



**UPPER PROVIDENCE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REORGANIZATION REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 6, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE

Board of Supervisors: Laurie Higgins, Supervisor; Helene Calci, Supervisor; John Pearson Supervisor; Albert Vagnozzi, Supervisor; and Bill Starling, Supervisor.

Staff Present: Timothy J. Tieperman, Township Manager; Bryan Bortnichak, Assistant Township Manager; Chief Mark Toomey, UPT Police Department; Arielle Simmons, Communications Officer; and Cheryl Schinski, Administrative Services Manager.

Consultants Present: Geoffrey Grace, Zoning Officer; Eric Frey, Esquire, Representative for Township Solicitor; William Dingman, Township Engineer and Casey Moore, Township Traffic Engineer.

CALL TO ORDER

Solicitor Frey called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD ORGANIZATION

1. Swearing in of Supervisor Bill Starling

Solicitor Frey confirmed that Supervisor Starling was sworn in at 6:30 p.m. this evening by District Justice Richard Welsh.

2. Election of Chair

Supervisor Higgins, seconded by Supervisor Pearson, nominated Supervisor Calci for the position of chair. Nomination carried 5-0.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

Supervisor Higgins, seconded by Supervisor Pearson, nominated Supervisor Vagnozzi for the position of vice-chair. Nomination carried 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE BOARD AGENDA

Supervisor Pearson motioned, seconded by Supervisor Vagnozzi, to approve the January 6, 2020 Reorganization Board Agenda, per § 2-2-5 (A) of the Township Administrative Code. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Calci stated that the public comment section is open to any comments whether on or not on the agenda. If it is on the agenda, please reference the number. All speakers must state their name and address.

John Kraft (159 Woodland Avenue). Mr. Kraft discussed his concerns about the proposal of SEI to realign the Perkiomen Trail along Upper Indian Head Road. He stated that SEI, at a November meeting with residents, said they would reroute a portion of the Perkiomen Trail along the northern shoulder of Upper Indian Head Road to minimize the danger where the road and trail overlap. He stated that an SEI executive called the situation “an accident waiting to happen.” Neighbors and township officials agreed with this proposal. Mr. Kraft stated SEI has now asked for the additional consideration of closing a portion of Upper Indian Head Road. He is concerned that SEI is tying safety improvements to receiving additional financial benefit. During the day many of the users of the trail are SEI employees, who sometimes walk in groups and spread out over the width of the road. On their website, SEI comments that they see the trail as a great benefit to the work/life balance of its employees. He is questioning why the Township or the neighborhood residents should have to concede anything to SEI that contributes to its employees’ safety. He feels that in conjunction with their land development, SEI should be required to improve the safety of Upper Indian Head Road which would include moving the portion of the Perkiomen Trail that currently overlaps Upper Indian Head Road.

Sandra McGrory (1203 Longford Road) questioned why township paid firemen are leaving the township for mutual aid with surrounding municipalities. Also, she stated there are firemen running red lights. Supervisor Vagnozzi stated that the reason the fire department runs mutual aid is because the Township relies on other departments when we need assistance. Ms. McGrory feels that as a taxpayer the firemen are paid to be in this Township. She stated her husband is a firefighter with Black Rock Fire Company. Supervisor Vagnozzi stated that Ms. McGrory’s husband could speak with the Fire Chief about this issue. She stated that the township firefighters should be in our township and not dispatched to other townships.

APPOINTMENTS

4. **Appointment of Township Secretary**
(Incumbent: Timothy J. Tieperman, Township Manager)
5. **Appointment of Township Treasurer**
(Incumbent: Richard D. Livergood, Director of Finance)
6. **Appointment of Township Solicitor**
(Incumbent: Joseph E. Bresnan, Esq.)
7. **Appointment of Municipal Authority Solicitor**
(Incumbent: Joseph E. Bresnan, Esq.)
8. **Appointment of Township Labor Counsel**
(Incumbent: Ryan J. Cassidy, Esq., Eckert Seamans)

9. **Appointment of Bond Counsel**
(Incumbent: Ernest “Bucky” R. Closser, Esq., Curtin & Heefner LLP)
10. **Appointment of Township Engineer**
(Incumbent: William K. Dingman, P.E., Gilmore & Associates, Inc.)
11. **Appointment of Municipal Authority Engineer**
(Incumbent: William K. Dingman, P.E., Gilmore & Associates, Inc.)
12. **Appointment of Township Traffic Engineer**
(Incumbent: Casey Moore, P.E., McMahon Associates, Inc.)
13. **Appointment of Township Zoning Officer and Director of Planning and Zoning**
(Incumbent: Geoffrey Grace, Grace Planning Associates)
14. **Appointment of Township Technology Consultant**
(Incumbent: Michael Cowan, Premier Technology Consultants)

Supervisor Vagnozzi motioned, seconded by Supervisor Higgins to reappoint the incumbents listed in Agenda Items 4 through 14. Motion carried 5-0.

NON-COMPENSATORY APPOINTMENTS

Supervisor Calci stated that staff received several letters from residents expressing their interest in serving on the various Township advisory bodies. Unfortunately, there are more candidates than positions available; the selection process was very challenging. Supervisor Calci thanked everyone for their time and interest in volunteering. The following appointments were made:

15. **Appointment of Vacancy Board Chairman – 1 Year Term – *Jim White***
16. **Appointment of Planning Commission Member – filling open term expiring 12/2021-
*Matthew Caffrey***
17. **Appointment of Planning Commission Member – 4 Year Term – *Robert Heist***
18. **Appointment of Planning Commission Member – 4 Year Term – *Robert Gilinger***
19. **Appointment of Municipal Authority Member – 5 Year Term – *Jack Kraft***
20. **Appointment of Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority Member – 5 Year
Term – *John Pearson***
21. **Appointment of Park & Recreation Board Member – 5 Year Term – *Lynn Corrigan***
22. **Appointment of Park & Recreation Board Member – 5 Year Term – *Rachel Schauder***

**23. Appointment of Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals Member – 3 Year Term
– C. Lee Milligan**

Supervisor Higgins motioned, seconded by Supervisor Vagnozzi, to approve the above listed appointments, Agenda Items 15 through 23. Motion carried 5-0.

ACTION ITEMS

24. Consider action to set 2020 rate of compensation for Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor

Supervisor Vagnozzi motioned, seconded by Supervisor Pearson, to set the 2020 rate of compensation for the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor at \$150.00 per hour plus any out of pocket costs incurred. Motion carried 5-0.

25. Consider action to establish 2020 Regular Meeting Schedules

Supervisor Calci discussed the 2020 meeting schedules. She stated that beginning in February 2020, the Board of Supervisors will be meeting once a month on the third Monday. The reason for the change is to better utilize township staff, cost savings and allow residents a more informal opportunity to discuss issues with the supervisors. Some possible ideas for discussions are weekend coffee chats with a supervisor, supervisors attending homeowners' association meeting or similar ideas. Supervisor Calci stated that one of her goals as Chair is to promote better communication with residents. If anyone is interested in this type of informal setting, please contact the supervisor or township staff with your ideas.

Supervisor Higgins motioned, seconded by Supervisor Vagnozzi, to establish the 2020 Regular Meeting Schedules as advertised for the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Comprehensive Plan Sub-Committee, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Municipal Authority. Motion carried 3-2 with Supervisor Pearson and Supervisor Starling opposed.

26. Consider action to establish 2020 Holiday Schedule

Supervisor Vagnozzi motioned, seconded to Supervisor Pearson, to approve the 2020 Holiday Schedule. Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTIONS

27. Consider adoption of Resolution 2020-1 appointing an alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board Member – 3 Year Term

Supervisor Pearson motioned, seconded by Supervisor Higgins to adopt Resolution 2020-1 appointing Christopher Yohn as an alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried 5-0.

28. Consider adoption of Resolution 2020-2 affirming the Township Fee Schedule

Supervisor Vagnozzi motioned, seconded by Supervisor Pearson, to adopt Resolution 2020-2 affirming the Township Fee Schedule. Motion carried 5-0.

29. Consider adoption of Resolution 2020-3 setting the 2020 bond amounts for the Township Manager and Finance Department

Supervisor Higgins motioned, seconded by Supervisor Pearson, to adopt Resolution 2020-3 setting the 2020 bond amounts for the Township Manager and Finance Department. Motion carried 5-0.

30. Consider adoption of Resolution 2020-4 approving depositories for Upper Providence Township funds during 2020

Supervisor Vagnozzi motioned, seconded by Supervisor Pearson, to adopt Resolution 2020-4 approving depositories for Upper Providence Township funds during the year 2020.

31. Consider adoption of Resolution 2020-5 approving appointment of professional auditor to perform an audit of the 2020 and 2021 financial records of Upper Providence Township

Supervisor Pearson motioned, seconded by Supervisor Higgins, to adopt Resolution 2020-5 approving appointment of a professional auditor to perform an audit for the 2020 and 2021 financial records of Upper Providence Township.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Supervisor Calci stated that Supervisors Comments would be included with the Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting which will occur at the conclusion of the Reorganization Meeting.

ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING

There being no further reorganization business, Supervisor Higgins motioned, seconded by Supervisor Pearson to adjourn the Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting at 7:24 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Timothy J. Tieperman
Township Manager/Secretary