

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
May 6, 2021**

Call to Order: Chairman MacFarland called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman MacFarland, Vice-Chair Eckman, and Supervisors Coless, Neights, and Sorgini.
- b. Also in attendance were: Peter Nelson, Township Solicitor; Don Delamater, Township Manager; Bill Roth, Special Projects and Technology Director, Michael Mrozinski, Community Development Director, Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer and Michael Jackson, Chief of Police.
- c. Chairman MacFarland announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel, legal and real estate matters.

1) Consent Agenda

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a), and 1(b), including moving the minutes of April 15, 2021 into the record. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion. The motion *passed 5-0*.

2) Presentations

- A) PennDOT Ridge Pike & Germantown Pike Intersection Re-Alignment Project – Colleen Carmichael and Nathan Parrish outlined the project that proposes eliminating the intersection of Ridge and Germantown pikes at the Perkiomen Bridge and creates a new connector road and a signalized intersection to the east.
 - i) The presentation and comment card/questionnaire will be made available to the public on the Township website.
- B) Environmental Advisory Council priorities and projects – Council members Patrick Duffy and Erin McCool presented the initiatives the EAC would like to pursue in addition to the recently approved Stormwater Directive. The initiatives focus on education, advising, and implementation.

3) New Business

A) Conditional Use Hearing – 59 Smith Road

Court Report Tim Kurek was present to record a complete record of testimony.

- i) Solicitor Nelson opened the hearing.
- ii) Mr. Woodrow explained that the project for a single-family home proposes stormwater management and driveway within Zone 2 of the Riparian Buffer Overlay Zone. Conditional use is required for such projects. Mr. Woodrow stated that the proposal preserves steep slopes and woodlands to the greatest extent possible.
- iii) Property owner Americo Moscariello agreed with Mr. Woodrow's assessment.
- iv) A decision will be considered at the May 20th meeting.

B) Consideration of Resolution 2012-12 approving the land development plan for a Coroner's Building, Montgomery County EOC, 60 Eagleville Road

- i) Solicitor Nelson said Resolution 2021-12 is based on the discussion at the April 15, 2021 meeting. All waivers were recommended to be granted.
 - (1) Supervisors Neights asked if sustainability had been addressed. Mr. Woodrow said the Township had deferred to the county who has its own sustainability goals. Mr. Neights expressed concerns about sidewalks and road improvements.
 - (2) Vice Chair Eckman recommended that fees in-lieu-of be considered when considering the county's next project.

- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-12 approving the land development plan for a Coroner's Building, 60 Eagleville Road. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 4-1, with Supervisor Neights opposing.
- C) Consideration of Resolution 2021-13 updating the Lower Providence Fire Department's reimbursable expenses
 - i) Under Township ordinance, reimbursement can be sought for fire and EMS services. Fire Chief Jim Lentz stated that the costs recovered are 100% from insurance companies.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-013 updating the Lower Providence Fire Department's reimbursable expenses. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- D) Consideration of a request from the Lower Providence Fire Department for extension of operating hour for the annual Fireman's Fair
 - i) The fair will run from June 3-12, 2021. Under Township Code, events must end at 10:00 p.m. on Fridays and 8:00 p.m. on Sundays. The request is to extend the fair hours to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, June 4 and June 11 and to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 6.
 - ii) Vice Chair Eckman noted that the company is a 100% volunteer company and the fair is a vital source of revenue.
 - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the request for extension of operating hours for the Fireman's Fair. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - iv) There was no public comment.
 - v) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- E) Execution of consultant contract addendum for final design for the Park Ave./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. project
 - i) Stephanie Butler outlined the reasons for the addendum, which include delays relative to utility coordination, unforeseen time for right-of-way acquisition, and the extensive stormwater plan approval process. She noted that the local match portion is not increasing; it is a shift of costs.
 - ii) Supervisor Neights expressed concern with lack of sidewalks and connectivity in the project.
 - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to execute the contract addendum for final design for the Park Ave./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. project. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion.
 - iv) There was no public comment.
 - v) The motion *passed* 4-1 with Supervisor Neights opposing.
- F) Acceptance and authorization to execute letter of acceptance for PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Award for the Park Ave./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. project
 - i) Mr. Delamater said that the Township received an award of \$2,745,604.00 toward construction costs for the project. He said that execution of the acceptance letter does not commit the Township to accept the award. It will come back to the Board for final approval of an award agreement.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to execute the letter of acceptance for the Multimodal Transportation Fund Award. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.

- G) Consideration of Resolution 2021-14 requesting a DCED CFA Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant for the Park Av./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. project
- i) Mr. Delamater said that the request is for the final \$2 million needed toward construction costs.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-14 to submit the request for the Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- H) BusPatrol Program review and authorization to advertise ordinance
- i) Chief Jackson stated that the Township had been approached by Methacton School District to participate in BusPatrol, a program which would place cameras on the stop arms of all district buses. Any violations within Lower Providence caught on video would be sent to the Township police department for confirmation. BusPatrol would then issue any appropriate citations. Chief Jackson said he had spoken to the Township solicitor, the county District Attorney and the District Justice about the program. There is no cost to the Township.
 - ii) There was discussion about the amount and distribution of fines. The fine for a violation would be \$300 and it would be distributed as follows: \$25 to the Township, \$25 to safety programs, \$150 to BusPatrol and \$100 to Methacton School District.
 - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Methacton School District to participate in the BusPatrol program. It was clarified that the Township must first adopt an ordinance. Supervisor Neights *withdrew* his motion.
 - iv) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to advertise an ordinance permitting the Township to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Methacton School District for the BusPatrol Program. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - v) There was no public comment.
 - vi) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- I) Consideration of Resolution 2021-15 – PennDOT Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement
- i) Mr. Delamater noted that the agreement between the Township and PennDOT would streamline the process allowing for one active traffic signal maintenance agreement for all signals.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-15 approving the traffic signal maintenance agreement with PennDOT. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- J) Consideration of Resolution 2021-16 establishing an ethics policy for elected and appointed officials, employees and Township professional consultants
- i) Chairman MacFarland said the policy had been discussed at a number of meetings.
 - ii) Vice Chair Eckman asked that in the paragraph numbered 3, the word “voluntarily” be added so that the policy reads “will voluntarily abide.”
 - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Coless a motion to approve Resolution 2021-16 establishing an ethics policy for elected and appointed officials, employees and Township professional consultants. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion.
 - iv) There was no public comment.
 - v) The motion *passed* 5-0.

4) Announcements / Meetings

- A) Charles Yang, Student Representative, provided an update from Methacton High School
- B) Chief Jackson recognized Officer Daniel McGuffin who is retiring after 35 years of service
- C) National Police Week - May 9-15
- D) National Public Works Week - May 16-27
- E) Environmental Advisory Council meets May 17 at 6:00 p.m.
- F) Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee meets May 19 at 7:30 p.m.
- G) Parks and Recreation Board meets May 25 at 7:00 p.m.
- H) Sewer Authority meets May 10 at 4 p.m.

5) Comments and Other Business

- A) Supervisor Sorgini said that Hometown Heroes banners have started to go up in the Eagleville Park complex. He thanked Jane Delaney for her work on the program. He also thanked Eagle Scout Eric Friend for his work on the footbridge in the park.
- B) Supervisor Coless reminded the public that the walk-through for the Reimagining Ridge Pike Design Challenge will be held May 10 from 4 to 6:30 p.m.
- C) Supervisor Eckman noted that applications are being accepted for student representative to the Board of Supervisors for 2021-2022.
- D) Supervisor Neights noted that the Lower Providence Sewer Authority will meet on Monday, May 10th at 4:30pm.
- E) Chairman MacFarland said that the Comprehensive Plan Update is now progressing into the decision making process.

6) Courtesy of the Floor

- A) No comments

7) Adjournment

- A) MOTION: Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Next Business Meetings: May 20, 2021
 June 3, 2021