

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING  
DECEMBER 5, 2019**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Peter MacFarland, Vice Chair Colleen Eckman, Supervisors Patrick Duffy, Gary Neights and Jason Sorgini. Also, in attendance were: Donald Delamater, Township Manager; John Rice, Township Solicitor; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Tim Woodrow, Township Engineer; Geri Spotts, Assistant Township Manager; Susan Law, Finance Director; John Primus, Director of Public Works; and Police Chief Michael Jackson.

Chairman MacFarland announced that prior to tonight's meeting an executive session was held to discuss real estate and legal matters.

**1) Consent Agenda**

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the consent agenda item 1(a) Fiscal Matters. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.

i) No public comment

The motion *passed* 5-0.

**2) New Business**

- A) Discussion of Land Development Plan for 9 S. Park Avenue.

i) Mr. Mrozinski reviewed the land development plan for the 3,000 sq. ft. tile business and two apartments.

ii) The Board discussed the placement of sidewalks along Second Street. After some discussion, the applicant agreed to installing sidewalks along Second Street.

iii) Daniel Covell, the applicant's attorney, and Robert Gambone, owner/applicant spoke to the Board and said that they would be willing to comply with the conditions that were noted.

iv) Solicitor Rice will provide a Resolution for final plan approval to be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the December 19, 2019 meeting.

- B) Consideration of Resolution 2019-34 adopting the 2020 Budget and authorization to advertise the proposed 2020 Budget.

i) Mr. Delamater reviewed the resolution, including the \$25,000 increased contribution to the fire company.

ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-34 approving the adoption of the 2020 Budget and appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of the municipal government. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.

iii) No public comments.

The motion *passed* 5-0.

- C) Consideration of Resolution 2019-35 establishing the 2020 Real Estate Tax Millage Rate.

i) Mr. Delamater reviewed the resolution noting that there is no tax increase.

(1) Tax rate for general purposes: .905 mills per dollar/.0905 cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

- (2) Tax Rate for Lower Providence Emergency Services Purposes: .320 mills per dollar/.0320 cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation.
- (3) Tax Rate for Lower Providence Community Library Purposes: .345 mills per dollar/.0345 cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation.
- (4) Tax Rate for Debt Services Purposes: .276 mills/.0276 cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation.
- (5) Tax Rate for Parks & Recreation Operating Purposes: .241 mills/.0241 cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation.
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-35 establishing the 2020 real estate tax millage rate. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion.
- iii) Supervisor Sorgini noted that Lower Providence Township has one of the lowest millage rates for a township that has its own police force.
- iv) Supervisor Neights noted that the Board received a notice from Mr. Earnshaw about the elimination of the Per Capita Tax. Supervisor Sorgini stated that this information was received after the Townships Budget process. Mr. Delamater noted that this is still in the budget but could be adopted in 2020 if the Board decides to eliminate it.
- v) No public comment.  
The motion *passed* 5-0.
- D) Approval of the 2020 Fee Schedule.
  - i) Ms. Law, Finance Director reviewed 2020 Fee Schedule and the listed changes outlined in a memo from the department directors.
  - ii) The Board discussed the changes in the Fee Schedule.
  - iii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Duffy made a motion to approve the 2020 Fee Schedule with the removal of the Accessibility Permit Fee and Plan Review Fee. The motion was not seconded; motion died.
  - iv) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the 2020 Fee Schedule as presented. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
  - v) No public comment.  
The motion *passed* 4-1.
- E) Approval of the 2020 Equipment Rental Contract
  - i) Mr. Primus reviewed the quote process and recommended that James R. Kenney Excavating and Paving Inc. be awarded the contract should any equipment be required.
  - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the 2020 equipment rental contract. Supervisor Duffy seconded the motion.
  - iii) No public comment.  
The motion *passed* 5-0.
- F) Consideration of electricity contract
  - i) Mr. Delamater reviewed the electricity contract process, noting that the township goes through the Municipal Utility Alliance who does the bidding and Constellation was awarded through the State. The electricity is broken up in two separate areas, Street Lighting/Traffic Signal and General Services. Based on rates provided today, there will be significant savings over the current rates. Mr. Delamater recommended that the Board consider the 100 percent green electricity and only do a 12-month contract.

ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the 100 percent gree, 12-month electricity contract. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.

iii) No public comment.

The motion *passed* 5-0.

G) Consideration of Resolution 2019-36 approving the disposition of records.

i) Mr. Delamater reviewed Resolution 2019-36 regarding the disposition of records.

ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to accept Resolution 2019-36. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.

iii) No public comment

The motion *passed* 5-0.

H) Discussion of Environmental Advisory Committee proposal.

i) Solicitor Rice reviewed the legislation authorizing an Environmental Advisory Committee. This would need to be done by an Ordinance. The statute states how it is to be done.

ii) All five supervisors commented on the possible creation of an EAC and asked the Solicitor to draft an ordinance based on the comments of the supervisors.

iii) Solicitor Rice stated that he would create a draft proposed ordinance and circulate to the Board.

iv) Solicitor Rice inquired if the LPT EAC is formed as a non-profit group.

(1) Erin McCool, 5008 Coldspring Drive, noted that this is an informal group of residents to support this initiative. This is not an officially approved board.

I) Student Representative Update. Will Cavello noted that there was an early dismissal on Monday due to weather; Winter Sports have begun; and the main gym maintenance is still going on.

**3) Announcements**

A) Sewer Authority Meeting – December 9 at 5:30 p.m.

B) Zoning Hearing Board Meeting – December 12 at 7:00 p.m.

C) Library Board Meeting – December 16 at 6:00 p.m.

D) Parks and Recreation Board Meeting – December 17 at 7:00 p.m.

E) Planning Commission Meeting – December 18 at 7:00 p.m. has been cancelled

F) The Caring & Sharing holiday food/gift drive is underway. Canned goods and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the Township Building weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

G) 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Tree Lighting - Friday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Township complex- Santa will be there too.

**4) Comments and other Business**

A) No comments

**5) Courtesy of Floor**

A) Michael Spicer – 37 Pechin Mill Road spoke to the Board about possible lead poisoning in the wells and water on Pechin Mill Road.

i) Solicitor Rice explained that the Township will need to have actual information to address this claim.

ii) Chairman MacFarland noted that PennDOT will be responsible for mediating the path going through the Gun Club.

**6) Adjournment**

A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Next Business Meeting: December 19, 2019

Reorganization Meeting: Monday, January 6, 2020 @ to be determined.