

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-24**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, IN SUPPORT OF CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, the increased use of clean, renewable energy and reduction of pollution is vital to the health, welfare, safety, vibrancy and long-term prosperity of Lower Providence Township and its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Lower Providence Township has demonstrated its continued commitment to be at the forefront of municipal use of clean, renewable energy and being sustainable in a sound fiscal manner as exemplified by:

- The use of geothermal technology for heating and cooling at the Lower Providence Community Library Building;
- The installation of solar panels in 2014 to use solar energy at the Public Works Building to produce electricity;
- The passing of a Riparian Buffer Ordinance on May 19, 2016 which protects the streams and waterways of the Township;
- Formed a consortium, the Skippack Creek Watershed Alliance, in 2016 with 5 neighboring municipalities to identify and fund projects which will decrease the amount of sediment and nutrient pollution in the Skippack Creek Watershed thereby improving the quality of the Creek and its ecosystem; and
- The replacement of all lighting fixtures in 2019 in the Township Building with LED fixtures which will significantly reduce the Township's daily energy consumption;

**WHEREAS**, the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors desires to implement additional measures which increase the Township's use of clean, renewable energy sources and sustainability efforts; reduce its reliance on fossil fuels; and improve the energy efficiency of Township buildings, systems, devices and equipment; with the expectation that the Township will remain at the forefront of municipal use of clean, renewable energy and become more sustainable; and

**WHEREAS**, there continue to be opportunities to increase the use of clean, renewable energy by Lower Providence Township and reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and improve the energy efficiency of Township buildings and energy consuming systems and devices; and

**WHEREAS**, the increased use of clean, renewable energy and increased sustainability efforts can produce energy cost savings for the Township and serve as an example for the Township's residents and businesses to follow in an effort to stimulate new economic activity and local jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, sustainability can include more than just energy production: sustainability can include provisions for electric vehicles; non-vehicular interconnectivity; the increased use of

recyclable and reusable products; the reduction of use of paper and other disposable products; the reduction in unnecessary impervious covers; pollution reduction; land use management; placement of additional tree canopy; public education and literacy around sustainability; and the provision for efficiently utilizing existing resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Lower Providence Township intends to:

- Increase its use of clean, renewable energy and sustainability efforts within practical and economic reach;
- Reduce its use of disposable products;
- Evaluate the potential use of clean, renewable energy in any Township construction, renovation, upgrade or replacement project;
- Make energy efficiency and sustainability a priority in municipal operations;
- Help educate the public, residents and businesses of Lower Providence Township about the benefits of sustainability and increased use of clean, renewable energy;
- Lead by example by taking concrete measures which will reduce the Township's reliance on non-renewable energy and increase sustainability efforts such that the residents and businesses in the Township can follow suit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township believes that it is its duty and obligation to become more sustainable and evaluate the potential use of clean, renewable energy in any construction, renovation, upgrade or replacement of any energy consuming system or device in a Township funded project.

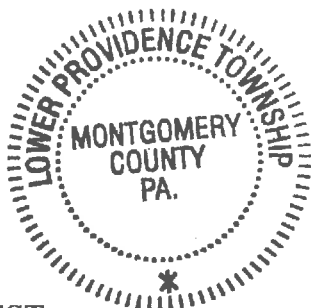
**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is hereby **RESOLVED** by the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors that:

- “Clean, Renewable Energy” is defined as energy derived from ongoing natural processes that replenish rapidly and is sustainably collected from renewable sources such as sunlight, wind, falling water, sustainable biomass, wave motions, tides, and geothermal power; and
- “Sustainability” is defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; and
- Any projects undertaken by Lower Providence Township to construct, replace, renovate, or upgrade any Township controlled building or energy consuming system or device, shall undergo a total analysis comparing the use of clean, renewable energy sources to traditional energy sources, with the analysis (including cost comparisons, projections and functional analysis) to be presented to the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors for discussion and consideration prior to approval of such project; and
- Lower Providence Township will pursue and investigate any and all grant opportunities available to increase the Township's sustainability efforts and utilize clean, renewable energy in any building project, upgrade, renovation or

replacement of an energy consuming system or device such that the selection of clean, renewable energy in such projects is practical and financially feasible; and

- The Township Environmental Consultant is to present to the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors at least once a year on the state of clean, renewable energy use in the area and any significant update on advancements in sustainability efforts available; and
- Beginning on October 1, 2019, Township consultants are to review all subdivision and land development projects and include a recommendation section in their review letters on how the developments can increase sustainability in the project above those mandated by ordinance;
- At the second meeting of the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors in April of each year, the Board of Supervisors will recognize Earth Day and present on the sustainability efforts in the Township; and
- The Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors will call on Montgomery County, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States to enact sound, fiscally responsible legislation, policies, and, regulations that increase the use of clean, renewable energy and increase sustainability efforts which reduces the country's reliance on fossil fuels.

**SO RESOLVED**, at a duly convened meeting of the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors conducted on this 16th day of May 2019.



ATTEST:

  
Donald Delamater, Secretary

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
Peter MacFarland

  
Colleen Eckman

  
Patrick T. Duffy

  
Gary Neights

  
Jason Sorgini