

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 21, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

1) Executive Session:

- a) Mr. DiPaolo called the executive session to order at 6:32 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Altieri. The following supervisors were present: Mrs. Altieri, Mr. Brown, Mr. Dininny, Mr. DiPaolo, and Mr. Sassu. Also present were Township Manager Mr. Dunbar and Solicitor Onorato. Human Resources Coordinator Geri Golas was present for a portion of the meeting. A discussion took place on legal and personnel matters. Mrs. Altieri motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m., seconded by Mr. Brown.

2) Public Meeting: Call to Order

- a) Chairman Sassu called the public meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Roll Call:

- a) The following members were present: Supervisors Altieri, Brown, Dininny, DiPaolo and Sassu.
- b) Also present were Solicitor David Onorato, Police Chief Francis Carroll, Public Works Director David Shaffer, Parks & Recreation Director Karl Lukens, Project Analyst Nate Dysard, Director of Community Development Michael Siegel, and Township Manager Joseph Dunbar.

5) Chairman's Comments:

- a) Chairman Sassu announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.
- b) Chairman Sassu noted that original agenda item 3a; a public hearing for the Colleeville Inn has been removed from the agenda because the applicant has withdrawn their application.

6) Consent Agenda:

- a) **MOTION** – Supervisor Altieri made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion.
 - i) Supervisor DiPaolo noted that his vote included an abstention from the May 7, 2009 meeting minutes, as he arrived late in that meeting.
 - ii) **MOTION VOTE** – The motion *passed* 4-0-1. There was no public comment on this item.

7) New Business:

- a) Authorization to sign agreement to authorize electronic access to PennDOT Systems:
 - i) Mr. Dunbar noted that PennDOT has a new protocol requiring electronic filing of applications, and requested authorization to sign an agreement for that access.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Altieri made a motion to authorize the request. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this item.
- b) Discussion and action on investment strategy:
 - i) Mr. Dunbar explained that he was requesting authorization for the transfer of funds from the Township's holdings with TD Bank to two other institutions, as well as changing an account with Sovereign Bank because the current rates of return on those investments are poor.
 - ii) This would include converting \$1.26 million investment account at Sovereign Bank, which is currently earning .71%, to a 6-month CD with a return of 1.4%.
 - iii) They would also transfer \$1 million from an account at TD Bank earning .35% to Pligit in a Plus 6-month CD earning 1.45%.
 - iv) The final transfer would be moving \$1 million from TD Bank to Citizen's Bank into a 6-month flex CD earning 1.3% instead of the current .35%.
 - v) Each of the rates referenced above are as of May 14, 2009.

- vi) Mr. Dunbar noted these monies are restricted accounts that don't need to be as liquid. This is a relatively secure investment with a better return, and is covered by Act 72 requirements.
- vii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Altieri made a motion to authorize the investment changes. Supervisor DiPaolo seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this item.
- c) Consideration on request from Audubon Recreation Association (ARA) to install a new scoreboard on Field C:
 - i) Mr. Lukens noted that as discussed at the work session, ARA is requesting permission to install a new scoreboard on Field C. This request has received County approval, and was also approved by the Parks & Recreation Board at their April meeting. This project is funded completely by ARA, with no cost to the Township.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Dininny made a motion to approve the scoreboard installation. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this item.
- d) Consideration on releasing \$15,000 from capital budget for ARA to purchase and build a pavilion:
 - i) Mr. Lukens explained that ARA has also requested permission to install a pavilion. \$15,000 has been budgeted in the Capital fund for this project. The Township will help with the purchase of the pavilion, and ARA will incur the remaining costs and installation. The County has approved this construction as required in their lease.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Altieri make a motion to authorize the release of funds for this project. Supervisor DiPaolo seconded the motion.
 - (1) Mr. DiPaolo asked if ARA was also contributing \$15,000? Mr. Lukens indicated that they had volunteers to help with the construction. Mr. DiPaolo noted that this was like a match of funds, as it would cost the Township about \$15,000 more to complete the installation.
 - (2) **MOTION VOTE** – The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this item.
- e) Waiver request from Lower Providence Historical Society in the amount of \$75.00 for temporary sign:
 - i) Mr. Siegel requested that the Board consider waiving the \$75 permit fee paid by the Lower Providence Historical Society for a temporary sign used for a bake sale.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Dininny made a motion to grant the waiver as requested. Supervisor Altieri seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this matter.
- f) Consideration on disposition of assets – police bicycles:
 - i) Chief Carroll requested that the Board authorize the transfer of two police bicycles no longer in use to the Lower Providence Community Center Ambulance.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Brown made a motion to authorize this request. Supervisor DiPaolo seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this matter.
- g) Consideration on disposition of assets – H&K UMP 40 weapons:
 - i) Chief Carroll requested that the Board authorize the interdepartmental transfer of two H&K UMP 40 weapons, at a cost of \$750 each, to the Collegeville Police Department.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Altieri made a motion to authorize the request. Supervisor Dininny seconded the motion.
 - (1) Chairman Sassu asked if there was any tax fee involved with the transfer? Chief Carroll indicated there was no tax, just Federal paperwork to be completed.
 - (2) **MOTION VOTE** – The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this matter.
- h) Authorization to accept road reconstruction bids:
 - i) Mr. Dysard requested authorization to award the 2009 road reconstruction bid for micro-resurfacing 09-01 to Asphalt Paving Systems of Hammonton, NJ, at a cost of \$123,650.
 - ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Brown made a motion to award the bid to Asphalt Paving the lowest responsible bidder at \$123,650, and also authorize Chambers Associates to provide project

management services for this project at a cost not to exceed \$6,000. Supervisor Altieri seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no further public comment on this matter.

i) Authorization to submit a grant on PA Conservation Works:

i) Mr. Dysard requested authorization to submit two separate PA Conservation Works grants. This is a federally funded grant, which opens June 15th, and is awarded on a first-come first-served basis. The two applications include:

(1) A \$200,000 grant for installation of solar-powered streetlights. There is a \$60,000 required match, which was previously budgeted in 2009 for street light replacement.

(2) The second grant would be for \$30,000 to replace the 30-year-old air-conditioning units at the Township building. This would require a \$9,000 match.

ii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Altieri made a motion to authorize this request. Supervisor Brown seconded the motion.

(1) Supervisor Altieri asked if this grant would be awarded in 2009? Mr. Dysard believes it will be as the grants are awarded first-come first-served and only permit 18 months to complete the project.

(2) Supervisor Brown asked if the solar lights would be as bright as the current ones, and what their life expectancy would be? Mr. Dysard indicated the lights would be as bright, and that they have a 15-20 year life, with reduced maintenance costs.

(3) **MOTION VOTE** – The motion *passed* 5-0.

iii) There was no public comment on this item.

j) Discussion on Phase II environmental assessment proposals for the open space acquisitions:

i) Mr. Dunbar requested that the Board authorize Phase II environmental assessments for the two open space parcels the Township is purchasing with an open space grant. They met with CMX this week, and there are some gray areas, and they would like to proceed with the Phase II on the Gorski Tract if that is acceptable with the Board.

ii) Mr. Onorato explained that they have to act with due diligence, so it is important the Board takes action tonight. There are some questions with issues on the Gorski Tract that were identified in Phase I, and they need to determine if they are on the tract the Township is acquiring. There is one area with regard to the septic system near the house that is spilling over onto the parcel being acquired by the Township that requires further investigation. The Nicola Tract has one underground storage tank that will require soil testing in that area. Mr. Onorato indicated that they need to meet due diligence by proceeding further with the analysis.

iii) **MOTION** – Supervisor Brown made a motion to accept the proposal from CMX to prepare the Phase II environmental assessment for the Nicola Tract, not to exceed \$10,555, \$1,400 of which is a contingency cost. Supervisor Altieri seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this item.

iv) **MOTION** – Supervisor Brown made a motion to accept the proposal from CMX to prepare the Phase II environmental assessment for the Gorski Tract, not to exceed \$10,555, \$1,400 of which is a contingency cost. Supervisor Altieri seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this item.

k) Chairman Sassu noted, as previously mentioned, that the public hearing for the Collegeville Inn has been removed from the agenda.

8) Comments and Other Business:

a) Mr. Siegel noted that he was unable to add an escrow release for 970 Rittenhouse Road, in the amount of \$88,000, to the work session agenda because of timing. He is requesting that the Board authorize the release of this escrow money as the project has been completed. Chambers Associates has reviewed this and supports the request.

i) **MOTION** – Supervisor Dininny made a motion to authorize the escrow release. Supervisor Altieri seconded the motion.

(1) Supervisor DiPaolo asked if the Chambers letter was in-house and clear? Mr. Siegel indicated that the letter is coming, but Chambers is in support of the request.

- (2) **MOTION VOTE** – The motion *passed* 5-0. There was no public comment on this matter.
- b) **MOTION** – Supervisor Brown made a motion to prepare and advertise an ordinance to remove the institutional overlay from the Collegeville Inn tract now that they have withdrawn their application and moved forward with a senior citizen complex. Supervisor DiPaolo seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-1. Supervisor Dininny opposed the motion. There was no public comment on this matter.
 - c) Supervisor Dininny commented that he had hoped the two candidates who were selected in Tuesday's primary, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Eckman, would be present this evening so that he could concede the election publicly.
 - d) Chairman Sassu noted that there was a dinner and Senior Citizen Day on May 3, 2009. This year Mr. Joseph Stemple was honored as the Township's Senior Citizen of the Year. Mr. Sassu commented on Mr. Stemple's background, noting he is a great guy, and that they were able to surprise him with this honor.

9) Courtesy of the Floor:

- a) There was no public comment at this time.

10) Adjournment:

- a) **MOTION** – Supervisor Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Altieri seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Work Session Meeting: June 4, 2009

Next Business Meeting: June 18, 2009