LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA RESOLUTION NO. 2021-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER PROVIDENCE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING AN ETHICS POLICY FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES AND TOWNSHIP PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lower Providence Township (the "Board") has determined that transparency in the appointment and retention of professional consultants is necessary to ensure that only the most qualified consultants are retained to provide services to the Township and its residents; and therefore, discourages township consultants from making or being asked to make political contributions to local officials.

WHEREAS, elected and appointed officials, employees and consultants must be conscious of the need for ethical conduct when performing Township duties with regard to Township businesses, persons, developers or companies who may have a development, zoning, building or other financial matter before the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that elected and appointed officials must be ever conscious that public office is a public trust and that all representatives of the Township should refrain from engaging in activities or conduct which are inconsistent with the fair and honest performance of their governmental duties; and therefore discourages the direct solicitation of local businesses or developers for political contributions by elected or appointed officials, employees and consultants.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors expects appointees to the Zoning Hearing Board and all Township Boards and Commissions to adhere to the highest ethical standards to include refraining from any appearance of impropriety.

WHEREAS, Section 1103 of the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act states that no public official, public employee or nominee or candidate for public office shall solicit or accept anything of monetary value, including a gift, loan, political contribution, reward or promise of future employment, based on any understanding of that public official, public employee or nominee that the vote, official action or judgment of the public official or public employee or nominee or candidate for public office would be influenced thereby.

WHEREAS, to prevent any appearance of impropriety the Board of Supervisors desires that Township appointees voluntarily adhere to Section 1103 of the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics even though the Act does not directly apply to Township appointees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of Lower Providence Township that:

- 1. The Township Manager reference this Resolution and the Requirements of the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act on the application for residents who wish to be appointed to Township Boards, Commissions, and Authorities;
- 2. The Township Manager circulate this Resolution and the Requirements of the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act for appointee's who currently serve on Township Boards, Commissions, and Authorities;
- 3. The Township Manager shall present to each potential or current Township appointee a form to verify that they will abide by the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and avoid the appearance of impropriety, or either not seek appointment or voluntarily resign from their current position on a Township Board, Commission, or Authority.

SO RESOLVED this	day of	, 2021.
ATTEST:		LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
Donald D. Delamater, Secretary		By: Peter MacFarland, Chairperson