

Proposed Ordinance – New Member Participation in the Lower South Valley Land Bank

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LUZERNE, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE LOWER SOUTH VALLEY LAND BANK AND APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Lower South Valley Land Bank (“Land Bank”) was established on September 6, 2022, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Land Bank Act, Act 153 of 2012, 68 Pa.C.S. §2101 et seq., through an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement among participating municipalities and school districts; and

WHEREAS, Section 4.5 of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement permits additional municipalities and school districts within Luzerne County to opt into membership in the Land Bank after its formation; and

WHEREAS, Section 3.2 of the duly adopted Bylaws of the Lower South Valley Land Bank establishes the procedure for admitting additional members, including recommendation by the Land Bank Board, super-majority approval by existing voting members, and enactment of an ordinance by the joining municipality; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Lower South Valley Land Bank adopted Resolution No. 2026-02 recommending the admission of the [Municipality/District] as a new member and establishing the applicable terms and conditions of membership; and

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of the existing voting member municipalities of the Lower South Valley Land Bank have approved the admission of the [Municipality/District] in accordance with the Land Bank Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Luzerne has determined that participation in the Lower South Valley Land Bank will advance the public purposes of addressing blighted, vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties and promoting neighborhood stabilization and reinvestment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED as follows:

Section 1. Authorization to Join.

The Borough of Luzerne hereby elects to become a member of the Lower South Valley Land Bank.

Section 2. Approval of Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement.

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement dated September 6, 2022 is hereby approved and adopted by reference, without material modification.

Section 3. Acceptance of Bylaws and Policies.

The Borough agrees to be bound by all duly adopted Bylaws, Policies, and applicable resolutions of the Lower South Valley Land Bank.

Section 4. Membership Fees and Appointment

The Borough agrees to pay an annual membership fee of \$1,500 in addition to a one-time \$3,000 initiation fee for 2026 totaling \$4,500. Membership fees may change upon approval by the LSVLB Board. <NOTE – WVW is not obligated to pay, only municipalities. This section can be struck for their ordinance.>

Luzerne Borough appoints Daniel Firce to a three-year term, ending 12/31/2028.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2026, at a regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Luzerne, held on the ____ day of, 2026.

Attest:

NICOLE LORD, Secretary

MICHAEL JANCUSKA
Council Chairman

APPROVED, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

RONALD REINO, Mayor