

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING  
OCTOBER 20, 2016**

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**Call to Order:** Chairman Sorgini called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Sorgini, Supervisors Eckman, Duffy, MacFarland and Zimmerman.
- b. Also in attendance were: John Rice, Township Solicitor; Alison Rudolf, Interim Township Manager; Assistant Township Manager Geraldine Golas; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Karl Lukens, Director of Parks & Recreation; Lonnie Manai, Township Engineer; John Primus, Director of Public Works; and Stanley Turtle, Chief of Police.

Chairman Sorgini announced that prior to the meeting the Board met to discuss legal, real estate and personnel matters.

**1) Consent Agenda**

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a), 1(b) and 1(c) including moving the meeting minutes of October 6, 2016 into the record. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0-1 with Supervisor Eckman abstaining.

**2) New Business**

A) Approval of Resolution appointing Township Manager.

- i) Chairman Sorgini announced that after an extensive search and interview process, Donald Delamater had been hired as the Township Manager.
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve the resolution appointing Donald Delamater as Township Manager. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
  - (1) Supervisor MacFarland noted that the Board had reviewed dozens of resumes and interviewed at least 20 people. He said that no one had the demeanor, experience and outlook to aid Lower Providence going forward as had Mr. Delamater.

B) Consideration of LD-16-02 – Classic Coachworks Expansion Minor Land Development Plan at 3949 Ridge Pike

- i) Solicitor Rice reviewed the application and said there were some issues with compliance with the McMahon May 31, 2016 review letter pertaining to the requirement for PennDOT HOP permit, traffic impact fees, fees in lieu of and improvements to the driveway. He said he believes this is an issue with McMahon & Associates looking at earlier plans that were filed in December.
  - (1) Mr. Mrozinski said the applicant reworked the plans and addressed what staff had asked of them but since the expansion of the building was not going to increase traffic impact the ordinance, as strictly applied, did not make sense. As a result, some of the review letters did not catch up with the plans.
  - (2) Solicitor Rice said that while he prefers to have all matters addressed before the Board meeting, the issues of concern are no longer applicable in the McMahon letter. He noted an additional sentence would be added to Paragraph 3 which negate the McMahon

comments, but that it was up to the Board as to whether or not they wanted to approve the matter

- (3) Mr. Manai said that he feels the improvements as shown on the plan are more than adequate.
  - (4) In response to Chairman Sorgini, Solicitor Rice said he was fine with the revisions and approving the plan as amended and feels comfortable with having the Board approve the plan, with revisions, this evening.
  - (5) Supervisor Eckman clarified that the Park and Recreation fees would not be impacted.
  - (6) Supervisor MacFarland asked Solicitor Rice to specify how this paragraph would be worded so the Board knows exactly how they will be voting. Solicitor Rice said that the amended paragraph would read: The applicant need not comply with paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 7, 16, 17 and 18 of the McMahan and Associates correspondence based upon the plans last revised September 14, 2016 which eliminates the requirement for a PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit and widened the driveway entrance.
  - (7) Supervisor MacFarland asked if the sidewalk deferral, which had previously been discussed, would be part of the approval. Solicitor Rice said that this was not in the resolution but could be included as Paragraph 8. Discussion was held as to how to word the deferred sidewalk clause. It was decided that the following language would be added as Paragraph 8: Consideration of the waivers set forth in Paragraph 7, the applicant will execute a restrictive covenant of 150 lineal feet of sidewalk whenever there is a connection on either side of the property.
- C) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to approve LD-16-02 – Classic Coachworks Expansion Minor Land Development Plan at 3949 Ridge Pike, as amended per Township Solicitor John Rice. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- D) Consideration of an ordinance amending and restating the Defined Contribution Plan for full-time non-uniform employees.
- i) Solicitor Rice said this ordinance was before the Board in the spring and the auditor general reported that it needed to be adopted as an ordinance in order to be implemented. He noted that the ordinance had been advertised.
  - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve an ordinance amending and restating the Defined Contribution Plan for full-time non-uniform employees. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- E) Approval of revised Defined Contribution Plan Personnel Policy.
- i) Geri Golas said that this is a matter of cleaning-up the language of the personnel policy. Changes include increasing the contribution rate as per the collective bargaining agreement, updating the employee eligibility date and removing outdated language.
  - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve the revised Defined Contribution Plan Personnel Policy. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- F) Acceptance of the resignation of Fred Walker from the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority and appointment of Peter MacFarland to the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority.
- i) Chairman Sorgini stated that Fred Walker had served the Township for many years. He stated they are voting to accept his resignation with regret but also with gratitude for the work he has done.
  - ii) **MOTION:** Chairman Sorgini made a motion to accept the resignation of Fred Walker from the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority and appoint Peter MacFarland to the

Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The *motion* passed 4-0-1 with Supervisor MacFarland abstaining.

**3) Announcements**

- A) The Planning Commission meeting will be held October 26 at 7 p.m.
- B) The Zoning Hearing Board meeting will be held October 27 at 7 p.m.

**4) Comments**

- A) Chief Turtle gave an update on the School Resource Officer Program in consideration of the School Board's budget reduction and non-renewal of the program. He noted that Methacton High School is not in Lower Providence so officers are cross-sworn as Methacton School Police Officers and as result, incur additional expenses. He also discussed the reduction of staffing from a full-time officer at Arcola to a part-time officer. Chief Turtle outlined the negotiation process and said that while they are still actively working toward resolution, as of yet they do not know how the program will look as of February 2017. He noted that they feel strongly about being a presence in the school. Chairman Sorgini echoed that support for the program.
  - i) Supervisor Duffy asked if, in 2011, the high school had established their own police department. Chief Turtle said they had and explained the structure and financial commitment of that program.
  - ii) Supervisor MacFarland asked if the previously budgeted \$299,000 did not fully cover the cost of two officers. Chief Turtle said it did not and confirmed that Lower Providence provided financial support for the program.
  - iii) Supervisor Eckman asked if the reason for the program was the success of having an office in the Arcola school. Chief Turtle said that it was and also to reduce response time. Supervisor Eckman asked officers received additional training. Chief Turtle said they receive School Resource Officer training and may, if a contract is resolved, receive advance School Resource Officer training.
- B) Supervisor Duffy reported that the Library is holding their fall fundraiser, a comedy night, at 8 p.m. on Friday, October 28 at Chadwick's and that tickets could be purchased at the library.

**5) Adjournment**

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Business Meeting: November 3, 2016  
November 17, 2016