

D. Environmental Advisory Council**§1-231. Establishment.**

An Environmental Advisory Council (herein after referred to as the “Council”) is hereby established for Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

(Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §1)

§1-232. Purpose of the Environmental Advisory Council.

The purposes of the Council shall be to advise local governmental agencies including, but not limited to: the Board of Commissioners, the Planning Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Board, on matters dealing with the protection, conservation, management, promotion, acquisition, and use of natural resources including air, land, water, and open space resources located within or affecting Lower Macungie Township.

(Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §2)

§1-233. Membership.

1. The Council shall be composed of between five and seven residents of Lower Macungie Township who shall be appointed by the Board of Commissioners.

2. The Board of Commissioners shall fill all vacancies.

3. Whenever possible, one member of the Council shall also be a member of the Lower Macungie Township Planning Commission.

4. Whenever possible, the Lower Macungie Parks and Recreation Board and the Board of Commissioners shall each appoint a liaison to the Council who shall attend the meetings of the Council but shall not be considered a voting member of the Council.

5. Members shall be from as many different regions of the Township as possible.

(Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §3)

§1-234. Terms of Office.

1. Members of the Council shall serve for a term of 3 years except that the initial appointments shall be so staggered that approximately one-third of the membership shall expire each year, and the terms of their successors shall be 3 years each.

2. If the initial Council consists of five members, then the terms of one member shall expire on December 31, 2009, two members on December 31, 2010, and two members on December 31, 2011. If the initial Council consists of six members, then the terms of two members shall expire on December 31, 2009, 2010, 2011, respectively. If the initial Council consists of seven members, then the terms of two shall expire on December 31, 2009, two on December 31, 2010 and three on December 31, 2011.

3. Members' terms of office shall expire on the first Monday in January following the last year of their term in office.

4. Members may resign at any time upon providing written notice to the Board of Commissioners.

5. Members may be removed by the Board of Commissioners, with or without the recommendation of a majority of the other members, for malfeasance or neglect in the

performance of their duties. Failure to attend either three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings or four regularly scheduled meetings during a 12-month period shall constitute neglect.

6. The Board of Commissioners shall appoint successors to members who resign or are removed to serve for the remaining term of the former member or members.

(Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §4)

§1-235. Compensation.

Members of Council shall receive no compensation for their services, but they may be reimbursed for expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties, provided that the expenses have the prior approval of the Board of Commissioners.

(Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §5)

§1-236. Powers of the Environmental Advisory Council.

The Environmental Advisory Council shall have the following specific powers:

- A. To identify environmental problems and issues.
- B. To recommend plans and programs to the Board of Commissioners for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources and the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within Lower Macungie Township.
- C. To make recommendations as to the selection, acquisition, and use of open space within Lower Macungie Township, when directed to do so by the Board of Commissioners.
- D. To promote a community environmental program.
- E. To keep an index of all open space and environmentally sensitive areas, publicly or privately owned including, but not limited to, flood-prone areas, wetlands, and other unique natural areas for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas.
- F. To advise the Board of Commissioners and other Township agencies as to the acquisition of property, both real and personal and rights thereto, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, easement, devise, or lease in matters consistent with the purpose of the Council.
- G. To consult with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Advisory Councils (or their equivalents in New Jersey) in neighboring municipalities and other appropriate county, State, and Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations on environmental issues affecting Lower Macungie Township and its neighbors.
- H. To advise the Board of Commissioners upon issues of energy conservation.
- I. Assist in the creation and maintenance of an environmental map of the Township and the surrounding areas.
- J. To review all subdivision and land development plans filed with the Township and provide comments and recommendations regarding such plans to the

Board of Commissioners.

K. To perform any other duties assigned to it by the Board of Commissioners but not to exercise any powers or perform any duties which by law are conferred or imposed upon a State agency.

(*Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §6*)

§1-237. Organization and Meetings.

1. The Chair of the Council shall be appointed annually by the Board of Commissioners. The Council may select its own Vice Chair and Secretary.

2. The Council shall meet at least monthly and at other times as directed by the Board of Commissioners. Said meetings shall be advertised and open to the public.

3. The Council shall keep written records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the Board of Commissioners which shall be printed in the annual municipal report or, if none, be made known and available to the public.

(*Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §7*)

§1-238. Appropriations.

The Board of Commissioners may appropriate funds for the expenses incurred by the Council in accordance with the Township annual budget. Appropriations may be expended for such administrative, clerical, printing, training, and professional services as may from time to time be required and approved by the Board of Commissioners and shall be within the limits of the annual budget. The whole or any part of any funds so appropriated in any year may, with the approval of the Board of Commissioners, be placed in a conservation fund and allowed to accumulate from year to year or be expended in any year.

(*Ord. 2009-3, 4/2/2009, §8*)