LEHIGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minutes of the February 13, 2018, Meeting

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>. The Lehigh Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lehigh Township Municipal Building, 1069 Municipal Road, Walnutport. Present were Phil Gogel, Cindy Miller, Keith Hantz, Mike Jones, and Darryl Snover. Also present were Attorney David Backenstoe, Jim Milot, and Alice Rehrig. Chairman Darryl Snover called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. <u>Minutes of January 23, 2018</u>. Keith Hantz made a motion to approve these minutes. Mike Jones seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

- A. General Fund Checks 21596 to 21658. Cindy Miller made a motion to approve these bills. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. Sandy Hopkins questioned how many flag poles and solar lights were purchased from The Flag Store and where are they going to be placed. Alice Rehrig commented there were two poles purchased, one for Delps and one for Indiantrail Park; three solar lights, one for Danielsville, Indiantrail and Delps Parks. All voted aye. Motion carried.
- B. <u>State Fund Check 1440</u>. Cindy made a motion to approve this check. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

IV. PLANNING RELATED ITEMS

- A. <u>Letter of Withdrawal--Dollar General Plan</u>. A letter dated January 26, 2018, was received from Miller Holdings, the developer of the Dollar General plan, indicating they wish to withdraw their plan. Cindy Miller made a motion to accept the letter of withdrawal with the understanding that any unused escrow will be returned to the developer after it has been verified that all bills were paid. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. Paul Nikisher questioned what the reason was that the plan was withdrawn. Darryl Snover commented there was no explanation offered. All voted aye. Motion carried.
- B. <u>Engineer's Report</u>. Jim Milot did not have anything specific to report.

Alice Rehrig has requested he follow up with Phil Malitsch as to what type of signage will be needed for the proposed weight restricted roadways.

V. <u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

A. <u>Maintenance Building</u>. Jim Hazard provided the Board with a summary of costs associated with using either Petrucci or Watkins Architect to develop a budget and schematic of a new maintenance building. The cost of this basic design

through Petrucci was \$3,125 and the cost through Watkins Architect was \$3,800. In addition to the costs of the initial budget and design, the committee also looked at the costs that would be involved if the Board chose to go beyond developing the budget. The details of these costs are outlined in the proposals they received from both companies. Watkins would charge five percent of the bid award for their services in developing the final design, bids and contracts. There would also be an additional two percent of bid award cost for project management. In the event the project was not pursued after the project was put to bid, the fees that would be owed would be five percent of the original budget number. Petrucci would charge \$25,000 for preconstruction work which would only include coordination between the Township and selecting an architect. Their price does not include architectural drawings and specifications. It is only for the coordination between the Township and third party architect. There would be a charge of 5.5 percent of the bid award for their services. In addition, there would be a cost of \$22,500 per month for project management. They did also indicate that they would negotiate the number. Based on the overall costs, involvement and experience with similar projects, it would be the committee's recommendation to utilize the service of Watkins Architect to develop the initial schematic and budget for the building.

Cindy Miller questioned what specifications will be used for them to develop a quote. Jim Hazard commented they would be using the basic sketch that was previously developed by the Committee and provided to the Board. It would include the size of the building, the clear span, and type of building they want. Cindy Miller questioned if they are at the point where the Board really knows what they want this building to be. The details of the building were not really discussed by the Board. Keith Hantz commented the sketch that was provided to the Board was based on what the Public Works Crew felt they needed. Cindy Miller commented that it comes down to what the Board can afford. This information is going to an architect and the Board doesn't know what they want. It could end up being a pie in the sky type of building. She feels the Board needs to sit down with the Committee and discuss what they came up with for the building. Just because they want heat throughout the floor of the building, does it make sense? Is it going to be brick? Does that make sense? She thinks the Committee did a good job, but feels that the Board needs to meet with them and discuss the details before it gets moved to the architect. Now that the Committee feels the architect is the way to go, she feels there is more to discuss. The Board agreed they would block out time at the next meeting to discuss the project.

Jim Hazard commented that they are not making a recommendation to make a commitment to the architect to design the building. It would just be to develop a

basic schematic and budget so the Board would know what to expect as far as a cost. It is to get professional advice based on the needs of the Township. Cindy Miller questioned if the Board will have the opportunity to tweak the specs back after a budget number is developed if the Board feels that it is not feasible. Jim Hazard commented that when the number is developed, it will be based on the oral input he is given. He will come back and ask if this is what we wanted. The Board would then have the opportunity to meet with him and give get more details.

Keith Hantz suggested the Board look over the print the committee developed so that it can be discussed and then give the Committee input as to what to go off of.

Sandy Hopkins questioned if there wasn't an engineering group that provided a study regarding what was needed for the building. Jim Hazard commented there was and that was the basis for how the Committee developed the design of the building.

Paul Nikisher questioned if Watkins Architect was involved in other maintenance buildings. Jim Hazard commented he is the architect who designed the building in Maxatawny that everyone liked. In addition, he has done multiple municipal projects. He had called three of the references that were provided and all of the responses were very positive.

Paul Nikisher questioned when will it be discussed as to how the Board will pay for the building. Will there be a tax increase? Darryl Snover commented we need to know the costs before we can answer the question. Mr. Nikisher commented that he would prefer to see the taxes increased a small amount ahead of time so that not as large of an increase is needed later.

B. Cherryville Intersection.

1. Resolution 2018-3, Authorizing Traffic Signal Application. This resolution would authorize the Manager to sign the PennDOT Traffic Signal Application for the Cherryville Intersection. Cindy Miller questioned why are we at the point of needing this application. Jim Milot commented we are at a point now where the intersection and traffic signal plans are virtually complete. They have just resubmitted to PennDOT on Friday. It is PennDOT's policy that they want all of this paperwork taken care of at part of the final approvals. This resolution and application does not commit the Township to anything if the project does not move forward, but it does allow them to issue the permit for the plans presented to them. The permit cannot be issued without this. This intersection is

already signalized, but because there are changes being made, a new application is needed for their files. Cindy Miller questioned if PennDOT has given an indication as to when we will be receiving our HOP. Jim Milot commented he would anticipate we will receive this HOP upon approval of the three related driveway applications. Keith Hantz made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-3 authorizing the Manager to sign the application for traffic signal. Mike Jones seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There has also been some additional correspondence with the representatives of the existing Turkey Hill Property. Attorney Backenstoe commented the current Turkey Hill driveway along Lehigh Drive permits left and right turns in and out of it. With the addition of a left turn lane on Route 248, PennDOT will not allow them to continue with the unrestricted turn. They are requiring that this access be right in, right out. The Township has been trying to get together with Turkey Hill to confirm they have no objections and will be willing to work with the Township in restricting the access to right in, right out. Cindy Miller has been trying to make contact with Turkey Hill, but so far they have not been very receptive to a meeting or discussion. The last email that Cindy Miller had sent them indicated that if the Township doesn't hear from them and they don't communicate with us we will assume that they are not interested in working with the Township and the Township will proceed as they see fit in order to obtain the HOP. Turkey Hill did respond to this indicating that they really do want to work with the Township, but they are trying to finalize what they are doing with the new Turkey Hill site with the Developer. Once they have this worked out, they will come back to the Township.

Darryl Snover questioned if the negotiations between Turkey Hill and the Developer really have anything to do with what the Township is trying to do. What avenue does the Township have to move this forward without Turkey Hill's cooperation? We are actually not having to take additional right of way by eminent domain. Attorney Backenstoe commented that the negotiations with the Developer are important to Turkey Hill because of how they are linking things together, but it would matter less to the Township because we are trying to obtain an HOP for our leg of the intersection. The Township would like to get their acquiescence so that there are no issues and we don't need to deal with that. He does not believe we are taking any real property from them. Jim Milot commented there already is right of way along this strip of Route 248. We are not asking to acquire any right of way. We are looking to take their access from a full access driveway to a restricted access driveway. They could, in their opinion, say

that it effects their business which is where the concerns could come from on their behalf. Attorney Backenstoe commented it would not be a taking in the normal sense of acquiring land, but they could take the position that the value of the land had diminished because of the right in, right out requirement. This is why the Township would like to talk to them. Jim Milot commented PennDOT does have a procedure that can be followed. You can put them on notice and go through the step by step process with PennDOT and eventually PennDOT will turn to the Township and say it is on record that you have done your due diligence in trying to contact and try to get an amicable arrangement. Since you were unable to do so the only way they will issue a permit is if the Township will indemnify PennDOT against any claims by the person who owns the driveway. Cindy Miller questioned what the indemnification will mean to the Township. Attorney Backenstoe commented that it means the Township will be issued the permit; however, if Turkey Hill initiates legal proceedings against either PennDOT or the Township because their property is now right in, right out only, the Township would have to defend PennDOT. Cindy Miller commented this is PennDOT's requirement. They've required it at other intersections. How do they handle it then? Jim Milot commented it would follow the same procedure. If there was no 3rd party, such as the Township, then they would have to defend it themselves. Attorney Backenstoe commented the Township would have to indemnify PennDOT because it is our HOP. Cindy Miller noted it is only our HOP because PennDOT didn't want to do the 4th leg of the intersection. Cindy Miller questioned if the Township were to end up in court with Turkey Hill, can the Township sue the State. Not that she is looking to do so, but this is becoming ridiculous. Attorney Backenstoe commented he didn't think the Township could, but if the Township were to do so, it would be in Commonwealth Court. They would most likely take the position that it was a requirement of putting in the road and that was an obligation the Township took. He didn't think it would go very far, but it is something to consider if we get that far.

Keith Hantz wanted to clarify who currently owns the site of the new Turkey Hill. Was it sold? Attorney Backenstoe commented it was not sold as far as we know. It is still owned by Cherryville Development Partners.

Keith Hantz made a motion to authorize Jim Milot and David Backenstoe to start the formal process as required by PennDOT to put them on notice regarding the intent with the plans associated with the HOP. Cindy Miller seconded the motion. Rick Hildebrand asked if this would occur on Blue Mountain Drive as well since there are turning lanes associated with this roadway as well. Jim Milot

commented that the HOP for that leg was conditionally issued. There may have been some negotiation or leeway on their end because Blue Mountain Drive is a lesser classified road. All voted aye. Motion carried.

C. <u>Bids for the Hills of Greenock</u>. Darryl Snover commented after consideration of this and getting feedback from various sources, he is not sure he wants to go forward with the awarding of the bids and may want to void them. Attorney Backenstoe commented rather than voiding the bids, the Board may want to consider tabling them unless they are certain they are not going to go forward with the project.

Keith Hantz questioned if there are any updates that can be provided to the Board. Darryl Snover commented when looking back, one of the reasons that the Board authorized Phil Malitsch to revise the NPDES permit was because they wanted to have the ability to allow the developer working on the lots at the top of the hill to be able dump their excess fill in the pond because we wouldn't need to be paying for the fill. Somehow, he feels that we seem to have lost sight of that and now we are looking to pay someone to do the exact same thing. If the Board is looking to have fill be brought in from off site, that is a different thing, but he feels as though the Board should be looking at their original intent. The developer has to get rid of it somewhere. He also questioned if the developer has permission or the grading permit to dump the fill elsewhere or over the edge of the current location.

Cindy Miller made a motion to reject all the bids and not move forward with the bids. Phil Gogel seconded the motion. Paul Nikisher questioned if the contractors would still be permitted to dump the excess fill into the pond. Darryl Snover commented they would be able to; they would be encouraged. That is one of the reasons that the NPDES permit was modified. Jim Hazard questioned if the drainage from the development still goes through the pond. Jim Milot commented that is one of the changes that was made as part of the NPDES permit. The basins are for catching the sediment from the site. The lot owners are still responsible to maintain the sedimentation control features on their sites. Jim Hazard questioned what the Township's responsibility was for the development. Are they responsible to bring the lots down to grade? Attorney Backenstoe commented it is not the Township's responsibility to bring the lots down to grade, but they are responsible for all the public improvements such as the roads, sidewalks, and the filling of the basin. Jim Hazard commented he saw in previous minutes there was only \$325,000 remaining in the account. The Township will need to be careful how they spend the money because the bid was for \$300,000 and there still are roads that need to be completed. Is it really necessary to fill in the basin? Attorney Backenstoe commented it is a public improvement and part

of a recorded plan. Jim Hazard question if the Township would still have to do the pond and the roads if they were going to be going in the hole. Attorney Backenstoe commented they would be required if they are part of the public improvements on the recorded plan. All voted aye. Motion carried.

D. <u>Fire Company Rescue Vehicle</u>. A letter was received from Roger Spadt, President of the Fire Company indicating they had received final pricing from three different manufacturers for the new rescue vehicle. The lowest quote they received was from Rosenbauer Fire Apparatus for \$775,335 and lettering in the amount of \$5,300 from Scribbles and Drips. They are also recommending a contingency amount of \$15,000 for possible change orders be included as well.

Alice Rehrig also provided the Board with an updated Capital Improvements Plan showing the effects of the purchase of the vehicle on the Fire Company portion of the plan. With the new pricing and the indefinite replacement of the brush truck, the deficit for the equipment has been eliminated. The proceeds from the sale of the current rescue truck have not been included in the plan.

Keith Hantz made a motion to authorize the purchase of a new heavy rescue vehicle from Rosenbauer Fire Apparatus as a price not to exceed \$796,141 which includes the cost of the truck, the lettering, and the contingency. Mike Jones seconded the motion. Cindy Miller questioned if it is standard or necessary to have a contingency or change orders included in the quote. What would cause a change order? Rick Hildebrand commented the manufacturer recommends a two to three percent change order allowance. The Truck Committee had spent over a year developing the specifications and do not feel there is a need for change orders, but there is a year build time on the vehicle and they do not know what may come up in the mean time. They are requesting it as a safety net so they don't need to come back to the Board if something were to happen. Keith Hantz wanted to verify the amount in the truck fund. Alice Rehrig commented there will be \$695,822 in the fund by the end of 2018. Keith Hantz also noted there was the \$350,000 grant that was received for the truck as well. Alice Rehrig commented that the Township cannot receive the grant funding until the truck is paid for. By the time the truck is delivered in 2019, there will be enough money in the truck fund to pay for the vehicle, then we can submit for the reimbursement from the grant. All voted aye. Motion carried.

E. <u>Assistant Public Works Director</u>. Alice Rehrig had made changes to the job description based on the discussions from the last meeting to try to make it clearer that this individual would operate under the Public Works Director.

Keith Hantz questioned if there is enough support by the Board to move forward on this item. Cindy Miller commented she was not for this in the beginning and is still not sold that this is needed. She understands that Frank Zamadics is overworked, but there are other ways to handle it by utilizing the staff we have. This is one of the reasons that she didn't vote to approve the budget because it was included in the budget and she had stated it during the passing of the budget. Keith Hantz commented the unanimous Board had given Frank Zamadics their word that they would work with him on this. Cindy Miller commented it was the majority of the Board and she had told him she didn't agree with this. She feels there are other ways of helping him by utilizing the other workers in the Department. Phil Gogel commented he agrees that it is not needed. Darryl Snover commented that he feels it is still worth considering. We don't have resolution to some contractual issues that would allow for an adequate assistant to be named in the current structure. It is not right to have him on call seven days a week; 365 days a year, and not be able to walk away from his telephone. He believes the Board has the responsibility to help resolve the issue whether it is creating the position of an assistant or clarifying something in the contract to make someone effective in that position. He is open for discussion on this. Mike Jones commented he agrees, this has been a problem for awhile and never seems to work itself out. He doesn't believe it will be resolved without adding someone or switching positions.

Cindy Miller commented she would like the Board to consider what this will cost the residents of the Township. You're looking at adding a position which will cost around \$90,000 between salary and benefits every year. Darryl Snover noted that we had someone retire several years ago and we never replaced them. In one way, he can look at it and say we are replacing manpower we had before. He understands that we would still have to spend the money, but it is the reality.

Sandy Hopkins questioned if this was considered in contract negotiations. Keith Hantz commented the contract negotiations had started prior to this being brought to the Board's attention that this wasn't working. When this was brought to the Board last year, they had thought they were a lot closer to having the contract settled. If the position is to remain as a union position, there needs to be stronger language to make it more effective for Frank Zamadics. Sandy Hopkins commented she would think it would be a benefit to the employees to have the opportunity to be brought up into the role. Keith Hantz commented there is definitely room for discussion. He does believe the Board needs to keep working on this because what happens when the day comes when Frank Zamadics announces his retirement.

Jim Hazard questioned if the position could be advertised with a negotiable salary and bring them in at a lower rate. Darryl Snover commented that it would be difficult to hire someone with no experience to supervise the current crew at the lower rate and you most likely wouldn't be able to find someone with experience who would be willing to come into the position at a rate lower than what the workers are already making. Jim Hazard commented you won't know until you put the ad out. Darryl Snover commented at this point, the Board is trying to decide if they are putting the ad out. He is not yet certain what is the best way to handle this. He knows there is a need to provide relief for a supervisor.

Phil Gogel questioned if it is known how many times Frank Zamadics gets called out in a year. Hiring more management doesn't get more work done. Darryl Snover commented the position that is being looked at is not just management. They are expecting to be working with the crew as well. Phil Gogel commented he understands the idea is to get Frank Zamadics in the office more and less time on call outs. Could the Board provide additional pay for the callouts. Keith Hantz commented Frank Zamadics is not looking for more pay, but for less time for call outs. Phil Gogel questioned if there are enough callouts to justify the additional expense of hiring someone. Darryl Snover commented his concern is that there is an employee who cannot effectively walk away from the job at the end of the day. Cindy Miller commented this is the problem that she has--that he feels he cannot walk away from the job at the end of the day. There are several other members of the crew that should be trained, even if it is only in one aspect of what he does. Other people should be able to be cross trained in different areas to be able to pick up the slack. That is the problem she has. She understands that there is a union, but other places do it. Keith Hantz commented it is not that Frank Zamadics is going out on every call out. He receives the initial phone call and then calls two guys to take care of the problem. He receives the calls then directs the work force. You can't put something in the contract that one of the union people are directing the rest of the work force. Cindy Miller commented it is in the contract that someone can do that. Keith Hantz commented it is when Frank is away. It doesn't say direct the work force. Frank Zamadics has to set the schedule up while he is on vacation and then give the assignment to the senior man to fulfill it for the week. Cindy Miller commented that is what managers do on the job. They sit down with their department and give them the assignment for when they are gone. This is the way it can be handled in the Public Works Department but doesn't see it being handled that way. She believes that Frank Zamadics is such a conscientious worker that he takes it upon himself and doesn't feel comfortable leaving the work for someone else to do. At the same time, these guys have been doing this for many years. They can handle it and get it done. If

they can't get it done then they get reprimanded for it. Phil Gogel commented it is spelled out in the contract how it is handled in the absence of Frank Zamadics.

Keith Hantz suggested that since there are two new Board members, they may want to meet with Frank Zamadics in Executive Session so that he can explain the concerns that he had previously told the Board. Phil Gogel commented this is a good idea. He doesn't want to spend public money without having all the information. Keith Hantz commented it is not just about the money; he and Darryl Snover are not looking to just go and spend public money. The concern goes beyond just Frank Zamadics. It is also for the public. They need to make sure that assignments that are called in get done for our residents. With Frank Zamadics in charge, the Board knows the issues are being taken care of. It is a service that is supplied to our Township residents. The Board agreed to meet in Executive Session with Frank Zamadics at 6:30 p.m. on February 27 to discuss his concerns.

Paul Nikisher questioned how other municipalities handle it. Darryl Snover commented some have assistants, some have different contract language which may be more appropriate.

F. Ordinance for Approval—Ordinance 2018-1, Establishing Speed Limits. This ordinance has been advertised and is ready for approval by the Board if they choose. It will reduce the speed limit on Cherryville Road in Lehigh Township to 35 miles per hour, Dogwood Road from Walnut to North Cottonwood Road to 35 miles per hour and Cottonwood from Mountain View Drive to Bayberry Drive to 30 miles per hour. These speed limits are based upon a speed study that was conducted by our Police Department.

Cindy Miller made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-1. Mike Jones seconded the motion. A resident questioned if this is just for the speed limit on Cherryville Road. Is the Board aware of all the trucks that are travelling on Cherryville Road? Darryl Snover commented the Board is aware of all the trucks. Cindy Miller commented most of the trucks are going to the generating plant. Darryl Snover commented they working on posting a weight restriction on that road. The weight restriction will only apply to Lehigh Township; however, we will be placing an advanced warning sign at Cherryville Road and Main Street to notify trucks the roadway is weight restricted. A resident noted there are around 200 trucks a day going on Cherryville Road. Why can't they stay on Route 248 instead of using Cherryville Road? Chief Fogel commented there is nothing right now, until the weight restriction ordinance is adopted, that would restrict them from using Cherryville Road. It was also noted that Locust Drive should also be

restricted. A resident commented that he believes the problem started when the light was installed in Pennsville because now the trucks are required to stop. He also suggested the Township's DOT guy sit along Cherryville Road. Chief Fogel commented he has one DOT person and they have been pulling trucks over, but it comes down to a manpower issue trying to cover all the roads. In addition to the trucks on Cherryville Road, there are also a lot of trucks that are overloaded on Route 248. All voted aye. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proclamation—April 2018 Pennsylvania Safe Digging Month. PA One Call is requesting Townships adopt a proclamation naming April 2018 as Safe Digging Month. It will be their 46th year of providing the safety service to residents and contractors. They are also reminding everyone to call three business days prior to digging. Cindy Miller made a motion to proclaim April 2018 as Safe Digging Month. Mike Jones seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.
- B. Recreation Report. Sandy Hopkins commented it was reported to her that the lights at the tennis court and volley ball court were on the other night. She thought they were turned off for the winter. Alice Rehrig commented the lights are not turned off because when there is milder weather, the courts do get used. The timer is restricted so that they go off at 9:00 p.m.

Sandy Hopkins also noted that the light for the flag at Berlinsville Park is not lit and should be checked.

Sandy Hopkins also questioned what is being done with the collapsing walls at Indiantrail Park? Alice Rehrig commented she was contacted this afternoon by Bryan Cope from Northampton County. She will be meeting with him and Wildlands Conservancy on Thursday, February 22, to discuss which grant or grants would be best to apply for to correct the situation. Most of the grants are matching grants and we would be using the money from the County grant as a match. Sandy Hopkins questioned if that grant was applied for. Alice Rehrig commented it was applied for last fall and is available to be used. Sandy Hopkins questioned much money was available. Alice Rehrig commented it was between \$32,000 and \$36,000. Keith Hantz questioned if the wall behind the Historical Society building is being included. Alice Rehrig commented it was. The intention is to be able to correct the entire length of the wall with a combination of grants.

C. <u>Police Report</u>. Chief Fogel reported the newly hired Police Officer, Jessica Edwards started on February 5. She is currently going through policies and learning the systems. Her formal swearing in date will be at the February 27 meeting.

The in car cameras have been installed and everything seems to be working well. They will be having formal training in the next few weeks.

D. Manager's Report.

1. RACP Grant. The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant is open for applications during the month of February. This is the grant that would help fund the Public Works Building once it is written into a bill. There is a \$500 application fee associated with the grant. Alice Rehrig was requesting authorization to apply for this grant. Cindy Miller made a motion to authorize the Manager to apply for this grant and also to work with Senator Scavello to have it written into a bill. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Alice Rehrig wanted to make the Board aware of a situation that has developed along South Cottonwood Road. There is a concrete trough type of stormwater system running parallel to the road within the right of way. This trough has a concrete lid which is failing causing large holes along the edge of the roadway. The Road Crew will need to remove the concrete and replace it with about 100 feet of pipe in the spring. There are several locations along Cottonwood Road where this type of stormwater system exists.

Alice Rehrig had received a Community Awareness bulletin from the State Police regarding various scams that are taking place by using the Olympics as lure. The information regarding these scams have been posted on website and posted in the office.

Alice Rehrig also noted there will be public meetings taking place regarding the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan that is being developed. The LVPC is looking for community involvement by having citizens attend these meetings. The first meeting will be on February 20 at Pine Brook Family Answers in Allentown. A second meeting will be held on April 25 at the Nurture Nature Center in Easton. This information has also been posted on the website.

E. <u>Solicitor's Report</u>. Attorney Backenstoe did not have anything additional to report.

VII. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>. Phil Gogel commented he had received a call from Richard Becker's son in law regarding the proposed trail at Indiantrail Park. Mr. Becker owns land between the park and the creek and wants to make sure the Township knows where the property pins are so that his property does not get disturbed. Alice Rehrig commented Frank Zamadics had contacted Mr. Becker and they will be meeting once the ice is gone.

Cindy Miller commented she met with the County Executive, Lamont McClure, regarding the Booking Center. She explained to him that there was only one other municipality besides Lehigh Township that was willing to do an inter-municipal agreement. He said unfortunately, for this year, there is nothing that he can do because it was not put in the budget. For next year, he will put it in the budget and see what he can do. She told him the total cost was around \$12,000. He had asked what municipalities had agreed to enter into an agreement and what was included in our budget. He mentioned something about matching. She is not sure if he will put the entire amount into the budget or a matching amount. The Board will need to discuss how they want to handle the Booking Center moving forward. Walnutport did put money in their budget for the center as well. All the other municipalities said they will go to Easton. It is disappointing to hear this. The question she has now is does the Township only allow the municipalities who are willing to help fund the center to utilize the center or do we keep it open to others. On one hand, she feels the others should have to go to Easton so they realize how much time is being spent, but at the same time, it does become a matter of public safety because it is taking an officer away from their community. Chief Fogel commented prior to our booking center, everyone had to go to the County which was a lot more dysfunctional and took three to four hours to process someone. Since our center went in, the County Center had improved dramatically. For this year, he would be concerned about cutting departments out of our center because it would help to show the County Executive that this center is needed. They should also be looking at what fees should be assessed to the individuals being processed which are supposed to be used to pay for the center. Cindy Miller commented Mr. McClure does support the center and agrees this is a good idea. Chief Fogel commented they have already processed 20 people this year already. Cindy Miller commented Mr. McClure also asked what she would expect from the County. Her answer to that was to please have legislature and judicial get together and figure out how the fees can be assessed and collected to cover the costs of the Booking Center so the tax payers of the County are not paying for it out of their tax dollars. Chief Fogel commented the easiest way would be to move the fees to the top of the schedule for costs being assessed. Cindy Miller also reported about the meeting to Councilman Dietz.

Ed Ziegler commented he noticed that there was a lot of traffic backed up from the light at Route 873 and Route 248. He feels that PennDOT should be contacted to adjust the timing on the light between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

- VIII. <u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u>. The Board went into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and a personnel issue. No action was necessary.
- IX. <u>ADJOURN</u>. Cindy Miller made a motion to adjourn. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.