

LEHIGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 24, 2023

- I. CALL TO ORDER. The Lehigh Township Board of Supervisors held their second monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Lehigh Township Municipal Building, 1069 Municipal Road, Walnutport Pa. 18088. Chairman Mike Jones called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Present: Cindy Miller
David Hess
Phil Gogel
Jerry Pritchard
Mike Jones
Attorney David Backenstoe
Alice Rehrig
Scott Fogel

Nancy Aaroe was present to introduce herself to the residents and the Board. She will be running for Judge for the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas. She is a life long Republican. There currently is only one other Republican female judge on the bench in Northampton County. She has been an attorney for over three decades in Northampton County, starting as an Assistant District Attorney and for the last 20 plus years she has been in private practice with her husband Paul. She does all sorts of law, but specializes in family law. She is a life long resident of Northampton County and has family in Lehigh Township.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of January 10, 2023. Phil Gogel made a motion to approve these minutes. David Hess seconded the motion. Cindy Miller noted an addition to Page 7 when the cluster ordinance was being discussed. During the discussion, Attorney Backenstoe had made a comment that if there is an inconsistency found now, the correction be made right away and not to wait. She felt it was important that Attorney Backenstoe's statement be added to the minutes. Phil Gogel commented it wasn't corrected fully. There was an error corrected but the whole document wasn't corrected as it should be, as pointed out by the Zoning Officer and Township Engineer. All voted aye. Motion carried.

III APPROVAL OF BILLS.

- A. General Fund Checks 26455 to 26483. Cindy Miller made a motion to approve the bills. David Hess seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. State Fund Checks 1572 and 1573. David Hess made a motion to approve these bills. Phil Gogel seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

IV. PLANNING RELATED ITEMS

A. Extensions of Time for Plan Approval

1. John and Dennis Moyer Lot Consolidation Plan. The developer provided the Board with an extension of time until July 31, 2023. Dennis Moyer was present to represent this plan. Cindy Miller made a motion to accept the extension of time until July 31, 2023. Phil Gogel seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

V. DEPARTMENTAL/ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

- A. Police Report. In addition to his monthly report, Chief Fogel provided the Board with information on the department's activities for the entire year of 2023. The service calls for 2023 were consistent with prior years. The activities are anything an officer may do such as being on the road doing traffic enforcement, lost dogs calls, EMS calls, incidents, offenses, most anything they would come across during their shift. The calls for service are items that are reported and require reports, such as arrests. The traffic citations and warnings have been trending down which is consistent with the amount of crashes they have been having. Their crash data has been trending down as well. The criminal arrests have also been trending down. He also included data on K9 deployments since the inception of the program.

On February 9th there will be a blood drive held at the Municipal Building from noon to 5:00 p.m. The public can sign up through either the Red Cross website or through the office.

David Hess questioned if there was any update on the accident that took place at the job site. Chief Fogel commented OSHA was out to do their investigation and it is now in their hands. There was nothing criminal in which they would become involved.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Cherryville Intersection. There are two remaining items that the contractor needs to correct for PennDOT. These corrections are at the contractor's expense. As far as what the Township is responsible to pay for, we are down to the review of the punch list items and are expecting to be able to close everything out at the next meeting.
1. Change Order #4. Change Order #4 and Payment Request #4 have been reviewed and approved by Jim Milot. He is recommending payment of \$36,665.53 be released and Change Order #4 be approved which is a reduction in the project in the amount of \$32,799.20 which will offset the costs of Change

Order #3 which was previously approved. Cindy Miller questioned when the reduction resulting from the change order would be coming back to the Township. Alice Rehrig commented after this payment request, there is an outstanding contract balance of \$79,000. The change order would be deducted from the project balance and the contractor would be owed approximately \$46,000 which is the balance held as retainage on the project.

Phil Gogel made a motion to approve the payment of \$36,665.33 to the contractor and Change Order #4 as stated in the January 24, 2023, letter from Hanover Engineering. Cindy Miller seconded the motion. Cindy Miller questioned if we have been tracking the payments against what was approved against the bid amount. Alice Rehrig commented she and Jim Milot have been reviewing the payment requests. All voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. Maintenance Building. Alice Rehrig had been in contact with the architect regarding revising the bid specs so that the excavation of the project is removed from the General Contractor's portion of the bid. She is waiting to receive the revised bid specification and will provide copies to everyone once she receives them.
- C. Ordinance 2023-1, amending the Zoning Ordinance. This ordinance will amend the Zoning Ordinance by adding definitions of Landscaping and landscaping Contractor Business and adding Landscaping Contractor Business to the General Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts. After this ordinance was been advertised for adoption, the Ad Hoc Committee discovered that there were two definitions not included within the ordinance: work vehicle and work trailer. These definitions will need to be added to the ordinance. This ordinance will need to come back to the Board for adoption at another meeting. This ordinance was tabled.
- D. Comp Plan Map. After the last meeting which was held at the fire company, the Consultant made the revisions to the map. The Planning Commission reviewed the map at their last meeting and found some corrections. Once the corrections are made, the Planning Commission is recommending the Comprehensive Plan be advertised for adoption after the Board of Supervisors have approved the changes to the map.

David Hess questioned if there was going to be another meeting scheduled. Alice Rehrig commented the Comp Plan does need to be advertised for adoption either at a regular Board meeting or a separate meeting. Phil Gogel commented he has not had the opportunity to review the map to see if the changes that were agreed upon were made. Mike Jones commented the plan is just a vision; it does not change anything. Phil Gogel commented when you put a vision out there, it sets the path for someone who is here in the future if the Board changes. If we set something in motion, the next Board may come in and look at the map and say they already did the work and

essentially it may not be correct. They say everything is good and it is approved and it may not be the right thing for the area. He wants to make sure everything is correct before it is sent out. Mike Jones commented if there is going to be a change in zoning, it has to come back for the Board to approve. Phil Gogel commented when it gets that far down the road, it is hard to get something changed. When something is set in motion, you want to make sure it is what was agreed upon.

Jerry Pritchard commented the Comprehensive Plan is just the suggested way of development, not the rule. Attorney Backenstoe commented the Comprehensive Plan is an umbrella or vision for the future as to how the Board sees the Township moving; it is not substantive. Under this umbrella, you have the zoning ordinance, SALDO, and stormwater management ordinance which are substantive ordinances that explain exactly what type of uses can be used where and how the land can be developed in accordance with the MPC.

Phil Gogel commented he is not ready for this to be advertised. Cindy Miller questioned when he would be ready to have it advertised; how much time is needed to review the map? Phil Gogel commented he should be able to look at it over by the next two weeks.

This was tabled until the February 14 meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Appointed Positions. Cindy Miller commented she wasn't at the reorganization meeting for the appointment of various position, but she thought there was a process in the past where individuals submitted a letter and then came to the meeting and the Board talked to them. After that, there would be a vote. Now, it seems like if some people don't like the people who submitted letters, the Board is just appointing someone. The concern she has is why are we spending the money to advertise for open positions if we are just going to appoint someone. Why do we have a process? Are we going to follow a process or should the Board think about adopting a resolution so that there is a process in place. David Hess commented there really is not a process. Cindy Miller commented there is nothing written. David Hess noted there was someone who was up for appointment who never introduced himself to the new Supervisors. He thinks there should be a process and would agree with Cindy Miller. Cindy Miller commented she would be willing to work on a resolution to present to the Board.

Jerry Pritchard commented he did ask the Solicitor if the Board can just appoint someone from the audience and was told they could; they didn't break any laws. Cindy Miller commented she is not questioning the legality of it. She is questioning

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what is the purpose of advertising the position, having someone submit a letter, have them come to a meeting and not select any of those people anyway. She is just asking if we should have a written policy of what the process would be and then the Board would follow that process.

Phil Gogel commented the Board adopted a resolution last year that required someone to be a resident for at least a year. He doesn't believe in making more rules because the rules we have are hard enough to follow. If we keep on piling on more rules like government usually does, it just makes things more complicated. Cindy Miller commented it is not complicated to have a process of someone submitting a letter and coming to an interview. The Board makes their decision based on who submitted a letter. If they don't submit a letter, then you don't appoint. Phil Gogel commented he thinks it is because she didn't like the candidate that was chosen, so now lets make a rule. Cindy Miller commented that is not true. It has nothing to do with the person; it is the process. Mike Jones commented he made an argument that night that a letter was not submitted; the Board agreed they were going to advertise the position again. David Hess commented he agrees with having a process.

A resident commented she has been in the Township for 50 years. You have a process; you want the best people for these positions. A letter should be written by them, they should be interviewed like a job, and the best qualified person should be the one that is chosen. No political policies should be involved. Get the best person, know who they are and what they are about. That is where the letter comes in.

Marc Kacsmar commented he agrees. He would take it a step further and not have the decision made that night. The Supervisors should have another meeting another night at another time, like an Executive Session where the Board can discuss their thoughts after the interview process and reviewing the letter, just like a business. Phil Gogel noted that the Board cannot privately discuss the interviews. It has to be done in a public forum.

Lynn Tammaro commented he is a beneficiary of the process. He is relatively new to the Township. He did submit a letter, spoke before the Board, and was subsequently appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board. He has been on the Zoning Hearing Board for the past two years.

Katherine Mack commented she read the January 3rd minutes and at that meeting is when the Board appointed someone from the floor. She believes the interview process is important to get the best candidate. She believes Mr. Jones and Mr. Miller were excellent candidates. Charlie Perich wasn't picked. Maybe she wouldn't have picked him if there were other candidates with various qualifications for Planning.

Mr. Jones was previously on Planning; he knows about the contractual process. Charlie Perich worked with a second class Township for many years where he lived before. The Board is running a business. They have a big budget, lots of responsibility to the people of this Township. You want the best people who are the best qualified. It may not have been illegal, but the process that was used was a mistake.

Phil Gogel commented he respects the thought process, but he nominated Kristin Soldridge. She was previously on the Zoning Hearing Board and knows the Township inside and out. She and her family have been living forever here in the Township. She knows the topography better than some people who are on Planning. They may drive around but they don't understand the different types of soils we have. Her family has been in farming forever in the Township. When you get into this type of dynamics for Planning, it does abode well for them because they understand the issues with tight soils when you try to do a development in an area and the difference between clay and shale and other types of soils. He believes she has a very vast pool of knowledge to pull from. He also knows Kristin Soldridge on a personal level; she is his neighbor. He feels she has a lot to offer on Planning. He wouldn't just grab someone just to put them on if he didn't know a little bit about their background and their understanding. He nominated Charlie Perich twice and it got rejected for different reasons. He feels he is an exceptionally qualified person for the position and next time it comes up or even Zoning he would be happy to nominate him again and again because he knows he has the qualifications. Kristin Soldridge was here and was willing to do the job so he nominated her because he feels she has the pool to grasp from to complete the mission. Katherine Mack commented it would have been nice to hear about all her knowledge in an interview process. Others may not know about her. Maybe she is the best person for the position. That is why the interview process is very important.

David Hess commented the reason he had a problem with Rod Miller was that he wasn't here. He never met him and didn't learn of his background until after the meeting. Katherine Mack commented that is why if the Board learned who the people were who work in the Township it would be helpful. David Hess commented that is he agrees there needs to be a process. Cindy Miller commented the Planning Commission sat with the Supervisors at the Comp Plan meeting. Katherine Mack commented other people who were not here were reappointed. David Hess commented he met Lynn Tammaro at a Zoning Hearing Board meeting and spoke with him for a while. Katherine Mack commented maybe part of the process is that the individuals need to be here. David Hess commented he thought people needed to be here when they apply. Cindy Miller commented that is why she is looking at the resolution to set the process. Katherine Mack commented Cindy Miller is right. You need a process like any other business. Lynn Tammaro commented if for no reason,

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you need a process so there is not an appearance of impropriety. Mike Jones commented he agrees. He didn't feel that Rod Miller needed to be here as a sitting member of the Planning Commission. The Board knew his experience and what he has done over the past year. David Hess commented with two new Supervisors, he felt he should have come to introduce himself to him and Jerry Pritchard.

Barry Haydt commented he thinks it is going too far stating that someone knows about ground and dirt. He doesn't believe any decisions were made by the Planning Commission because someone knew about dirt. Phil Gogel commented there are a lot of swampy areas in the Township and you don't want to have a Village Residential unit in a swamp or tight soils. Barry Haydt commented he doesn't believe that is part of the Planning Commission. If someone wants to buy the property and work on it, that is up to them. Phil Gogel commented that is true, but you don't want to designate an area for development if they may not be able to do so.

Marc Kacsmar commented if there is a process requiring someone to be at a meeting, they should be able to come to a second meeting if they are unable to make the first. He doesn't believe it should be pushed off for a long period of time, but if they can't make the first meeting, they should be able to come to the second meeting to represent themselves.

Jerry Pritchard commented he thinks a resolution would be a waste of the Board's time; they have other things to work on. David Hess commented if it is going to help the process, it wouldn't be a waste of time. Jerry Pritchard commented when the appointment was done, they followed the law, whether or not you like the person. Why do we need a resolution? Cindy Miller commented she is not questioning the appointments on January 3. She is looking forward to have a process. There may have been other people who would have come to the meeting and the Board could have appointed someone else. She doesn't know. She believes it would be fair to have a process.

Cindy Miller made a motion to work on a resolution for appointment to Boards and Commissions. Jerry Pritchard seconded the motion. Linda Roman commented she believes the Board is looking for guidelines for everyone so that they get the best candidate. All voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. Manager's Report. Alice Rehrig reported the Conditional Use Hearing for the Solar Farm has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, at 6:00 p.m.
- C. Solicitor's Report. Attorney Backenstoe reported he has received some questions about transferring title for the land owned by the Township at Indiantrail Park to the

Municipal Authority. The subdivision has been completed and recorded and he prepared a draft deed. He has also spoken with Alice Rehrig about this and they want to review the agreements because there are some obligations and payments to be made by Jaindl. Once they review the agreements and have any issues ironed out, title can be transferred.

D. Non-Union Wages. This will be discussed as part of the Executive Session.

- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT. Linda Roman commented on Christmas Eve another Township tree came down. A tree along Mangrove snapped off parallel to the power lines and came down across her service line and took it out, but not before sending a power surge through her house. She has filed a claim with Met-Ed, but questioned if they will come to the Township because the Township did not take down the trees along Mangrove before the storm came through. She cannot take any more of this damage. It took out her main source of heat which is a pellet stove and her home was down to 39°. She only has a small wood stove in her living room. She does love the fact that the Township did take down the trees they did in the park. Cindy Miller commented if there are dead trees on our property, we should be taking them down. Alice Rehrig commented the trees in the park were taken down, but they did not go onto the other roads. David Hess commented he will go with Frank to look at the trees in the area.

Katherine Mack commented there was a lot said about Charlie Perich and herself at the January 3rd meeting that were not too kind and made insinuations about their character, their integrity, and that should have been stopped cold by the Board. The professionalism and courtesy of the Board is lacking. The only way Charlie Perich found out that he was not reappointed to the Planning Commission was because she read the minutes. No one called him, set him an email, or a letter. Alice Rehrig commented that was incorrect. She sent him an email after the meeting. Katherine Mack appreciated that as it is common courtesy. There was a lot of information that applied to either Planning or Zoning at that meeting. The Board was led to believe that the Zoning Hearing Board makes its decisions based on information from the Planning members. There was an inaccurate statement made that the Zoning Hearing Board and Planning Board go hand in hand because the Planning Commission give recommendations to the Zoning Hearing Board and they go off of that recommendation. Another statement was made, “in my experience on the Zoning Hearing Board, there was a lot of direction and insight which the Planning Commission provided with regard to details and certain things they recommended or denied. The Planning Commission reviews plans and offers recommendations to the Zoning Hearing Board.” These comments are overgeneralized and misleading. The Planning Commission does make recommendations to Zoning but under very specific conditions. The only time the Planning Board has any input to applications before the Zoning Hearing Board is when there is a special exception application; never any other time. Special Exceptions are an approved use and are usually granted unless they are not

in the right zone or didn't meet the conditions listed in the Zoning Ordinance. If they are in the right zone and meet all the conditions, there may be additional conditions placed upon them if decided by the Zoning Hearing Board. This is outlined in 180-119 Advisory Report. The Planning Board is only advisory for special exceptions. The Zoning Hearing Board does not have to take their recommendations. The Planning Commission's job is to assist in the drafting of the zoning ordinance and amendments. The Zoning Hearing Board members have nothing to do with it. They do not influence those ordinances. The Planning Commission also reviews conditional use applications, such as the solar farm. Conditional uses go to the Board of Supervisors, not the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board of Supervisors also hear curative amendments; not the Zoning Hearing Board. Planners also have the charge relating to plans for development in the Township along with the Township Engineer and the Comprehensive Plan. Zoning Hearing Board members have nothing to do with this; the Board of Supervisors have final approval. When Charlie Perich was looking to be appointed to the Planning Commission in August, it was asked if he was going to now be on the Ad Hoc Committee; he already was on the committee since February. Was there an influence then? Were there any examples of a conflict of interest? She doubts it. The Planning Commission creates the zoning districts and the activities which are permitted within them which are ultimately approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Zoning Officer enforces those ordinances. The Zoning Hearing Board only gets involved when individuals want either a variance or special exception to those ordinances. The Zoning Hearing Board doesn't have the power to create them, approve them, or enforce them. There were also accusations of bias by Kristin Soldridge. She has been here and served the Township for 40 years. Name the instance where she has been biased. It's stated she is bias because of Charlie Perich. It was also brought up that there was a question of a conflict when Charlie Perich was appointed, but it was lost in discussion. This is not in the minutes of July 26, August 9, or August 23, but now it is a conflict of interest. Kristin Soldridge also stated there already is bias. From what she has seen from regular dealings with Katherine Mack and Charlie Perich, they pretty much support each other 100 percent and it could negatively effect a party who is requesting relief whether it is through zoning or planning. Katherine Mack would like documentation of this bias. It is crazy to make these accusations when people are not present. She does not take these insinuations lightly. She is not a divisive person, has integrity, character and can think on her own. She doesn't need someone to tell her how to think. Kristin Soldridge goes on to say that there should be individual opinions referring to two cohabitating people being on two different boards. Zoning Hearings are not based upon opinions or bias. Their decisions are based on factual information that are presented by the Zoning Officer, the applicants and members of the audience and are applied to the zoning ordinances. Meetings do get testy because neighbors may not want the use next to them, but the Zoning Hearing Board hears them and they make their decision on the facts of the case. If you don't believe this, then you are questioning the integrity of the entire board. She is concerned that Kristin Soldridge thinks she has insight into the dynamics of the relationship between her and Charlie

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Perich as indicated by the regular dealings with them. Katherine Mack commented she does not have regular dealings with Kristin Soldridge. She sits in the same meeting room and ad hoc committee that she is on, and out of the nine meetings, she only attended five of the meetings because of having a baby. She doesn't see her socially, communicate with her by telephone or email. Their contact is limited to these venues. She wouldn't assume that she has insight into Kristin Soldridge's family or any other dealings,; she shouldn't have that with Katherine Mack's dealings. Katherine Mack also noted that she doesn't have a family living in Lehigh Township; she has no family in Lehigh Township or the State of Pennsylvania. She doesn't have to worry about a family or relatives who live in Lehigh Township and bring that to the meeting. In the minutes it was also stated that Kristin Soldridge previously was on the Zoning Hearing Board, but she wasn't reinstated. The Board should not have left all these statements be made. The minutes go on to question her integrity on the Zoning Hearing Board. They also question Attorney Ettinger's integrity and reliability as an attorney. Mike Jones commented he gave wrong information to the Zoning Hearing Board regarding the use of an alternate and using them when there was a quorum of the Zoning Hearing Board present. Katherine Mack commented he did not. Attorney Backenstoe commented the Zoning Hearing Board needs to be guided by their Solicitor. Attorney Backenstoe was questioned when an alternate member is empaneled for the Zoning Hearing Board and in his mind the MPC clearly states you only empanel an alternate when it is necessary to make a quorum of the Zoning Hearing Board. Attorney Backenstoe commented Attorney Ettinger is the solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board. If he has a different interpretation of the law, they would need to follow him. Katherine Mack commented Attorney Ettinger disagrees with that opinion. He believes it is a flawed interpretation based on a 2004 amendment. Katherine Mack commented the only time they used the alternate was for the Karafam appeal. The Board of Supervisors put together a resolution to their appeal and they wanted a full Board to take the vote because if it would have been a two to two vote, it would have been denied. She was out of the country for that which is why an alternate was brought in so that there would be a full Board; she would have agreed with the settlement. Neil Ettinger used an alternate that night to make sure that there were no problems down the road. He wanted to avoid going to court and having an appeal filed which causes additional money. He wanted a five member board because it was a serious situation. She knows Jerry Pritchard gets bent out of shape about the money that is being spent there. David Hess commented he asked the question of Attorney Backenstoe because he had someone ask him. It had nothing to do with a specific case. Jerry Pritchard commented that is not true about the money or the cost, it all started with the problems on Longacre and potential criminal activity. It made him question what was going on in the house below him and whether that type of problem would be taking place there. It wasn't about money. Katherine Mack also commented it was stated in the minutes that Charlie Perich and her file a lot of complaints about the Township and that causes more hearings and more fees. Mike Jones commented he did agree to a point; if she is the one filing a complaint, they she shouldn't be sitting on the Zoning Hearing

Board to hear the case. Katherine Mack commented she does not file complaints. She has never filled out a complain form. If it was in plain sight, she has called Liz Amato and asked her if she was aware of all this construction equipment at this house. As a private citizen she is allowed to do that. If the Zoning Officer checks it out and she files a complaint about that person, fine. That is why we have zoning. It is to protect the property that is in that area. She doesn't want a junk yard in her backyard; people don't want that. Just like with Karafam, Jerry Pritchard questioned Liz Amato about what was going on with them, and she followed that process. She has never filed written complaints.

Barry Haydt commented he believes Katherine Mack has been a good citizen of the Township and is hurt because of the information in the minutes. It should be noted that the Board is not the ones who made the statements. Phil Gogel commented he had stated at the meeting that he didn't feel it was a problem for Charlie Perich and Katherine Mack to be on their respective Boards. He knows they both have integrity and it wouldn't affect anything. Mike Jones commented he didn't see it as a problem on their respective Board; he wouldn't think it to be appropriate if they were on the same Board.

Kristin Soldridge wanted to clarify that she does not have regular dealings with Katherine Mack. It also says in the minutes that she questioned if there is a conflict with having Charlie Perich on the Planning Commission and Katherine Mack on the Zoning Hearing Board since the Planning Commission also reviews plans and offers recommendations to the Zoning Hearing Board. That was a hypothetical question to the Board to consider because she may not be the only person who questions that. It was just a hypothetical question being raised to the Board. It was not an insinuation in any way, shape, or form. She just stated it could be perceived as a conflict of interest if Charlie Perich is on the Planning Commission and Katherine Mack is on the Zoning Hearing Board because the Planning Commission does write recommendations that go to the Zoning Hearing Board, which is what occurred when she was on the Zoning Hearing Board. From what she can recall, there were recommendations for most of the cases before them. As Katherine Mack had stated, the Zoning Hearing Board took them and either agreed or disagreed with them. The point is you are getting a recommendation whether or not you agree with them, they are still being provided and could be viewed as a conflict of interest. Similar to when the Board was looking to appoint a Supervisor, she did not put her name in because she knew her family was going to be coming before the Board for a conditional use and she would have to recuse herself because that would have been a conflict of interest. She did not questioned Katherine Mack's integrity. Katherine Mack is very intelligent and she valued her opinion when she was on the Zoning Hearing Board with her. Katherine Mack knew more than what she did, but she was asked by the previous Zoning Officer to put her name in for Zoning Hearing Board because no one else was willing to do it. When it came up for her to be reappointed, she was not. There were a lot of rumors circulating and she doesn't know what was or wasn't true. She was told that

there was one particular Supervisor who stated we need to get her off the Board. She didn't know who said it or how it came about. She was notified by a letter from Alice Rehrig that she wasn't reappointed, and that was the end of it. Phil Gogel commented he believes she was reappointed for a period of three months while it was readvertised. Kristin Soldridge commented that was correct and someone else did put their name in. She could have questioned the timing of that and how everything took place, but she didn't make an issue of it or complain. She just moved on. The only time they talk is at the ad hoc meetings. She listens to what Katherine Mack and Charlie Perich have to say because they are both very knowable in their areas of specialties. She has learned from Charlie Perich with his specialty of geology. She apologies if it was taken the wrong way. It was simply meant to be a hypothetic statement that it could appear to be conflict of interest. It was meant for the Board to look at it and make a decision. As with everything else, the Board takes the information and makes their own decisions. When it comes to complaints to Liz Amato, if you are saying to her that there is stuff going on and would you look into it, it could be mistaken or construed as a complaint being filed on your behalf because you noticed something. It may not be the way Katherine Mack is looking at it, but that is how she would look at it and she has also talked to other people who have taken it that way. Katherine Mack commented she wishes the other people with concerns would come to her and not go behind her back. With regards to the appointments, the positions were advertised and people did send in letters; that is the process that was done. She was taken aback when she was asked to be on Planning Commission while she was sitting in the audience. She did accept because she thought she could be an asset to the Township with the knowledge she does have as Phil Gogel stated earlier. She also got some of her knowledge from sitting on the Zoning Hearing Board with Katherine Mack and Lloyd Hopkins. She learned a lot from both of them. She attended her first Planning Commission meeting, asked questions, and the Planning Commission reviewed the ordinances to make sure everything was in order and made a recommendation which will be coming to the Board of Supervisors. That process is where her question of a conflict of interest came from. Since the Planning Commission makes a recommendation to either the Zoning Hearing Board or the Board of Supervisors, could there be a conflict? People have questioned Cindy Miller because she sits on Planning Commission and is a Supervisor. It is nothing new in that respect. It was a hypothetical question she asked. This was blown way out of proportion. She believes that there are ulterior motives going on with some people and she is not going to be a pawn in that game. If that is the goal, please stop because it is only hurting the Township because you are putting people at arms with each other. Reading the notes, she can understand where the problems came from because it does make her seem like the worse person in the world, which she is not. She would give the shirt off her back if someone needed, but she is not going to sit here and allow notes to criticize her and make someone like Katherine Mack who has been here feel like she was tearing her down and ripping her apart. It is over and she again apologizes to Katherine Mack.

Whatever is going on with the games or whatever is going on between people, it has to stop. She is not going to be a pawn and she is sure other people will not be a pawn in the chess game. Everyone needs to grow up to make decisions so the Township can run fluently and we can move forward with things. She takes offense to be painted as the worst person in the world when she did the Township a favor by accepting the appointment to the Planning Commission. She didn't have to do it. She didn't have to put her letter of interest in when she applied to the Zoning Hearing Board. She did it out of interest to the residents so she could help make decisions for people to be able to do what they want with their property with limitation and restrictions of our rules and guidelines. She did nothing wrong by hypothetically making a statement or question because there was a situation where a family member of her relative went before the Zoning Hearing Board after a complaint was brought to the Zoning Officer. In the January 3rd minutes, it is stated incorrectly. It was not her family member who appeared before the Zoning Hearing Board. It was a relative's girlfriend's family member. She is not here to cause trouble. She is annoyed with this whole thing. Katherine Mack commented she appreciates hearing Kristin Soldridge side of this and accepts her apology. She wishes she was here that evening to hear her side of it because when you read the minutes it does get misconstrued and they are offensive. She is happy to work with Kristin Soldridge. She worked with her before and she is a smart cookie. You will get input from her on the Board. She is glad this was hashed out tonight.

Phil Gogel wanted to thank Kristin Soldridge for accepting the appointment and she should hang in there. He took a beating when he wanted to be appointed; he's on the Board doing his thing. He knows she can take it; she is tough. He knows she will be an asset to the Township and should just keep doing her thing.

Marc Kacsmar commented he does agree with the hypothetic of what was brought up. If the Board is going to work on a policy, they may want to consider things if there are two Boards that work together in some way. Mike Jones commented he disagrees. One person on a Board is not going to influence their own or another Board. He does agree that if it is two people living in the same household should not be permitted on the same Board.

Charlie Perich commented he and Katherine Mack drive around the Township a lot because he is not familiar with the Township and he is trying to familiarize himself with the Township. Katherine Mack knows where everything is within the Township and if she sees something, she will say, that wasn't there before or what's going on here. That is part of who she is. She sees it; she identifies it. She is the Township Zoning Officer that travels around in the car and everything she sees, registers; it is part of who she is. She will ask him what happened at the Planning Commission and he tells her it is an

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open meeting, why don't you go to the meeting. He hates talking about meetings. He doesn't ask her what happened at the Zoning Hearing Board. They cohabit, but they argue like cats and dogs because they don't see eye to eye on everything.

- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Board went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and a matter of identifiable potential litigation. Upon returning from Executive Session, Cindy Miller made a motion to rescind the motion from the January 3, 2023, meeting setting the non-union wages. Jerry Pritchard seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Cindy Miller made a motion to set the non-union wages as follows: Alice Rehrig, 4% increase; Chrissy Czonstka, Lori Lambert, and Liz Amato, 3.5% increase; Frank Zamadics and Scott Fogel 1.5% increase. Jerry Pritchard seconded the motion. Phil Gogel questioned if the last payroll was effected. Alice Rehrig commented she can do a pay adjustment in the payroll system. Phil Gogel also noted that this would eliminate the \$900 pay adjustment. All voted aye. Motion carried.

- X. ADJOURN. Jerry Pritchard made a motion to adjourn. Cindy Miller seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.