

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 7, 2013 MEETING MINUTES**

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**1) Executive Session:**

- a) Upon motion by Mrs. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Sorgini, the executive session of the Board was called to order at 6:32 p.m. The following Supervisors were present: Mr. Thomas, Mr. Sorgini and Mrs. Zimmerman. Also present were Township Manager Mr. Gestrich, Assistant Township Manager Mrs. Golas and Solicitor Sheridan. Discussions took place on real estate and personnel matters. At 7:27 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Sorgini, seconded by Mrs. Zimmerman, the executive session adjourned. At 8:09 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Sorgini and seconded by Mrs. Zimmerman, the Board entered a second executive session. The session adjourned at 8:22 p.m., on a motion by Mrs. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Sorgini.

**2) Public Meeting: Call to Order**

- a) Vice Chairman Thomas called the public meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**3) Pledge of Allegiance**

**4) Roll Call:**

- a) The following members were present: Supervisors Sorgini, Thomas, and Zimmerman.
- b) Supervisors Brown and Eckman were absent.
- c) Also present were Student Representative Benjamin Neider, Solicitor Michael Sheridan, Police Chief Francis Carroll, Director of Special Projects and Technology William Roth, Community Relations Coordinator Denise Walsh, Assistant Township Manager Geri Golas, and Township Manager Richard Gestrich.

**5) Chairman's Comments:**

- a) Vice Chairman Thomas read these Chairman's comments: Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors and Staff wish to express our deep sorry over the sudden passing of Public Works Director David H. Shaffer Jr. on January 27, 2013. Dave served Lower Providence Township and its residents for 28 years. He inspired us with his untiring dedication and genuine love for his work. His big heart and gentle spirit will be sorely missed.
- b) Vice Chairman Thomas announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss real estate and personnel matters.

**6) Consent Agenda:**

- a) **MOTION** – Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1a through 1b, including moving the meeting minutes of January 17, 2013, as presented. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
  - i) Supervisor Sorgini noted that for item 8)A)i)2) of the minutes the vote should be 3-2, not 3-0.
  - ii) **MOTION VOTE:** The motion *passed* 3-0.

**7) Presentations:**

- a) Presentation to Det. Sgt. Terrence J. Kennedy in recognition of 25 years of service with the Lower Providence Township Police Department:
  - i) Vice Chairman Thomas provided a detailed educational and professional background for Det. Sgt. Terrence Kennedy. Mr. Thomas presented Det. Sgt. Kennedy with a plaque and watch from the Township.
  - ii) Chief Carroll commented on Det. Sgt. Kennedy's exemplary leadership in the detective division, his ability to develop collaborative relationships, and his use of new technology in detective work.
  - iii) Det. Sgt. Kennedy thanked Chief Carroll, the command staff, fellow officers, the Board, Mr. Roth, and his family for their support.

- b) Presentation to Officer Charles Murray recognizing of 5 years of service with the Lower Providence Township Police Department:
  - i) Vice Chairman Thomas provided a detailed educational and professional background for Officer Charles Murray. Mr. Thomas presented Officer Murray with a gift from the Township.
  - ii) Chief Carroll noted that Officer Murray is the picture of a Marine, who is trusted by his peers, and remains calm under any circumstances while serving the community.

**8) New Business:**

- a) Authorization to proceed with Department of Environmental Protection grant application for Compressed Natural Gas conversion:
  - i) Mr. Gestrich discussed the DEP grant application the Township would like to submit for compressed natural gas conversion (CNG) of vehicles 14,000 lbs. or greater. The grant would pay 50% of the conversion costs or 50% of the cost differential for purchasing a CNG capable vehicle.
  - ii) Mr. Gestrich contacted several companies to obtain quotes for the potential CNG conversion or bi-fuel alternative conversion for the Township vehicle fleet. This resulted in only one company, BAF, providing the requested cost estimates. Mr. Gestrich noted the prices for the conversions ranged from \$24,000 to \$30,000 per vehicle depending on the type of vehicle. Further cost benefit analysis with use of CNG fuels showed that while this would be beneficial for the newest trucks, it was break even for the 2005 and 2008 dump trucks.
  - iii) Award of the grant is contingent upon the Board of Supervisor's approval of the Township's \$44,000 match for conversion costs and the location of a CNG facility within close proximity to the Township fleet. Mr. Gestrich reviewed several possible locations of CNG facilities within the Township. He noted that the DEP just announced a second round of grants that will open for vehicles 14,000 lbs. or less.
  - iv) **MOTION** – Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to proceed with the DEP grant application, approve the match contingent upon identifying a CNG facility close to the fleet as identified by the Township. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 3-0.
  - v) Public Comment:
    - (1) There was no public comment on this item.
- b) Discussion and consideration of tax collector compensation:
  - i) Mrs. Golas noted that the local tax collector has requested that the Board revise the tax collector compensation, which is allowed at this time because 2013 is a municipal election year.
  - ii) As part of the request, the tax collector, Ms. Kirsten Deal, is requesting \$1 fee per delinquent tax notice she mails, which an average of 650 notices per year. She is also requested up to \$1,500 per year for printing and envelope expenses.
  - iii) Supervisor Sorgini remarked that the request makes sense because costs have increased.
  - iv) **MOTION** – Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to increase the tax collector's compensation as outlined. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 3-0.
  - v) Public Comment:
    - (1) There was no public comment on this item.
- c) Update on financing proposals for \$322,100 in capital assets:
  - i) Mr. Gestrich noted that subsequent to the Board's January 17, 2013 meeting, TD Bank indicated it would take several weeks prior to their processing the Township's loans for computer server equipment, police cars, and a public works truck because of an underwriter shortage. The TD loans were to be 2.19% over five years for the server and police vehicles, and 2.85% over ten years for the truck.
  - ii) The delay provided time for the Township to acquire a better quote from the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority of 1.003% over five years for the server and police vehicles, and 1.625% over ten years for the truck.

