

Providence Township Patriot

Keeping Providence Township Residents Informed

200 Mount Airy Road, New Providence, PA 17560

www.providencetownship.com

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Contact Information

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Township Hours:

Monday – Thursday

6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Closed every Friday

Board of Supervisors

Meetings: First Monday, 7:00 p.m.

C. William Shaffer, Chair

William H. Schall, Vice Chair

Gregory R. Collins

Township Secretary

Vicki Eldridge

vicki@providencetownship.com

Zoning Officer

Constance Peiffer

connie@providencetownship.com

Road Master

Jim Grube

jim@providencetownship.com

Planning Commission

Meetings: Third Monday, 7:00 p.m.

James E. Pennington, Chair

Anthony Nardella

Clayton Harnish

Richard Messer

Andrew Odell

Zoning Hearing Board

Meetings: Second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

James Hess

Ralph Dubree

Bradford Duvall, Chair

Anna Hipple, Alternate

Serving approximately 6,651 residents and 2,850 households

The Capital Construction Project. In January, 2008 at the direction of the Board of Supervisors, a Building/Facilities committee was formed. The committee's task was to review and assess the current township facilities with regard to use, condition and appropriateness to current and, to the extent possible, future functions and needs. The committee was comprised of township residents Dan Fichtner, Ron Snyder, Rick Rankin, Paul Hollinger, John Kirk and Greg Collins. Over the subsequent months the committee reviewed conditions, made observations, and commented based on professional opinion and history and experiences as residents. The township staff was surveyed to obtain their input and the Supervisors met with the committee on a regular basis. The committee presented a report to the Township Supervisors which included their recommendations for the project. In early 2009, the Supervisors contracted with Lewis and Associates Architects and David Miller Associates (civil engineer) to begin the planning process for the construction project. From the start of this project, the Supervisors were in favor of building an environmentally friendly facility. The project is proposed to obtain a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) "certified" level. The project will consist of a 4,025 square foot addition to the existing office building which will provide offices for the staff, a conference room, and an additional office space which may be leased. The existing office building (one-room school house) will be maintained and utilized as the township meeting room and linked to the new office building. The existing maintenance complex will be demolished. A new maintenance building will be constructed to the east of the existing building which will include 13 vehicle storage bays, 1 service bay, 1 wash bay, storage areas, and an office. The project also includes a new salt storage building, and material storage bins. The buildings will be constructed using post-frame construction, which offers efficiencies in

both schedule and cost. Due to the township's roadside tree-trimming waste, a wood gasification boiler heating system will be utilized. The boiler will be centrally located and will burn the township's wood chips to generate hot water, which will provide heat to both the maintenance building and the office building. A waste oil boiler will be used as a backup/supplemental heat source. The Township is also planning for the installation of (2) 2.4 kw windmills which will feed into the main electrical panel and help to offset some of the additional energy requirements of the updated facility. On September 23, 2010, bids for the project were opened and read aloud. Over the next 11 days, the design professionals and the supervisors reviewed each bid proposal. At a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors which was held on Tuesday, October 5, 2010, the supervisors awarded the bids to begin construction. The following bids were awarded:

General Contractor—Dolan Construction, Reading, PA

HVAC and Plumbing—CMC, Inc., Gap, PA

Electrical—McCarty and Son, Ephrata, PA

The total of all bids is \$2,408,059.00. The Township has been saving funds for this project since 2002. The project will be paid for with the township's general fund as well as a 1.7 million dollar loan from Susquehanna Bank. This is a 20 year loan; however, the desire is to pay the loan off in a shorter time period. Township residents will not see a tax increase to pay for this building. The Supervisors are in agreement that taxes will not be raised to pay for a building. The project is scheduled to begin in late October 2010 with completion in May, 2011. We have also applied for two grants through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. If awarded, the grants will help offset the cost of the windmills and the wood-gasification boiler.



Above: Proposed maintenance facility



Providence Township Municipal Facility
Municipal Office Building - Exterior Rendering 1

Lewis & Associates Architects
January 7, 2010

Above: Proposed office addition

Forced-Merger Bills Are a Slap in the Face to Our Founding Fathers

By David M. Sanko

Today, as a township or borough resident, you can go to a municipal meeting, speak out about what's right and wrong, and have a real and lasting impact on what happens in your community. Tomorrow, however, that might not be the case. And the sad thing is, many Pennsylvanians aren't aware that something they value, and possibly take for granted, could be snatched away. And that's their right to be heard, loud and clear, by their local elected leaders. As I write, state lawmakers are preparing to hold hearings on two serious threats to our democratic way of life, House Bill 2431 and Senate Bill 1357, which would radically reshape our commonwealth by snuffing out townships and boroughs. The most onerous measure, House Bill 2431, is nothing short of a slap in the face to our founding fathers. Proposed by Rep. Thomas Caltagirone of Berks County, the bill would make Pennsylvania's community-based system of governing unconstitutional — unconstitutional! — and replace it with something he says is better: an out-of-sight mega-bureaucracy overseen by the county. In protest, supervisors in hundreds of townships have rallied and passed resolutions that oppose the bills. Despite this grassroots uprising — isn't that what America is all about? — Caltagirone and his fellow "do-gooders" continue to stand firm on their bigger-is-better platform, a house of cards built on whimsy, not fact, and claim they know what is best for Pennsylvania. Their argument hinges on the debatable premise that the commonwealth should follow the lead of a handful of other states, bulldoze its patchwork of "inefficient" and "redundant" municipalities, and create a landscape of bigger, supposedly more efficient governments. But we don't have to look beyond our borders for examples of the bigger-government model. We've got them right here in Pennsylvania. Look at places like Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Reading, and Allentown. They're larger, for sure, but are they more efficient? More responsive? More affordable? Not by a long shot. But if you're searching for an example of a better-government model, look no farther than the nearest township. There, you'll find hardworking, fiscally responsible men and women who work together, do more with less, and are frugal with tax dollars. They're also deeply committed to preserving Pennsylvania's long-standing tradition of government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" in an age where big boxes (think Home Depot) rule. But are big boxes the solution? Maybe for grocery stores and discount retailers, but not for government, where hands-on, within-reach leadership — the vision of William Penn and our nation's founding fathers — still makes as much sense today as it did hundreds of years ago. Of course, critics will say that township supervisors are protesting the likes of House Bill 2431 because they want to preserve their jobs and power. But self-preservation is not their motivation. Townships, instead, are determined to protect something they know their residents hold sacred, and that's their fundamental right to govern themselves locally. Why, I ask, would anyone want it any other way? Author's note: If you value grassroots governing, please call or e-mail your state representatives and senators and voice your opposition to House Bill 2431 and Senate Bill 1357. Lawmakers want — and need — to hear from their voters. Therefore, the more voices that protest this legislation, the better the chances of protecting and preserving Pennsylvania's local governments along with the township way of life for many years to come.

About the author: David M. Sanko is the executive director of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors. With a broad background in local and state government, Sanko oversees an organization that is the primary advocate for the commonwealth's 1,455 townships of the second class, home to 5.4 million Pennsylvanians.

RECYCLING

Providence Township residents are required to recycle. All licensed trash haulers will supply recycle bins to their respective customers. If you need a replacement bin, they are available at the township office.

WHAT DO I PUT IN MY RECYCLE BIN?

Glass: Clear, green and brown glass food and beverage bottles and jars should be thoroughly rinsed and lids should be removed. Throw the lids in the trash. It is not necessary to remove labels.



DO NOT PUT IN THE BIN: light bulbs, window and auto glass, drinking glasses and cookware are not recyclable and should not be put in the trash.

Metals: All food and beverage cans which are made from aluminum, steel, tin or a combination of metals should be rinsed prior to placing in the bin. Do not crush the cans.

DO NOT PUT IN THE BIN: Other aluminum and metal products like foil, pie plates, and hangers are not recyclable and should be put in the trash.

Plastic Bottles: Plastic household bottles with a #1 (PETE) such as water, soft drink and juice bottles or #2 (HDPE) like milk and detergent bottles. Throw the lid in the trash. Rinse and smash.

DO NOT PUT IN THE BIN: Plastic tubs such as yogurt and butter containers, toys and other plastic packaging.

Newspapers: All newspapers, including inserts, should be placed in strong paper bags (not to exceed 30 lbs.). Put the bag next to or on top of the recycling bin. PLEASE DO NOT PUT NEWSPAPERS OUT FOR COLLECTION WHEN IT IS RAINING.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

The township will be recycling Christmas trees this year. Please feel free to drop off your Christmas Tree at the maintenance sheds.



HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT



Trick-or-Treat will be held on Friday, October 29, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. PLEASE BE SAFE!

TATTERED FLAGS

A township resident has requested that the township office become a collection sight for old tattered flags. If you have a flag that needs to be destroyed, please drop it off at the township office and we will be sure it is destroyed in the proper respectful manner.

BUDGET

The Providence Township Board of Supervisors have held four public workshops to work through the 2011 budget. The budget will be available for inspection at the township office in November and will be adopted in December. Once the final budget is adopted it will be available on the township website.

POLICE COVERAGE.

The Pennsylvania State Police is our police force. The Quarryville Borough Police Department conducts speed checks throughout the township.

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY DIAL 9-1-1.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

You are welcome to attend all public meetings at the Township Office. The Board of Supervisors meet on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., the Zoning Hearing Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and the Planning Commission meets on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Any changes to the meeting dates and times are advertised in the Lancaster Newspapers, on the Township website and posted at the Township office

TOWNSHIP HOLIDAYS.

The Township Offices will be closed on the following days:

Primary Election Day:	Tuesday, November 2, 2010
Veterans Day:	Thursday, November 11, 2010
Thanksgiving Day:	Thursday, November 25, 2010
Thanksgiving Monday:	Monday, November 29, 2010
Christmas Holiday:	Thursday, December 23, 2010
Christmas Holiday:	Monday, December 27, 2010
New Years Day Holiday:	Thursday, December 30, 2010:

STRAY ANIMALS.

The township no longer contracts with the Humane League of Lancaster County to handle stray dogs and cats. The township has a dog officer that will handle all stray dog issues. If you find a stray dog, you may contact the township dog officer, Richard Hess at (717) 392-2692. Unfortunately, the township has no means to deal with stray cats. We suggest perhaps you locate an animal rescue facility or contact the Organization for the Responsible Care of Animals (ORCA).

WINTER REMINDER. As winter approaches and brings with it the threat of snow, please remember the following:

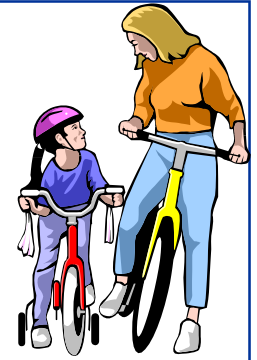
- During a snowstorm, the road crew's main concern is having two lanes cleared on every road. Once all roads have two lanes cleared of snow, the intersections will be plowed back and widened to increase sight distance.
- Some roads require three passes from the snow plow to clear the blacktop; therefore you may want to wait to shovel your driveway until all the snow is cleared from the roadway.
- DO NOT shovel the snow from your driveway into the road. If your driveway is plowed, please be sure excess snow that is plowed into the road is cleared.



Make sure your mailbox is securely attached to the post; and make sure the post is strong enough to withstand the force of snow being pushed by the plow.

PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP LINEAR PARK INFORMATION

Did you know the low grade rail line ("linear park") is now open to the public? We encourage you to hike or ride bike in the linear park. Motorized vehicles are prohibited. The Quarryville Borough Police Department and the Pennsylvania State Game Commission currently patrol the linear park. The linear park is easiest accessed on Fairview Road where the old railroad bridge was removed. At that location, you are able to walk right into the linear park.



HUNTING IN PARK

Archery and muzzle loader hunting are allowed in the linear park. Permits are required to hunt in the linear park. There is no fee for the permit. Please stop by the municipal office to obtain a hunting permit and a parking permit.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Providence Township Park/Trail Committee began its work with its organizational meeting on Thursday, June 3rd, and we need your help. In subsequent meetings, it has been determined that our first priority is to make our portion of the linear park useable by the public. Our Supervisors negotiated a new crossing at Fairview Road, which provides the best, most direct access, and it is our intention on working toward making the segment from Fairview Road to Sigman Road useable, with access at Sigman Road, Sawmill Road, Hollow Road, and Fairview Road. The Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, and we need help with maintenance, confirming right-of-ways, continuity with adjoining townships, and obtaining grants and fund raising so that the burden of cost is not born solely by Providence Township Residents. Please join us and express your interest by letter or phone call to our Supervisors.



Dan Fichtner, Chair, Providence Township Park/Trail Committee

QUARRYVILLE LIBRARY NEWS



Did you know you can rent current DVDs at the Quarryville Library free of charge? If you don't currently visit the library, take time to check it out! Your trip will be worth it! With all the state budget cuts, the library is suffering financially. Any financial donations you could offer to the library would be greatly appreciated as well! The library website is www.quarryvillelibrary.org. Call the library at 717-786-1336 or stop by at 357 Buck Road, Quarryville, PA.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Board of Supervisors awarded the annual Providence Township Community Service Award to Mervin and Ida "Sis" Conrad. The Conrads have been involved on the Emergency Management Committee and the Zoning Ordinance Update Committee as well as the Providence Township Ambulance Association. Please take time to say thanks to the Conrads for their years of dedicated service to Providence



REMEMBER TO VOTE
ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2010
POLLS OPEN: 7:00 A.M.—8:00 P.M.



Keeping our residents informed!

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