

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
June 16, 2022**

Call to Order: Chairman Neights called the hybrid live/virtual meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Protocol for Hybrid Meetings: Chairman Neights provided an overview of the protocols for public participation for members of the public attending the meeting virtually over Zoom.

Roll Call:

- a. The following Board members were in attendance: Chairman Neights, Vice-Chair Coless, Supervisors Darby, Sorgini and MacFarland.
- b. Also, in attendance were: E.J. Mentry, Township Manager; Michael Clarke and Lauren Gallagher, Township Solicitors; Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development; Michael Jackson, Chief of Police; and Methacton School District Student Representative, Chinmay Bapat.

Chairman's Comments

Chairman Neights announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting on June 16, 2022 to discuss land acquisition, legal and personnel matters.

Chairman Neights gave an update on the progress of the strategic and action planning initiative, explaining that the Board of Supervisors has held two public workshops so far and that they are making great progress. A third public workshop is scheduled for June 17 at 2:30 PM.

Proclamations - Chairman Neights read the Juneteenth Proclamation, proclaiming June 19, 2022 as Juneteenth Freedom Day.

1) Presentations

- A) Introduction of new police officers – Melanie Faddis and Kyle Hirsch
 - i) Chief Jackson introduced the two newest patrol officers and provided biographies for each. Both officers started work on Monday, June 13th.
- B) 2021 audit report – Carl Hogan from BBD provided a summary of the 2021 Township Financial Audit. He reported an unmodified opinion on all funds and government activities with the exception of one qualified opinion relating to the Lower Providence Township Sewer Authority pension plan, which is due to delayed actuarial data from the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System out of the Township's control.
- C) Stormwater Part 5 – Tim Woodrow gave a presentation to the Board outlining the Township's stormwater obligations under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program, specifically highlighting ongoing and increasing issues with flooding throughout the Township. He explained that the Township should continue to anticipate and effectively prepare for extreme weather events that cause flooding throughout the Township.
- D) Student Representative report from Chinmay Bapat

2) Consent Agenda

- i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c), including moving the meeting minutes of the June 2, 2022, business meeting and the June 1, 2022 workshop, into the record, and approving payment of the bills totaling \$609,724.79. Vice Chair Coless seconded the motion.
- ii) There was no public comment.
- iii) The motion *passed* 5-0.

3) Old Business

- A) Consideration of Resolution 22-19, granting conditional use approval for 2619 Ridge Pike
 - i) Michael Clarke spoke regarding the Conditional Use Decision for 2619 Ridge Pike.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to approve the Resolution 22-19 granting conditional use approval for 2619 Ridge Pike . Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.

4) New Business

- A) Consideration of request for waiver of fence standards at 1008 Doris Drive
 - i) Mike Mrozinski introduced Yiqian Lian, the property owner of 1008 Doris Drive, who presented his request for a fence waiver to permit the installation of a six-foot-high solid style fence in the front yard along the Vincent Drive frontage.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the request for waiver of fence standards at 1008 Doris Drive. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- B) Request for waiver of land development, Evansburg Winery, 3855 Germantown Pike
 - i) Mike Mrozinski discussed the request to enclose a pavilion, resulting in the need for a waiver of land development. He introduced Yuval Blat, the property owner, who explained the proposed improvements.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to approve the request for a waiver of land development for Evansburg Winery, 3855 Germantown Pike. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- C) Consideration of letter of support for Perkiomen Creek Watershed Initiative.
 - i) E.J. Mentry, Township Manager, requested the Board approve the letter of support for the Perkiomen Creek Watershed Initiative, as presented by Crystal Gilchrist at the June 2, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve to the letter of support for the Perkiomen Creek Watershed Initiative. Vice-Chair Coless seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- D) Consideration of Resolution 22-20, PennDOT policy and procedure for consultant selection

- i) E.J. Mentry, Township Manager, discussed the Resolution 22-20, PennDOT policy and procedure for consultant selection in connection with the Park/Eagleville/Crawford intersection project.
- ii) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to approve Resolution 22-20, PennDOT police and procedure for consultant selection. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 5-0

E) Update on hybrid meeting attendance

- i) E.J. Mentry, Township Manager, presented data on hybrid meeting attendance from the three month trial of utilizing Zoom for hybrid meetings of all public meetings..
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to discontinue hybrid meetings for all but Board of Supervisors meetings. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passes* 4-1 with Chairman Neights dissenting.

5) Announcements/Meetings

- A) Board of Supervisors Strategic Planning Workshop – June 17 at 2:30 p.m.
- B) Annual Indian Head Watershed Fishing Derby for ages 4-12 will be held at Hoy Park on June 18 from 8 to 10am, registration starts at 7:30am.
- C) Environmental Advisory Council – June 20 at 6:00 p.m.
- D) Library Board meeting – June 20 at 7:00 p.m.
- E) Parks & Recreation Board - June 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- F) Planning Commission meeting – June 22 at 7:00 p.m. - Cancelled
- G) Zoning Hearing Board meeting – June 23 at 7:00 p.m.
- H) Concert in Park on – June 26 at 7:00 p.m.
- I) Fireworks on July 4th event

6) Comments and other Business

- A) Supervisor Sorgini – Sewer Authority is wrapping up most of the 2021 projects.
- B) Supervisor Darby – Montgomery County will be holding a large Juneteenth Celebration on June 18-19.
- C) Vice-Chair Coless – The supervisor packets will be online prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting. Comprehensive Planning is winding down.
- D) Chairman Neights – Complementing Vice-Chair Coless and Supervisor MacFarland on the Comprehensive Planning. Also, attended a Pollinator event at Mill Grove.
- E) Supervisor Darby – Thank you to all Township staff for the Meet, Greet, & Eat event on June 11th.
- F) Chairman Neights – the Board will be reconvening in Executive Session at the conclusion of the business meeting to discuss potential litigation.

7) Courtesy of the Floor

- A) There was no public comment.

8) Adjournment

- A) **MOTION:** Chairman Neights made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Next Business Meetings: July 21, 2022

August 18, 2022

No meeting the first Thursday of July and August