

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2016**

Call to Order: Chairman Sorgini called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Oath of Office – Peter MacFarland to be sworn-in as Supervisor by Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar.

Oath of Office – Colleen Eckman to be sworn-in as Supervisor by Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar.

Oath of Office – Tim O’Connell to be sworn-in as Auditor by Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar.

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Sorgini, Supervisors Eckman, Duffy, MacFarland, Sorgini, and Zimmerman.
- b. Also in attendance were: Richard Gestrich, Township Manager; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; Geri Golas, Assistant Township Manager; Stanley Turtle, Deputy Chief; Denise Walsh, Community Relations Coordinator; Jeffrey Mitchell, Student Representative.

Chairman’s Comments: Chairman Sorgini announced that prior to the meeting an executive session was held discussing legal and personnel matters. He also announced that an executive session was held on December 30, 2015.

1) Appointment of Temporary Chairman – Temporary Secretary

A) Chairman Sorgini appointed Peter MacFarland as temporary chairman and Richard Gestrich as temporary secretary.

2) Election of Chairman

A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Jason Sorgini as Chairman for 2016. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.

3) Election of Vice-Chairman

A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Colleen Eckman as Vice-Chairman for 2016. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.

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 2016. 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 MacFarland 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 Duffy made a motion to appoint Geri Golas as Treasurer to the Board of Supervisors and Richard Gestrich as Assistant Treasurer. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0

7) Appointment to Vacancy Board (one (1) One-year Term)

A) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to re-appoint 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 Nancy Klein and Lucy Arnold 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 Duffy made a motion to appoint Robert Tschoepe to the Sewer Authority. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 10) Appointment to Planning Commission (two (2) Four-year Terms)
 - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to reappoint Mark Kuberski to the Planning Commission. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 11) Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board (one (1) Five-year Term)
 - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to appoint Joe Pucci to the Zoning Hearing Board. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
 - B) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Joe Burgquist as an alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 12) Appointment to Parks & Recreation Board (two (2) Five-year Term)
 - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint John Nielson, Jr. and George Ozorowski to the Parks & Recreation Board. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 13) Appointment to Finance Committee (three (3) Four-year Terms)
 - A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Joe Burgquist to the Finance Committee. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 14) Appointment to UCC Board of Appeals (one (1) Three-year Term)
 - A) Chairman Sorgini announced that this position would remain vacant for the time being.
- 15) 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 rate as described in their proposal letter. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 16) 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 the rate as described in their proposal. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 17) 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 the rate as described in their proposal letter. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 18) 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 rate as described in their proposal letter. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 19) 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 rate as described in their proposal letter. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.
- 20) Appointment of Labor Attorney and fixing of Compensation

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint Scott Blissman of Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellot, LLC at his at the rate as described in their proposal letter.. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 21) Appointment of Minutes Secretary to Various Boards and Fixing of Compensation
A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to reappoint Deborah Stanish as Minutes Secretary to the various boards at the rate as described in her proposal letter. Supervisor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- 22)
- A) Appointment of Actuary for Township Pension Plans, Township Employees Pension Plan and the Defined Contribution (401(a)) Plan and Fixing of Compensation
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to re-appoint Charles Friedlander of Municipal Finance Partners as the Actuary for Township Pension Plans. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- B) Appointment of Municipal Pension Manager and Fixing of Compensation
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to appoint INR Advisory Services as the Municipal Pension Manager for the Township. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- 23) Appointment of Board Liaisons
A) Chairman Sorgini made the following Board Liaison Appointments:
i) Business Development Committee: Supervisors Eckman and Duffy
ii) Library Board: Supervisor Duffy
iii) Parks & Recreation Board: Supervisor MacFarland
iv) Pension Committee: Supervisor Zimmerman
v) Planning Commission: Supervisors Eckman and Zimmerman
vi) Sewer Authority: Chairman Sorgini
vii) Finance Committee: Supervisor MacFarland
- 24) 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 MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- B) A Resolution Designating Depositories for Township Funds.
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland 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 Zimmerman 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 Eckman 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) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve the resolution establishing the Police Officers Contributions to the Police Pension Plan for 2016 at 2%. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The Motion *passed* 5-0.

- E) A Resolution Establishing Member Contributions to the Employees Pension Fund for the Year 2015.
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve the resolution establishing member contributions to the Employee Pension Fund for 2016 at .75%. Supervisor Zimmerman 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 2015.
i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the resolution. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- G) Certification of Delegates and Voting Delegate to PSATS Annual State Convention.
i) **MOTION:** Chairman Sorgini made a motion to appoint Colleen Eckman as the PSATS delegate for 2016 with Supervisors MacFarland, Duffy and Zimmerman attending the convention. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- H) A Resolution setting the Township Manager's salary
i) Chairman Sorgini explained that they had looked at the compensation rate for the Township Manager, comparing it to similar townships in the area. Finding it much lower than comparable positions in surrounding townships. He put forth a resolution raising the compensation to \$122,000 per year.
ii) **MOTION:** Chairman Sorgini made a motion to set the Township Manager's salary at \$122,000 per year. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion.
(1) Supervisor Eckman stated that while dollar amount was relatively small, she felt this matter should have been addressed during the budget process.
The motion *passed* 4-1 with Supervisor Eckman opposing.

25) New Business

A) Update on Sunnyside Park

- i) Mr. Mrozinski gave an update on the Sunnyside Mobile Home Park. He outlined the ongoing concerns of the property, which is owned by UMH Properties, Inc. He stated that Montgomery County was brought in to investigate potential health concerns and have been diligent in investigating. Mr. Mrozinski said that the Township met with UMH Properties and they committed to bringing the property into compliance but no movement has been seen toward that goal. The Township will continue to put pressure on the property owners to bring them into compliance.
- ii) Mr. Mrozinski discussed the most recent issues involving demolition of trailers and the property owner's lack of property permitting. He noted which citations and notices of violations had been issued to the property owner. Mr. Mrozinski stated he believes they have UMH's attention and they hope to have the issues at both 38 and 44 Ivy resolved this week.
- iii) Supervisor Eckman noted that the Township staff has put in a considerable amount of time in dealing with this property. She asked Mr. Mrozinski if he could give an estimate of the man-hours spent on these issues. Mr. Mrozinski said that approximately 20-30 hours has been spent on issues at Sunnyside. He noted that most of that time was his but that both inspectors have also spent time at the site. Supervisor Eckman thanked the department for their efforts and diligence.
- iv) Chairman Sorgini also thanked the department and wanted the residents of Sunnyside Mobile Home Park to know that the Township has heard their concerns. He noted that both he and Supervisor Duffy were at the site last week and the Township will continue to persist in this matter.

26) Courtesy of the Floor:

A) Tom Borai, Brenda Lane, asked what the Township Manager's salary was in 2015. Chairman Sorgini stated that it was \$116,000.

B) Supervisor Duffy thanked Mr. Borai for his service to the Township's Zoning Hearing Board.

27) Announcements

A) Supervisor Sorgini announced that the swearing-in ceremony for Stanley M. Turtle as Chief of Police will be held on Tuesday, January 5 at 7 p.m. and invited residents to attend.

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