

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING  
July 21, 2022**

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**Call to Order:** Chairman Neights called the hybrid live/virtual meeting to order at 7:00 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, Supervisor Darby, and Supervisor MacFarland via Zoom. Supervisor Sorgini was absent.
- b. Also, in attendance were: E.J. Mentry, Township Manager; Michael Clarke and Nicole Feight, Township Solicitors; Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Joe Chillano, Public Works Director; Michael Jackson, Chief of Police and Student Representative Anna Rozinsky.

**Chairman's Comments**

Chairman Neights announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting on July 21, 2022 to discuss land acquisition, legal and personnel matters. An Executive Session was also held on July 13 to discuss potential litigation. Chairman Neights announced that the 420 Church Rd. subdivision matter has been removed from the agenda and will come before the Board at the August 18, 2022 meeting.

**1) Presentations**

- A) Introduction of new Director of Human Resources Kristin Maas
  - i) Township Manager Mentry introduced Kristin Maas to the Board and the public. A brief biography was read. Ms. Maas will begin employment on August 1, 2022.
- B) Commendations of Life Saving – Police Department and EMS
  - i) Police Chief Jackson presented a Commendation of Life Saving to Officer Devon Auge, Corporal Michael Slattery, and civilian Edward Lehan, and EMS Chief Reynolds presented a Commendation of Life Saving to Paramedic Katelyn Dean. These commendations were in recognition of swift action taken in response to an incident on March 18, 2022.
- C) Student Representative report from Anna Rozinsky
- D) Municipal energy resilience by adopting distributed energy resources (DER)
  - i) Chairman Neights introduced Dennis Rowan, an energy consultant with REIV2G. Mr. Rowan presented to the Board on energy resilience for municipalities and the various distributed energy resources options that the Township can consider when making capital and infrastructure improvements.

**2) Consent Agenda**

- i) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c) including moving the meeting minutes of the June 16, 2022, business meeting and the June 17, 2022 workshop, into the record, authorizing payment of the bills totaling \$802,985.31, and approving escrow releases of \$30,980.69 for Audubon Square V and \$87,942.00 for the Courts at Brynwood Phase II. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.

- ii) There was no public comment.
- iii) The motion *passed* 4-0.

### 3) New Business

#### A) Consideration of request for waiver of land development at 3922 Ridge Pike

- i) Mike Mrozinski discussed a waiver of land development at 3922 Ridge Pike. The property owner is proposing a minor addition on the existing building and some minor site work including adding some parking spaces. Brian Bischof of Affiliated Trades Credit Union was present to answer questions from the Board.
- ii) No action was taken. This item was tabled for the next meeting or until such time that the applicant's engineer coordinates with the Township Engineer to address unresolved issues such as sidewalk along Ridge Pike

#### B) Consideration of truck purchase proposal.

- i) E.J. Mentry, Township Manager, presented a request from Public Works Director Joe Chillano for the purchase of a 2023 Ford F450 Bucket Truck for \$121,600 and a 2024 International Dump Truck including plow, spreader and anti-icing unit for \$240,380. Both trucks are from COSTARS vendors and the funding will come from the Township's American Rescue Plan allocation.
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to approve the purchase of the two trucks. Chairman Neights seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 4-0.

#### C) Consideration of real estate tax audit proposal

- i) E.J. Mentry, Township Manager, discussed the real estate tax audit proposal from BBD and recommended the Board approve the proposal.
- ii) **MOTION:** Chairman Neights made a motion to approve the real estate tax audit proposal. Vice-Chair Coless seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 4-0.

#### D) Appointment to fill unexpired term on the Environmental Advisory Council

- i) Chairman Neights discussed an appointment to fill unexpired term on the EAC. The EAC reviewed numerous applicants for the vacancy and voted at their July 18, 2022 meeting to recommend the appointment of Amber Minnick to fill the vacancy.
- ii) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to approve the appointment of Amber Minnick to fill the unexpired term on the EAC, conditioned on her signing the Ethics Verification Form in compliance with the Township Ethics Resolution #2021-16. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 4-0.

#### E) Consideration of Resolution 22-21, approving application for Montgomery County Transportation Program grant

- i) E.J. Mentry, Township Manager, discussed Resolution 22-21 to authorize a grant application for the Montgomery County Transportation Program for intersection improvements at Germantown Pike and Evansburg Road.

- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Darby made a motion to approve Resolution 22-21, application for Montgomery County Transportation Program grant. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 4-0.

- F) Appointment of special counsel to the Board of Supervisors
  - i) Tabled to the next meeting or until such time that Board action is necessary.

#### **4) Announcements/Meetings**

- A) Zoning Hearing Board meeting – July 28 at 7:00 p.m.
- B) Sewer Authority – August 10 at 4:30 p.m.
- C) Environmental Advisory Council – August 15 at 6:00 p.m.
- D) Library Board meeting – August 15 at 7:00 p.m.
- E) Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee - August 17 - Cancelled.
- F) Planning Commission meeting –August 24 at 7:00 p.m.
- G) Zoning Hearing Board – August 25 at 7:00 p.m.

#### **5) Comments and other Business**

- A) Supervisor MacFarland - Regional Sewer Authority project is expected to be completed in August. Library Board active discussion about an expansion.
- B) Vice-Chair Coless – Park and Recreation Board had meeting and discussed the Capital budget plan. The Comprehensive plan will be wrapping up and the documentation for the plan should be available in September.
- C) Chairman Neights – EAC will have a Fall Festival table and possible electric vehicle display. The EAC has also requested the Board consider amending the EAC Ordinance to expand the membership of the committee by adding two additional voting members and two non-voting alternates. Supervisor Darby and Chairman Neights attended a regional event at Upper Providence Township.

#### **6) Courtesy of the Floor**

- A) John Pell, Audubon Road – Asked about the Harley Davidson Building turning into a homeless shelter.
- B) Bob Garrett, Lantern Lane – Asked for an update on the Audubon Elementary School project. Also asked for attention along Rittenhouse to Egypt which is full of debris.
- C) Colleen Eckman, Camiel Lane – Asked about the Harley Davidson Building turning into a homeless shelter.

#### **7) Adjournment**

- A) Chairman Neights announced that the Board will be going into Executive Session after the meeting is adjourned to discuss potential litigation and personnel matters.
- B) **MOTION:** Supervisor Darby made a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chair Coless seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Next Business Meetings: August 18, 2022 (*No meeting the first Thursday of August*)  
September 1, 2022