

**LOWER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
October 30, 2018**

The Lower Nazareth Township Board of Supervisors held a regularly scheduled meeting at the Lower Nazareth Elementary School on Tuesday October 30, 2018. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Present were:

James S. Pennington	-	Chairman	Gary Asteak	-	Solicitor
Martin Boucher	-	Vice Chairman	Albert Kortze	-	Engineer
Robert J. Hoyer	-	Supervisor	Lori A. Stauffer	-	Manager
Bert R. Smalley	-	Supervisor	Tammi Dravec	-	Secretary/Treasurer
Amy L. Templeton	-	Supervisor			

New Business - Proposed Intersection Improvements – PA State Route 191 & Newburg Road - Mr. Kortze stated that the plan presented this evening is very preliminary and was drafted using current traffic studies, 2018 traffic volumes, and PADOT criteria. He noted that earlier in 2018, along with Lori Stauffer, he met with LVPC and PADOT to discuss the project and getting it on the “TIP” Transportation Impact Plan which get the improvements on PADOT’s next schedule, 2019-2022. This is a large project and is estimated to cost over \$4 million. We will be looking for state and federal funding to lessen the impact on taxpayers.

On Newburg Road, the proposed plan depicts a lane for thru traffic/left turns and a lane for right turns only. Route 191 would have a designated left turn lane and a thru/right turn lane. Route 191 would also have a left turn lane onto Daniels Road and a thru lane. Mr. Kortze noted that Newburg Road, Route 191, and Daniels Road are state roads. The traffic signal is owned and maintained by the Township. This plan would reduce wait time by 30 seconds/car in the PM and queuing by 500 ft along Newburg Road traveling westbound.

Mr. Pennington emphasized that these are all PADOT roads and the project must meet their approval. This will be a long process and it will likely be 5-6 years before a shovel hits the ground. He stated will have spoken to Senator Scavello and Representative Hahn for their support in getting funding. A \$4 million project is a lot for a township of our size with an annual budget of \$4 million. We want to make these improvements, but we will need help.

Dan Cortright, 4479 Steuben Road, inquired about adding a light at Daniels Road and Route 191. Mr. Kortze stated it was considered but the intersection did not meet the requirement to be signalized. This would place two signals less than the recommended 1,000 feet apart.

Valerie Hendershot, 4338 Newburg Road, was concerned about her property. Mr. Kortze noted we would not be taking about properties.

Bob Shriver, 4437 Maria Drive, asked about designated travel lanes instead of spending \$4 million. Mr. Kortze stated that would be ineffective and PADOT would not be in favor of that design.

Mark Atwood, 4436 Fieldstone Drive, wanted to know which properties we would need to acquire. Mr. Kortze stated only land from the bank. Mr. Atwood asked about acquiring the Newburg Inn. He also asked if the township was taking into consideration the traffic impact from proposed projects in Upper Nazareth. Mr. Pennington stressed that we need PADOT’s approval for this project, regardless of how badly we want to improve the intersection. Board members live here too and understand the necessity for the improvements.

Tammy Kenny, 641 Mulberry Drive, asked if Jaiidl's proposed project was considered in these improvements and asked if we can make developers pay to improve roads. Mr. Pennington stated that PADOT will look into all projects when they do their studies as well as police/accident records. Ms. Stauffer explained traffic impact fees for developers, but they must be reasonable fees.

Lisa Tomko, 4248 Eisenhower Drive, asked if we could just adjust the traffic signal. Mr. Pennington noted that while the Township owns and maintains the traffic signal PADOT controls the timing. Ms. Tomko later inquired if the proximity to the school would aid in approval of the project.

Scott Jordan, 439 Manor Drive, asked if there was a way to get traffic around that intersection. Mr. Kortze discussed how new roads are considered when areas are developed to add alternate routes of travel. Mr. Jordan later suggested a traffic circle.

Joan Garrett, 406 Manor Drive, asked about the zoning in this area. Ms. Stauffer reported it is AG and LDR.

The resident at 4103 Gradwohl Switch Road inquired if the bank would be paid for the property acquired by the Township. Mr. Kortze replied they would.

The resident at 4495 Kimberly Court suggested the Township buy all the properties currently for sale to prepare for the road widening. Mr. Pennington stated the Township is reviewing our options.

Mr. Pennington again noted that this is a massive project for a township of our size. He appreciated everyone's interest and stated we would provide updates on the project.

John Kenny, 641 Mulberry Drive, inquired about adding no left turns from Daniels Road onto Route 191.

Patrick Hemphill, 4364 Newburg Road, was very concerned about the road widening because it would bring the road very close to his house.

The resident at 3966 Hollo Road, did not feel this project would be very productive and would only move the congestion along Route 191. He recommended taking the money and fighting development instead.

Mr. Hoyer noted that the Board inquired how the public felt about taking the Newburg Inn and razing it. The response was positive with residents stating that the building is falling down, too close to the road, and should come down. Mr. Pennington reminded everyone that acquiring properties costs money.

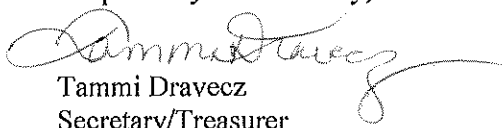
The resident at 431 Nazareth Pike was also concerned about the impact of the road widening on her property.

Another resident stated we should just put the breaks on development in our Township.

Mr. Pennington noted that we are looking into an Open Space Preservation Program. We would raise earned income taxes, by 0.25% to buy land in order to preserve it and prevent development. He noted the tax increase would be required to be on the ballot for approval by residents.

Adjournment -The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,



Tammi Dravec
Secretary/Treasurer

**Board of Supervisors Minutes
October 30, 2018**