

FOREWORD

History

Lower Macungie Township was settled in the early 18th century by German immigrant farmers who found the rich, fertile soil and amply watered land to their liking. They remained, caring for their farms, raising large families and eventually becoming prosperous. The massive bank barns and impressive stone farmhouses that can still be found throughout the Township are their legacy to us.

Macungie Township was formed in 1743 when present Lehigh County was still part of Bucks County. It comprised the area of present Upper and Lower Macungie Townships, including the Boroughs of Macungie and Alburtis. On May 5, 1832, Lehigh County Court approved a petition to divide Macungie Township in two, making Upper and Lower Macungie the first new townships to be created in Lehigh County.

The population in Lower Macungie Township grew slowly until housing subdivisions began to sprout new homes in the early 1960s. High assessments on farmland and the decisions in the late 1960s by the Lehigh County Commissioners to place a sewer interceptor along the little Lehigh Creek, right through the center of Lower Macungie Township, precipitated the sale of many farms as elderly farmers sought to make the most of the value of their land. From the late 1980s until the present, Lower Macungie Township has been one of the fastest growing municipalities in the state of Pennsylvania-with a population exceeding 30,000 residents.

Today Lower Macungie is noted for its comfortable housing developments. It has become one of the most desirable parts of the Lehigh Valley for many families, who have chosen to live here because of the Township's attractive landscape, acres of open space, and excellent schools.

The Code of Ordinances of the Township of Lower Macungie was prepared by Keystone Publishers, Inc., and adopted by the Township of Lower Macungie Board of Commissioners on October 6, 2011, by Ord. 2011-12.

Organization

The Code contains four parts, which are: (1) the valid, current ordinances of the Township of Lower Macungie contained in Chapters 1 through 27; (2) the Appendix, which lists by abstracted title all ordinances of a temporary or "one time" nature; (3) the Table to Disposition of each ordinance ever enacted by the Township of Lower Macungie; and (4) the Index, which is an alphabetical arrangement of subjects.

In the Code, specific ordinances can be located by subject on the contents page at the beginning of each chapter. The Index may also be used to search for a subject when one is looking for general information on a particular subject, or if it is not known in which chapter the subject might be found. The Appendix

consists of several general categories containing a chronological listing of short subject descriptions along with a reference to the original ordinance and its date of enactment, if known.

The Table to Disposition indicates what action has been taken by the Township of Lower Macungie Board of Commissioners with regard to every ordinance ever enacted. An ordinance has either been: (1) specifically repealed; (2) superseded by another ordinance; (3) is located in a chapter of the Code book; or (4) is located in the Appendix. Annual tax rate and budget ordinances are located only in the Table to Disposition. The Table to Disposition is a cross reference to the original ordinance books of the Township of Lower Macungie and to the location within the Code of each ordinance by number.