

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
MEETING of January 11, 2018

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township, duly advertised and posted in accordance with law, was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, January 11, 2018 in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room, Township Municipal Building, 214 Sykes Lane, Wallingford, PA 19086.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Sullivan
Commissioner Baker
Commissioner Knapp
Commissioner Dougherty
Commissioner McKenzie-Fiumara
Commissioner Garson

Gary Cummings	Township Manager
Dave Grady	Assistant Township Manager
Robert Scott	Township Solicitor
Lisa Swan	Finance Director
David Splain	Chief of Police
Charles Catania	Township Engineer

EXCUSED: Commissioner O'Connor

PUBLIC

Approximately 4 people in attendance.

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Sullivan notes an executive session prior to the meeting and then led the Pledge of Allegiance which was recited by all. Mr. Sullivan noted we send wishes to Fire Marshal Jack Gresch for a speedy recovery and wished Chief Splain a happy birthday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mr. Sullivan noted the Board received a list of those who wish to be reappointed as well as vacancies. He asked residents who may be interested to contact the Township and he hoped the Board could act on this at our January 25th meeting.

BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT (Mike Dougherty)

502 Vernon Subdivision – Mr. Dougherty noted the Township Engineer said the plan needs some revision and we will have to act at the next meeting.

Request to install cell tower on Swarthmore College property off of Avondale Road – Mr. Dougherty noted the Planning Commission reviewed the proposal and stated variances are needed or the zoning needs to change to permit the use.

Request to change zoning for 116 E & 120 E. Baltimore Pike from R-2 to PO – Mr. Dougherty noted the request to change zoning for these two properties to professional office use. Mr. Scott stated he would like to discuss this with Bob Linn of the Planning Commission as they are suggesting a new zoning district for these two properties.

Animal Regulations – Mr. Baker noted this arose from an issue in the 5th ward. He stated he wanted the board to consider new regulations, particularly zoning due to the close proximity of properties to each other. He noted the regulations would be on the keeping of farm animals. Mr. Sullivan suggested we address the associated nuisances. Mr. Scott stated he has seen chicken ordinances requiring minimum square foot areas as well as setbacks from property lines. Mr. Baker noted there was a rodent problem that initiated this concern.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT (Larry Baker)

805 Forrest Avenue Demolition – Mr. Baker stated additional funds have been requested from the County and we are waiting to hear back.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (Kate McKenzie-Fiumara)

EIT (Earned Income Tax) – Ms. McKenzie-Fiumara noted this is a carryover issue from last year. Matt stated Mr. Dougherty was interested in looking at an EIT, but noted it would be a new tax for about 50% of the residents. Mr. Knapp stated the Federal Government is limiting the amount of income tax deduction and the tax will hurt renters and working-class people. He asked the Board to think about it and we can review it next month.

DVIT Safety Grants – The Board agreed to purchase the DVIT recommended back-up cameras for public works vehicles using the workers comp grant funds.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT (Matt Sullivan)

LED Streetlights – Mr. Sullivan stated the project is being financed and so there will be no out of pocket expense. He noted work is expected to start soon and we are looking into selling our old lights.

Moore Road sidewalk – Mr. Sullivan stated the project is in the design phase and it looks like construction will now begin in 2019.

CMAQ (E. Possum Hollow sidewalk) – Mr. Sullivan stated the E. Possum Hollow sidewalk project is in the design phase.

Multi-modal sidewalk for East Rose Valley Road Walkway – Mr. Sullivan stated this will go from the Leiper-Smedley Trail up to Rt. 252 and noted the design is to be started this year.

Parkridge Drive Outfall – Mr. Sullivan stated we received bids and the low bid is under the grant amount so we can award this at the legislative meeting.

PA Small Sewer Grant – Mr. Sullivan stated this grant is due February 28 and we are getting costs for possible projects.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE REPORT (Matt Garson)

Summit School Deed and Committee – Mr. Garson noted we are finalizing the deed restriction for the open space and we should form a committee to come up with ideas of what to do with the building and site. He stated he thought there should be 2 Commissioners on the committee along with a member of the Planning Commission, a member of the Parks Commission and a couple of residents. Mr. Sullivan suggested Mr. Garson and Ms. McKenzie-Fiumara be on the committee.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT (Micah Knapp)

Traffic Calming – Matt noted Mr. Dixon and his crews may be able to implement traffic calming measures, particularly at Possum Hollow and Woodward Road. Concern with the fire trucks turning radius and moving the stop sign back were voiced. Mr. Sullivan noted Putnam Blvd., Georgetown Road and Harvey Road were areas where complaints have been received. Mr. Catania is to look at these areas relative to speed humps or other traffic calming measures.

Parking on Turner Road and Rogers Lane - The problem of a van being left parked in a spot and restricting this by ordinance was discussed. Mr. Baker suggested having the police contact the owner. Mr. Scott will look into other possible restrictions.

Fire Committee – Mr. Knapp stated he will plan to schedule a committee meeting.

Police Towing Contract – Mr. Knapp stated Concord Auto Body has reached out to see if they can be a tower. Chief Splain is to review and make a recommendation.

Mr. Knapp read the monthly police report and noted the monthly statistics.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT (Robert O'Connor)

In Mr. O'Connor's absence, Mr. Knapp stated we have a carry forward list from last year. Mr. Sullivan noted we have Aqua money and need to resurface Copples Lane. Mr. Catania asked Board members to forward to him any roads they wish to put on the list.

MANAGERS REPORT

Mr. Cummings stated the 2018 Community Development grant application was submitted, the red cross blood drive held last week was a success, and he noted the list of Aqua main replacement projects for 2018. He noted that tax bills will be sent out by the end of the month and to look for the annual newsletter mailed with the annual tax bill. Mr. Cummings stated we planned to purchase recycling containers that was approved as part of the recycling fee calculation and Mr. Grady was looking into electricity pricing. He also noted the Township was to pay the DELCORA settlement amount and Mr. Scott was to obtain a mutual release from them.

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Sullivan stated the next meeting is the legislative meeting on January 25. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.