

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2022**

Call to Order: Chairman Neights called the hybrid live/virtual meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Neights, Vice-Chair Coless, Supervisors Sorgini, MacFarland and Darby.
- b. Also, in attendance were: E.J. Mentry, Township Manager; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer; Bill Roth, Special Projects, and Technology; Joe Chillano, Public Works Director and Michael Jackson, Chief of Police.
- c. Chairman Neights announced that an executive session was held on January 20, to discuss legal and personnel matters.

1) Consent Agenda

- A) **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 December 16, 2021, and January 3, 2022, into the record. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.

2) Presentations

- A) Strategic Planning, Communications and Budgeting
 - i) Chairman Neights gave a presentation on Strategic Planning to the Board and staff. He explained the need for further discussion on capital planning and to establish goals and a long-term vision for the Township. The Board agreed to the need for further discussion on the topic and directed the Township Manager to add this to the next agenda.
- B) American Rescue Plan Act Funds
 - i) E.J. Mentry gave a presentation on the American Rescue Plan Act Funds, including the history of the funding and some of the requirements for reporting and deadlines. He explained that the Final Rule was recently published by the Department of the Treasury and gives municipalities receiving less than ten million dollars the option to designate all of their funding for revenue replacement, which is the most flexible use of the funds. Since Lower Providence Township is receiving approximately two million, eight hundred thousand (\$2,800,000) dollars in American Rescue Plan funds, the recommendation will be to designate all of it for revenue replacement. Mr. Mentry recommended the Board discuss specific use of the funds at a future date in conjunction with the strategic planning discussions.

3) New Business

Agenda Amendment

- i. Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to amend the agenda so that item “c.” under “New Business” is changed from “Appointment of assistant treasurer” to “Appointment of Township Secretary”. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion.
- ii. There was no public comment.
- iii. The motion *passed* 5-0.

A) Appointment of Solicitor and Fixing of Compensation

- i) Chairman Neights asked for nominations from the Board for Township Solicitor.
 - (1) Vice-Chair Coless nominated Rudolph Clarke, LLC. Supervisor Darby seconded the nomination.
 - (2) Supervisor MacFarland nominated Grim, Biehn & Thatcher for Township Solicitor.
- Supervisors MacFarland, Sorgini, and Chairman Neights thanked John Rice and his staff

from Grim, Biehn & Thatcher for their years of dedicated and professional service to the Township.

ii) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to appoint Rudolph Clarke, LLC. as the Solicitor. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.

iii) There was no public comment.

iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.

B) Appointment of Treasurer

i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to appoint E.J. Mentry as the Treasurer. Chairman Neights seconded the motion.

ii) There was no public comment.

iii) The motion *passed* 5-0.

C) Appointment of Township Secretary

i) **MOTION:** Chairman Neights made a motion to appoint E.J. Mentry as the Township Secretary. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.

ii) There was no public comment.

iii) The motion *passed* 5-0.

D) Appointment of Assistant Township Secretary

i) **MOTION:** Chairman Neights made a motion to appoint Denise Walsh as the Assistant Township Secretary. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.

ii) There was no public comment.

iii) The motion *passed* 5-0.

E) Appointment to the Zoning Hearing Board by Resolution 2022-01

i) Chairman Neights took nominations for an appointment to the Zoning Hearing board.

ii) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to appoint Chris Gerdes to the Zoning Hearing Board and Terrance Barnes as the alternate. Supervisor Darby seconded the motion.

iii) There was no public comment

iv) The motion passed 5-0

F) Authorization to advertise mowing RFP

i) E.J. Mentry asked the board for approval to advertise the mowing RFP

ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to authorize the advertisement of the Mowing RFP. Vice-Chair Coless seconded the motion.

iii) There was no public comment.

iv) The motion passes 5-0

G) Authorization to advertise traffic signal maintenance RFP

i) E.J. Mentry asked the board for approval to advertise the Traffic signal maintenance RFP

ii) **MOTION:** Chairman Neights made a motion to authorize the advertisement of the traffic signal maintenance RFP. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.

iii) Resident – Kelvin Carolina, 900 Kriebels Mill Road, asked about a possibility a traffic light at Grange and Germantown Pike

iv) The motion passes 5-0

H) AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement

i) E.J. Mentry spoke regarding the AFSCME Agreement

ii) **MOTION:** Vice-Chair Coless made a motion to approve the AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion.

iii) There was no public comment.

iv) The motion passed 5-0

I) Pension distribution – Geraldine Spotts

i) Chairman Neights asked to board to approve the Pension distribution for Geraldine Spotts

- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the pension distribution. Vice-Chair Coless seconded the motion,
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion passed 5-0

J) Staff-solicitor meeting discussion. Deferred to the next meeting on February 3, 2022.

4) Announcements

- A) Student Representative Uma Bapat
- B) Planning Commission meeting – January 26 at 7:00pm
- C) Zoning Hearing Board will meet on January 27 at 7:00 p.m.

5) Comments and other Business

- A) Supervisor Sorgini spoke regarding the library and their accomplishments for 2021.
- B) Supervisor MacFarland spoke regarding the Regional Sewer Authority and their projects.
- C) Vice-Chair Coless spoke regarding the Parks and Recreation Board meeting that was held on January 18th, 2022.
- D) Chairman Neights spoke regarding the Environmental Advisory Council.

6) Courtesy of the Floor

7) Adjournment

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Darby made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Business Meetings: February 3, 2022
February 17, 2022

Respectfully submitted:

E.J. Mentry, Secretary