

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2015**

Executive Session: The Executive Session was called to order at 6:37 p.m. on a motion by Supervisor Eckman, seconded by Supervisor Duffy. Present were Supervisors Mr. Sorgini, Mr. Duffy, Mrs. Eckman and Mr. Thomas. Also present were Solicitor Mr. Rice, Township Manager Mr. Gestrich, and Assistant Township Manager Mrs. Golas. The meeting adjourned at 7: 2 p.m. on a motion by Supervisor Eckman, seconded by Supervisor Thomas.

Call to Order: Chairman Sorgini called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Sorgini, Supervisors Eckman, Duffy and Thomas. Supervisor Zimmerman was absent.
 - b. Also in attendance were: Richard Gestrich, Township Manager, Peter Nelson, Solicitor; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Timothy Woodrow, Township Engineer; John Primus, Director of Public Works; Geri Golas, Assistant Township Manager; Susan Law, Accounting Manager; Francis Carroll, Police Chief; Denise Walsh, Community Relations Coordinator; and Hailey O'Donnell, Student Representative.
- 1) Chairman Sorgini noted that prior to the meeting an executive session was held to discuss legal and personnel matters.
- 2) **Consent Agenda**
- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a), 1(b), 1(c) and 1(d) including moving the meeting minutes of February 5, 2015 into the record. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- 3) **Presentation and Commendations**
- A) Presentations by Trooper Veterinary Hospital and Audubon-Oaks Lions Club to the Lower Providence Township Police Department Canine Unit.
- i) The Trooper Veterinary Hospital presented a check for \$1,525. Chief Carroll thanked the organization for their continued support of the Township's Canine unit
 - ii) The Audubon-Oaks Lion's Club presented a check for \$250 to the Police Canine unit.
- B) Recognition of Police Canine Shadow on his retirement after ten years of service.
- i) Chairman Sorgini presented a commendation to Police Canine Shadow, recounting his years of service to the Township.
- C) Financial Report – Quarter ended December 31, 2014.
- i) Richard Gestrich presented the financial report. (Attached) Chairman Sorgini thanked the staff and the finance committee for their hard work and excellent job on the report.
- 4) **MOTION:** At Chairman Sorgini's request, Supervisor Duffy made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and open a public hearing. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- 5) **Public Hearing**
- A) Consideration of an ordinance amending the provisions of Section 138-16 of the Code of the Township of Lower Providence to add a multi-way stop intersection on Eagleville Road at Sunnyside Avenue and Pinetown Road.

- i) Solicitor Peter Nelson reviewed the proposed ordinance. Noting the ordinance was prepared at the request of the police department after a traffic study conducted by the Township's Traffic Engineer and that the plan has received PennDOT's approval.
 - (1) Supervisor Thomas clarified that the ordinance was actually 138-16 as opposed to 136-6 as noted on the agenda.
- 6) **MOTION:** At Chairman Sorgini's request, Supervisor Thomas made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and re-enter the public meeting. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- 7) **Ordinance**
 - A) Consideration of an ordinance amending the provisions of Section 138-16 of the Code of the Township of Lower Providence to add a multi-way stop intersection on Eagleville Road at Sunnyside Avenue and Pinetown Road.
 - B) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to adopt the ordinance amending the provision of Section 138-16 of the Code of the Township of Lower Providence to add a multi-way stop intersection on Eagleville Road at Sunnyside Avenue and Pinetown Road. Supervisor Thomas seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- 8) **New Business**
 - A) Discussion of preliminary/final plan for LD-14-04, Taco Ball
 - i) Mr. Mrozinski reviewed the application.
 - ii) Joseph McGrory introduced the plan, noting that it had been before the Township, passing through Zoning Hearing Board and the Planning Commission who recommended final and preliminary land approval and passage of all the waivers. He stated the applicant has worked with staff and consultants and will comply with all professional consultant reviews.
 - iii) Brian Hall, the project engineer, reviewed the requested waivers as noted in the consultant review letters. Mr. McGrory noted that they were not seeking a waiver from §123-102 which dealt with storm water management.
 - (1) Supervisor Duffy clarified that Township Engineer Mr. Woodrow felt, after the Planning Commission meeting, that the design in place now is more than adequate to deal with any storm water on the site. Mr. Woodrow agreed, stating that additional aspects have been added to the plan since that initial review which will make the controls more than sufficient.
 - (2) Mr. McGrory said that the only other additional item is to sign and seal the architect landscape plan, which the applicant will do as a condition of approval.
 - iv) Supervisor Duffy noted that this plan had come before the Planning Commission in January and they voted unanimously to recommend the plan and its waivers. Chairman Sorgini asked Mr. Woodrow if he was satisfied with the resolution of the review letters. Mr. Woodrow said that he was and that there were only a few housekeeping issues to take care of. He did note that some issues may change based on PennDOT approval. McGrory said they had met with PennDOT and have an understanding of what would be required.
 - v) Supervisor Eckman asked Mr. McGrory to elaborate on the installation of the recommended sign. Mr. McGrory said that the Zoning Hearing Board granted them leeway to install such as a sign as required by the Township. He stated the actual features of the sign will be deferred to the Township and that the applicant will install whatever the Township deems appropriate.
 - B) Discussion and consideration of a request from the Lower Providence Community Library for waiver of the temporary sign permit fee and for waiver of permit fees for renovation work.

- i) Mr. Mrozinski stated that the library has submitted a temporary sign permit application and has requested the \$75 required fee be waived. The sign is for the annual wine tasting fundraiser.
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to waive the temporary sign permit fee for the Lower Providence Community Library. Supervisor Thomas seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- C) Approval of Certificate of Termination for Lower Providence Township Municipal Authority
 - i) Solicitor Nelson reviewed the Certificate of Termination and the resolution authorizing the forwarding of the Certificate of Termination to the State. He stated that the Township disbanded the Authority in 2010 and took the necessary steps to do so without the final step of notifying the State. This is a housekeeping issue that will tie-up loose ends.
 - (1) Supervisor Eckman confirmed that all assets previously held by the Municipal Authority have been turned over to the Township and are no longer in the Municipal Authority's control. Solicitor Nelson confirmed that was correct.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve the Certificate of Termination for Lower Providence Township Municipal Authority. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
 - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve the resolution to forward the Certification of Resolution to the State. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- D) Discussion and authorization to advertise ordinance amending Chapter 106-5 of the Township code, Park regulations.
 - i) Solicitor Nelson reviewed the ordinance, which seeks approval to advertise the ordinance for adoption at a future meeting. He explained that an amendment was signed into code which allowed members of the public to sue municipalities if they felt they've enacted ordinances which impinged on their right to own and operate firearms. Solicitor Nelson stated that this step was necessary to bring the Township's ordinance into compliance with State law and noted that dozens of municipalities across the state are also amending ordinances in order to become compliant with regards to this issue.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to authorize the advertisement of and amendment to Chapter 106-6 of the Township code Park regulations. Supervisor Thomas seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.

9) Announcements:

- A) Planning Commission will meet on February 25 at 7 p.m.
 - i) Mr. Mrozinski said that agenda items include a hearing on a proposed overlay for recreation changes to the zoning ordinances to allow that use in certain areas of Township. There will also be an update from the Country Planning Commission for the Ridge Pike West proposed ordinance.
- B) Zoning Hearing Board will meet on February 26 at 7 p.m.
 - i) Mr. Mrozinski noted that the agenda items include a hearing for a proposed cell tower on Level Road. This issue had been put on hold for some time while other alternatives were considered but the applicant has reactivated the hearing.
- C) Parks and Recreation Board will meet on March 10 at 7 p.m.
- D) Sewer Authority will meet March 11 at 7:30 p.m.

10) Comments and other Business

- A) Hailey O'Donnell stated that the Methacton High School Mini-Thon committee would like to thank everyone who attended the fundraising event at PJ Whelihan's, which raised \$698. She also noted that they are actively seeking food donations for the event itself.

11) Courtesy of the Floor

- A) Marie Altieri, Library Board Representative, said that on March 10 the Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce is hosting a mixer for businesses. She invited anyone who is interested in attending to register at the Perkiomen Valley website. Ms. Altieri also noted that the Library's 15th annual Wine Tasting event will be held on March 21. Tickets are \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door. In addition to the wine tasting there will be a disc jockey, raffles and a 50/50 drawing.
- B) Mike Comroe, Pinetown Road, complimented the Public Works Department on their work during the snow and ice storms.
- C) Supervisor Eckman thanked Denise Walsh for her work on the Township newsletter.

12) Adjournment

MOTION: Supervisor Eckman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Thomas seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Next Business Meeting: March 5, 2015
March 19, 2015