

PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John E. Schroeder • J. Pepper Goslin • Lori L. Crossen

Monday through Thursday, closed Friday | Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Meeting: First Monday, 7:00 p.m.



SUPERVISORS MEETING **January 4, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Providence Township Board of Supervisors was held in the Township Municipal Office on Monday, January 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Present were John Schroeder, J. Pepper Goslin, Lori Crossen, Manager Vicki Eldridge and eighteen (18) observers.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Schroeder at 7:00 P.M followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to nominate Mr. Goslin as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to nominate Mr. Schroeder as Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Goslin explained that each Supervisor received a copy of the written minutes from the December 14, 2020 board of supervisors meeting as presented. Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to approve the minutes. The motion was carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Vicki Eldridge read the financial report.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to ratify the payment of December bills in the amount of \$166,436.18 from the general fund. The motion was carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF BUDGET

- Mrs. Eldridge stated that the net income for the year was \$256,000. Our tax revenues were not affected by the pandemic in 2020. Mr. Goslin stated that we were able to apply an additional \$50,000 to the debt principal in 2020. Merv Conrad asked if taxes would be increased. The taxes will remain the same. Ron Munro had questions regarding the net income. Mr. Schroeder thanked the supervisors for managing the budget well in 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ron Munro had questions regarding a cash disbursement to Mr. Goslin for physical therapy. He questioned why the cash disbursement was charged to a line item titled "eye and dental". He also questioned Mrs. Crossen regarding receiving eye/dental benefits as well.
- Lori Walter asked why the horse riding on the trail was discussed at the December meeting and was not placed on the agenda available online. She asked the supervisors if this was their way of being deceitful to push the horse issue when only five people were in attendance. She asked if the budget line item for the rail trail is enough to cover damages

that will be made by horses. Mr. Goslin stated that the discussion regarding horses on the trail have been ongoing. This is not something that was just being pushed through. Mr. Schroeder stated the discussions regarding horse use on the trail came up during the parks/rec report at the December meeting.

At this time, Mr. Goslin asked that everyone limit their public comments to three minutes since there were a lot of people in attendance.

- Warren Walter asked the supervisors why the horse discussion at the December meeting was not on the agenda. He asked why ATVs cannot be utilized on the trail. Other linear parks throughout the country allow the use of ATV in linear parks. Mr. Walter stated ATV owners should have the same rights given to horse owners. Mr. Goslin stated that we have discussed this many times and the trail is not meant for any motorized vehicles. Mr. Walter stated that there are environmental concerns along the sides of the trail that cannot be disturbed such as wetlands and bullrushes. He also thanked the township staff and the parks and recreation committee members for all the work they do for the township.
- Chris Harnish stated that Brian Longenecker has said his plan for horse use on the trail was never meant to be considered a working plan. She is also disappointed this issue was not shown on the December agenda.
- Laurie Siegrist thanked the supervisors for managing the budget. She also is concerned the trail will fall apart. She expressed her disdain that supervisors Goslin and Schroeder left the November parks meeting before everyone was finished discussing the horse issue.
- Ken Vanorder is concerned the horses will tear up the trail.
- Dan Siegrist asked if the supervisors will take the advice of the residents. Mr. Siegrist feels the supervisors are doing what they want, not what their constituents want. He asked each supervisor what criteria they used to make their decision on the horse matter. Mr. Goslin and Mr. Schroeder stated they feel all the concerns brought forth have been addressed. Mrs. Crossen said she needs to have more information and answers before she makes a decision.
- Omar Smoker asked if a decision was ever made to eliminate a fulltime road crew member. Mr. Goslin stated that a road crew member retired and was not replaced. We utilize more part time help. Mr. Schroeder said this was an idea that was not popular among residents, however it has been successful.
- Susan Wilson stated that historically the trail was open to horses.
- Korleen Calkins asked if an agreement was signed between the other municipalities along the trail to keep all the rules and regulations the same throughout. She feels it is a disgrace not to work with the neighboring municipalities. She asked if the ordinance is temporary since everyone says this is a trial phase. She pointed out many red flags to horse use as shown on Brian Longenecker's plan. She stated there are no longer any members remaining on the parks and recreation committee. They have all quit. She asked if signage is ready, where will horse trailers be accommodated. She feels the majority is not being represented. At a minimum horse usage should be prohibited during the wet months of spring.
- Kelly Stigall-Jones stated that the equine community will not come to these meetings because of confrontation.
- Chris Harnish asked if the supervisors have discussed horse usage on the trail with Quarryville Borough Representatives.

ROADMASTER REPORT

Vicki Eldridge, Township Manager, reported the following:

In December the road crew worked on the following projects:

- Serviced equipment;
- Cleaned debris from Radcliff Bridge, several times;
- Repaired the intersection at Byerland Church and Smithville Road;
- Placed a French Drain along Mt Hope School Road for water drainage;
- Salted on 12/14; salted and plowed several times between 12/16 and 12/18; and
- Held a safety meeting on 12/30, topic was "Roadside Tree Trimming".

In January the road crew will work on the following projects:

- Tree trimming; (will be our main focus).
- Finish servicing equipment;
- Skin patch to repair road edges, weather permitting; and
- Be prepared for winter weather.

PARKS/RECREATION REPORT

- Mr. Goslin announced that the parks/recreation committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
- At this time, Mrs. Crossen stated that she would like to see the costs associated with any improvements that need to be made to the trail to allow horse use prior to deciding to draft an ordinance. She was fine reviewing the ordinance, but is not in favor of moving forward until more information is received. Mr. Goslin stated that we need to have rules and signage in place concurrently with the adoption of the ordinance. Mr. Goslin stated that we can keep dragging this out by getting more opinions from more people and professionals. He would like to develop common ground among all trail users. Mr. Schroeder stated that the equine community is willing to volunteer and offer assistance in creating rules and regulations. Following further discussion, the supervisors agreed to delay an action on the ordinance until the February 1, 2021 board of supervisors meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to refinance the construction mortgage with Uninvest Bank. The terms and conditions of the mortgage will be approved at the February meeting. This motion indicates the township's commitment to move forward with refinancing if the terms and conditions are acceptable to the township. The motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Goslin announced that the Elected Auditor's Organization Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to reappoint Vicki Eldridge as Secretary to the Board of Supervisors. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to appoint Heidi Martinez as Secretary to the Zoning Hearing Board. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to appoint Kara Kalupson as Secretary to the Planning Commission. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to appoint Vicki Eldridge as 2021 Township Treasurer. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Melvin Newcomer as Solicitor. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Tom Goodman of Goodman and Kenneff as Counsel for Zoning Hearing Board.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to appoint Solanco Engineering as township engineer. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to appoint Arro Consulting as alternate engineer. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to appoint the Cleaning Crusade as the cleaning service for the township. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to appoint J. Pepper Goslin as Chief Administrative Officer for the non-uniform employee pension plan. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Marvin Stoner as Sewage Enforcement Officer. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to reappoint Mark Deimler as alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to appoint Heidi Martinez as Recycling Enforcement Officer. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Vicki Eldridge as Open Records Officer. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Abigail Odell as Chairman of the Vacancy Board. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint James Herr as Emergency Management Coordinator. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to appoint J. Pepper Goslin as official delegate to PSATS State Convention at Hershey, to be held in April, 2021. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Omar Smoker, Lester Wiker, Nancy Zimmerman-Clayton, David Gerhart, Kenneth Harnish and J. Pepper Goslin as members of the Agricultural Security Area Advisory Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, second by Mr. Goslin to reappoint Andrew Odell to a four year term as a member of the Planning Commission. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint Brad Duvall to a three year term as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to reappoint John Schroeder and J. Pepper Goslin to the Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority Regional Advisory Council. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to permit Treasurer to transfer monies between checking and savings accounts as needed. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to appoint the township manager and township roadmaster as authorized individuals to open any or all sealed bids submitted to the township unless otherwise directed by the Board of Supervisors. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to continue to utilize Univest Bank and Trust as the depository for the township's funds. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to establish mileage rate of \$0.56 cents per mile for using personal vehicles to do township business as per federal government. Mileage must be reimbursed during the calendar year it is incurred. The federal mileage allowance for 2021 is 0.56 cents per mile. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to recommend to auditors that the Treasurer's Bond be set at \$1,000,000. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to recommend to auditors that the Township Manager/Secretary's Bond be set at \$1,000,000. Mrs. Crossen asked if the treasurer's bond and this bond is one bond. Mrs. Eldridge confirmed this is one bond. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to recommend to auditors that the hourly rate of \$17.50 be paid to Supervisors for plowing snow within the Township. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to recommend to auditors that the hourly rate of \$15.00 be paid to Supervisors when employed as part time laborers within the Township. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to continue the policy of requiring an appointment, during regular working hours, with a supervisor present, to answer any questions or view any township records or documents. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to continue to charge the rate of twenty-five cents (0.25) each for copies of documents or records; and \$4.00/page for large scale copies. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to continue to charge \$25.00/hour for extensive research of open records documents. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to appoint John Schroeder to supervise and retain control of all township personnel records. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to adopt Resolution No. 21-01 authorizing the destruction of specific records (attached as Exhibit A). The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to reappoint J. Pepper Goslin as the township representative to the Southern Lancaster County Intermunicipal Council. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to reappoint John Schroeder as the township representative to the Solanco Safety Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to reappoint John Schroeder to the Quarryville Borough Wellhead Steering Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to authorize Providence Township and Lancaster County real estate taxes to be collected by the County of Lancaster. The motion was carried unanimously.

SEWAGE OFFICER

- Marvin Stoner issued one sewage permit and completed two perc and probe tests with a total of \$800.00 remitted to the township for the month of December.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Secretary:

- Receipts totaling \$49,426.63 were recorded in the month of December.

ZONING REPORT

- **Subdivision Escrow Release: Ronald Kilgore-\$250.00.** Following discussion, Mr. Schroeder made a motion, second by Mrs. Crossen to release subdivision escrow in the total amount of \$250.00. The motion was carried unanimously.
- **David Haines, 447 Sawmill Road, Renewal “Granny Flat Agreement”:** Mr. Haines verified the terms of the “Granny Flat Agreement” are still in compliance. Following discussion, Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to renew the “Granny Flat Agreement” with David Haines, pertaining to 447 and 445 Sawmill Road, for another year or until January 31, 2022. The motion was carried unanimously.
- **Tamarack/Spread Eagle Village Final Land Development Plan, PT-281FP-20, Lancaster Pike North: The plan proposes an expansion of the mobile home parks with the addition of 14 more homes.** Craig Williams of Strausser Surveying and Engineering and John Pogue of Landvision were in attendance to discuss this plan. Following discussion, Mr. Goslin made a motion, second by Mrs. Crossen to grant a waiver of Section 305, Preliminary Plan requirements of the Providence Township SALDO, subject to the conditions outlined in the SEA letter dated December 2, 2020. The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to grant a waiver of Section 402.A.1, Plan Scale of the Providence Township SALDO. The motion was carried unanimously. Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to grant a waiver of Section 3.09.A.d.4 of the SWMO, Swale Side Slopes. The motion was carried unanimously. Mrs. Crossen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to grant a waiver of Section 3.02.A.2.c of the SWMO, Loading Ratio. The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to grant a waiver of Section 4.03.J.5 of the SWMO, Trees Greater than 6 inches. The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Crossen to grant a waiver of Section 3.09.G.1 of the SWMO, Minimum 6” Swale Freeboard. The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to approve the Final Land Development Plan for Tamarack Mobile Home Park subject to the review comments contained within the December 2, 2020 Solanco Engineering Associates review letter and any subsequent review letters. The motion was carried unanimously.
- **Samuel Stoltzfus, Waiver of Plan Processing, PT-300FP-20, 265 Clearfield Road: The plan proposes to use a portion of an existing building for a contracting business.** Craig Williams of Strausser Surveying and Engineering was in attendance to discuss this plan. Following discussion, Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder to approve the waiver of Article III, Plan Processing for Samuel Stoltzfus subject to the Solanco Engineering Associates review letter dated December 4, 2020 and any subsequent review letters. The motion was carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Mr. Schroeder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goslin to request the Providence Township Zoning Hearing Board to deny the variance request of David and Diane Herr to allow the subdivision of a 68 acre lot into two farms of approximately 34 acres each at tax parcel #520-16678-0-0000 Rawlinsville Road. Mr. Goslin stated that the supervisors have spent considerable time recently reviewing this section of the zoning ordinance and they feel preservation of farms is an essential part of the community. The motion carried with two favorable votes. Mrs. Crossen opposed the motion. The supervisors authorized the township manager to represent the board of supervisors at the zoning hearing on January 12.

Mrs. Eldridge shared that there is funding available through the CARES act to get reimbursed for funds given to fire companies and emergency medical services during the pandemic. The township manager was authorized to apply for this funding.

Mrs. Eldridge gave an update on the repairs to the traffic signal at Truce Road and Route 272. The responsible party in the accident appears to be underinsured. The claim has been submitted to the township insurance company. The cost of the repairs will be approximately \$35,000.00.

Mrs. Crossen asked if the staff has had time to look for a used pickup truck to replace the F150 truck.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no further business, Mr. Goslin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schroeder, to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST: _____
Vicki L. Eldridge, Secretary

J. Pepper Goslin, Chairman

John E. Schroeder, Vice Chairman

Lori L. Crossen, Member