

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING  
MAY 17, 2018**

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**Call to Order:** Chairman Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Duffy, Supervisors Sorgini, Eckman, MacFarland and Neights with Mr. Neights arriving after the presentations were made and prior to new business.
- b. Also in attendance were: John Rice, Township Solicitor; Don Delamater, Township Manager; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer; Geri Golas, Assistant Township Manager; John Primus, Director of Public Works; Stanley Turtle, Chief of Police; and Jenn Reed, Student Representative

**Chairman's Comments** - Chairman Duffy announced that prior to the meeting the Board met in executive session to discuss real estate, 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 minutes of May 3, 2018 into the record. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion. The motion to pass the consent agenda *passed* 4-0.

**2) Presentations**

- A) Recognition of Detective Charles A. DeFrancesco on his retirement from the Lower Providence Township Police Department after 33 years of service.
- B) Lower Providence Township Police Department Unit Citations and Lower Providence Optimist Club Officer of the Year.
- C) Lower Providence Township Sewer Authority presentation.
  - i) Fred Walker, Chairman of the Sewer Authority gave an overview of the Sewer Authority's organization, responsibilities and projects.
  - ii) Alan Rubendall, System Superintendent, gave an overview of the Sewer Authority's equipment and facilities.
  - iii) Supervisor Sorgini thanked the Sewer Authority for their efforts on behalf of the Township. He asked if the DEP has been re-petitioned regarding the moratorium on the Mine Run Interceptor. Mr. Walker said that the problem has been addressed but that they are restricting connections based on DEP's review. He discussed the pump station that is currently taxed by heavy rain and that will be addressed this summer.
  - iv) Supervisor Neights asked if there was anything that the Board could do to help mediate the problems to the sewer system caused by resident's actions. Mr. Walker said getting information to the residents is the best course of action.
  - v) Supervisor MacFarland noted that wipes being introduced into the sewer system have been a problem and said that a screen that could separate wipes has been reviewed. He commended the Sewer Authority for their diligence and said that Mr. Rubendall routinely checks drains in the middle of the night during storms to make sure everything is in working order.

### 3) New Business

- A) Consideration of a waiver request to permit the installation of a six-foot high solid-style fence on the corner property at 524 Elizabeth Drive.
- i) Mr. Mrozinski reviewed the application.
  - ii) Supervisor MacFarland confirmed that this was an issue with the style of fence rather than a setback issue.
  - iii) Supervisor Sorgini asked if there were any sight line issues and if neighbors had been notified. Chief Turtle said he has not reviewed the plan but based on the photos presented, he does not believe there would be a sight line issue. Mr. D'Agostino, the applicant, said he contacted his immediate neighbors who had no issue with the fence. Mr. Mrozinski agreed there had been no opposition to the fence.
  - iv) Discussion was held regarding the notification process. Mr. Neights said that studies have shown that solid fences affect property values and suggested that more neighbors be allowed to comment. He encouraged the applicant to use an open fence and use plantings for screenings. Mr. D'Agostino explained that his dog was the reason for the style of fence and that the fence would be set back 10 feet from the sidewalk.
  - v) Supervisor Eckman said there was a note in the file that he is considering widening the driveway and asked that he meet with Mr. Mrozinski to make sure that is in compliance.
  - vi) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the waiver request to permit the installation of a six-foot solid-style fence on the corner property at 524 Elizabeth Drive. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-1 with Supervisor Neights opposing.
- B) Consideration of Resolution 2018-21 authorizing the renewal of a three-year contract with the Montgomery County Planning Commission.
- i) Mr. Delamater reviewed the resolution and recommended that the Board approve the contract.
  - ii) MacFarland noted that the proposed fee is a little over \$6,000 for their extensive services.
  - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-21 authorizing the renewal of a three-year contract with the Montgomery County Planning Commission. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
- C) Proclamation recognizing Older Americans Month.
- i) Supervisor MacFarland read the proclamation declaring May Older Americans Month.
- D) Consideration of a request from the Lower Providence Fire Department for extension of operating hours for the annual Fireman's Fair.
- i) Chief Turtle reviewed the request noting that this extension has never caused an issue in the Township.
  - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the request from the Lower Providence Fire Department for the extension of hours for the annual Fireman's Fair. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.

### 4) Announcements

- A) The Planning Commission meeting for May 23 has been cancelled.
- B) The Zoning Hearing Board will meet on May 24 at 7 p.m.
- C) Lower Providence Fire Department's annual Fireman's Fair will be held June 7 through June 16 on the Fire Department grounds, 3199 Ridge Pike, in Eagleville. Information is available at [www.lpfire.com](http://www.lpfire.com).

