sweep it all under the rug and away it goes. Now, you got the gall to sit there and say we got nothing for it. Well we did get something for it and it's out at Judge Daly and he doesn't know who actually sent that one but take a look and if you want it, he'll send it to you. He doesn't ever want to hear you say that again and he doesn't want you in his face again when he's talking. Now in terms of this idea, we just hire this guy for \$225.00 and he doesn't work out, gee he wonders what sort of damage we can do in-between. How about, although there was a very good comment here yes, what a write up, what each and every person probably including what the requirements are for being a Council member. What requirement are there for these special attorneys or likely to be or when you are going to hire them, right? She's absolutely right. He wouldn't hire anybody. You just don't go hire people to do whatever, go hire a welder to be a harp player or something. Come on, it doesn't work so write it up and then complain about it. You're running the Council now, so do it. So much for transparency, please, don't ever say you are the new elected by a majority and everything's transparent. Ms. deLeon said you have almost 30 seconds. Mr. Boulin said he knows. He can read it. It says 41, 40, 39, not like somebody else. Alright, so we pay you \$5,000.00 a year. Ms. Ray said that's not accurate either. Mr. Boulin said what do we do? We just sit here and turn out every other week to try to keep people honest and look for the transparency, that isn't there quite frankly.

Mr. Banonis said Mr. Boulin he needs to clarify a point that he said. Their mailing actually said respect, cooperation and transparency. Respect, cooperation and transparency. That's what they are about. He just wants to make sure that your, they didn't campaign just on transparency. They campaigned on respect, cooperation and transparency. Mr. Carocci said people getting caught up on these hourly rates but you have to understand, there's a big cost to the Township. We're on our second solicitor, our second solicitor. (*Mr. Banonis is speaking the same time Mr. Carocci is speaking*) Mr. Banonis said Priscilla can you stop Mr. Ozimek from yelling at me again? Would you stop Mr. Ozimek from yelling at me? He just yelled at me again. Get control of him. Pay attention to what is going on, he knows it is hard to follow along here. Mr. Carocci said we lost our Township Manager. Mr. Banonis said no, he wants her to do her job and tell that guy to stop yelling and interrupting. Ms. deLeon said she's listening to these two people over here. Mr. Banonis said why don't you listen to the room too? Can you do two things at once? Ms. deLeon said nope, she can't. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said remind everyone to be respectful and kind and wait their turn when speaking. We were just talking about respect and we had a lot of interruptions and talking over one another. Mr. Carocci said he was talking.

Mr. Boulin said you are over talking him right now okay. Just like you had many times before. So fix what's in your own house first. He missed a comment you said from that card, what was the word? Mr. Banonis said respect, cooperation and transparency. Mr. Boulin said he has a different...Mr. Banonis said transparency was last and it's very clear that it truly is last. Mr. Boulin said he has a different word, feckless, look it up if you don't know what it means.

Mr. Carocci said he wants to say one thing about the hourly rate difference. You know, you have to look at overall costs and people who haven't work like Priscilla don't understand this. We were on our second solicitor and we lost the Township Manager because she wouldn't keep Linc Treadwell. He had conversations with Mark Hudson about this and he had a conversation...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said did you have a conversation with Linc and Mark, and Mark's going to swear under oath that that's why he left. Mr. Carocci said exactly, exactly. Mr. Banonis said she can't help herself.

Mr. Carocci said we had a solicitor who lasted 16 days because we couldn't trust him. We had to file RTKs to get any information out of him. Same thing with Mr. Goudsouzian. Why would Mr. Hudson, a good Township Manager stick around for all this. Now we, you are talking about a \$25.00 difference in the rate of pay for an attorney. We had to hire a firm for \$10,000.00 to find us a new Township Manager. If we do get a new Township Manager, and he takes a shot at it, anyone worth their salt is going to want \$160,000.00, \$170,000.00 because that's what Township Managers are getting for townships this size now. So you are talking about \$25.00 here or there. Her refusal to bring Linc in and we don't have a solicitor we can trust and the RTKs drove Hudson away and that's a fact and he's talked

to him about that. That is where your \$25.00, but she's isn't going to grasp that. She sits around for 40 years collecting disability. She's never been in the work environment. She thinks every attorney is the same. That the one wants \$250.00, one from \$180.00, just take the cheaper one. Everything's the same and she doesn't understand overall cost and what it's done to this Township. \$10,000.00 to hire a firm then we're going to go from Township Manager, we're paying \$135,000.00 to about \$165,000, \$172,000.00 and you are worried about \$25.00 extra an hour on a project, it's ridiculous. She has no concept of economics and she drove Linc out. There's no solicitor we can trust that is why we have to file these RTKs for our second Manager. We'd be lucky to get a Manager, we'll be lucky to get a Manager worth their salt. He means Cathy, with the exception of Cathy. He doesn't know why Cathy would want this job quite frankly.

Ms. deLeon said she would just like the record to reflect that she worked as a radiologic technologist for over 20 years in Philadelphia and the Lehigh Valley areas. Just have the record reflect that she did that for 20 years. Mr. Carocci said she goes on about this, she goes on about how this is private information. She gave an interview to the Morning Call in 1995...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said would you like to speak? Are you sure? Because Mr. Carocci is impeding on your time to speak.

Ms. Slavick said she was just waiting patiently. She knows she's not supposed to address anybody in the public but she likes what this woman had to say, she agrees with her on a lot of points. She doesn't know a lot of lawyers, but most lawyers know a lot of lawyers, right? That's a given. People that work in jobs that know lawyers. You are always going to know a lawyer but in her opinion, she said this last time she came up at that last meeting where you were hiring a labor attorney. It's like, her point is the process, maybe it's better to get a process so you aren't doing favors for people. It just doesn't look good. So, like maybe the guy is a good guy, she doesn't know, but it just seems like a little bit of a conflict when the solicitor is recommending a lawyer to do some solicitor work at the Township. Put the bid out. Like she said before, try to figure out who's the best person, let them bid on it, and like a hiring scenario, like you are in a company and you are hiring somebody. You want the best person. You don't just want some referral from the solicitor who, because he has a conflict of interest. It doesn't seem right. She thinks it's better if you just get more candidates. That's all. Thank you.

Mr. Carocci said what he was saying before he was cut off, Priscilla was saying this disability is a private matter. She gave an interview in the Morning Call in 1995. Lower Saucon Council President Priscilla deLeon...Ms. Ray said okay, this isn't on the agenda, let's move on. Mr. Carocci said Priscilla deLeon who has been appointed to the Board of Directors, Chronic Fatigue Association...Ms. Ray said let's move on, you are wasting everyone's time. Mr. Carocci said Ms. deLeon who suffers from chronic fatigue, so don't let her say this is a private matter. This isn't a private matter. She's given interviews to the Morning Call about this. Again, she doesn't understand the work environment. She hasn't worked in years. Mr. Banonis said she brought it in the topic. Mr. Carocci said she brought it in. She made it a topic. She tried to talk about her work experience.

Ms. deLeon said okay, Mark. Mr. Carocci said isn't this his second time on this subject? He thinks it is. How many times are we going to give people? Mr. Goudsouzian said we can't give people seconds. Ms. deLeon said did you go already Mark? Mr. Carocci said yes. Ms. deLeon said on this topic on the solicitor? Mr. Carocci said yes. Mr. Banonis said pay attention. Mr. Carocci said he did. Ms. deLeon said if you did, she's sorry, she's going to have to ask him to sit down. Mr. Ozimek said he just wanted to point out that...Mr. Carocci said there you go Priscilla. There you go Priscilla. Priscilla will let him speak. Mr. Ozimek said courtesy to tell the truth. Ms. deLeon said Mark, you can't, she's sorry.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else. She guesses were are ready for roll call.

Mr. Carocci said he would do it if Mr. Goudsouzian would agree to not take any referrals from this particular firm in the future. It's already bad enough, it's a pro quid quo for previous cases and him throwing them this contract to the firm he identified but he is going to have to vote no unless he were to agree to do the right thing, to do the ethical thing, to do the thing with integrity and refuse to take future referrals from this particular law firm.

Mr. Banonis said Tom back to your point about the \$45,000.00 extra that it's costing the Township here for \$10,000.00 to find the recruiter, and the additional monies that we are going to have to pay to a new Manager, you look at that number, the extra \$25.00 an hour, that's a total of 1,800 hours that could be paid for with that \$45,000.00. Its 150 hours a week we could be paying for, 150 hours a month with that extra \$25.00 and instead there's a saying pennywise pound foolish, right or the opposite, pound foolish pennywise, whatever, what this is and it's unfortunate he's going to vote no. Mr. Carocci said this all started by not retaining Linc Treadwell, it's unbelievable.

Ms. Ophhof-Cordaro said she is voting yes and she wants to make sure the public is aware that Mr. Goudsouzian does not get to pick who represents the Township. It's the Council who is responsible to do that and that is just what happened. Every Council member has the opportunity to speak with the attorney's, review their work. It is not Mr. Goudsouzian who gets to choose, so from her perspective, there is no issue here. They are choosing, not Mr. Goudsouzian, and she's in favor of this so she's voting yes.

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

**B. EDWARDS VARIANCE #03-2024 /MARK & HANNAH EDWARDS – 1304 EVERGREEN DRIVE**

Ms. deLeon said the applicant is requesting a side yard setback variance to construct a garage. Is there somebody here to go over the plan? Anybody in the audience?

Mark Edwards was present. He said he and his wife own the property. They lived in this residence for the past 10 years. Their plan is to add first floor living space on their existing home by converting the existing garage living space and bumping out the garage. In their zoning district, they are required to have a 30' setback. They are asking for a variance to reduce that to 16'. Ms. deLeon said you have steep slopes and...Mr. Edwards said they do and it makes, he put the garage anywhere that he could but there's no other place on the property they could. Ms. deLeon said so Council can either support, oppose or take no action.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to take no action on the Edwards variance and let the ZHB decide.  
**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion, Jason. Mr. Banonis said he just has a quick question for Mr. Edwards. It looks like your lot is a little bit more than two acres just a hair over, a nice sized lot he has. Mr. Edwards said correct. Mr. Banonis said the issue you have is strictly the steep slopes. You can't put it anywhere else because of the steep slopes. Mr. Edwards said the house was constructed at street level. The majority of the property is well above grade. He'd say about 20', 30' higher. Mr. Banonis said okay, good. Mr. Edwards said it's a pretty steep slope. Mr. Banonis said it sounds like a hardship to him. Thank you.

Mr. Banonis said before you go on when we take no action on this, you should probably get some explanation. It doesn't mean the Council is not interested or supportive. We could either be in favor of it, against it or take no action. We take no action just means that you go to the ZHB and you get to present your case to them without having anybody from the Township come in either in favor of or against it. It saves the Township a little bit of money because the solicitor doesn't have to go to that matter. So it's not that we're disinterested. You deserve that explanation because you probably haven't gone through this process before. Mr. Edwards said thanks for the explanation.

Mr. Carocci said if we had a competent solicitor, he would have explained that in the beginning, but we don't. Good luck with your project and good luck with Zoning Hearing.

Ms. deLeon said she made the motion. Victoria? She wants to thank him for staying for the meeting and presenting his project to us this evening. Ms. deLeon said Laura? Mr. Carocci said did you vote? He didn't hear a yes or a no.

Ms. deLeon said we didn't vote yet, we are still doing Council discussion. We still have to do public comment. Laura? She said she didn't have any comment on the plan, it looks fine to her.

Ms. deLeon said any public comment, anyone in the audience want to speak on this issue? Seeing none can we have a roll call please? Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

Ms. deLeon said good luck at the ZHB. If you have any questions the Zoning Officer would help you.

**C. BEETHOVEN WALDHEIM VARIANCE #02-24 - / BEETHOVEN WALDHEIM HOLDING LLC / 1991 WALDHEIM ROAD**

Ms. deLeon said the applicant is appealing the Notice of Violation dated February 27, 2024. Is there someone here to talk about the application? Mr. Banonis said when you made the motion to amend the agenda, you did not move this up. You moved up the other items so the next item. Ms. deLeon said she did do it right. Mr. Banonis said he did not hear that, he asked for clarification on it and he doesn't think she said that. You identified first it's going to be the resolution of appointment of special assignment solicitor. Second was going to be Edwards's variance. Third was going to be appointment of Goudsouzian as Township solicitor and fourth was going to be filing an acceptance of the resignation of Goudsouzian and then after this it returned to the original order of the agenda E. was Beethoven Waldheim, F. was waiving Saucon Creek Watershed, and G. was compensation, that's what he recalls.

Ms. deLeon said first one was Edwards variance, the second one was Beethoven Waldheim, the third one was resolution #48-2024, the fourth was the firing or acceptance, so she was correct. Mr. Goudsouzian said no, sorry, say that again. Ms. deLeon said that's what you said. She apologizes if she is wrong. Ms. Ray said she was writing down as she was saying them. Ms. deLeon said so that's correct.

Ms. deLeon said is there anybody here to talk about the application? Mrs. Gorman said our Zoning Officer said no one would be present. Ms. deLeon said so then Council has sufficient information in their packet. So, again, this is something we can support, oppose, or take no action. She would like to oppose this because of all the violations and all the information that's in the packet and send an attorney to represent the Township at the ZHB.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to oppose this because of all the violations and all the information that's in the packet and send an attorney to represent the Township at the ZHB.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Banonis said where is the Zoning Officer? He's the one who has issued these and he's asking us to take official Township action and he's not here. Why isn't he here? Mrs. Gorman said he had felt the applicant wasn't here so that there was information in the packet for Council to make a decision on where they wanted to go. Mr. Banonis said well there's not. Ms. deLeon said we had a lot of information in the packet. Mr. Banonis said here is the other part of it? Mr. Goudsouzian sent us a letter saying he's going to be recusing himself, we have no solicitor to advise us as Council on this matter, so how are we going to proceed without having legal representation from this Council? You are intending to take official Township action that has an effect on this property owner's property rights and we are going to be doing this without any legal advice because Mr. Goudsouzian sent us a letter that he has a conflict of interest and we don't have anybody else here to handle this.

Mr. Goudsouzian said what you would do is if you are going to choose to send an attorney to oppose it, it clearly cannot be me and you might consider amending the motion to...Mr. Banonis said he wants a

lawyer here counseling this Council on these matters. Right, this Council is making a motion. We're taking official action and we don't have a lawyer here to represent this Council. We are taking official action without legal representation and he thinks that jeopardizes the Township and subjects the Township to greater problems than we already have.

Mr. Carocci said if Mr. Goudsouzian had any integrity he would have recused himself when this agenda was read and he didn't do that. Ms. deLeon said so when's the next ZHB meeting? Mr. Carocci said are you going to recuse yourself? Ms. deLeon said when's the next ZHB? Mrs. Gorman said ZHB is...Mr. Carocci said aren't you going to recuse yourself from this agenda item? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if you could just amend the motion to say that...Ms. deLeon said she'd like to know when the next ZHB meeting is. Mrs. Gorman said the ZHB is on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. deLeon said May 20<sup>th</sup> so we have another meeting between now and May 20<sup>th</sup>. Correct? Ms. Gorman said correct. So, we can have our special solicitor that we just appointed to come to the Council meeting to advise Council. Mr. Goudsouzian said if that's what you want to do. Mr. Banonis said are you withdrawing your motion? Ms. deLeon said she would amend her motion to...Mr. Banonis said amending it or withdrawing it. It's a totally different subject. Ms. deLeon said she'll withdraw it and make a new motion. She's like to table this until May 15<sup>th</sup>, and I guess it be an Executive item then? Mr. Banonis said no. Mr. Goudsouzian said no, it would be a regular item. Mr. Carocci said he thought Mr. Goudsouzian recused himself from this agenda item and now he's providing advice. Mr. Goudsouzian said he's providing the procedural advice that you would need. Mr. Carocci said of a former client. Ms. deLeon said it's procedural, she understands. She will make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to table this until May 15, 2024. It will be on the agenda and we will ask our legal representative from the firm we just approved.

Mr. Banonis said Cathy, when did the property owner receive notice? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said so she understands the motion is to move it to next meeting and appoint the special counsel to represent us with respect to this matter and advise us next meeting. Ms. deLeon said correct in time for the May 20<sup>th</sup> ZHB meeting, which would have been anyway.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mrs. Gorman said this was mailed to him on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Banonis said was it sent to him by certified mail or by regular mail? Mrs. Gorman said that she's not aware of. Mr. Banonis said how do you know were receive that notice back in February if we don't have any record of that and Jim's not here to confirm it that he...Ms. Ray said they filed back that they want the charges...they filed back that they want the charges...Mr. Banonis said he's not talking to, he's not asking her. Ms. Ray said she guesses he received it if he wants to have the notice removed. Ms. deLeon said she didn't hear her. Ms. Ray said he's questioning how the man knows that he received the notice. What we have before us is that he wants the NOV dropped, so, she guesses... Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said he must have notice if he responded. Ms. Ray said so he knows about it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the motion is to move it to the next meeting anyway.

Mr. Banonis said if you could find that out for him and have it available for him at the next meeting and he thinks we should have Jim Young here at the next meeting so we can ask him questions about these violations that he's identified.

Ms. deLeon said but obviously they are aware of it because if you look at their application...Mr. Banonis said Cathy when they contacted you...Ms. deLeon said she's speaking right now. Mr. Banonis said so was he and she interrupted him. Ms. deLeon said she thought he was finished. Mr. Banonis said well you thought wrong. Mrs. Gorman said she didn't actually speak to them. She was told by the Zoning Officer that the attorney spoke with him. Mr. Banonis said when the attorney spoke with Jim Young, did the attorney explain that the reason why they weren't going to be here is because they didn't have

notice or they couldn't be here on short notice. It wasn't as if they were disinterested in the matter. It's just that they were not going to be here for some reason. Mrs. Gorman said she doesn't believe that would be that case, she doesn't know, so she couldn't say one way or the other.

Mr. Banonis said he'll just put it into the record here so it's clear the April 29, 2024 letter from Steve Goudsouzian, again "Dear Council Members, As you know the Waldheim Club is on the agenda for Wednesday, May 1, 2024. This correspondence formally advises you that I have a conflict in this matter as I represented the principal of the Waldheim Club for many years and in fact a period before LST, perhaps a year or two ago for a very brief matter regarding the Waldheim Club. Accordingly I will not be involved in this matter. If the Township Council decides to have an attorney represent the Township's interest at the ZHB, I've already spoken to the Hoffman and Hlavac firm and they would be willing to assist in this capacity. I wanted to bring this to your attention prior to Wednesday's meeting. Thank you. Respectfully Goudsouzian and Associates, Steven M. Goudsouzian" and he copied Cathy Gorman.

Mr. Banonis said he doesn't see any copy that was sent to the property owner, is that correct that he was not copied on that? Mr. Goudsouzian said he was not copied on that. Mr. Banonis said so they weren't aware that you were going to have to recuse yourself. Mr. Goudsouzian said they weren't copied on the letter Mr. Banonis said did you have any communication with them to tell them, to him, the property owner or his attorney, that you were going to be recusing yourself because of the conflict of interest. Mr. Goudsouzian said he did. Mr. Banonis said okay. Who did you have the communications with? Mr. Goudsouzian said he's not going to reveal that of above and beyond. Mr. Banonis said not an attorney-client privilege so why wouldn't you...Mr. Goudsouzian said pardon him, he said he wasn't going to do that above and beyond the individual, the individual, the principal. Mr. Banonis said so you spoke with the principal, the owner of the property. Mr. Goudsouzian said yes. Mr. Banonis said and you spoke by phone. Is there any correspondence to document your conversations? Mr. Goudsouzian said he's not sure if there is or there isn't? Mr. Banonis said if there is he'd like him to bring it to that communication or any communication anything you have in writing to the next Council meeting so we can include that in our considerations.

Mr. Carocci said he doesn't know why we don't table this. Mr. Banonis said is that a yes or no that you'll agree to that? Ms. deLeon said she's peaking nest. Mr. Goudsouzian said he doesn't know if there is but he'll take a look. Mr. Banonis said if there is will you agree to bring those documents? Mr. Goudsouzian said he's not sure if there is. If there is he's not sure what they say. Mr. Banonis said he understand he's not sure but if there is will he bring those documents? Mr. Goudsouzian said not necessarily because it might be privileged. Mr. Banonis said okay, you had communications with the principal after you identified that there was a conflict and you're now claiming that those communications that you had with the principal, after you identified the conflict, are still subject to attorney-client privilege. Mr. Goudsouzian said they may or may not be and he's not in position today to waive privilege on behalf of his client. Mr. Banonis said okay. He understands. He's not asking him to do that. To the extent that your client is willing to waive, if there are documents, and if those documents exist and if your client, the Waldheim Club, sorry Beethoven Waldheim Holdings LLC agrees to waive any conflicts, to allow you to disclose the contents of those communications, he would like him to bring those to the next meeting so they can include those in their consideration. Mr. Goudsouzian said he understands his concern but the bottom line is there's clearly a conflict. He's identified the conflict. You know there's a conflict. Mr. Banonis said he wants to know what he's talking about with him, if he's willing to share that with us, he wants to know what the issue is. Mr. Goudsouzian said okay. Mr. Banonis said thank you.

Ms. deLeon said she just wants to clear up what was stated before about whether or not they are aware of the NOV. They are because she read the packet and the packet's application to the ZHB said they are appealing the NOV. So they are definitely aware of it. So, she just wanted to make sure that was on the record. So, she guesses, let's see, who didn't she call on?

Mr. Carocci said as long as they are going to get a chance to be heard next meeting as well, the applicant. Ms. deLeon said they should be. They are the principal. Mr. Carocci said that's what he's saying. So,

we are going to give them notice that...Ms. deLeon said absolutely. Mr. Carocci said as long as we give them notice. There's a question as to whether they...Mrs. Gorman said they will do that. Mr. Carocci said it should be by certified mail or something like that. If it turns into a legal case, you got to make sure of these things. Ms. deLeon said right. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't understand why it wasn't by certified mail this time. Mrs. Gorman said she needs to confirm that.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria? She said she's in favor.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? She said she doesn't have any comments about the particular case. We'll wait until we see it next meeting.

Ms. deLeon said anyone in the audience like to speak for public comment.

Karina Smith said she's a resident of the Township. She doesn't know why you are doing the public comment as it looks like it's going to be on the agenda next time but it was on the agenda for today, so...Ms. deLeon said Sunshine Law, we have to do that. Ms. Smith said so she will speak because she did sit here waiting to be able to speak on this. She doesn't believe or understand why there is even an issue with the violation that was put in place. The applicant, the principal, the owner, whatever you want to call him, clearly lied on his application for the variance and what the building was going to be for. She was here at the meeting when it was told that it was going to be used for storage. A business is now being run out of it and they have not done the proper procedures and policies to run a business out of the building. In addition to that, they do not have a highway occupancy permit to use Flint Hill Road and have the parking lot use Flint Hill for that business. So there are several different things involved in this situation. So, she knows they are appealing but, you know, clearly there was a violation because they were running a business that they shouldn't have been running out of the building. Ms. deLeon said okay.

Mr. Banonis said he wants to get some clarification on something she said and he appreciates her standing up and sharing some information with them. She said the applicant clearly lied to this Council. As he recalls, when this matter came before them originally for the building to be built on the property, he thinks the applicant was represented by Mr. Goudsouzian and he thinks Mr. Goudsouzian spoke on behalf of the applicant at that time. Not the actual property owner but it was the attorney who spoke. Ms. Smith said the meeting she was at, the owner spoke at the meeting. Mr. Banonis said okay.

Mr. Goudsouzian said perhaps he can identify. The one meeting he was there with regard to Beethoven Waldheim took place a year or two ago. It took place in the fire hall. There were tons and tons of people there. The water came in. There were various protestors there protesting against you. The issue that was before the Board was a waiver of some sort of procedural mechanism. Whether it was getting a full land development plan or...Mr. Banonis said a land development plan. Mr. Goudsouzian said or something else, so he appeared very briefly. He thinks he was there although they were they for an extended period of time, he appeared before the Board for less, he doesn't know how long, but very, very briefly, and that was it. He did not appear prior to that. He did not appear after that so he believes what this woman is speaking to is presumably not that meeting but perhaps...Ms. Smith said it was not several years ago. Mr. Banonis said was it at the fire company or was it here? Ms. Smith said it was right here. Mr. Banonis said and the applicant was not represented by counsel at that matter? Ms. Smith said nope, he spoke. Mr. Banonis said he understands he spoke but was he represented by counsel? Ms. Smith said no, it was just him. Mr. Banonis said okay. Ms. Smith said and his wife. Mr. Banonis said okay. He just wants to get clarification for, thank you for that, appreciates it. Ms. Smith said she doesn't know if he has representation at the time. At the meeting it was him and his wife and he spoke at the podium at the meeting. Mr. Banonis said he understands, okay.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else like to speak? Mr. Banonis said Cathy for the next meeting, can you pull the minutes from all of the meetings where this applicant was before us so that we can see that...can we get them in advance of the meeting to review them? Mrs. Gorman said absolutely. Mr. Banonis said thanks. Not just the one that was at the fire company, but any that took place here or anywhere. Mrs.

Gorman said she will get all the meeting records from the beginning. Mr. Banonis said thank you very much.

Ms. deLeon said roll call. Mr. Banonis said this is to continue it to the next meeting? Yes. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she wants to clarify that the notes Mrs. Gorman is going to pull are all the notes in which this project was before Planning Commission or any other committee and for Council, right? Mrs. Gorman said yes. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said thank you.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**D. RESOLUTION #48-2024 – APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY STEVEN GOUDSOUZIAN AS TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR**

Ms. deLeon said Resolution #48-2024 has been prepared appointing Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor. Currently, Attorney Goudsouzian is Interim Solicitor. This was requested by Ms. deLeon. She said she will make a motion to approve...

Mr. Banonis said may he be recognized? May he be recognized? Mr. Banonis said he makes a motion to call for the firing and/or acceptance of the resignation of...Ms. deLeon said no, she's not recognizing him. Mr. Carocci said a motion to fire Steve Goudsouzian, second. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we are in the middle of motion. Ms. deLeon said out of order. Mr. Carocci said he made a motion to fire him and she seconded it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the motion was being made by Ms. deLeon and she started it and you were out of order. Mr. Carocci said she didn't finish it. Ms. Opthof said you were out of order. Mr. Carocci said there is a motion on the floor.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to approve Resolution #48-2024 appointing Steven Goudsouzian as Township solicitor.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Banonis said he makes a motion to call for the firing and resignation, Tom? Mr. Carocci said second. Ms. deLeon said currently Attorney Goudsouzian as interim solicitor. Is there a second to his motion? Mr. Carocci said no, there's a second to his motion first. He seconded his first. Ms. deLeon said the President runs the meeting and he was out of order. Mr. Carocci said there was. Ms. deLeon said she was speaking and he was disrespectful. Mr. Banonis said there was no second and he made a motion. Mr. Carocci said that's right and he seconded that motion. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she made the second. Ms. deLeon said she was speaking and he was disrespectful. Mr. Carocci said he seconded that motion. Ms. deLeon said no, not to her. Mr. Banonis said you just want to jump the gun and get your buddy hired. Ms. deLeon said so, she made the motion, is there a second?

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Ray

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion, Jason. Mr. Banonis said he'd like his motion to be considered. Ms. deLeon said it does not count because you can't have all these motions. Mr. Banonis said let's get at it then. Ms. deLeon said and you can't interrupt the President as she's speaking. Mr. Banonis said we already talked about this before. You know when Mr. Goudsouzian was hired as the interim solicitor, here you see what's going on right? So at the last Council meeting, we called for his termination and/or his resignation based upon information that was brought forward by Maryanne Garber, the attorney for the landfill about the issues with him undertaking legal activities, official legal activities, on behalf of the Township without having received Township approval for those and without having a public vote on those matters and that's just one of many examples of the problems that we've had here. The solicitor position in this Township has been adrift since this Council had decided at the beginning of the year to no longer retain Linc Treadwell who had been the solicitor for 23 years and the problems that have come up during Mr. Goudsouzian's status, limited status as interim solicitor, are very telling and he thinks that they are reflective of the incompetence of this Council, and he thinks it also reflects poorly upon the legal services that he provides for the Township. First of all, he's got conflicts. We already dealt with one of those conflict issues just tonight. We brought this up that he would have conflicts. He was

the Hellertown ZHB solicitor, which is a conflict of interest because the Township is involved in litigation with Hellertown. Yea, he said there was no conflict there, so much so, that he resigned his position as the, subsequently resigned his position as the Hellertown ZHB solicitor and also got a free pass from this Council that agreed to waive any conflicts. What's interesting though is we don't know if he received any similar conflicts waiver from Hellertown. That would be interesting to know and that was never shared with us but we'll find that out because RTK requests are wonderful things. You get a lot of good information through those.

Mr. Banonis said so, let's see here, another example of the bad lawyering that we got. Early on, he guesses this was in February, this Council published a knowingly inaccurate budget in violation of PA law. In addition to that, this Council also passed an illegal tax increase because the amount of money that was in reserves was greater than 25% of the future expenditures. He talked about this at length during those meetings and at no time did Mr. Goudsouzian come forward with any information or any legal guidance to Council against those matters and instead, they moved forward subjecting the Township to legal liability for some bad decisions. This is particularly troubling. He refused to identify to he and Mr. Carocci in an Executive Session who he was negotiating with on behalf of the Township. That is, he would describe it as fraudulent to refuse to identify to your client, to this Council, members of this Council, who you are negotiating with on behalf of the Township is beyond mind blowing and it shows a level of arrogance that is not becoming of a solicitor of this Township. To refuse to share that information, a very simple question, who are you negotiating with and what are you talking about? He would not share it. He's going to do it even though I have a conflict here, a conflict I don't think I have, but I'm going to resign from that position and get a waiver for it, I'm still not going to tell you who I'm talking to on behalf of the library. A library of which his wife was a former board member and was also a board member and then he believes left, and wrote critical news articles about this Council that he would describe as political advocacy for certain members of this Council. He thinks that's despicable. He has undertaken legal activities on behalf of this Township that were not approved by this Council as he already discussed as Ms. Garber brought forward to us. That just shows the level of cavaliness to the rule of law and his willingness to do whatever he wants to do but not be mindful of what he's permitted to do under the law and also permitted to do under the direction of the majority of this Council, which he did not have. He has very limited experience, actually virtually no experience, in handling Township work. He talked about this. We have his resume here and he just talked about it earlier in tonight's meeting, all the different boroughs he represents and the authorities but really no Township's that he's representing. This is a Second Class Township and he want it to be a first class Township in name only, but not legally. We are clearly not on our way to become a first class Township with a solicitor like this and you can see the way things have deteriorated so quickly. One thing that came to his attention and is very troubling to him and he needs to continue to look into this to get more information but Mr. Goudsouzian also disclosed to you that he was and is the solicitor for the borough of West Easton. In that capacity, he already mentioned earlier that there was a news article or an op-ed piece that was written about problems with the borough of West Easton turning over RTK information and suppressing it, subjecting that borough to legal liability that was calculated by the person who wrote the article to be in the tune of \$800,000.00. This Township cannot afford cover ups that are going to subject the taxpayers to have to pay exorbitant fines in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. It makes absolutely no sense and it's unfortunate that happened, but more significantly, and he doesn't have all the information on this but he will get it. There is a matter and it is called West Easton Two LP vs. the borough of West Easton. He believes also the borough's supervisors. In that matter, this was a drug rehabilitation facility that was attempting to open within the confines of the borough of West Easton. In that matter, the borough denied the applicant, their lawful relief, and as a result of that litigation and sued in Federal Court. It was a 1983 Federal claim that dealt with deprivation of...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said that was a long time ago. Mr. Banonis said no 1983 is the statute. He's sorry she doesn't understand...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you said the year of 1983. She's sorry. Mr. Banonis said pay attention, it's actually a statute. Most good lawyers would know what a 1983 claim is but we are not going to go there with her. So, it's a constitutional violation deprivation of your rights in some way. So, in this matter, the borough may have had insurance and the borough insurance may have been able to provide coverage for the claim including providing legal representation on behalf of the borough, but in that matter the borough was represented by, who else, Mr. Goudsouzian. So, in that matter Mr.

Goudsouzian's and/or his firm or representatives of his firm, represented the borough, may not have turned over notice of that claim to the borough's insurance company. So, Mr. Goudsouzian's firm made a lot of money billing their time to the borough. Presumably the borough paid his bills and perhaps unbeknownst to the borough, the, Mr. Goudsouzian may have failed to turn over notice to the insurance company that would have paid for all of this and in addition to that, he believes that there is or there is going to be a settlement agreement of a substantial amount of money and as a result of that the insurance company, if there is insurance on it, may not pay that claim because they did not receive timely notice of the claim. So, in other words, it appears to be that there may have been, he doesn't know this completely, but he's going to get the information on it and share it with the public when he gets it, self-dealing to line him and his firms pockets with borough taxpayer money that otherwise would have been handled by an insurance company attorney at no cost to the borough other than perhaps a self-insured retainer or a deductible or something like that which is a few thousand dollars. And in addition to that, he thinks it reflects poorly upon the competency of the representation in that case that Mr. Goudsouzian's client is now going to pay or have to pay or has paid a substantial amount of money, again out of the taxpayer pockets. That does not bode well and it goes back to the issue that Mr. Carocci brought up earlier, the quid pro quo, right? So, the concerns he has is that he would not recuse himself from handling matters that would be referred to him by the newly hired special assignments firm, Hoffman and Hlavac, and it shows a pattern, in his mind, a pattern, of doing anything to line his own pockets and not put the best interest of his client, i.e., the Township or the municipal government forward. That's very, very troubling to him. He's seen a lack of integrity throughout these meetings that we've had with him. You know, these out-of-control expenses and the RTK matters are troubling so he took it upon himself and he cautioned Mr. Goudsouzian about this, early on, about the conflicts of interest and the ethical implications of the things that he's undertaken and the consequences of that and he does not seem to care about the rules of professional conduct. So, he has submitted a complaint to the disciplinary board of the PA Bar Association. He's sorry, the PA Bar, raising these concerns to them and he thinks they need to take a very hard look at what has taken place and he'll share with you what he submitted. He submitting along with Mr. Carocci, they co-signed it. They are both attorneys and they understand the importance of ethic in the legal community and he feels that we are sorely lacking of it here so the subject of it is request...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said maybe they will watch our meeting. Mr. Banonis said the subject of this is request for...he said excuse me. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said maybe the Ethics Board will watch our meetings.

Mr. Banonis said yea, subject is again, he's not providing legal representation to this Council, he's a member of this Council. He's not an attorney for the Township. So the subject of this is "Request for Investigation into the Conduct of LST Interim Solicitor Steven Goudsouzian, Esq., we the undersigned members of LST Council are writing to request a disciplinary investigation of the conduct of interim Steven Goudsouzian, Esq. PA Bar ID 74831. Recent conduct of Mr. Goudsouzian has raised significant concerns regarding Mr. Goudsouzian's provision of legal service to LST and its Council. As members of the bar, we take seriously these issues and do not raise them without good cause. Among these ethical concerns are the following. On April 3, 2024, the LST Council held an Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. Interim LST solicitor PA Licensed Attorney Steven M. Goudsouzian, informed Council that he had met with "Hellertown" to discuss resolution of a public library dispute and a shared compost center dispute between the borough of Hellertown and LST".

Mr. Banonis said first captioned item is "refusal to identify parties. Councilman Thomas Carocci and Jason Banonis inquired as to the name of the individual or individuals that Mr. Goudsouzian met with on behalf of LST. Mr. Goudsouzian willfully refused, despite numerous verbal requests, to identify to his client, LST Council including Mr. Carocci and Mr. Banonis, the identity and participants of a meeting he held on behalf of his client. Mr. Banonis informed Mr. Goudsouzian of the PA Rules of Professional Conduct specifically Rule 1.4 to disclose the information to which Mr. Goudsouzian replied that "he did not care". On April 10, 2024, Mr. Banonis requested by email to Mr. Goudsouzian the same information requested to the Council's Executive Session on April 3, 2024. The names of the individual or individuals from Hellertown Borough or library that Mr. Goudsouzian met with prior to April 3, 2024. As of April 30, 2024, no response has been received from Mr. Goudsouzian and he continues to identify to his clients the names of who he met with on their behalf".

Mr. Banonis said the second captioned item, “unauthorized, unapproved court filing. On April 15, 2024, without authorization or authority from LST Council, or a public vote, Mr. Goudsouzian filed a joinder brief to defendant LST in the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas, see Jointer Brief attached. Mr. Goudsouzian, in effect, switched sides in ligation that was brought against the Township without consultation, consent, or public vote by LST Council. The filing and change of position to this day has never been an agenda item for a public meeting, or discussed or voted on at a public meeting. Mr. Goudsouzian also”, and again, this was submitted prior to today’s meeting when they tried to do the cover up. “Mr. Goudsouzian also failed to respond to public request inquiring about an explanation for his action making this filing. The undersigned believe that Mr. Goudsouzian may have violated the following PA Rule of Professional Conduct”.

1. No. 1.1 A lawyer shall provide competent representation to his client.
2. 1.2(a) A lawyer shall consult with the client as to the means which they are to be pursued.
3. 1.2(d) A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent.
4. 1.4(1) A lawyer shall promptly comply with requests for reasonable information.
- 5 1.4(5) A lawyer shall consult with the client about any relevant limitation on the lawyer's conduct.
6. 1.5 A lawyer shall not charge, or collect an illegal or clearly excessive fee.
7. 1.6 A lawyer shall not reveal information relating to representation of a client unless the client gives informed consent.
8. 1.7 A lawyer shall not represent a client if the representation involves a concurrent conflict of interest:
  - (1) directly adverse to another client
  - (2) one or more clients will be materially limited by the lawyer’s responsibilities to another client, a former client or a third person or a personal interest of the lawyer
9. 1.9(a) A lawyer who has formerly represented a client in a matter shall not thereafter represent another person in the same or a substantially related matter in which that person’s interests are materially adverse to the interests of the former client unless the former client gives informed consent.
10. 1.9(b) A lawyer shall not knowingly represent a person in the same or a substantially related matter in which a firm with which the lawyer formerly was associated had previously represented a client whose interest are materially adverse to that person.
11. 1.10 When a lawyer becomes associated with a firm, the firm may not knowingly represent a person in the same or a substantially related matter in which the lawyer was associated, had previously represented a client whose interests are materially adverse to that person and about whom the lawyer had acquired information protected by Rules 1.6 and 1.9(c) unless the qualified lawyer is screened and written notice is promptly given to the appropriate client to enable it to ascertain compliance with the provisions of this rule.
- 12 1.13 If a lawyer for an organization knows that an officer associated with the organization is engaged in action, refuses to act in a matter related to the organization, that is in violation of legal obligation to the organization or a violation of law which reasonably might be imputed to the organization, and is likely to result in substantial injury to the organization, the lawyer shall proceed as is reasonably necessary in the best interest of the organization.
13. 1.16 A lawyer shall not represent a client or shall withdraw from the representation of a client if the representation will result in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law.
14. 2.1 A lawyer shall exercise independent professional judgment and render candid advice.
15. 3.1 A lawyer shall not bring or defend a proceeding, or assert or controvert an issue therein, unless there is a basis in law and fact for doing so that is not frivolous, which includes a good faith argument for an extension, modification or reversal of existing law.
16. 3.3 A lawyer shall not make a false statement of material fact or law to a tribunal or fail to correct a false statement of material fact or law previously made to the tribunal by the lawyer.

- 
- 17. 3.5 A lawyer shall not engage in conduct intended to disrupt a tribunal.
  - 18. 4.1 In the course of representing a client a lawyer shall not knowingly make any false statement of material fact or law to a third person.
  - 19. 4.4 A lawyer shall not use means that have no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person.
  - 20. 7.1 A lawyer shall not make a false or misleading communication about the lawyer or the lawyer's services.
  - 21. 8.4(a) It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to violate or attempt to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, and/or engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and/or engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.
  - 22. 8.4(b) It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.
  - 23. 8.4(c) It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Mr. Banonis said so, there's 23 separate rules that he's cited there. These developments have led us to question his fitness to serve as solicitor as well as a licensed member of the PA Bar and we believe an investigation is warranted. As public officials we are held to the highest standards and accountability and respect for the law. The behavior exhibited by Mr. Goudsouzian and furtherance of solicitor services to the Township appears to violate these standards. Such behavior undermines the credibility and integrity of municipal government and erodes the public trust. Given the gravity of these we are asking for a thorough investigation into Mr. Goudsouzian's conduct. It is critical to determine whether his actions reflect broader issues that could affect the fair administration of a municipal law in LST as well as the competence of his legal representation to the Township and others. Furthermore an investigation will help ensure accountability and demonstrate that no one regardless of position is above the law. We are confident that your office has the expertise, authority and impartiality to conduct a comprehensive investigation into these matters. We kindly request that you keep us informed of any developments and actions taken as a result of your inquiry. On behalf of the residents and taxpayers of LST, thank you for your prompt attention to this request. Sincerely Jason Banonis, Esq. LST" ...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said are you purporting to represent the residents of the Township in your...Mr. Banonis said "Thomas Carocci, Esq., LST Councilman."

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it sounded like he recited that he represented something...Mr. Banonis said don't interrupt him, don't interrupt him, he's not done speaking. Would you stop her? (*Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was speaking while Mr. Banonis was speaking*) Mr. Banonis said will you stop her? Mr. Carocci said what are you doing? He's not done yet. Mr. Banonis said stop interrupting him. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said did you say you were representing the residents on behalf of the residents of LST. Mr. Banonis said I don't care if she's asking him a question. Ms. deLeon said let him finish. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said okay.

Mr. Banonis said so that has been submitted to the disciplinary board on behalf of himself, Tom Carocci and on behalf of ourselves and others as residents and taxpayers of the Township. We certainly are not retained, to answer your stupid question, we are certainly not retained to represent them in this matter. It is signed by us. We are expressing appreciation to the disciplinary board to take these issues seriously. He wishes that she would take some things seriously when she considers the things they are doing here on Council but they are doing this on behalf of ourselves, individually as Councilmen on this Council, as well as residents and taxpayers and other like-minded people that may share the same concerns. They've heard from people who have stood up at that podium numerous times over the past several meetings that have expressed concerns to them and he thinks that the residents and taxpayers, he doesn't bring this forward to grandstand, ok? He brings this forward so that the residents and taxpayers who have stood up here and think that it's hopeless and that these clowns that are on this Council are going to continue to get away with this bad behavior, it's not going to happen and they've taken steps to try to address this and he hopes the disciplinary board takes this seriously and addresses it. Not just on behalf

---

of himself as a signer to this and Tom Carocci as a signer to this complaint, but also everybody who is affected by these decisions here.

Mr. Banonis said so, the other thing he would point out that he didn't bring up earlier about his concerns about Mr. Goudsouzian is the fact that he disclosed to us, or they learned, that Mark Arand who is the attorney who represented the library in the matter in which the Township was involved, is now affiliated with his firm and we've never received anything to document any Chinese wall. They call it the Chinese wall in law firms to segregate communications and information that is being undertaken by Mr. Goudsouzian on behalf of the Township from parties that have been or will be undertaken by Mr. Arand of behalf of HAL. So, all those things cause him great concern. There's been a motion made to appoint him as the solicitor.

Mr. Banonis said one thing that he has never seen here and he wants to get a copy of it, and he thinks it's our right to receive a copy of this, is a copy of Mr. Goudsouzian's legal malpractice insurance policy and declaration page. The acts that were undertaken by him to reverse course unilaterally without the Council approval and in violation of the Sunshine Act potentially subjects the Township to a loss of revenue estimated at between \$72 and \$80 million, \$72 and \$80 million. He's highly confident that necessarily the host municipal agreement and the anticipated revenue that the Township would receive over the 18 year projected life span of the landfill expansion. If that comes to fruition, the taxpayers will be out \$72 to \$80 million and have to pay those taxes out of their own pocket. If that occurs, it's the result of actions that were undertaken by Mr. Goudsouzian which he believes and others believe are in violation of the law and his legal malpractice carrier should compensate the Township for that lost potential host fee revenue. He highly doubts that Mr. Goudsouzian has policy limits that would cover \$72 to \$80 million. He doesn't know what they are, we need to know, because we need to know what sort of excess exposure exists or maybe he has an umbrella policy that's \$100 million and that would cover this and that would be great because then the Township is at least covered as the litigation works its way through the legal process. He suspects he does not have enough insurance and he would ask that he produce a copy.

Mr. Banonis said we all know how this motion is going to go, right? We all know how they are going to vote. He would hope that the others on this Council would exercise their fiduciary duty to the members of this Township, the residents and taxpayers of this Township, and request a copy of that so they know exactly what they brought upon the Township and how the hell they are going to find some alternate source of money if they are somehow successful on this to compensate the Township for its damages that are ensuing as a result to what has taken place here.

Mr. Banonis said so, he knows he spoke for quite a while, but he thinks it's very important. He thinks that it's important to have a competent, ethical, transparent, cooperative, solicitor and we do not have one here. We had one. We had one who worked very well for 23 years and he's no longer here. We are now dealing with the consequences of this and the consequences of this are culminating at least in part with this disciplinary investigation and the disciplinary board will do its thing and they'll gather information and have the hearing, he guesses, and they'll figure out if there is basis for any type of disciplinary action and you know, Mr. Goudsouzian was warned about this. He was warned and told and look, he's never done this. He's never filed a disciplinary action against another lawyer. He doesn't do it lightly. It really troubles him to have to do this but they were left with no choice. You know, when they point out the bad tasks, and the bad deeds and they are met with a response that is flippant, arrogant, and inattentive to these legitimate concerns, then you bring it upon yourself. So, he brings this forward with a heavy heart but he doesn't bring it forward with any level of embarrassment whatsoever because they were forced to do this. Every opportunity was given and it's really a shame that the Township has come to this low point. They are going to vote on whatever they vote on but this process is in the works and he expects there is probably going to be other potential disciplinary and/or ethic investigations coming forward, perhaps by other residents and taxpayers perhaps as this process goes along, more information will be identified. You know, he'll keep you posted as to what he finds out on that litigation in the borough of West Easton, what appears to be, at least to him in his opinion, some problems that we don't want happening here in the Township.

Mr. Carocci said Jason...Ms. Ophhof-Cordaro said are you going to provide the paperwork...Ms. deLeon said wait a minute, we go by alphabetical order. Jason spoke. She's sure you have a lot of questions, but when it's your turn, you can ask the questions, so Tom, you'll be next.

Mr. Carocci said Jason he does have a copy of the civil action, of the West Easton LP vs. Borough Council and the only attorney for the defendant is Steven M. Goudsouzian. No one else from his firm is listed on this and the court denied the defendants motion for a summary judgment, so he lost that case. He agrees with what Jason said and he signed his name. They really had no choice. When you have a solicitor that is making court filings without notifying the Council and without any type of public authorization to do that. You are left with no choice. You have to try and say you know, we told him they thought that was wrong and he should have notified them and again, he didn't really respond. Jason did it in an email as well and we have to prevent this from, or try to prevent it at least from happening again. We're elected by the people. We have the right to know what our solicitor is filing in the courts, and quite frankly, before he files it, before he files it, not after the fact and we're not being accorded that, really basic a right as a client and we really had no choice. We had no choice. It's tough to look the other way on that when you know, it's happened.

Mr. Carocci said he'll just talk about some other things. He's not going to get into any depth on anything. You know, people, since all this has started and he gets phone calls almost every day, certainly at least every couple of days with people with information on Mr. Goudsouzian and most of it is not good. He's only found one guy that spoke highly of him, one attorney in Northampton County that spoke highly of him. He's looking at some other stuff only because the residents of this Township deserve to know exactly what type of attorney we are paying \$180.00/hour to. It's taxpayer dollars as Ms. Slavick said. It's not a government money. It's not your money. The taxpayers should have an expectation that if we hire a solicitor, he should be ethical and have integrity and represent the Township without conflicts of interest. We've already seen a quid pro quo relationship tonight that was exposed. This is the kind of stuff he hears from people. This is the kind of stuff he is going to try to follow up on because the public deserves to know. It's just that simple. So, they'll do whatever they want here but you know, he's not going to stop exposing like he did tonight a quid pro quo relationship with a \$225.00/hour law firm that he will not even just say, I won't take any more referrals from that firm, while I'm solicitor of the Township. Not forever, just while he's solicitor. He won't even do that. It's just proves what is and why he and Jason had to take a step they did today and why further steps and further investigation by himself and then anybody else he can wrangle in to help him needs to continue because that's going to continue. Right, right, these referrals from this new law firm we just hired to him are going to continue. He made that clear. He made that absolutely clear. So thank you Jason for that great summary. Again, he made a motion to terminate Mr. Goudsouzian and it was seconded. He doesn't know why that's not being voted on. Ms. deLeon said because you were not in order. You were speaking, you weren't speaking at the right time. So, sorry, you weren't recognized.

Mr. Banonis said for a point of clarification on something you said and what he said earlier, you know, the borough of West Easton also has another scandal that he believed occurred during Mr. Goudsouzian's time as solicitor and there was a Township official who had not received a trash bill for five years. You know, and that reflects poorly upon the legal oversight that was being provided to the Township. He's sorry to the borough. He doesn't know if Mr. Goudsouzian was the solicitor for the entirety of that or part of it but it's something else that he thinks is just, it reflects very poorly upon what's going on.

Mr. Carocci said it's concerning again that but...Mr. Banonis said he hopes that doesn't happen here that somehow some member of this Council gets some favorable treatment or some financial benefit because you nod and wink and turn your head the other way. Mr. Carocci said...Ms. deLeon said you had your chance to go, now it's Tom's turn. Mr. Banonis said he's clarifying, they are having a conversation. Is he interrupting you? Mr. Carocci said no. Mr. Banonis said thanks Tom, he didn't think he was.

Mr. Carocci said it's par for the course what he's hearing like the West Easton, the borough of West Easton. You know, he wanted to handle it himself, his own firm so they could bill. You didn't want to give it to the insurance company for West Easton. They screwed it up. He lost and now the insurance company says hold on, you had to bring us in earlier to defend you and do all this, is his understanding of what he found out so far from talking to a few people and doing that. So all he had to do was make a phone call and not be greedy for the money. Let the insurance hire their defense and do it and at least if they lost, the insurance company would pay the...Mr. Banonis said Tom, to that point, it's a public record because there's a deposition transcript attached to that motion. Ms. deLeon said you are doing it again. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't have that deposition. Mr. Banonis said he's not interrupting you, right? Mr. Carocci said no, there is a deposition...Mr. Banonis said it's nice when you try to enforce when we are having a conversation. Mr. Carocci said he understands there is a deposition and he's trying to get it where the Township Manager says, yea, we, Steve didn't call, we didn't do that. Mr. Goudsouzian is in that deposition and he tries to shut it back with line of questioning. Mr. Banonis said it was actually an objection that he raised. Mr. Carocci said that's what he heard of that. He has not seen that yet but the people that have briefed him have told him that. This is the danger when people are like ah, it's just a solicitor, what's the big deal? Well, it could really be a big deal if you are the borough of West Easton that they didn't have a solicitor that all he had to simply do was make a phone call and but he was going to handle it. He was going to handle it. He was going to bill the borough. You know not the insurance company. We'll do, he'll do it less expensively he guesses. Mr. Banonis said they are talking thousands of dollars. We are talking millions of dollars here. Millions of dollars to the Township.

Mr. Carocci said yeah right, like he said he will reiterate the borough of West Easton, which he claims he represents adequately is 0.3 square miles, 0.3 square miles with 1,500 residents. We have 11,000 residents so he's, we brought up the ethical concerns and the integrity concerns but he's also in over his head and that's what happened with these potential Sunshine violations. Some of them he thinks are intentional. He does. He really thinks they are intentional because of, he thinks it's a strategy but others he thinks, are not just not, like he just doesn't think he understands and knows. He's never dealt with a Township this size and he's in over his head and that's why we shouldn't make him a permanent solicitor. He shouldn't even be interim, quite frankly. That's it.

Ms. deLeon said her recollection of the Executive Session we had, whatever that date was, a couple of weeks ago...Mr. Carocci said you can't even remember the date and now you are going to have recollection about details of it? Okay. You can't even remember the date. Ms. deLeon oh please, April 3<sup>rd</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Carocci said Steve will confirm that for you then he'll tell you what to say. Ms. deLeon said nobody tells her what to say, she thinks he should know that better for her. Mr. Carocci said he doesn't. Ms. deLeon said please. Mr. Banonis said why did you look at him and ask him then? Ms. deLeon said excuse her? Mr. Banonis said why did you look at him and ask him? Mr. Carocci said yea, you did. You looked at him and asked him when the date was. Ms. Ray said just make your statement Priscilla, stop talking to these...Ms. deLeon said her recollection is a lot different from that night and you guys were arguing, cursing, doing all kinds of stuff and they were having conversations and about what the strategy and all that stuff. So she can understand why they don't remember. So, that's all she has to say. Mr. Carocci said we don't remember.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria. She said that this motion is appropriate. 4:58 (*Mr. Banonis was speaking while Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was speaking*) Mr. Banonis said we never voted out here. Ms. deLeon said Victoria is speaking now. Mr. Banonis said she's interrupted him a million times Priscilla, come on. Mr. Carocci said yeah, she has and you have done anything about it. Mr. Banonis said what comes around goes around. Ms. deLeon said you're acting like the person you are, that everybody can see. Mr. Banonis said yeah, your nemesis, he loves it. Mr. Carocci said at least he's worked for the past 40 years.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said so first she wants to say thank you to Mr. Goudsouzian for all of the work that he has provided our Township in a situation where we have two Council people that have taken on upon a course of conduct that is not to better or further the Township business, not to help our residents, but to obstruct the order and daily business and to obstruct the completion of our meetings. We are now

close to midnight. We've had lots of bantering, name calling, interruptions, and it's just unbecoming and she really does feel sorry for the two Councilmen that have stooped to this level in their own professional lives. As attorneys she thinks it's inappropriate to conduct themselves that way, but they have chosen so much to do that, so she wants to thank Mr. Goudsouzian for all the hard work he has done for our Township. She is confident, highly confident in his abilities and she appreciates what he has done and she looks forward to continuing to work with him. She also wants to reiterate that when you hear certain things come from certain Council people, it is opinion. It is not fact because just like what she says you can take what she says as an opinion but as her personal opinion, or their personal opinion, but because it comes out of somebody's mouth, it doesn't make it fact. She refers everybody to look at all the Council meeting minutes. They can decide for themselves what they think. She thinks Mr. Goudsouzian certainly came up here and was berated his first day here under questioning about his abilities to do things. He has done things wonderfully. She appreciates that.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said there was one other thing she wanted to say. She just wanted to make sure that question from Mr. Banonis, he seemed to be reading from a piece of paper and he said he had prepared it and he filed it and he wanted to present that to the Township, and at least her recollection, maybe the YouTube will reflect that, he said that he signed it on behalf of himself and Mr. Carocci and on behalf of the residents. Mr. Banonis said he said he submitted it, not signed it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said so, you submitted it on behalf of the residents...Mr. Banonis said no he submitted it on behalf of himself and Mr. Carocci...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if you have that record, so if you have that document that you submitted to the Ethics Commission, she'd appreciate that you make that a record for us to see so that we can read what, you did indicate that you said on behalf of people because in fact you did...(Mr. Banonis was speaking while Ms. Opthof-Cordaro was speaking) Mr. Banonis said read the minutes and send him a Right-to-Know just like you are so transparent in turning stuff over to him; send a Right-to-Know. Ms. Opthof said if in fact you did represent your accusations on behalf of the Township, she would remind you that you haven't had a motion, you haven't had a second, and you haven't had a Council vote to authorize the actions that you said you that undertook, if that's what it said. Maybe she's wrong, maybe your piece of paper says something different but if you provide that piece of paper we can see in fact what you said.

Mr. Carocci said file a RTK. Mr. Banonis said file a RTK, just like she does, I'm gonna turn it over... he just read the whole thing, he read it into the record. It's all there, the minutes will be transcribed. Read it. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she says again to the public, this is a prime example. Mr. Banonis said and by the way, it was submitted electronically. Ms. deLeon said she's speaking. Mr. Banonis said she asked me a question and he is answering her question. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said them accuse Council, that you heard them accuse her and other people of doing things, not providing paperwork, and not doing this and not doing that and Mr. Banonis as we sit here right now, is not providing paperwork so and that to say that you take what he has to say with a grain of salt. She appreciates the C-SPAN audition and she looks forward working with Mr. Goudsouzian. Thank you.

Ms. deLeon said Laura. She said so she doesn't want to spend a lot of time on this but after sitting up here for all these meetings this year with all this behavior that's rude, inappropriate, disrespectful, interruptive, she wonders that anybody would want to be a solicitor here in this Township because it's ridiculous. The abuse that's being given to not only our solicitor, but to all of us up here, it's not appropriate and we're wasting a lot of time and money on this. So, she is happy that we have Mr. Goudsouzian as our solicitor. Ms. deLeon said thank you, Laura.

Mr. Banonis said he needs to respond to Victoria's question. So, she doesn't know this which reflects upon her legal acclimate perhaps. The disciplinary board of the Supreme Court of PA is dedicated to protecting the public, maintaining the integrity of the legal profession, and safeguarding the reputation of the courts. That's why it was submitted. It was submitted by he and Tom to protect the public. The public are the residents and taxpayers. That's who the public is. He knows it's hard to follow...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is that for yourself or for the public because if you represented yourself on behalf of the public, then you made actions without authorization of Council.

Mr. Banonis said here's the thing, he's not the Township solicitor. He's not the Township solicitor. Ms. deLeon said please. You're not supposed to be talking from the audience. Mr. Carocci said oh you're going to gavel now. Ms. deLeon said yes, she's going to gavel her because she's out of order, absolutely she's out of order. So, if Council is finished with discussion, she's going to open it up to public comment. You are more than welcome to take the podium.

Mr. Banonis said actually, he's not done. Ms. deLeon said yes you are. You already had 50 million times. Mr. Carocci said he'll recognize him. Mr. Banonis said you said if. Ms. deLeon said and she changed her mind, she's sorry. Mr. Banonis said Cathy, is it Township policy to get insurance policies from vendors that are doing work for the Township? In other words, if you are a contractor, are they required to be bonded and insured, and they have to provide written paperwork to us, right? Mrs. Gorman said yes. Mr. Banonis said so is it the same for a solicitor or an engineer or anybody like that, that they have to provide proof of insurance? Mrs. Gorman said we haven't done that for years. Mr. Banonis said why not, don't you think that's smart for us to do? Mrs. Gorman said she means, she does think it is smart for us to do but as you know, HEA has been here forever. Linc was here forever. She thinks that's a good policy to start doing that. Mr. Banonis said can you put that on the agenda for the next meeting? Township Policy and an Ordinance to require proof of valid insurance, for anybody that's doing work on behalf of the Township. Mrs. Gorman said sure, absolutely. Ms. deLeon said now public comment. Please come up.

Ann Marie Slavick said she does live in LST, if anybody looks at her Facebook, you'll see its Allentown because she doesn't really care about Facebook but she votes here and you can check the voting records. So, she consulted a friend of hers. He's a very well-known attorney in the valley so she won't divulge his name. She asked his opinion about what a solicitor does and this is what she told him. She thinks that some people on the board are dictating to him what to do and his response was that's not his job. He's the board solicitor. He's not the board solicitor, he's the Township solicitor and the protection of the Township is his job. Right? Clear to her, you all agree. Ms. deLeon said agree. Ms. Slavick said okay, so now what happened was you all are back peddling on an old meeting that you are saying you passed something in the Executive board but these two weren't listening as they were talking a lot and so now you are going to tell us that what he did, filing that suit, filing in a lawsuit, so you all voted last year to expand the landfill. Like it or not, like it or not, that's what happened. That's what this Council did so you can't come on here and decide, I don't like that, so I'm going to break every rule. I'm going to do whatever I want and you want to uphold rules for other people but you don't want to uphold rules for yourself and you can't do that. You might not like the landfill. She doesn't even know if she likes the landfill to be honest, but you know what, we voted for people on this Council and that's what they decided. You went behind everybody's back and you're the solicitor, you're supposed to tell them what to do. You are supposed to advise them on legalities and they advised you. They found you. They sought you out. This is just her surmise because this is what she sees. Ms. deLeon said you don't know the truth. You are just surmising. Ms. Slavick said no she doesn't know the truth of how you came upon him. Her point is she doesn't know the truth of how you found Attorney Goudsouzian and how you decided that he was going to be our interim solicitor. All she sees is that someone on your Council or many on your Council decided to go to him and tell him to file suit with the citizens against the landfill.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the suit was pending. It's an active lawsuit and one of many active lawsuits against the former Council. There's no.....Ms. Slavick said she understands that but you're not really supposed to do that. You weren't really supposed to do that. He was supposed to tell you that you're not allowed to do that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you have no idea whether that happened or not. Ms. Slavick said but you filed the lawsuit. You filed the brief of the lawsuit. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the lawsuit is pending. Ms. deLeon said yeah, it was already.....Ms. Slavick said the result is you did something illegal that you weren't supposed to do. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she appreciates her comment, but it's just inaccurate. Mr. Carocci said that's exactly right. Ms. Slavick said and your lawyer didn't tell you otherwise. It doesn't matter if you don't like the landfill, it doesn't matter. It was a done deal. Quit the Council and then join in the lawsuit against the landfill. That's your answer. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Mr. Banonis is the one that got off the dais and sat in the audience last week so, or last

meeting. Mr. Banonis said he didn't quit the Council, he just wanted to see the shocked look on your face as you squirmed because you got caught...Ms. Slavick said she's going by what she was told of what a solicitor does and you all agreed to it. You all agreed that's true. Ms. deLeon said if you go on...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the point is if that we have an Executive Session where the members up here that have certain things that happen and as a member of the public, she can appreciate that you hear from certain members of our Council and tell you certain things but to adopt them as fact is a different thing. Ms. Slavick said we didn't hear from the Council on that. We heard from the lawyer of which the lawsuit was filed against. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she was not in their Executive Session either.

Mr. Banonis said the way we found out about this was actually through the landfill's lawyer when she stood up here. So Mr. Goudsouzian undertook this action, never received approval for it in Executive Session...Ms. Ray said yes he did. Mr. Banonis said it was never discussed out here...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said we went over this two times...Mr. Banonis said it was never discussed out here in a public session to vote on it to disclose to the public what was taking place, undertook it, didn't produce a copy of it, and we found out through the lawyer for the landfill. He actually sent an email to him requesting a copy of this and it took a few days until he got it to him. It's not a really complicated document. It's only two or three sentences long. You know, it's probably a million dollars of character if you look at the totality of what's in the document, but he wouldn't even share that with us before. It had to get filed in secret. It was never like, hey, I'm going to file this just so you know. No, it was not...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it was characterization of being...she is not because you are talking and you are saying things that aren't accurate, so. Ms. deLeon said you can talk at the same time. Ms. Slavick said she just...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if we are going to talk about truths...Ms. deLeon said Ms. Slavick is trying to speak, she can't help them.

Ms. Slavick said no one really heard this the last meeting when the lawyer got up and told us what happened, none of you got up and said, oh no, no, we voted on that. Mr. Carocci said exactly. Ms. Slavick said we voted on that. It took you awhile. You are wrong, you are an attorney and you have ethics and you are wrong, she's sorry. What you did was wrong and you know that. You know that because you sat there and you said nothing. Now all of a sudden, two weeks later or three weeks later, you all make up a story and you know, she's surprised at you, Laura Ray. She really is. She's surprised you go along with this. Think about it. Sleep on it. Ms. Ray said she's not going along with anything. That's what happened in our...Mr. Carocci said and you know it, because on April 3<sup>rd</sup> they came out of that, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> they came out of that meeting and they didn't mention anything about that. Ms. Slavick said three weeks later, they heard a different story. They heard you guys all the same. Mr. Carocci said you are exactly right. They sat there last...Ms. Slavick said they are on to you. Some of your followers may not be but we are. So just, just letting you know...Mr. Carocci said instead of having this story two weeks ago, instead of having this story two weeks ago, they had to come up with it for tonight's meeting because you are right, they sat do in silence...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said there's no stories. Mr. Carocci said they make their story up, their cover up. Mr. Banonis said they go caught, and they don't know what to do. Ms. Slavick said let's just hope we have a...Ms. deLeon said are you going to let her speak, she's sorry. Ms. Slavick said let's just hope we have a Judge in the lawsuit that's fair and balanced. Let's hope we have a Judge in the lawsuit that's fair and balanced and we'll see how it goes. Thank you.

Mr. David Boulin said wow, he's on the clock here. He had written quite a bit about this and he thinks Jason took the wind right out of his sails because those were the things that he was going to say but looking backwards, he has to laugh because Opthof-Cordaro here says, well you need to give us that document and Jason says, yea alright, RTK. He remembers specifically asking you, Priscilla, for your letter to and response from the Ethics Committee, both of them. Well guess what, he now has them and you know what, he will work on this a little bit but it's clear what you said to the Ethics Committee was not true. It's like saying would you please judge my dog when it's a chicken. You know what he means. Ms. deLeon said no she does not. Mr. Boulin said do you want him to be specific. You said I absolutely have no interest, no monetary interest in the cell tower, okay? And you do. You do because you went on and on and on about the value of houses going up and down...Ms. deLeon said that is a lie, Kate Durso did not, she did not say that. Mr. Boulin said leave it alone because you, the point he's trying to

make is you wouldn't give those to him. He asked you for them and you told him he's got to file for it. He thinks he asked, maybe even Cathy for it. No, you got to file for it. Ms. deLeon said thought she had it here and she gave it to him. Mr. Boulin said no, you gave it to the attorney, you didn't give it to him. Ms. deLeon said she's sorry. Mr. Boulin said you're not sorry. Ms. Ray said the topic is appointment of...Ms. deLeon said okay, don't tell her what she is, okay? Don't put words in my mouth. Mr. Boulin said I'm telling you what you are. You're not. It's like she's not sorry either and he has three minutes, okay. Ms. Ray said but you aren't talking about the topic that is on the agenda right now. Mr. Boulin said do you want to say something to him? Then you ask her if you can talk to him because you and your endless oh gee, Jason and Tom, what's wrong with they are filing all these RTKs, well now we know why you are trying to protect the RTK that you don't want to see in public because it's real dirty laundry. Ms. Ray said we are talking about the attorney. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said...you have them, there's no cover up. They are RTK documents, you got them. Mr. Boulin said we do now but guess what? It takes a lot...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said RTK, it's public documents. Mr. Boulin said he's sorry, do you want to give him some time back Ms. in your face. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she's responding to the...Mr. Boulin said no you're not, he's talking to her. Tag team, her, her and you and then it's the cover up girls just as somebody said. He's really tired of her just jumping in people's face. Alright, now is it his turn with you? Go ahead, tell the public you don't want Jason or anybody to know what's going on. He sees Goudsouzian there. He's got his own game going but the bottom line is you Laura Ray, you Priscilla deLeon, and you Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, you picked him out and you back him. She says jump and you all say yep and she doesn't like that. There is absolutely nothing that he can say that is good about what's happened here with you and you make it seem like Jason's bad. Jason is open. Those filings, those things are public. If you could hide those, Laura Ray, you would have hidden them. Believe him when he digs through the other...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said because they were disclosed in a RTK...Mr. Boulin said you keep talking. When you are done, you let him know. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said because if they were being hidden, how are they being disclosed? Ms. deLeon said Victoria, there's a resident speaking, he has the floor. Mr. Banonis said there's a first. Mr. Carocci said that's a first tonight. Ms. deLeon said no, it is not. Mr. Banonis said it only took six hours. Mr. Boulin said will you rewind the clock while she continues to interrupt him and you, you can continue to do nothing. Ms. deLeon said you have two more minutes. Mr. Boulin said it's part of the game. Oh, we're all so nice little girls while all the stuff is going on that you are trying to hide. Yea, keep smiling. Ms. deLeon said a nice little girl, she likes that. Mr. Boulin said yea, well you are going to like it a lot more he guesses. Ms. deLeon said she guesses. Mr. Boulin said when all this comes out and it's coming. Ms. deLeon said okay. Mr. Boulin said so let's see here and as far as Laura Ray sitting there saying oh, abuse of us, at the Council meeting, yea, he's working 8 hours, 16 hours. He knows about West Easton because he spent the time to look up Mr. Steve Goudsouzian and the bottom line is it took him a long time to even find where West Easton was but then when he did and used Google and matched the name of the attorney and some prominent things jumped up and we heard about them tonight. They are all there. It's lovely. Don't look so uncertain. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she just wants a point of clarification...Ms. deLeon said Victoria. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is Tricia Mezzacappa from West Easton. Ms. deLeon said please let him finish please. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is he done? Ms. deLeon said he's not finished. Mr. Boulin said yea he thinks he had some more time. He heard two more minutes, right? You want to take that away from him? Mr. Carocci said she does. Mr. Boulin said this idea that he'd ask Mr. Goudsouzian about before, did you file that document on your own to change the direction of the lawsuits or were you given, or who told you to do it on the Council? How many people on the Council said you go file this document or did you just do it on your own? That was the question he had. He's not really good at the, you know, necessarily the names of these documents, but that's the question and he thinks Jason Banonis sitting next to you asked that. So, perhaps you could tell us. Did you do that with your own volition or were you instructed to do it? Mr. Goudsouzian said he's not going to answer that. You are asking him to, he's not going to answer it. Mr. Carocci said the cover up continues. Mr. Boulin said you don't want to incriminate yourself? Mr. Carocci said exactly. Mr. Boulin said you don't like him, you were told not to? Mr. Goudsouzian said do you want him to answer? The reason is because it is executive. It is litigation. One does not, hold on, one does not simply say here's what happened, here's the inside of what went on. You don't do that. It's difficult to understand sometime if this is not what you do but that's the way it works.

Mr. Carocci said it's not what you do and it's obviously a difficult for you to understand. Mr. Banonis said assuming what he says is true, which it's not, there was never a public vote on the action and there was no defense to it at the last Council meeting when it was brought forward. It wasn't until two weeks, now more than two weeks later that they are trying somehow to cover it up. Mr. Goudsouzian said the short answer is it was not required last meeting. It was done this meeting. Mr. Carocci said two meetings ago, two meetings ago it was required, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Goudsouzian said this meeting was done and it's ratified, so even, hold on, even if there was an issue, where he indicated there isn't, but even if there was an issue, whatever issue there was, is now gone. He knows you are upset about that...Mr. Banonis said there you go, there it is. Mr. Boulin said upset about it. He would like to think that...Mr. Carocci said so we have to make an issue go away because he screwed it up so bad the first time, a month ago. Mr. Boulin said the colleagues that sit at the top of the heaper can be real pleased with that. Just because the three newly elected, just swept it under the rug doesn't mean it goes away. You still did it and he doesn't care how you frame it or how unimportant you seem to think it is, to him that's a moral issue which goes way over that. Mr. Banonis said good point, what was framed in this motion today was to continue the direction, continue direction. Those were the exact words. There was never an initiation of the direction. Mr. Boulin said if you don't have a direction, of course you don't know physics so you don't know what vectors are. So, if you never had a starting point, then you don't have any direction to go in and it's random. He likes the way you phrase it though. It just makes it all seem, and this one over here how she smiles when she says all these little things and over here we have, she's very quiet. It kills him because it's so rotten.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she just has a point of clarification, is Tricia Mezzacappa from West Easton. So the public should realize that Tricia Mezzacappa from West Easton where we heard the two Council members go on and on and on, about how West Easton is terrible and she thinks she was an elected...Mr. Banonis said I never said her name, don't put words in his mouth. Don't put words in his mouth. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said either way the public should know Tricia Mezzacappa, who she think was an elected official in West Easton at some point, was the borough that we all are having concerns about, she is one of the litigants supporting the Township in their lawsuit against HAL, so the very people that you are complaining about in West Easton that were so nefarious and West Easton this and West Easton that and all this stuff is going on in West Easton, you asked the same people to help you with your lawsuit against HAL, so that's her, she just wanted that point of clarification that Tricia Mezzacappa is...Mr. Banonis said he has never spoken to, communicated in any manner with Tricia Mezzacappa...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Ms. Mezzacappa is involved in the litigation that we paid Eckert Seamans to help us with. Mr. Banonis said he doesn't know who she is. Your use of her name is the first time he's heard her name. He does not know Tricia Mezzacappa. So don't suggest that they are somehow doing something because he has never communicated with her, ever. Mr. Carocci said what does that have to do with the West Easton LP and then Americans with Disabilities Act case where Goudsouzian forgets to call the insurance company or doesn't call the insurance company because he's greedy and what does that have to do with anything? Ms. deLeon said okay, we have public comment, Ma'am.

Judy Strock said she thinks what amazes her through all this listening to all the incidents of the violation of the Sunshine Act and how it was just, oh well, it doesn't matter. That is what impressed her the most. She cannot believe it that you don't take it seriously. The other question is what is the procedure for attaining a solicitor? Is there a group that submits names? Do people apply for it? How does that work? Mr. Carocci said Tara Zrinski gave her Steve's name or something like that and then he was hired. It's political to make sure that he's a Democrat. They want to make sure he's a Democrat. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said every year the Council has the ability to...Mr. Banonis said it was never advertised. No resumes. Ms. deLeon said one at a time. Ms. Strock said excuse her, she has the floor. Ms. deLeon said you do have the floor. Ms. Strock said so are you saying it's not a committee. Just one of you says oh let's get this...Mr. Carocci said yes, that was Priscilla. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said that's not how it happens. Ms. Strock said how does it work? Were names submitted? Mr. Banonis said no and it was never advertised. He just showed up. *(Tom, Jason and Victoria all talking at once)* Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said every year the Council re-appoints solicitors. The solicitors serve...Ms. Strock said who is the

Council? Mr. Opthof-Cordaro said Council is all five members. Ms. Strock said so all five members.... Mr. Opthof-Cordaro said all five members vote on appointing a solicitor every year. Mr. Carocci said no, no. Mr. Opthof-Cordaro said it happens every year the solicitor serves at the pleasure of the Council. Ms. Strock said she knows that; that's not her question. Mr. Opthof-Cordaro so this year a solicitor was appointed. Mr. Carocci said that lasted 16 days. Mr. Opthof-Cordaro said an interim solicitor was appointed and now there's another motion to make Mr. Goudsouzian the solicitor. Ms. Strock said did you put names out? Did you advertise? Mr. Banonis said no. Mr. Carocci said no. Mr. Goudsouzian was a fund raiser for Tara Zrinski and I think was chairman of her campaign and...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said solicitors have not been advertised in this Township for years, decades. *(Mr. Carocci and Ms. Opthof-Cordaro speaking at the same time)* Mr. Carocci said and that's how he came to Ms. deLeon's attention and that's how he was appointed. Ms. deLeon said that's not true. Mr. Carocci said but before that we had a guy that lasted 16 days that Priscilla also found that was an environmental attorney. But no, it's never been put out to bid or advertised ever, ever. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you never advertised the position either. Ms. Strock said it seems to her that there isn't any policies and procedures. Do you have a manual? In there does it tell you what the policies and the procedures are? Have you had training on this? It just seems like this is just, you know, three against two, or two against three, and it just is unbelievable that it doesn't matter what's right or wrong, you are just going to pick sides. And for the three of you to sit there, the three ladies, and not be concerned about some of this, especially the Sunshine Law, it's been stated how many times. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said people are stating there are violations, it doesn't make it true. Ms. Strock said she is talking. She is speaking, how often has she done that tonight? And you, Madam President, have left her get away with it? Ms. deLeon said that's your opinion, thank you. Ms. Strock said it is, she didn't hear you gavel her down. Ms. deLeon said she most certainly did. Mr. Banonis said it's 12:05. Mr. Carocci said not once on May 1<sup>st</sup>, twice on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. deLeon said please. Ms. Strock said every time someone comes up here to talk, she makes her comments, okay? So let them. They are the taxpayers. They want these answers and it seems to her a lot of this is just revenge or spitefulness or something. Mr. Banonis said ignorance. Ms. Strock said and to have an attorney that most of the time doesn't even answer the questions, can simply recuse himself, that's questionable. That's questionable regardless of anything else. So think about this. What is going on here and stop just being well I'm against them? Just think about this. Ms. deLeon said why do you think that? Ms. Strock said because it's always, she watches the three of you and she sees this all the time and she is just saying this is serious. We have some serious violations here. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said allegations of serious violations. Ms. deLeon said allegations. Ms. Strock said we've had other attorney's quote it and even if they are allegations, they should be concerns. They should be concerns. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said they are absolutely concerned about people's allegations they are just trying to explain to the public that because there's allegations made by some people, it doesn't make them true. Mr. Banonis said they are so concerned they are going to vote for this motion, they are so concerned. Instead of tabling it and leaving the interim tag on him, or doing something else, they are so concerned they are just going to say they are concerned and they are still going to vote for him. That tells you how concerned they are. Ms. Strock said why make this decision tonight because there are really some questions here, really some questions about if this is the right person. Mr. Carocci said right. Ms. Strock said we really need to look into this. Maybe he is, but things have been brought up and she thinks we need to look at it before we make this decision tonight. What does it matter? Mr. Carocci said they have to stick together because they have to continue the lie of what happened in that Executive Session April 3<sup>rd</sup>. So they need Steve as a permanent guy. Ms. Strock said she's very disappointed that, at the way this is all being played out and to see that there are questions on policies and procedures and there doesn't seem to be anything in writing and she just wishes they would consider and think about this before you go ahead. Mr. Carocci said there's no reason to do it tonight but they got to keep Steve. All four of them have to stay together here to keep the story going on what happened in Executive Session on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else in the audience wish to speak? Mr. Mark Ozimek said when the lawyer was hired for \$290.00/hour by Lincoln Treadwell, was there discussion on that? Was there a list of lawyers submitted that Council and the public could review when they were hired? No, he doesn't think so. Mr. Banonis said he was a lawyer who previously did work for the Township to answer your question. Mr. Carocci said he was the special project...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said not on library, he was

a labor attorney. Mr. Carocci said that was a special project, he was. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the answer is no Mark, sorry. Mr. Carocci and Mr. Banonis said the answer is yes. Mr. Ozimek said so as far as the people that come here and complain now about the way things are going, no matter who's side it's on, he doesn't recall seeing some of them here when the Banonis crew was in office doing what they wanted to do and they ran amuck over the Township. He didn't hear them here to stick up for them. He didn't hear them here to battle them on the things that they did against the public. He didn't. Ms. deLeon said speak to the Chair please. Mr. Ozimek said he is speaking to the Chair. Ms. deLeon said okay. You're not looking at her. Mr. Ozimek said he was watching somebody shake his brains.

Mr. Carocci said who is Mark Ozimek? He falls into the dangerous category. Ozimek was recently convicted of disorderly conduct for making death threats...Ms. Ray said oh my God. Ms. deLeon said you are being rude. Mr. Carocci said for making death threats against the LST Councilman, Jason Banonis. Ms. deLeon said she wishes she could have the officer remove him. Mr. Carocci said recent conviction is not the first encounter he's had with the law. Ozimek passed his pickup truck into a car while...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said there's a code of conduct and we have...Ms. deLeon said oh my God. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the public is trying to present their comments. Mr. Banonis said the truth hurts. Mr. Ozimek said when you report to the Chief tomorrow, or to whoever you report to...Mr. Banonis said is he supposed to be addressing the police officer? He should be addressing the Chair, not the police officer. Ms. deLeon said address the Chair please. Mr. Banonis said this officer didn't sign up for this nonsense.

Mr. Ozimek said so what else do you want to talk about Tom? Mr. Carocci said nothing. Mr. Ozimek said spill it all, spill the whole guts. Mr. Carocci said he crashed his pickup truck into a car while drunk in 1991 killing the driver. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I think we should stay on topic. Mr. Ozimek said what happened to Lincoln Treadwell? Mr. Carocci said we learned that the deceased was an Air Force veteran of a Korean War and a technician with AT&T. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said what happened to Lincoln Treadwell? Mr. Carocci said he retired early in 1987 and...Ms. deLeon said you are being rude and you are violating the Code of Conduct. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said you are out of order. Mr. Banonis said he asked for it. Ms. deLeon said Mark please don't let him do this. Mr. Banonis said he said it, he asked for it. Now you are interrupting a Council member. Mr. Ozimek said oh, I asked for it. Mr. Carocci said he was in a crash, this is factual information, this is not factual? Ms. deLeon said this has nothing to do with this agenda item. Don't you understand that? Did you ever go to class and learn how to be a Councilman? Mr. Carocci said people ask him who he is all the time. Residents ask him all the time, who is that guy that...Ms. Ray said well go tell them in private. Mr. Ozimek said why don't you send them to him? Mr. Carocci said he's telling them...Ms. deLeon said read them the story then. Mr. Carocci said he is reading the story. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said if you want to read the story you can do that but at a different time. We aren't not on that issue right now. That's not an issue for the Township. It's not Township business. Ms. deLeon said do you understand that? Tonight we are talking about right now is this agenda item. We are not talking about what happened to Mark in his life. Mr. Carocci said he wasn't talking about the agenda item. He was asking the police officer to do something. Ms. deLeon said well, he made a mistake. Okay?

Mr. Ozimek said he came here tonight with six pieces of paper for private criminal complaints that he handed out to people and he told them they should go home and to research some of the laws and file complaints to the Magistrate so that they go to the District Attorney...Mr. Carocci said what does this have to do with the agenda item? Ms. deLeon said this does not have anything to do with the agenda item. Please, it's, look what time it is. We need to get going. We have more agenda items. Mr. Banonis said he's not tired. Mr. Carocci said he's not tired either. Ms. deLeon said she isn't either. Mr. Ozimek said Mr. Goudsouzian he's going to take it that what he did was legal. That what you did was for the betterment of the Township as a whole against the landfill because the girls ran on the assumption that they were against the landfill and that's part of the reason they were voted in. If he was in your position, he'd do the same. As a private citizen, he might try to do the same. This nonsense got to stop. Everybody picking on each other. It's a shame. It's a shame that between the five of you, you are not looking out for the betterment of the Township as a whole and he's not saying who is or who isn't. We can see that but if anybody sticks up for the way the two supposedly professional lawyers act up here,

and agree with them...Mr. Banonis said he's not here in the capacity as a lawyer, Sir. He's not a lawyer here. He's a Council member. Ms. deLeon said stop interrupting the speaker. Mr. Ozimek said it's just ridiculous. Don't help them tank the Township. That's what they are trying to do. They want to tank the Township, ruin everything, and then when they are gone they can flop their wings and say, oh look what we did. Ms. deLeon said thank you, anyone else? Mr. Banonis said they are in the majority, right, so if the Township is tanked, it's on those that have the majority. Mr. Carocci said they are in control. He doesn't know who he's talking about tanking. Mr. Banonis said he guesses we are a scapegoat for incompetence.

Mr. Boulin said he had one question. Ms. deLeon said is this his second, oh you went two times, oh no, you can't speak, she's sorry. Mr. Boulin said he had one question and she said okay. Ms. deLeon said she's sorry, he is not allowed to speak the second time. Mr. Boulin said your agenda called for firing and acceptance was A. and then B. was...Ms. deLeon said we didn't get down to that one yet, we are still on C. on the resolution 48-2024. Mr. Boulin said he just wanted to make sure we are going in order. Ms. deLeon said we are going in order, please sit down. May we have a roll call please?

Mr. Banonis said this is a motion to fire Steve Goudsouzian? Ms. deLeon said no, it's a motion to appoint...Mr. Banonis said there's a motion that he made and Tom seconded it. That was the first motion that was made. Ms. deLeon said no, it was an illegal motion because you did not have the floor. She had the floor. Mr. Banonis said what's an illegal motion? Tell him, counselor. Ms. deLeon said an illegal motion is making a motion out of order. She was...Mr. Carocci said will you get arrested, will you get arrested for an illegal motion? Mr. Banonis said he's asking her the question; I am not asking you the question. I am not asking for your unsolicited solicitor advice. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said roll call. Mr. Carocci said Mr. Goudsouzian you should recuse yourself. This is about you...Ms. deLeon said while she was making the agenda item, talking about the agenda item, she moved...Mr. Banonis said you introduced the topic and he made the motion. Ms. deLeon said no she moved to approve the resolution and he was interrupting, out of order, he was speaking out of order. Mr. Banonis said you finished interrupting it, and then he made the motion. Then Tom...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said no, you interrupted her and you were out of order so your motion doesn't count. This is the motion that counts because she was finishing, she has the floor. Mr. Banonis said why are you so cranky? You must be getting tired. Mr. Carocci said chronic fatigue. Mrs. Gorman called roll call. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said roll call please. *(Council people and audience all talking at once while Mrs. Gorman was calling the roll call, could not capture all conversations)* Mrs. Gorman said roll call for Resolution #48-2024. Ms. deLeon said appointment of Attorney Steven Goudsouzian as Township Solicitor, that's the motion. Mr. Banonis said it's a shell game, like everything else they do. Do something and then you fix it later. Don't tell him to shut up. Ms. Ray said yes. Mr. Banonis said don't tell me to shut up. Ms. deLeon said that was their motion they will get to that, okay? *(Audience member speaking out)* Mr. Goudsouzian said can we continue with the roll call? Ms. deLeon said roll call please. Mrs. Gorman said roll call for Resolution #48-2024 appointment of Mr. Goudsouzian. Mr. Carocci said he has to lock it down. Mr. Banonis asked this is to appoint Steve Goudsouzian? Let him think about this, no. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said yes, thank you Mr. Goudsouzian. *(Audience members speaking out)*. Ms. deLeon said please, no comments from the audience. You are out of order. Mr. Carocci said no, here we go, here we go, peanut gallery. Mr. Banonis said will you get control; would you please get control of the room? Mr. Ozimek is stepping towards him and it seems like he's losing his temper. Ms. deLeon said he has every right to step in this room. Why are you afraid of him? Mr. Banonis said not towards him and raise his voice and interrupt what's taking place in the Council meeting room. Run the meeting. Ms. deLeon said Cathy, she's sorry, go ahead.

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

**E. FIRING AND/OR ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF ATTORNEY STEVEN GOUDSOUZIAN AS TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR/DISCUSSION OF PAYMENTS OF SERVICE**

Ms. deLeon said next on the agenda is D, which was really A. Ms. deLeon said this was requested by Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci. At the last Council meeting, Mr. Banonis also requested that

Goudsouzian and Associates not be reimbursed for undertaking activities that were not approved by this Council.

Mr. Banonis said this is an appropriate agenda item. He asked it to be first but you re-arranged the agenda to suit your goals. He thinks we should break the prior record of the former solicitor which was 16 days, and he thinks we should, he assumes Cathy she has not received a letter from Mr. Goudsouzian stating that he intended to resign his position as either interim or permanent solicitor, correct? Mrs. Gorman said correct. Mr. Banonis said then we don't have to deal with that part of this. Then for all the reasons he said earlier he would incorporate all of those again by reference. He doesn't have to go over all of those again. It's perfectly clear he should not be our solicitor and he will make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Mr. Banonis moved for approval to terminate Mr. Goudsouzian's services to the Township effective immediately.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Carocci

Ms. deLeon said Council discussion, Jason. Mr. Banonis said everything he said before. He incorporates everything he said before, by reference, for the same reasons, conflicts of interest, bad legal services, a rogue solicitor undertaking activities without Council approval in violation of the laws, ineffective counsel to us and he would just say again, he cited again his complaint that was submitted to the disciplinary board, 23, almost two dozen separate rules that raise questions to him as his fitness to serve as solicitor and as a member of the bar, and he thinks he should not be our solicitor. We can do better, we deserve better and the residents and taxpayers deserve better.

Mr. Carocci said it was a political hire which is not the way to hire a solicitor. It's too important. It's going to end up costing us a lot of money, he predicts, because of decisions even he's already made so far and you know to go on another five or six months with him to the end of the year, it's just going to be a lot. Our citizens deserve better. They deserve somebody more ethical that can follow the Sunshine Act. That will disclose to Council when he's going to make a court filing and disclose to the public when making a court filing of any type regardless of whether it's the landfill or something else. He just doesn't meet the ethical bar in his opinion. He's lied to both he and Jason. He refused to answer questions, very simple direct questions that he and Jason asked. He's really only counsel to the three Democrats on this because he was a political hire. So, he's only a counsel to the three Democrats. That's the game he's playing. His firm gets it charge \$180.00/hour and we don't even know if he's doing some of the work because he could have associates doing it. For all we know, he could have law students doing it or paralegals doing it and charge \$180.00/hour from the reading of some of his opinions like that conditional use hearing he wouldn't be surprised at all. It was very basic, very simple. You know, there was no special talent or insight there. So, yea, again, they wanted a political hire. All that mattered was that he was someone with a D next to his name and someone that would ice he and Jason out and just counsel the three of them and it's a shame that it's gotten to this and the Township will pay a price for it. He will end up costing us a lot of money, a lot of money is his prediction. He's in over his head. It looks like he's going to cost West Easton a lot of money. That's just a borough of 1,500 people. So, you know, he thinks we can do better and we should do better.

Ms. deLeon said she's opposed to this. Victoria? She said she wants to thank Mr. Goudsouzian again for his service. She appreciates everything he does. He's up here from day 1 listening to insults, being berated, accusations, baseless accusations and she appreciates his service. She is against this.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? She said yes, and she wants to reiterate her we keep hearing that this was a political appointments all the time and that is not true. Nobody is checking what political party someone is registered for, for any of the positions that were filled on any of the boards. Mr. Carocci said now that is a lie. Ms. deLeon said that is not a lie. Mr. Carocci said that is a lie. Ms. Ray said that is not a lie and she has the floor, so stop interrupting her. Ms. deLeon said you are interrupting. Ms. Ray said we have overheard many, many times here about this Sunshine Law and how wonderful these people think they were with Sunshine Law and we have many examples of where they were not. Mr. Banonis said like what? Ms. Ray said she'll go through this one. So the fire services capital plan sub committee

was formed on March 22, 2023. They met and then finally presented a plan on October 4, 2023. In between that time, there was no public notice of any meetings. There was no advertised meetings, the public was not aware of and that does fall under the Sunshine Act. It should have been advertised...Mr. Banonis said what official action, none. Ms. Ray said it doesn't have to be official action. It has to be they render advice on matters of agency business that are considered an agency and must comply with the Sunshine Act. Mr. Carocci said they didn't render any advice. Ms. Ray said yes they did. They came out with that plan. Ms. deLeon said you are right. Ms. Ray said to spend \$15 million on a central fire house. Mr. Banonis said you are against fire services? Ms. Ray said she's not against fire services. She's against the fact that, that violated all the Sunshine Laws because those meetings were held privately. Nobody ever got to participate in it except the few select people that you picked. Mr. Banonis said did you request to participate? Ms. Ray said they don't have to request to participate. It should be a public meeting. Mr. Banonis said you want to complain about it but you yet you never tried to, you were never shut out. You want to complain, but you were never shut out. Ms. Ray said nobody ever, ever advertised them. So what solicitor did we have last year when those meetings were held that did not have those meetings advertised? Ms. deLeon said okay, that's it Laura? Mr. Carocci said those are public meetings. Ms. Ray said there were no minutes ever provided and no notice was ever given.

Ms. deLeon said public comment, anyone in the audience wish to speak? Hearing none, can we have a roll call please. Mr. Banonis said you won't recognize this gentleman now? Ms. deLeon said no, he wasn't paying attention. Mr. Banonis said paying attention, okay? Mr. Carocci said she's the one, you didn't get up fast enough, right? She's the one that needs a handicap placard to park in the first space over here, and you can't get up, and you just couldn't get up fast enough but she needs a handicap placard. Mrs. Gorman said we are in the middle of roll call. Ms. Ray said point of order. Ms. deLeon said roll call please. Mrs. Gorman called the roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 2-3 (Ms. deLeon, Ms. Ray, Ms. Opthof-Cordaro – No) – Motion fails

Mr. Carocci said Priscilla has to park in the first spot out here with a handicap placard because she can't get in the building. She can't walk too far to get in the building, but she won't give you an extra five seconds, she won't give you an extra five seconds to stand up and get to the podium.

**F. CONSIDER WAIVING SAUCON CREEKS WATERSHED ANNUAL RENTAL FEE AT SEIDERSVILLE HALL**

Ms. deLeon said the Saucon Creek Watershed is requesting a waiver of the fees they are charged semi-annually for use of Seidersville Hall. They are charged \$300.00/year for their use. Ms. deLeon asked Cathy if she wanted to add anything to this.

Mrs. Gorman said they previously had not billed the historical society as it's an arm of this Township and we hadn't done that other than we paid for their insurance which is a pass through. It's been that way since she's been here. They also pay for the electric at the Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse. The Saucon Creek Watershed is the only other 501(c)(3) that does pay for utilities usage over there. We don't charge rent, but charge for the utility use of the building. So, if you are to consider this, she thinks it's best for this since more 501(c)(3)s are asking for this type of waiver along with the Saucon Valley Conservancy is that maybe on an annual basis she brings it to Council and go through her chart matrix, to let you know how much...Ms. deLeon said part of the budget...Mrs. Gorman said how much the utility cost would be for the year for them. That way you would have a monetary value to waive and it would be presented to Council each year. Ms. deLeon said okay, that sounds great. Mrs. Gorman said that way we are not holding any one Council to a long-term situation of providing relief.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon moved to waive the \$300.00 per year for the usage of Seidersville Hall for the Saucon Creek Watershed.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro

Mr. Banonis said Cathy do we have a lease agreement with them? Mrs. Gorman said we do not, not that she's aware of. Ms. deLeon said she's not aware of any either. Mrs. Gorman said originally

Council had approved for them to use space over there. Mr. Banonis said he's just thinking best practices may be to formalize the arrangement we have with them by having a lease agreement and anybody else who is in there that uses the space because you know we certainly want to define what we are providing to them and also the other question he has if they are going to be inside Township property, do we have insurance for them for the activities that they are conducting inside? In other words, if somebody is coming in, either as a member of the organization or as a visitor or a patron of it, and something happens where they are injured, he thinks the Township should be protected by having, and he assumes they probably have some sort of insurance for their general operations and their existence. Maybe they do, maybe they don't, hopefully they do. He thinks if that's the case then find out if they have insurance and also if they do have insurance, he thinks the Township should be named as an additional insured under their policy and give us a COI that establishes that they have the coverage naming us as additional insured that we are protected on all of this stuff. Mrs. Gorman said we do have a COI from Keystone who is in there and we do have COI from the Saucon Valley Community Center Sr. Program. Mr. Banonis said you would think the solicitor would come forward with ideas like this to have a lease agreement and a COI but he has to do it, so he will bring it forward.

Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said last year and the year before, where was that solicitor's recommendations last year. Mrs. Gorman said she will have that on an annual basis. She will develop it and do an annual basis every year for you guys to consider. Ms. deLeon said sounds like a plan, Tom? Mr. Banonis said actually let him answer your question. This never came before us last year to discuss as an agenda item, that's why he's bringing it up now. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said there's been multiple organizations that have been in there before 2024. Mr. Banonis said to his point again, this never came up as an agenda item for them to consider so that's why he brings it now. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I guess you missed it, you missed it, all those years as President, you missed it.

Mr. Carocci said with waiving the fee here, then everybody is going to want the fee waived, right? He necessarily doesn't have a problem doing it, but why would anyone ever pay a fee for anything. Now the hall, people come and say they want the park without a fee, we want all these things without a fee. Why are we going to have the fees if we are going to waive them for certain people? Then where does it stop? This is how, a little bit about how the school district got in trouble and had to pay a big lawsuit for the Satan Club is they were letting other groups and Christian groups use the school and he thinks they were charging them but then the Satan Club comes along, they refused to charge them, which was stupid, they should have just let them do it, and then they had to pay a big settlement. So it's a good cause, he understands but...Mr. Banonis said he brought up the topic of a lease, Tom. If you have a lease agreement, they would be considered a tenant and it would be a nominal amount would be set forth in the lease, a dollar and it would be a binding contract so we wouldn't be providing space on a gratuitous basis. We would actually be providing it as a tenant of the property. Maybe our solicitor could weigh in on that, maybe not. Mr. Carocci said if he's competent. Mr. Goudsouzian said that's right. Mr. Carocci said if he's competent to do that. His point would be we have to treat everybody fairly no matter what their cause is and what we think about their cause because that's how the school district got in trouble and it's something we should try and avoid.

Ms. deLeon said she supports it. Victoria? She said she supports this. She thinks the watershed does wonderful things for our Township. She thinks the memo from Cathy also highlights that there are multiple other organizations that receive very similar benefit from the Township as a thank you for what they do for us as volunteers, so she's in favor of it. Ms. deLeon said Laura? She said she agrees and thinks it's appropriate to waive the fee for the Saucon Creek Watershed as a 501(c)(3) that are providing services for our Township for the health, welfare and benefit of our citizens.

Mr. Banonis said with regard to the motion, would you be willing to amend it to include something along the lines of in conjunction with securing a lease agreement from them. Ms. deLeon said sure, she will amend her motion. Mr. Banonis said you are waiving, there has to be a give and take here and he thinks that we would want to be able to influence them executing a lease agreement.

- MOTION BY:** Ms. deLeon amended her previous motion to waive the \$300.00 per year for the usage of Seidersville Hall for the Saucon Creek Watershed in conjunction with securing a lease agreement with them and to identify the consideration of the lease agreement of \$1.00.
- SECOND BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro amended her second

Ms. deLeon said thank you, that as a good idea. Public comment regarding this? Mr. Carocci said go quick or she'll say you didn't get to the podium quick enough.

Mr. David Boulin said it's really interesting. He sits here and he watches, there's a German expression called Gedanken, does anybody speak German? Gedanken experiments, what you do in science, he knows this is not science here, it's clear, but the bottom line is you think ahead and what he sees here, there's only one, two people on the Council that really think ahead and we just heard a perfect example of that. Although he's a Council member, obviously he thinks ahead and he had to chuckle when he said yea look what happened to the school and the Satan group. They didn't think ahead. Oh, hey we are just going to let these, you know, these Catholics in or whatever they were without thinking about all the what ifs and that's what Gedanken truly is, if I do this, then what, what, what. What he sees here out of most of you on the board, even though you may be a trained attorneys, no, you don't think past this thing here and that's really disturbing. That means whatever we are paying you to sit here for how many, you never think about what truly this could end up doing to us and he knows Priscilla, he sees her watch the clock and it's so late and other people who just sort of occupy a chair over here, no, nothing there. It really concerns him as he always thought the Council were the best and the brightest. It used to be. He can only hope that maybe you people think about things like what happens if they don't have insurance, what happens if they come in and they destroy the building, what happen if whatever and he just doesn't see anybody giving any guidance meaning now our full-blown solicitor and he's not sure he's ever get used to that but anyhow he finds that, and he's not quite sure why this group, the Saucon Creek Watershed, why they shouldn't pay. Why should they pay, does anybody ask that? Who does pay, whose not going to pay? We had somebody in the audience simply saying you need to have all these write ups for all these things that you do, right. Hey, we're going to have no rental fee in Seidersville Hall. What are you going to do? What are your requirements? What are your payments? What happens if they are bad tenants? Yada, yada, yada. And it doesn't take a lot of brain power to write that down and if you have to improve upon it because you didn't get it all at least you have a starting place. He doesn't see any of that. He sees people are just floating around the air talking about what they want to talk about so he'd encourage exactly that. He hopes you do but he is not really hopeful. Mr. Carocci said Mr. Boulin is there a word for a reverse Gedanken where you do something and then try and cover it up? Mr. Boulin said he's sure there is in German. Mr. Carocci said a reverse Gedanken because like with the landfill litigation, they did a filing and now they are trying to cover up so what's the reverse of not planning ahead, covering up? What's that German word? Mr. Boulin said it's called derriere. Mr. Carocci said alright, that's what they did. Mr. Boulin said the other side of that is lawsuit, that comes next.

Ms. deLeon said anybody else for comment? Seeing none, roll call Cathy. Mrs. Gorman called roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**G. COMPENSATION OF ACTING TOWNSHIP MANAGER AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS**

Ms. deLeon said Council will consider the compensation of the Acting Township Manager, and the two Administrative Assistant salaried positions. She did not print out her letter.

Mrs. Gorman said she did email it to council, but didn't provide it because obviously it's your decision and she certainly wouldn't want you to feel obligated to move forward with her suggestions. So with that, this was the memorandum and so whatever you feel...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Priscilla, if she may she'd like to make a motion.

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Opthof-Cordaro moved to authorize the Acting Manager receive the salary of the rate of \$125,795.20 retroactive to March 28, 2024, and increase the salary of Ms. Werkheiser to the amount of \$57,419.07 and Ms. Schneider in the amount of \$55,923.20 all retroactive to March 28 2024, to be effective while those three positions are performing the duties of our Manager.

**SECOND BY:** Ms. deLeon

Mr. Banonis said he thinks the numbers are too low. He thinks they should be higher for all three. He brought this up at the last meeting. Cathy is doing the work of three positions. She's the acting Township Manager, she's the Assistant Township Manager and she's also the Director of Finance so she's actually doing considerable more work than she was doing in her capacity before and he doesn't think that the proposed salary increase reflects the value that she provides to the Township. Similarly, he doesn't think the proposed increases for Stacy Werkheiser or Carol Schneider are appropriate. They've taken on much more work as well and he thinks they should be compensated more for their efforts and willingness to step in under these circumstances so his suggestion would be to increase Cathy's compensation by a total of \$50,000.00. We're still saving money because we're not paying a Township Manager's salary and he would also suggest we increase Stacy's and Carol's increase to \$10,000.00, not the \$5,000.00 each that was proposed. He thinks it's only fair and they'd stepped up. They haven't asked for this mess. They didn't create this mess but they are the ones that are stuck dealing with it and unfortunately this Council are the ones that created it and the least they could do is compensate the people that have to deal with all the garbage they've created. No offense again. He yields.

Mr. Carocci said where is his turn to talk? Ms. deLeon said yes, you are after Jason. Mr. Carocci said Cathy is amazing doing three jobs, thank you, and three more jobs than Priscilla's had in past 40 years, but I digress, one of the things is when you are setting these salaries low, if we are trying to entice a really top rate quality Township Manager, not that Cathy's not, he thinks she is, and would be perfect. You know, you might want to show that you are willing to pay for what's going to be a very difficult job by any accounts. Yes one, because of the makeup of Council and two because you have no help from the solicitor, so you may want to think about going a little higher than the proposed numbers in the motion. He would be for something higher than that. That's it.

Mr. Banonis said his proposal to be clear, he thinks it's \$23,000.00 more than what was being proposed and on the other end, we're saving \$135,000.00 with...Mr. Carocci said he thinks his proposal is fair and better than the earlier proposal and he'd support that, something in that range.

Ms. deLeon said Victoria? She said she made the motion. She's very thankful for all of our staff especially for being here, I don't know what time, is it close to 2:00 am? She appreciates their time. They've worked very hard and she respects everything they do and she's very happy to offer this to them and thankful for them. Mr. Carocci said if he would have been running this meeting, we would have been done by 9:00 pm. Mr. Banonis said he seconds that. Ms. deLeon asked Ms. Opthof-Cordaro what she said. She said she's very thankful for all of our staff and she made the motion so she thinks it stands, but she wants the staff to know how much they appreciate everything they do and for being here.

Ms. deLeon said Laura? She said we had the one recommendation the last time and Cathy came back with a different idea. She thinks her idea is great and fair and she supports it. This is what was suggested. Ms. deLeon said you support the numbers that Victoria made in her motion then? Ms. Ray said yes.

Ms. deLeon said public comment, seeing none, roll call. Mrs. Gorman called the roll call.

**ROLL CALL:** 3-2 (Mr. Banonis and Mr. Carocci – No – Mr. Banonis said they deserve more. Mr. Carocci said anyone who works with Priscilla and Steve deserves more) – Motion passes.

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MARCH 20, 2024 COUNCIL MINUTES

Ms. deLeon said the March 20, 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 20, 2024 Council minutes.

Mr. Carocci said on page 29 of 34, the last line 55, he said as he said there's a basic economic theory that, it says gooder, it should be goods and services worth what a willing buyer will pay, goods and services, he believes he said. It says gooder service. It was goods and services. That's on line 55.

Mr. Carocci said on page 10, starting on line 10, to their credit here, Victoria and Laura because they produced that email despite it being written by all three, but Priscilla doesn't recall seeing a version of that, produced by Priscilla that was sent from her secret email account. Ms. deLeon said she remembers doing it. But this was the email from Dave Willard that you turned over later. So you are saying at this meeting, March 20<sup>th</sup>, you remember doing it but you then sent an email with the email from Dave Willard stating it was in your draft. Ms. deLeon said yes, she apologized. Mr. Carocci said you said at the meeting that you remembered turning that over. Ms. deLeon said she thought she sent it and when she went back to look, it was in her draft folder so it never went. So she sent it then. Mr. Banonis said are there other documents in the draft folder that you failed to send? Ms. deLeon said no. Mr. Banonis said are you sure of that? Ms. deLeon said she's not a computer person. Mr. Banonis said that's right, Rocky Viscito is. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is there a correction to the minutes other than the one identified sounded like a typographical error or something? This other one she doesn't think was an identification of any error in the minutes, it was just talking about what the minutes said. Mr. Banonis said the change that he made was on Line 11, it says Priscilla, he doesn't recall seeing a version of that. Mr. Carocci said right. It should be Priscilla doesn't recall seeing a version of that. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said whatever she said is what she said. Mr. Banonis said this is him speaking, it's him speaking about Priscilla and the way it's written here, it says, they produced to the credit here, he thinks he meant "to their credit here" credit to Victoria and Laura because they produced that email despite it being written by all three but Priscilla doesn't recall seeing a version, the word he is in here and the comment is in there. The word comment and the he should not be in here and the second word of that sentence should be "their" not the, right Tom.

Mr. Carocci said right, quite frankly like that paragraph, re-listen to. The last time we did this, there were 14 changes to one paragraph, 14 when he requested it. You're like ah, the transcripts a transcript. It says what it says. There were 14 changes. He thinks this is inaccurate because it's not, Priscilla didn't write the email, neither did Victoria or Laura, it was written by Willard to all three and it's not clear. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said the statements that were made at Council are the statements made at Council. It's not our job to correct things that...Mr. Carocci said it is our job...the last time he asked to table the minutes and look at a paragraph, there were 14 changes to that paragraph. Ms. deLeon said send it back and have it re-listened to. Mr. Carocci said yes, table it.

Mr. Carocci moved to table the March 20, 2024 Council minutes and have that paragraph looked at again to see if there were any changes and he want that change on the other one, Line 55 of page 29. Ms. deLeon said okay, we'll table it. Mr. Banonis said do we have minutes from April? Ms. deLeon said she only knows what's in our packet. Mr. Banonis said that is why he is asking Cathy that. Mrs. Gorman said not yet. Mr. Banonis said not yet, okay.

6. COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS

A. ACTING TOWNSHIP MANAGER – Cathy Gorman

- She said we received the coupons for the spring cleanup from the Bethlehem Landfill. They are available in our office. Spring cleanup is on June 1<sup>st</sup> and coupons are required upon drop-off or entry so contact our office for details or stop in with proof of residency to get your coupon.
- The Sandra Yerger Community Recreation Area and Natural Preserve sign is up at the property. That was installed. Since the last meeting, they are going to look at updating the other sign that's out there that has the mapping of the trails and identifying the permitted uses as they referred to the Woodland Hills Preserves as well.
- She wanted to update Council on the Reading culvert replacement. If you look what's in front of you, this is what the culvert looked like and what needed to be replaced. The reason for that she can show you in the next picture, that was after a hurricane, that was Reading Drive, so that was the need for the replacement of this culvert. In the next photo, you'll see it is coming along. The culvert box has been put in and they will be doing the next phases that's required for this under the program for Northampton County Conservation District. They are holding a private training session tomorrow where scheduled Public Works and other departments and were invited to come in and take a look to see how to do it and what the program is about. It's for educational purposes for them.
- She had in the last two day attended a digital navigator training class that was sponsored by Northampton County Community and Economic Development. The program is federally funded and its purpose is to identify weak areas of internet coverage and help facilitate residents to know what their rights are when they are in an area of weak coverage and what they can do. It's also a program that assists with helping individuals who are maybe not as computer savvy as others and to help either whatever your demographic or whatever your situation is, whether you're a senior and since everything is moving digital it's a program to help people in the community to help those people that need to have a little bit more tutorial knowledge in working computers and what's the best type of computer for their needs. She know Northampton County is going to be working on putting together a data base of businesses anywhere in Northampton County that offer free Wi-Fi so just throwing that out there is anybody is listening at 1:10 and feel free to email her and she will forward that information to the county.
- Chief Barndt notified her today that the license plate reader installation at Polk Valley Park is complete. The technology will assist them in investigations of crimes that occur in the park. That is done. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said is that like reading license plates for everybody that pulls in? Mrs. Gorman said yes.
- She wanted to confirm and advise Council that as the pool passes and the library payments of the reimbursement programs were continuing were already done last year since Council has made no actions otherwise, so you will be seeing them on the check register reimbursing people for those services. Mr. Banonis said at Polk Valley Park, is there any signage that identifies the license place reader camera? And he asks that because it may be helpful for the public to know that that's in place because he knows we've had a rash of break-ins at different periods of time. Maybe it would be reassuring for the public to see signage that points this out because then they will feel that their belongings and their property and their vehicles are more secure. Mrs. Gorman said she will check into that and recommend that people...Mr. Carocci said it could be a deterrent. They could pull in there and see that sign and turn around. Mr. Banonis said property under surveillance or something like that. Mrs. Gorman said she will check with the Chief on that.

**B. COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS**

**Mr. Banonis**

- He's going to date himself here back to the old poltergeist movie, they're here, so for those who may not have heard apparently there was an immigrant bus that dropped off in Hellertown a week and a half ago. Ms. deLeon said you said a what? Mr. Banonis said a bus that appeared to be illegal immigrants that were dropped off in Hellertown. His understanding was that they were dropped off at/or around the area of the Starbucks, the Hellertown Diner, or that shopping center, the name escapes him at the moment. So, he's just offering that to the public so that they are aware. From the version that he heard, when they were dropped off, they scattered, some ubers came and picked up some people and others just sort of disappeared into the

community. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said a broken-down bus. Mr. Banonis said he is speaking. There's a gallop poll that just came out last week and found that immigration is the top issue nationally and it is here, so you know, it's something to be mindful of. We've had some crimes and he's not accusing these folks of being criminals necessarily although they seem to have been brought into the country in violation of the immigration law and not gone through the proper process perhaps, but be mindful and keep your doors locked. We've had break-ins and certainly be mindful of your surroundings.

- He'd like to recognize Priscilla deLeon. This is overdue. He wasn't aware of it but she was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Association of America so congratulations to Priscilla. Priscilla said do you have a year for that? Mr. Carocci said he thought it was 1995. Mr. Banonis said he thought it was more recent. Ms. deLeon said she was very proud to be on that board. Mr. Banonis said he's sure she helped them out just as much this board. Ms. deLeon said she did. Mr. Banonis said so, congratulations on that.
- Victoria brought up the name earlier, Tricia Mezzacappa. He doesn't know who Tricia Mezzacappa is but maybe it seems like Victoria knows of her and at least has some concerns with her. If he understood what her comments were, she seems to be a person who is involved in the RTK requests with regard to the HAL and he's sure her comments were not directed towards the Sunshine Law, yet again. There's been requests that were made, the Office of Open Records determined that those requests were valid and that the library was an appendage, for lack of a better term, of Hellertown Borough and subject to the RTK laws. They refused to turn information over. It was appealed and it went to the Court of Common Pleas and orders were entered and they were in violation so he's not sure why Tricia Mezzacappa's name came up but maybe Victoria when she gets to her council report she can talk about Tricia Mezzacappa and her significance to RTK or anything else because he would hate to see the Council person offering somebody's name in an effort to try to quash or silence her in her proper pursuit of a valid RTK requests.

**Mr. Carocci**

- He went to the ZHB meeting. You might remember, Mark Gombosi, Spring Hill Road came in for a variance, minor variance and Council decided to say no by 3-2 and send a letter from our solicitor. Mr. Banonis said he was here too. Mr. Carocci said, that's right, Jason was there too. So, they went to the ZHB to make clear, because again, Mr. Goudsouzian, talk about another reason why we don't trust him, he didn't say in that letter, it was like a 3-2 vote and he didn't say that two members were in favor of the variance and three were against it. He just said that council was against it. So, they went and spoke and said they were two Council members that were in favor of it and the ZHB who are very level headed guys, they gave him the variance and the vote was 3-1, of course the one was the one member of the ZHB that the Democrats recently appointed, who is like Victoria there should be no variances for anything. Well, she said at the last meeting without, she doesn't even want to give him a hearing basically. It will be interesting. It will be interesting how she changes her tune. This will be another one of her conflicts when St. Luke's comes for some variance on 412 when they build on the buffalo farm down there. Her and her parents and St. Luke's together in this litigation. He bets she will change her mind on variances pretty quickly when St. Luke's says get to it. Get to it Ms. Opthof. She's their puppet, shall we say. So that was good news for Mr. Gombosi and he does have a bunch of information on the RTKs but he will get to this at the next meeting due to the lateness of the hour. There will be a lot said at the next meeting about the latest RTK. There is some real treasure in here. So, we will get to that.

**Ms. Opthof-Cordaro**

- She said they did have a landfill committee meeting yesterday, two days ago and she thought that meeting was productive. Everybody can check that out on YouTube.
- She wanted to highlight importantly, the LVPC has invited LST to join them for the May 2024 Lehigh Valley General Assembly on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. During this in-person meeting, LVPC will meet at their new office in Allentown. They'd like to host an inclusive regional general assembly and they are asking every municipality, legislative district, authority and the school district in LV and NC that are part of the PC to be represented by one or two elected officials or

staff, then it gives information for registration. She received this information in the Township Council email and she thinks it would be appropriate the Township have somebody go. She's happy to go on that date. She is available and she is also happy to send a staff member also but she thinks it is nice they want to get input from all the municipalities. Mr. Banonis said what's the location of their new office? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said Allentown. Mr. Banonis said Allentown, Lehigh County so we have this unelected group of bureaucrats located in Lehigh County that were trying to put their finger on the scale in LST to various...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said general assembly so everybody comes forward. Mr. Banonis said yes, but their office is in Allentown so you got a...Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said all the represented municipal bodies...Mr. Banonis said they are telling us what to do with regard to the landfill and other aspects of development. Mr. Carocci said even Lamont McClure had problem with that. They paid a million dollars in rent. Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said it would be the Township's opportunity to provide its voice to the general assembly of all the municipalities that participate in the LVPC...Mr. Banonis said are we invited to have a member on the Planning Commission, he doesn't think we ever had one. He doesn't know if we've ever had one in the past. Ms. deLeon said we have in the past. Mr. Banonis said how long ago? Ms. deLeon said she didn't know but we had. Mr. Banonis said why did we lose our seat? What did we do wrong? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said she'd like to go to this or send a staff member as it would be appropriate for the Township to do that. Ms. deLeon said Victoria did you want to go to that? She said yes. Ms. deLeon said you can go to that. Mr. Carocci said Priscilla just made that decision, don't we vote to send her? Ms. deLeon said you want to vote? Mr. Carocci said sure, he'll vote to send her. You just said it by dictate, you didn't ask anybody else. Why didn't you ask Laura? Why didn't you ask Jason? You just did it by dictate. It just shows your attitude. Ms. deLeon said and you could have objected. Mr. Carocci said he won't object, he wants her to go. Ms. deLeon said great. Mr. Carocci said but it would have been nice if you asked everybody. Is everybody fine with Victoria going? That's all you had to say, but you couldn't even get that out? That's all you had to say. Ms. deLeon said she is sorry. Mr. Banonis said it must be late hour because she's usually much kinder. Mr. Carocci said he knows, it's the chronic fatigue. Who is going to take Little Priscilla? Ms. Opthof-Cordaro said I guess you are going to have to find a place for that. Mr. Banonis said he makes a motion to plant that tree on Township property. Mr. Carocci said he seconds that motion. Mr. Banonis said if Priscilla rejects your gracious gift...Mr. Carocci said cover that cell phone tower. Ms. deLeon said moving on to solicitor's report.

Ms. Ray – No report

Ms. deLeon – No report due to the lateness of the hour.

- A. SOLICITOR – He thanked the members of the board and council with their trust in him to move forward and there were a lot of allegations that were made today and he'll address them in due time.
- B. ENGINEER – Not present.

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

- Mr. David Boulin said he finds it hard to believe the Council is sort of jaw dropped when Jason said this bus pulls up in front of Ace Hardware which is right there near the new Starbucks on 412. He went to get a haircut the other day. A couple of guys came in, the entire town knew about it. He thinks if he probably asked you what you know about this county, meaning Northampton County, and illegal immigrants you might be surprised or he might be surprised as he clearly was surprised when he found out Northampton County is a sanctuary county, and he ran across that because he was doing...Mr. Carocci said Mr. Goudsouzian can you please pay attention to the gentleman speaking, you are doing emails and personal work. Mr. Boulin said look, look he's been appointed, he's okay, actually probably doesn't even need to attend any of these meetings, there's somebody else that could be at the same level. He's sorry he bothers you all with this, okay, because its illegal immigrants doesn't matter, right? That's the looks. Ms. deLeon said she's interested in that. Mr. Boulin said well if you are interested you might look it up and then you can go ask the County Executive about his executive order okay because he found out from an ICE agent and he'll just leave it at that because everybody seems oblivious about most things. He doesn't know where these people are, he means on the Council you should know those

things. It should be automatic. He finds out getting his haircut, really? Mr. Banonis said Priscilla could be an uber driver. She could do, she's got the time, she got a good parking spot. Mr. Boulin said there were uber drivers driving the other crew someone else. Hey, we all know that happened in Allentown, what was it, two years ago? Yea, we found the airplanes that were coming in and going out so, oh yea good. So this regional planning thing by the way, that's probably good for you but he'll tell you it would be just like the U.N. you do this, and you do that. This townships got to do this, it's coming.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY:** Ms. Ray moved for adjournment. The time was 1:23 a.m.

**SECOND BY:** Mr. Banonis

**ROLL CALL:** 5-0

**9. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- A. Parks and Recreation Board: May 6, 2024
- B. Environmental Advisory Council: May 14, 2024
- C. Council Meeting: May 15, 2024
- D. Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: May 20, 2024
- E. Zoning Hearing Board: May 20, 2024
- F. Planning Commission: May 23, 2024
- G. Landfill Committee Meeting: July 18, 2024

Submitted by:

---

Cathy Gorman  
Acting Township Manager

---

Priscilla deLeon  
Council President

**LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**  
Northampton County, Pennsylvania

**RESOLUTION #44-2024**

---

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING PEACE OFFICERS FOR  
THEIR BRAVERY, DEDICATION, AND HEROISM AND DESIGNATING  
MAY 15, 2024, AS “PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY” AND  
MAY 12 – 18, 2024, AS “POLICE WEEK” IN LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, in 1962, Congress authorized and President Kennedy proclaimed May 15<sup>th</sup> of each year “Peace Officers Memorial Day” in honor of the Federal, State, and Municipal officers who have been killed or disabled in the line of duty, further designating the calendar week in which May 15<sup>th</sup> falls as “Police Week,” and has directed that flags be flown at half-staff on “Peace Officers Memorial Day”; and

**WHEREAS**, in every community, law enforcement officers are committed to the preservation of life and property, risking their lives to protect us by providing law and order, and serving the cause of justice; and

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement officers, including members of the Lower Saucon Township Police Department, accept a profound responsibility and work to uphold our laws, safeguard our rights and our freedoms; and

**WHEREAS**, we honor the heroism and dedication of all law enforcement officers, especially those who have paid the ultimate price with their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, across the nation, Police Week is observed with ceremonies, including the hanging of a blue bow or ribbon to honor law enforcement officers who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty and to honor those who still strive to keep us safe; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens are encouraged to express their deep appreciation to the men and women who risk their lives to guard and protect us.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Priscilla deLeon, President; Laura Ray, Vice President; Jason Banonis, Tom Carocci, and Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, Council Members; wish to recognize and honor peace officers for their bravery, dedication, and heroism, and that May 15, 2024 be designated as “Peace Officers Memorial Day” and May 12 – 18, 2024 as “Police Week” in Lower Saucon Township.

**ADOPTED** and **ENACTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2024.

Attest

Lower Saucon Township

---

Cathy Gorman  
Township Secretary

---

Priscilla deLeon  
Council President

**LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**  
Northampton County, Pennsylvania

**RESOLUTION #45-2024**

---

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING FIREFIGHTERS FOR THEIR BRAVERY, DEDICATION, AND HEROISM AND DESIGNATING MAY 4, 2024, AS “FIREFIGHTERS’ DAY” IN LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, in 1736, Benjamin Franklin founded the first volunteer fire company, Union Fire Company, in Philadelphia, making Pennsylvania the birthplace of the volunteer fire service in North America; and

**WHEREAS**, Lower Saucon Township has one volunteer fire department, which operates a total of four fire stations; and

**WHEREAS**, firefighters perform selfless tasks quietly and often without the recognition they deserve, risking their lives daily to protect the lives and property of the residents of this Township; and

**WHEREAS**, changes in society and in the environment, have increased the dangers these individuals face daily in the performance of their duties as protectors of the residents and property of this Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the increased number of motor vehicle crashes, brush fires, and general calls for service have placed firefighters in greater danger than ever before in the history of firefighting; and

**WHEREAS**, the time that firefighters devote to protecting the lives and property of the residents of Lower Saucon Township represents time taken away from their families; and

**WHEREAS**, May 4<sup>th</sup> annually serves as “International Firefighters’ Day,” a worldwide celebration that started in 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, “International Firefighters’ Day” serves as a time to thank current and past firefighters for their contributions and to remember those men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to save and protect lives in their neighborhoods.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Priscilla deLeon, President; Laura Ray, Vice President; Jason Banonis, Tom Carocci, and Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, Council Members; wish to recognize and honor firefighters for the bravery, dedication, and heroism, and that May 4, 2024 be designated as “Firefighters’ Day” in Lower Saucon Township.

**ADOPTED** and **ENACTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2024.

Attest

Lower Saucon Township

---

Cathy Gorman  
Township Secretary

---

Priscilla deLeon  
Council President

**LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**  
Northampton County, Pennsylvania

**RESOLUTION #46-2024**

---

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR  
HARD WORK AND DEDICATION AND TO DESIGNATE MAY 19 – 25, 2024  
AS “PUBLIC WORKS WEEK” IN LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, citizens are served every day by public employees at the federal, state, county and municipal levels; and

**WHEREAS**, the actions of these public employees enhance the quality of life in communities across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Lower Saucon Township is served by a dedicated group of Public Works employees who provide a variety of services to our residents to ensure their safety and health; and

**WHEREAS**, included among these duties are keeping the Township’s roads well-maintained and free of snow in the winter; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Works employees in Lower Saucon Township not only maintain our road infrastructure but also keep our pavilions, parks and the Saucon Rail Trail beautiful for all to use; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens are encouraged to express their appreciation to the employees of the Public Works Department for the contributions they make every day to our health, safety, comfort, and quality of life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Priscilla deLeon, President; Laura Ray, Vice President; Jason Banonis, Tom Carocci, and Victoria Opthof-Cordaro, Council Members; wish to recognize and honor Public Works employees for their hard work and dedication, and designate May 19 – 25, 2024 as “Public Works Week” in Lower Saucon Township.

**ADOPTED** and **ENACTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2024.

Attest

Lower Saucon Township

---

Cathy Gorman  
Township Secretary

---

Priscilla deLeon  
Council President