

I. OPENING

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – RESIDENTS/TAXPAYERS ONLY – 3-MINUTE TIME LIMIT

III. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Appointment of Township Manager
- B. Saucon Valley Terrace Paving Project Bid Award

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

V. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission: August 22, 2022
Zoning Hearing Board: August 22, 2022
Planning Commission: August 25, 2022
Parks & Recreation: August 1, 2022
Township Council: August 17, 2022
Environmental Advisory Council: August 9, 2022

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I. OPENING

CALL TO ORDER: A special meeting of the Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Friday, July 22, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. with Mr. Jason Banonis, presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present: Jason Banonis, President; Sandra Yerger, Vice President, Priscilla deLeon, Thomas Carocci, Mark Inglis, Council Members; Peter Marshall, Interim Township Manager; Linc Treadwell, Township Solicitor; Cathy Gorman, Director of Finance; Carol Schneider and Stacy Werkheiser, Administrative Assistants. Mr. Banonis welcomed Mark Inglis to Council and said this is a great addition to Council. He's a local business owner and an asset to the community.

Ms. deLeon welcomed Mr. Inglis as well, and also said according to our Resolution #31-2022, it says all special and regular meetings shall be conducted according to the following order. She wanted to know why this agenda doesn't match what the order is supposed to be as there are things missing like Council and Staff Reports. It's in the resolution and supposed to be our law. Attorney Treadwell said it's a special meeting and the Township Administrative Code states that when the President of Council requests a special meeting and states the items that are to be on the special meeting, those are the only items that that can be on the agenda. Ms. deLeon said this resolution does refer to special meetings. Attorney Treadwell said the code takes precedence over that resolution. Ms. deLeon said this resolution was adopted per the code. Attorney Treadwell said it's a special meeting, we don't have them very often and special meetings are treated differently. Ms. deLeon said...Mr. Carocci said Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. deLeon said in the future, please do not interrupt her.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE) – Mr. Banonis said that Council did meet in executive session this evening to discuss personnel matters.

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

Mr. Banonis said the Public Comment procedure is on the website and available on the table. We have a three-minute comment period. If anyone would like to speak on any agenda items, please come forward and identify yourself.

- Ms. Laura Ray, 3557 Lower Saucon Road said she didn't understand why this was a special meeting because we were going to have a July meeting then it was listed as tentative, and she called Carol and never got the agenda, then it's cancelled, now it's a special meeting and then picking morning hours when people are working. Maybe you can give an explanation later on why this is such a special meeting and why it couldn't be on our regular meeting night. The meeting packet we have there are 36 pages about road bids and on the new Township Manager, there's one sentence where we basically just get his name. Why don't we get a resume so we know a little about this person? She said it before that there should have been residents on the Search Committee for the new Manager. She'd like to know more about the person before he's hired.

III. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS**A. APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP MANAGER**

Mr. Banonis said the Search Committee is recommending that Mr. Mark Hudson be appointed as the Township Manager. Tom and Sandy were involved in the hiring search. Mr. Marshall said we got 20 applicants, whereby three were from Texas and California, which is too far away and is a very expensive thing. There were three qualified candidates and two of them had extensive managerial experience. Mark Hudson is one of those people and had very satisfactory qualifications as a Manager. Mr. Carocci listed his qualifications and said he was the Township Manager of Frederick Township and Director of Administration and Director of Parks and Recreation in Horsham Township before that. Mr. Hudson met with Chief Barndt, Mr. Banonis and several others including Ms. deLeon. He's recommending the hiring, per the Search Committee, of Mr. Mark Hudson.

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved for approval that Mr. Mark Hudson be appointed as the Township Manager contingent on the letter of employment that Linc sent to him and him signing that letter.

SECOND BY: Mr. Banonis

ROLL CALL: 5-0

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Ms. deLeon said we didn't even approve his salary. We have to be professional and do the salary thing. Mr. Carocci said pertaining to the letter which has the salary in it, we can read the letter or just state the salary. Attorney Treadwell said the starting salary is \$128,000. Ms. deLeon asked what is the benefit package. Attorney Treadwell said health insurance as provided by the Township to all other employees with an opt out provision, standard pension payment, standard pension process and procedure, there is a three-month severance clause in case the manager is dismissed for a reason other than just cause and four weeks vacation. Ms. deLeon said what does our budget reflect for the line item. Mrs. Gorman said currently it was what was approved for the previous Manager which was \$107,000 so they will make a budgetary amendment. Mr. Banonis said we haven't paid the same salary that Leslie...Mrs. Gorman said she'll have to analyze the figures. Mr. Marshall said no benefits were paid either. Ms. deLeon said where did Peter's money come from? Mrs. Gorman said we were paying Mr. Marshall out of that line item. Ms. deLeon said you'll have that information for the next meeting. Mrs. Gorman said certainly.

MOTION BY: Mr. Banonis moved for approval of the salary and benefit package as stated above by the Solicitor.
SECOND BY: Mr. Carocci
ROLL CALL: 5-0

B. SAUCON VALLEY TERRACE PAVING PROJECT BID AWARD

Mr. Banonis said the Township received multiple bids for the Saucon Valley Terrace Paving Project. The Township staff is recommending that the bid be awarded to the lowest bidder in the amount of \$1,070,793.00 – Gaver Industries, Inc.

Attorney Treadwell said Brien Kocher sent you the bid packet, the tabulation of all the bids that were submitted, along with the two lowest bidder's entire bid package. This is the project that Council authorized to be bid for the paving of the Saucon Valley Terrace and there's some storm water improvements that go along with it. This needs to be acted upon because the pipe is difficult to obtain and there's a very short window to get the pipe. If we don't get the pipe then the project gets pushed off until next year. That's the reason it's on this agenda.

Mr. Banonis said this is a good move forward for the Township. This is a neighborhood that's sorely in need of repaving. It's the original paving to the neighborhood which is about 50 years old. We are also going to get some storm water management improvements with will potentially help with the MS4. He's glad we can get this done before the asphalt plants shut down for the winter, and fortunately, we are running at a surplus so we have the funds to do this. This does not replace the work that Public Works would be doing in paving roads themselves, this is in supplement to that. This is great for this neighborhood and for the Township to have first-rate roads. Mr. Carocci said he agrees. He talked to Roger and asked how long it would take PW to do that entire neighborhood, and Roger said 2 to 2-1/2 years so we are accelerating the paving schedule to about 2-1/2 years. Roger will continue his other work.

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved for approval for the Saucon Valley Terrace Paving Project be awarded to Gaver Industries, Inc. at a cost of \$1,070,793.00, per Hanover's letter.
SECOND BY: Mr. Banonis
ROLL CALL: 5-0

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

- Laura Ray, 3557 Lower Saucon Road, said the meeting that Hellertown Borough had on July 5th, they mentioned a lot of things they are discontinuing and one of those is the compost center, they are ending relation with us for that, so hopefully you are looking into that. The other thing is the Citizens Forum and she did email about that and didn't receive any response. The date of November 23rd doesn't comply with the code as she pointed out. It should be on a regular Council night and the date picked is the night before Thanksgiving which is lovely. She thought the new Manager would be here and she hopes his top priority is working on an AV system so citizens can attend meetings and

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allow for remote participation. The other item is regarding the logging that she did email everybody. She only heard back from Officer Williams and she had a long talk with him. He did research regarding the PennDOT rules and she thanks him for doing that. This particular job is done as they took away their bulldozers but apparently there's no PennDOT regs that require a flagger unless the truck is designated as oversized. These trucks easily could have been 80,000 lbs. There was a lot of them and there were about three trucks daily. These trucks were driving backwards, down the middle of the road into a blind curve. She doesn't agree with the determination that the road wasn't damaged as it's all chewed up. We should be expecting many more logging plans coming in based on what the Hellertown Borough Authority is planning and others. It was discussed at EAC a few times and questioned why we don't have any zoning permit required for this activity. She knows they have to a logging plan and file it. Our Zoning Officer may only have as little as five days to check the site, and he only gets a three-day notice at the end when they're done to check the site. She doesn't know if he has time to do that. If we required a permit, that would give him some time.

- Ms. Andrea Wittchen, 1885 Dartford Road, said Ms. Ray took care of all the issues she was going to raise.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Mr. Carocci moved for adjournment. The time was 9:45 a.m.

SECOND BY: Mr. Banonis

ROLL CALL: 5-0

Submitted by:

Peter Marshall
Interim Township Manager

Jason Banonis
Council President