

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
APRIL 2, 2020**

Call to Order: Chairman Sorgini called the Live Streamed meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Sorgini, Supervisors Eckman, Coless, Neights, and MacFarland via phone.
- b. Also in attendance were: Don Delamater, Township Manager; William Roth, Director of Special Projects and Technology; and John Rice, Township Solicitor via phone.

Chairman Sorgini announced that prior to the meeting an executive session was held to discuss legal and personnel matters. Chairman Sorgini announced that our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone who is suffering from the coronavirus and thoughts and prayers to first responders, all essential employees in the Township and the country.

1) Consent Agenda

A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c), including moving the meeting minutes of March 5, 2020 and March 20, 2020 into the record. Supervisor Coless seconded the motion.

- i) Supervisor Eckman noted that a change should be made to the March 20, 2020 minutes.
- ii) There was no public comment
- iii) The motion *passed* 5-0.

2) New Business

A) Conditional Use Decision – 420, 426, and 428 Church Road and Parcel #43-00-2308-00-7 Church Road

- i) Solicitor Rice reviewed the Conditional Use information and noted that it is a use being decided. Solicitor Rice circulated a proposed decision to the Board with the following conditions for review and comment.
 - (1) The maximum permitted building lots shall be 22
 - (2) Lots 1 and 2 and their access onto Church Road shall be eliminated and these areas may be counted toward the open space requirements on the Plan. All new lots shall access the new Sky Circle.
 - (3) The proposed flag Lot 18 shall be eliminated from the Plan.
 - (4) The proposed woodland area to be saved contained on the rear of Lots 8-17 and Lots 19-21 shall be eliminated from the individual lot areas. The woodland areas on the rear of Lots 8-17 shall remain as open space buffer areas to adjacent properties and Eskie Park and the woodland areas on the rear lots of 19-21 shall remain as open space buffer areas to the adjacent stormwater basin.
 - (5) Applicant shall provide for overflow parking on the site in addition to onsite parking at a location to be determined by the Township traffic engineer.
 - (6) Applicant shall provide for sidewalk construction from the Sky Circle/Church Road intersection to Walker Road in accordance with paragraph 5 of the McMahon and Associates traffic engineer and review letter dated February 12, 2020.
 - (7) The Board reserves the right to modify any of the foregoing design conditions during its review of a fully engineered formal subdivision plan.
- ii) Supervisor Neights noted that this order is well thought out and consistent with what was discussed.

- iii) Supervisor Eckman noted that out of the total acres 25% of the property will be retained as Open Space.
- iv) Supervisor Coless noted that this is an improvement and based on the conditions of the Ordinance this is a good compromise.
- v) Chairman Sorgini stated that he appreciates the work of the Board.
- vi) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Application. Supervisor MacFarland seconded the motion.
- vii) There was no public comment.
- viii) The motion *passed* 4-1.

B) Consideration of Ordinance No. 665 creating a Township Environmental Advisory Council

- i. Mr. Delamater reviewed Ordinance No. 665 creating a Township EAC.
- ii. **MOTION:** Supervisor Eckman made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 665. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
- iii. There was no public comment.
- iv. The motion *passed* 5-0.

C) Authorization to proceed with, and advertise, an ordinance eliminating the Township's Per Capita Tax

- i. Mr. Delamater reviewed the elimination of the Township's Per Capita Tax.
- ii. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to authorize proceeding with the advertisement of the Ordinance to eliminate the Per Capita Tax. Supervisor Coless seconded the motion.
- iii. There was no public comment.
- iv. The motion *passed* 5-0.

D) Consideration of Auditor Agreement Extension

- i. Mr. Delamater reviewed the auditor agreement extension. Noting that current agreement was for 3 years with a 2-year extension. Year 2020-\$19,600 and year 2021 would be \$19,600.
- ii. **MOTION:** A motion was made by Supervisor Eckman to approve the auditor agreement two-year extension. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
- iii. There was no public comment.
- iv. The motion *passed* 5-0.

E) Consideration of Resolution 2020-11 extending the discount period for real estate tax bills subject to the approval by Montgomery County.

- i. Mr. Delamater reviewed Resolution 2020-11 extending the real estate tax bills discount period and face payment periods.
- ii. **MOTION:** A motion was made by Supervisor Neights to approve Resolution 2020-11 to extend the discount and face payment periods for 2020 Township and County real estate tax bills. Supervisor Coless seconded the motion.
- iii. There was no public comment.
- iv. The motion *passed* 5-0.

3) **Announcements**

- A) The Lower Providence Sewer Authority meeting on April 8, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

4) **Comments and other Business**

- A) Supervisor Neights-Be Safe and Social Distancing
- B) Supervisor Coless publicly acknowledge the LPT Staff for a job well done
- C) Mr. Delamater noted that he has a great staff, and everyone has pitched in to help where needed. Also, moving forward look to the Township website for meeting information.

5). **Courtesy of the Floor**

- A) Jennifer Maslow-987 N. Grange Avenue inquired if the Township is doing anything regarding the COVID-19 and Eagleville Hospital.

- a. Mr. Delamater explained that they are private entity so that would be handled by State and County Health Department.
 - B) Paul Li-136 Steinbright Drive- represents the American Chinese Association. He wanted to let the Township know that their public service is appreciated. Mr. Li also asked if they could help in donating PPE.
 - a. Mr. Delamater suggested that Mr. Li contact Chief Michael Jackson.
 - C) Bob Garrett-2759 Lantern Lane asked for an update on Audubon Elementary School.
 - a. Supervisor MacFarland noted they were supposed to meet in early March but due to the COVID-19 outbreak that was postponed. Discussions will continue when they are able to meet again.
 - D) Jennifer Maslow-987 N. Grange Avenue inquired if Methacton School District was going to permit the schools to host elections on June 2nd.
 - a. Mr. Delamater explained that he is not aware of a decision.
 - E) Chairman Sorgini offered gratitude to all of the first responders of Lower Providence Township; Montgomery County; Pennsylvania; and the entire country for all the work that they are doing; to all of healthcare workers who are putting their lives on the line; to all restaurant workers staying open for take-out; and all essential employees who are continuing to work and to the Lower Providence Township residents stay calm, stay home and be safe.
- 6). **Adjournment**
- i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Business Meetings: April 16, 2020
May 7, 2020