

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP –March 25, 2021

Virtual Meeting held via Zoom and shown on YouTube

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 25, 2021 via Zoom call and shown on YouTube.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Cooper
Commissioner Knapp
Commissioner King
Commissioner O'Connor
Commissioner Molloy

EXCUSED: Commissioner Garson
Commissioner McKenzie

ALSO PRESENT:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Dave Grady | Township Manager |
| David Fiorenza | Finance Director |
| Robert Scott | Solicitor |
| Charles Catania | Township Engineer |
| Chief Splain | Police Chief |

Mr. O'Connor chaired the meeting until Mr. Knapp arrived.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS- Mr. Grady said there are two openings on the EAC committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There was no public comment.

SOLICITORS REPORT – Mr. Scott had nothing to report.

ENGINEER REPORT- Mr. Catania reported the Community Development Block Grant bids for the Garden City Manor sanitary sewer work will be opened on April 8th. He also reported that DELCORA will be coming back out to the Rose Valley area to do additional testing around the train station. He will report back to the Board on those findings.

BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT – Max Cooper

Mr. Knapp arrived at this time.

Status of Media Walk development at 310 Wallingford Avenue – Mr. Cooper said Mr. Catania met with and addressed the issues brought up from last meeting's public comment. Mr. Catania said the berm would be relocated to a different section of the lot, but it would have the same effect. He said the affected homeowner and the developer agreed to the adjustment.

Escrow Release Media Walk – Mr. Cooper made a motion to release an escrow in the amount of \$89,713.51. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT – Robert O'Connor

Aqua Payments- Mr. O'Connor reported the Board accepted an offer from Aqua at the last March meeting, and the Township has invoiced Aqua in those amounts.

Road Resurfacing- Mr. O'Connor asked the Board to have a discussion on non-Aqua roads that are on the resurfacing list. The Board decided to wait until the April 8th meeting to vote on the final list of roads. Mr. Catania said the Township could advertise the project in the paper, and then select the roads on the 8th so that the bids could be opened

on April 22nd. Mr. Knapp made a motion to advertise the 2021 Paving Program on 15,000 square yards with a specific scope to be determined, and Mr. O'Connor seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Grady shared that Mr. Fiorenza created a cost analysis of a loan project on road resurfacing. Mr. Fiorenza said he would send it to the commissioners to look at before the next board meeting to discuss.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT- Micah Knapp

Cameras in Parks- Mr. Knapp shared there have been several incidents around the Township which have led the Board to consider cameras around Township Parks. Examples included tires being dumped at parks, glass bottles shattered around parks, and vandalism. Mr. Knapp suggested installing temporary cameras for 12-18 months to see if vandalism is reduced. He suggested Sapovits Park at the basketball courts. He shared that he and Ms. McKenzie had opposed the cameras there in the past, but with recent vandalism and safety issues he is now supporting the cameras. He noted the importance of being respectful of neighbors' and participants' privacy. James Mason of Washington Avenue commented that he is in support of the cameras at the Sapovits basketball courts to hopefully deter vandalism and violence. He shared that he has discussed with neighbors who are also in support of the cameras. Mr. Knapp suggested the Board authorize a certain number of cameras and locations. He also suggested the Board consider a community meeting or have residents come to the April 8th Board meeting for public comment to share neighborhood opinions. Chief Splain reported on two shots fired several years ago, in addition to the recent gunshots that shattered the basketball backboard. Chief Splain also took a moment to thank Mr. Mason for saving another resident's life in a fire earlier that morning. He said Mr. Mason's actions were heroic. The Board thanked Mr. Mason.

Mr. Molloy asked if there were options other than cameras to deter vandalism. Chief Splain responded that cameras have two benefits in that they deter issues and can help with investigation. Chief Splain also mentioned using the Police Polaris more often, which can get into places squad cars cannot, which helps deter issues. Chief Splain suggested having a group of leaders from within the community around the park to have a meeting to help with discussions concerning the use of cameras. Mr. Knapp suggested a motion to authorize administration and police to get four cameras installed around basketball courts. Mr. Molloy shared he was not in support as the Board does not yet know how all the neighbors around the park feel about cameras. Mr. Cooper and Ms. King said they will support and do what the residents from that neighborhood want to do. Mr. Mason voiced that he views this as a safety issue concern, and he thinks the fact that this is in South Media should not matter. He also said he will let other residents know about the April 8th Board meeting and that they should come for Public comment to share their thoughts. Mr. Knapp made a motion to authorize administration and police to seek quotes and camera locations for four cameras at the Sapovits Park basketball courts and surrounding areas. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Mr. Molloy opposed the motion.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – Micah Knapp

DCNR- Mr. Knapp gave an update that the Martha Burton Park grant application to the DCNR will be submitted in April. They are in the process of getting quotes for the playground, and a resolution will be passed at the April 8th meeting. Mr. Grady shared updated drawings of cumulative ideas. The dedication for the newly named park will be held on July 31st.

Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program Open- Mr. Grady said the deadline for the grant is May 31st. Ideas for Hepford Park and Furness Park's Phase II have been suggested for this grant opportunity. Mr. Knapp suggested discussing this at the April 8th meeting.

Bullens Property Acquisition- Mr. Knapp made a motion for the approval of the "Agreement of Donation of Real Estate" for property folio- 34000042600 along with the associated costs of the appraisal. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Micah Knapp

American Rescue Act Funding- Mr. Knapp gave an overview of what the funds can be used for, including costs related to the pandemic, distributions to nonprofit groups, and investments in water and sewer infrastructure. He said the funds are distributed in two parts, and the Township is waiting on further guidance from the Federal Government.

FEMA/PEMA Grant- Mr. Knapp shared that this grant agreement is for the 1012 Glen Road property. It was noted that Mr. Scott reviewed the agreement. Discussion was had on the flood mitigation project's estimated budget. Mr. Knapp made a motion to approve the Flood Mitigation Assistant Grant Program Agreement in the amount of \$497,040.00.

Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Bills List- Mr. Knapp gave an overview of the Bills List.

Mr. Knapp moved to approve the Bills list:

A/P Bills- \$102,592.65

A/P Interim Funds- \$34,416.23

Procurement Cards- \$47,675.62

Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT REPORT- Stephanie King

2021 Summer Camp- Ms. King reported that the Township is waiting to hear back from the school district for its approval of the Township's use of Nether Providence Elementary. She shared the Camp Flyer as well.

PHS Tree Planting Ceremony- Ms. King shared the nine trees will be delivered soon and the planting ceremony will be held on April 24th at 10:00 at Hepford Park.

CDBG- Ms. King reported that Hepford Park was not awarded CDBG funding. She suggested the Board wait until the April 8th meeting to discuss other grant options for Hepford Park.

INFRASTRUCTURE REPEORT – Martin Molloy

Watershed Restoration Protection Program Open- Mr. Molloy shared the deadline for the Grant is May 31st. He proposed the board continue to look for areas that are within the pollution reduction plan. Mr. Grady suggested the Township apply every year for the grant as it can help with meeting the pollutant reduction requirements as these grants could help fund projects. Mr. Molloy asked Mr. Catania to investigate Palmers Lane and report back.

WRPP- Gouley Park- Mr. Molloy reported the State approved the extension until June 30, 2022. He said the project is on track to start in the summer of 2021, but the extension is being used as a precaution. Mr. Molloy made a motion to accept the contract amendment for an extension until June 30, 2022. Mr. Knapp seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Mr. O'Connor had stepped away briefly.

Sewer Unit Reduction Request- Mr. Molloy shared that Mr. Grady has received requests from commercial properties to reduce sewer units as they have fewer employees for 2020-2021. Mr. Grady explained this should not impact budget as the flows and units should cancel each other out. He said the Township will check back with these commercial properties later in the year to see if units need to be increased as people begin returning to office work. The Board supported having Mr. Grady continue to review and approve, as necessary, the sewer unit reduction requests.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – Mr. Grady shared the Delco.pa.gov website had information on COVID-19 vaccination sites. He shared the county website has other non-county related sites that have vaccinations available. They also have a Homebound Vaccination Program. Mr. Grady shared a big "Thank You" to everyone participating in the CRC Stream Clean-up. He also thanked "Friends of Smedley" for their clean up, and NPT CAT for their efforts in their cleanups. April 1st is the Red Cross Blood drive held at the Township Building. Sign ups are at www.redcrossblood.org. He said April 2nd is the monthly Food Truck Friday Fundraiser for South Media Fire Company. He noted a Digital Skills Workshop is being offered through the Goodwill. He said Delaware County is offering an Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program and to learn more, visit www.delco-era.com.

Mr. Knapp said the next meeting would be on April 8th. The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 PM.