

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2021**

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

1) Consent Agenda

- A) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 1(a) revised, and 1(b), including moving the revised meeting minutes of January 21, 2021 into the record. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.

2) Presentations

- A) 2020 year-end financial update – Don Delamater presented a power point regarding the pre-audit 2020 year-end financial update.

3) New Business

- A) Consideration of request for waiver of fence standards at 1003 Arcola Glen Drive
 - i) Mike Mrozinski reviewed the request for waiver of fence requirements at 1003 Arcola Glen Drive. The property owner was also in attendance and reviewed the request.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the waiver for fence requirements with the condition to replace or reverse within 7 years. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- B) Consideration of Township Facility Emergency Action Plan
 - i) Don Delamater reviewed the Township Facility Emergency Action Plan.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Coless made a motion to approve the Township Facility Emergency Action Plan. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- C) Discussion and authorization to advertise Verizon franchise agreement.
 - i) Don Delamater reviewed the proposed franchise agreement that was negotiated by the Consortium Consultant, Cohen Law Group, and requested authorization to advertise an ordinance adopting the Verizon franchise agreement.
 - ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the authorization to advertise Verizon franchise agreement ordinance. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - iii) There was no public comment.
 - iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.

D) Consideration of Resolution 2021-08 authorizing the Township Manager to submit a traffic signal application and sign PennDOT documents.

- i) Don Delamater reviewed Resolution 2021-08 authorizing the Township Manager to submit a traffic signal application and sign Penn DOT documents for the Park/Eagleville/Crawford intersection realignment project.
- ii) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-08. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
- iii) There was no public comment.
- iv) The motion *passed* 5-0.

E) Proclamation of African American History Month was read by Chairman MacFarland.

F) Stormwater management discussion

- i) Chairman MacFarland discussed a draft document on stormwater management and identifying problems, solutions, and actions to be taken.
- ii) Supervisors Neights, Coless, Eckman and Sorgini all commented and participated in the discussion and agreed to submit the document to the Environmental Advisory Council for review and comments.

G) Continuation of political contribution discussion

- i) Chairman MacFarland, Supervisors, Coless, Eckman, Sorgini and Neights all commented and participated in the discussion.
- ii) Solicitor Rice is in the process of drafting some language based on what was discussed. Further discussion by the Board will be on the agenda at a future meeting.

4) Announcements/Meetings

- A) Vijay Ramakrishnan, Student Representative, provided an update – Students are looking forward to less restrictions and getting back to normalcy.
- B) Sewer Authority - Feb 8 at 4:30pm
- C) Virtual Environmental Advisory Council - Feb 15 at 6:00pm
- D) Library Board of Trustees - Feb 15 at 7:00pm
- E) Virtual Parks and Recreation Board - Feb 16 at 7:00pm
- F) Virtual Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee - Feb 17 at 7:30pm

5) Comments and other Business

- A) Don Delamater discussed a request from the Tax Collector for an increase in compensation paid to the Tax Collector by the Township.
 - i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to eliminate rental fees charged to the Tax Collector for the use of the Shoemaker House for office space. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - ii) There was no public comment.
 - iii) The motion *passed* 5-0.
 - iv) **MOTION:** Supervisor Coless made a motion not to increase the current per bill compensation rate for the Tax Collector. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - v) There was no public comment.
 - vi) The motion *passed* 5-0.
- B) Don Delamater would like to commend the Public Works department for all the hard work they have put into all the storms. Chairman MacFarland agreed and complimented John Primus, Public Works Director.
- C) Political Violence statement read into the minutes.
 - i) **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to include his statement about Political Violence into the minutes. Supervisor Coless seconded the motion.

- ii) Thomas Boward, resident supported including the statement in the minutes.
- iii) The motion *passed 5-0*.
- iv) The following statement has been entered into the record.

Statement from the Lower Providence Board of Supervisors
February 4, 2021

The violence that occurred on January 6th in Washington DC was shocking, frightening, and unacceptable. Much like September 11th, this is a reflection point for all of us in our actions, our rhetoric, and in our discourse with one another. Democracy was founded on disagreement and compromise, it is a sometimes slow and messy process by design, but it ensures that the will of voters is taken into account on major decisions. When we lose the ability to have these conversations, when policy disagreements turn into personal attacks, destructive criticism or unfounded conspiracy theories designed to be deliberately malicious and hurtful, we lose the ability to function as a democracy. When those that disagree with us become enemies, instead of fellow citizens with opposing points of view, it is impossible to find common ground and do the work of being active citizens and responsible elected officials.

We ask that all of you seeing and hearing this message reject violence in pursuit of political goals and encourage you all to become active and engaged members of the Lower Providence community. There is room for all ideas, discussions, compromises and visions through peaceful actions, volunteerism, and lawful processes. The answer is always community. We are stronger together than as 26,000 individuals. We will not always agree but will get to our collective goals as friends and neighbors.

On behalf of the Lower Providence supervisors, our administration, and emergency services, we wish you all peace and safety in this difficult time for our country politically and for all of us personally through the pandemic and thank you for being with us here tonight.

Lower Providence Board of Supervisors

6) Courtesy of the Floor

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: February 18, 2021
March 4, 2021