

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 2, 2017**

Call to Order: Chairwoman Eckman called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairwoman Eckman, Supervisors Duffy, MacFarland, Sorgini and Zimmerman.
- b. Also in attendance were: John Rice, Township Solicitor; Don Delamater, Township Manager; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer; Geri Golas, Assistant Township Manager; John Primus, Director of Public Works and Stanley Turtle, Chief of Police.

Chairwoman Eckman announced that prior to the meeting the Board met to discuss legal and personnel matters.

1) Consent Agenda

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a) and 1(b), including moving the meeting minutes of February 16, 2017 into the record. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 3-0-2 with Supervisors Duffy and MacFarland abstaining due to their absence at the February 16 meeting.

2) Presentations

- A) Presentation by Daniel Weckerly, Valley Forge Tourism & Convention Board
 - i) Mr. Weckerly introduced a video introducing the Tourism & Convention Board and discussed the mission of the Board.
 - ii) Supervisor Duffy asked about the organization's desire to see a facility in Montgomery County to host youth sport activities. Mr. Weckerly said that they are very interested in supporting this project and have hired an outside consultant to closely look at the logistics of placing a multi-sport, tournament ready facility in the county. He stated they have done the research and are ready to hand that data over to interested parties. Mr. Weckerly noted that they have employees that support this lucrative sports tourism and are ready to promote it but their role was only to gather the data, which is now available through their office.
 - (1) Supervisor MacFarland asked how much acreage would be needed for this sort of facility. Mr. Weckerly said that estimates for a multi-field, multi-court facility, including parking, were approximately 40 plus acres. He said that a five-year projection estimated that such a facility would have a \$100 million impact on the area and that research shows that business has been lost due to a lack of such facility.
 - iii) Supervisor MacFarland asked if there is marketing directed to local residents to help them become more aware of facilities in the county. Mr. Weckerly stated there was and that they are active on Facebook and other social media platforms. He noted that they track tourism numbers through hotel stays so it is difficult to determine their impact on local residents outside personal observation but the evidence is there that some of that marketing is building attendance.
 - iv) Supervisor Sorgini asked about their outreach with the John James Audubon Center. Mr. Weckerly said that due to the Center's ongoing construction they are concentrating their marketing to their outdoor events.

3) New Business

- A) Consideration of a waiver to permit the replacement of solid style fence in the front yard at 2814 Leon Avenue.
- i) Mr. Mrozinski reviewed the waiver request. He stated this fence would be on a low volume roadway and stated there wouldn't be any issues with site lines.
 - ii) Mr. Holyoke explained the need for the fence replacement. He has discussed the project with neighbors and they are in favor of replacing the fence. He said a vinyl fence would be hardier and require less maintenance.
 - iii) Chairwoman Eckman asked to see an aerial shot of the property. Mr. Holyoke explained the configuration of his property.
 - iv) Supervisor MacFarland asked for clarification of the drawing included in the waiver request and asked if the fences would extend on both sides to the street. Mr. Holyoke said that only one side will extend to the street and the other will be approximately 20 feet back from the street. He noted that the new fence would only be on the sides of the house and would connect to a neighbor's existing fence in the back.
 - v) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the waiver request to permit the replacement of solid style fence in the front yard at 2814 Leon Avenue. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- B) Consideration of Resolution No. 17-11 designating the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company as the company to provide fire protection services within Lower Providence Township.
- i) Solicitor Rice reviewed the resolution. The resolution designates the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company to provide services. The resolution also includes Section 1553 which requires an annual itemized list of all expenditures during the Township's annual budget consideration.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to approve the resolution designating the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company as the company to provide fire protection services within Lower Providence Township. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- C) Consideration of Resolution 17-12 designating Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Colleen Eckman or Township Manager Donald Delamater to execute all agreement for the Multi-Modal Transportation Fund Grant.
- i) Don Delamater reviewed the resolution, stating this was for the grant that had already been received. He stated that since the prior Township Manager was authorized to sign all documents, this is an update to the records at the request of PennDOT.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the resolution designating Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Colleen Eckman or Township Manager Donald Delamater to execute all agreement for the Multi-Modal Transportation Fund Grant. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- D) Authorization to advertise a public hearing for the conditional use application for 35 Evansburg Road.
- i) Solicitor Rice reviewed the conditional use application to develop 25 single-family homes at 35 Evansburg Road. He noted that the Board had previously adopted an ordinance which permitted this village housing development option on this tract. Solicitor Rice said that the conditional use hearing would be set for April 6.

