

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 5, 2015**

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**Call to Order:** Chairwoman Eckman called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairwoman Eckman, Supervisors Duffy, Sorgini, Thomas and Zimmerman.
  - b. Also in attendance were: Richard Gestrich, Township Manager, Alison Wasserman, Solicitor; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; Geri Golas, Assistant Township Manager; Francis Carroll, Police Chief; and Denise Walsh, Community Relations Coordinator.
  - c. **Chairwoman's Comments:** Chairwoman Eckman announced that prior to the meeting the Board met in executive session on Saturday, Jan 3 to discuss personnel matters.
- 1) Appointment of Temporary Chairman – Temporary Secretary
    - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to appoint Colleen Eckman as temporary chairman. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
  - 2) Election of Chairman
    - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Jason Sorgini as Chairman for 2015. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-1 with Supervisor Thomas opposing.
  - 3) Election of Vice-Chairman
    - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Patrick Duffy as Vice-Chairman for 2015. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-1 with Supervisor Thomas opposing.
  - 4) Appointment of Solicitor and Fixing of Compensation
    - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to appoint John Rice and the firm Grim, Biehn & Thatcher as solicitor for 2015. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
  - 5) Appointment of Secretary to Board of Supervisors
    - A) Appointment of Assistant Secretary to Board of Supervisors
      - i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Richard Gestrich as Secretary to the Board of Supervisors and Geri Golas as Assistant Secretary. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
  - 6) Appointment of Treasurer to Board of Supervisors
    - A) Appointment of Assistant Treasurer to Board of Supervisors
      - i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Geri Golas as Treasurer to the Board of Supervisors and Richard Gestrich as Assistant Treasurer. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
  - 7) Appointment to Vacancy Board (one (1) One-year Term)
    - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to reappoint Gloria Corcoran to the Vacancy Board. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
  - 8) Appointment to Library Board of Trustees (two (2) Three-year Terms)

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint M. Joseph Clement and Marie Altieri to serve on the Library Board of Trustees. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 9) Appointment to Sewer Authority (one (1) Five-year Term)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to reappoint Charlie Rose to the Sewer Authority. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 10) Appointment to Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority (one (1) Five-Year Term)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint Fred Walker to the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 11) Appointment to Planning Commission (two (2) Four-year Terms)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to reappoint Harold Baird and appoint Virginia Kricun to the Planning Commission. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 12) Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board (one (1) Five-year Term)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to appoint Gail Hager to the Zoning Hearing Board. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 13) Appointment to Parks & Recreation Board (two (2) Five-year Term)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint Beth Ann Mazza and appoint J.P. Mascaro to the Parks & Recreation Board. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 14) Appointment to Finance Committee (three (3) Four-year Terms)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to appoint Lou Lombardo IV and Colleen Eckman to the Finance Committee. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion.  
i) Mr. Gestrich clarified that Supervisor Eckman had acted as a liaison in the past and that one position still needed to be filled.  
The motion *passed 5-0*
- 15) Appointment to UCC Board of Appeals (one (1) Three-year Term)  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint Richard Firth to the UCC Board of Appeals. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*
- 16) Appointment of Consulting Engineer and Fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Woodrow & Associates as the Township Consulting Engineer at the appropriate compensation. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 17) Appointment of Traffic Engineer and Fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint McMahon & Associates, Inc. as the Township Traffic Engineer at their current rate of compensation. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 18) Appointment of Environmental Consultant and Fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to reappoint Woodrow & Associates as the Township Environmental Consultant at their current rate of compensation. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 19) Appointment of Landscape Architectural Consultant and Fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to reappoint Thomas Comitta Associates as the Township Landscape Architectural Consultant at the appointed compensation. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.

- 20) Appointment of Township Lighting Consultant and fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Suburban Lighting as the Township Lighting Consultant at the appropriate compensation. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 21) Appointment of Labor Attorney and fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint Scott Blissman of Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Melloy, LLC at his current rate of compensation. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 22) Appointment of Minutes Secretary to Various Boards and Fixing of Compensation  
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to reappoint Deborah Stanish as Minutes Secretary to the various boards at the appropriate rate of compensation. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 23)  
A) Appointment of Actuary for Township Pension Plans, Township Employees Pension Plan and the Defined Contribution (401(a)) Plan and Fixing of Compensation  
B) Appointment of Municipal Pension Manager and Fixing of Compensation  
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to appoint Charles Friedlander of Municipal Finance Partners as the Actuary for Township Pension Plans and InR Advisory Services as the administrator for the Township Pension Fund. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 24) Appointment of Board Liaisons  
A) Chairman Sorgini made the following Board Liaison Appointments:  
i) Business Development Committee: Supervisors Eckman and Zimmerman  
ii) Library Board: Supervisor Thomas  
iii) Parks & Recreation Board: Supervisors Eckman and Duffy  
iv) Pension Committee: Supervisor Duffy  
v) Planning Commission: Supervisors Zimmerman and Duffy  
vi) Sewer Authority: Chairman Sorgini
- 25) Resolutions and Ordinances:  
A) A Resolution Authorizing the Appropriate Township Officials to Affix Signatures on Checks.  
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing appropriate Township Officials to Affix Signatures on Checks. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.  
B) A Resolution Designating Depositories for Township Funds.  
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt the resolution designating depositories for Township funds. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.  
C) A Resolution to Establish the Amount of the Treasurer's Bond at \$600,000 and \$100,000 for Secretary.  
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to adopt the resolution to establish the amount of the Treasurer's Bond at \$600,000 and \$100,000 for Secretary. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.  
D) A Resolution Establishing the Police Officers Contributions to the Police Pension Plan for the Year 2015.

- i) Ms. Golas explained that the resolution, based on recent contract negotiations with the Police Department, seeks to reduce the police officer contributions to the Lower Providence Township Police Pension plan to 2%.
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve the resolution establishing the Police Officers Contributions to the Police Pension Plan for 2015 at 2%. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The Motion *passed* 5-0.
- E) A Resolution Establishing Member Contributions to the Employees Pension Fund for the Year 2015.
  - i) Ms. Golas explained that, based on contract negotiations, the resolution seeks to set the member contributions to the Employee Pension Fund a .25%.
  - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the resolution establishing member contributions to the Employee Pension Fund for 2015 at .25%. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- F) A Resolution Appointing the Certified Public Accounting Firm of Maillie LLP to Serve as Auditors to Audit the Accounts of Lower Providence Township for Fiscal Year 2014.
  - i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve the resolution. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- G) Certification of Delegates and Voting Delegate to PSATS Annual State Convention.
  - i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to appoint Donald Thomas as the PSATS delegate for 2015. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 26) New Business
  - A) Authorization to advertise an ordinance recognizing the authority of fire companies and emergency responders to seek reimbursement for hazardous abatement incidents, environmental incidents and fire safety and rescue responses.
    - i) Solicitor Wasserman explained that it is an ordinance allowing the fire companies and emergency responders to seek reimbursement from the appropriate insurance companies. Currently their ability to seek reimbursement may be limited by the contractual language in the insurance policy.
    - ii) Supervisor Duffy clarified that the fire company and ambulance wanted to try to collect these costs from these policies but were not able, by law, to do so without the ordinance being enacted. Wasserman agreed, stating this was simply the mechanism allowing them to seek reimbursement.
    - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to advertise the ordinance. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0
- 27) Comments and Other Business:
  - A) Supervisor Duffy thanked Supervisor Eckman for her work and leadership on the board as Chairwoman during 2014. Supervisor Eckman thanked the board for their hard work and stated she was looking forward to working with Chairman Sorgini in 2015.
- 28) 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: January 15, 2015  
February 6, 2015