

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
MEETING of October 10, 2019**

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, October 10, 2019 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 Garson  
Commissioner McKenzie  
Commissioner O'Conner

Gary Cummings	Township Manager
Carl Ewald	Township Solicitor
Charles Catania	Township Engineer
David Splain	Chief of Police

EXCUSED: Commissioner Dougherty

**PUBLIC**

Approximately 10 people in attendance.

**ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Sullivan led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted an executive session on real estate and litigation matters was held earlier.

Commissioner Sullivan congratulated Assistant Manager Dave Grady and wife Kate and daughter Nora on the birth of their twin girls, Claire & Jane.

Commissioner Garson also wished Happy Belated Birthday to Commissioner McKenzie and happy 40<sup>th</sup> year with the Township to Gary Cummings.

**RECOGNITION OF VETERANS**

Mr. Joe Daily, President of The Delaware County Veterans Memorial, stated he is a former marine. He said in searching to recognize veterans, they look for individuals who served & received medals, but then continue to serve veterans. Ralph Galati, a pilot who was shot down, noted a dinner was being held November 14 to officially recognize these veterans who will receive the Freedom Metal.

Mr. Sullivan invited Colonel Jeffrey Jahnke to come forward and read a proclamation which was given to Colonel Jahnke to applause. Mr. Jahnke thanked the Board and said he is a soldier for life. Mr. Sullivan then asked Mr. Ray Stankus to come forward and read a proclamation which was given to Mr. Stankus to applause. Mr. Stankus stated he felt he did not do anything extraordinary and as a survivor, he will continue to serve veterans. He thanked the Board for their service.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Nannette Whitsett of 801 Forrest Avenue thanked the Board for the vote to re-zone 310 Wallingford Ave. and hopes the Board moves to approve Ms. Pecks plan. She also spoke on the Summer Recreation program and stated some South Media children may have trouble getting to the program. Commissioner Baker stated he is a WSSD bus driver so he will see if the district would be willing to supply a bus run. Commissioner Knapp suggested contacting the school board representative for South Media. Ms. Whitsett noted she is an ad hoc member of Parks Committee and worked on at the Pop-Up Garden from the Audubon Society at the Furness Library. She asked if planting could be put in the budget for landscaping in the wooded area at the end of Dennis Lane and elsewhere. Mr. Sullivan said the Parks Committee has a budget and to discuss this at the next Parks Committee meeting. She also referenced a problem with Forrest Avenue between Ronaldson Avenue and Moylan Avenue where the road is sinking and flooding. Mr. Sullivan said we will have Mr. Dixon and Mr. Catania look at the road and make recommendations. Mr. Knapp thanked Nanette for her interest and service.
2. John Hill of 1120 Putnam Blvd said he has a cat problem. He said a cat is using his mulch bed as a litter box and asked what can be done? Mr. Sullivan asked if he talked to the Condominium Association. He said he did ask and they said to go to the Township. Mr. Sullivan asked if they were feral and he said they are not. Mr. Cummings said it violates the ordinance to allow a cat to be a nuisance on public or private property. The Board asked the Code Enforcement Officer to look into the problem.

## **SOLICITORS REPORT**

Mr. Scott noted nothing new to report.

## **ENGINEERING REPORT**

Mr. Catania stated his items are on the agenda.

## **BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT** (Mr. Sullivan in Dougherty's absence)

**R-5 zoning amendment on setbacks and parking** – Mr. Sullivan moved to advertise a public hearing for October 24 if possible. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion which passed 6 – 0.

**Residential Professional zoning amendment** – Mr. Sullivan noted a public hearing has been scheduled for October 24.

**Vernon Walk subdivision (310 Wallingford Avenue)** – Mr. Sullivan stated the plan will be going to the Township and County planning commissions.

**SBA cell tower (planting strip along Avondale Road)** – Mr. Sullivan noted SBA agreed to install a planting strip as part of the zoning approval and we have discussed a payment in lieu offer with the attorney but are waiting to hear back.

## **COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT** (Mr. Baker)

**Family Fun Day** – Mr. Baker stated it was a great day for many and he will summarize in November.

**Community Clean Up Day** – Mr. Baker stated it is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>, a Saturday and believes it will be moved to Summit school. Mr. Sullivan said options are to have 2 dumpsters or 1 truck, noting 1 truck will be a little cheaper. After discussion, the Board agreed to go with 2 dumpsters, but to make sure they are picked up on time.

**Welcome to Township Signs** – Commissioner Baker noted the pricing is in folders. He said “Signs by Tomorrow” is the lowest price but maybe we should look into locations. Mr. Sullivan inquired about the amount in the budget and staff will look into it.

#### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT** (Ms. McKenzie)

**Bridge Loan** – Commissioner McKenzie noted \$2,000,000 loan. Mr. Sullivan said we may not need to get it as we may have another option to extend grant.

**Verizon Franchise Agreement** – Mr. Ewald said he is going back and forth with Verizon so hoping to resolve within the next 3 months or by December.

**2018 Audit** – Ms. McKenzie stated 2018 financial audit has been completed. She noted there were some findings and said we will discuss these with Ms. Swan and Mr. Grady.

**2020 Budget** – Ms. McKenzie noted there is a budget meeting next week.

**Auditing Services** – Mr. Sullivan noted quotes are in the files and also includes a quote for the fire companies and asked if the Board was interested. Board discussed options and there was a suggestion to have them contribute to the cost. Mr. Sullivan stated he and Mr. Knapp met with the two companies and they do have internal controls. Mr. Sullivan noted audits are already performed on their relief funds. Commissioner Garson said we want to make sure the public has confidence in donating. The Board agreed to discuss this as part of the 2019 budget.

**Liquid Fuels** – It was noted the 2018 Audit was just completed.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT** (Matt Sullivan)

**Moore Road Sidewalk**- Mr. Sullivan noted construction will be started soon and the contractor offered a community meeting. Mr. Sullivan suggested October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**Aqua work** - Mr. Sullivan said the contractor resurfacing the Aqua roads has been delayed. Mr. Catania noted they will do Meadow and Georgetown area roads by the end of October and come back in November to finish the other roads.

**E. Rose Valley Road sidewalk** – Mr. Sullivan stated this is to construct a new sidewalk on the east side of Rose Valley and includes traffic signal improvements at Providence Road. He noted the design located the signals to allow adequate room for future land expansion. Mr. Sullivan said he believes we can push the Rose Valley Road project back to 2021 and this would save the need for significant matching funds in the 2020 Budget. Mr. Sullivan noted the E. Possum Hollow Road sidewalk project is next but PennDOT may provide full funding. He said this can be discussed at next week’s budget meeting.

**E Possum Hollow Road sidewalk** – Mr. Sullivan stated we have been in discussions with PennDOT to install openings in the guiderail.

**Aqua new work** – Mr. Sullivan noted Charles has received an offer for payment in lieu of final restoration and suggested we use Sucher for the additional work under their existing contract. Mr. Ewald will look into the legality of this.

**H2O Grants** – Mr. Sullivan noted 2 grant opportunities under this program for sanitary sewer and stormwater management projects. The grant id due Dec. 13 so he asked the Board to look at for possible projects.

**Potential sale of the Township sewer system** - Mr. Sullivan said this would bring in a lot of money and remove much work from our Public Works Department, so he asked that this be looked into.

#### **PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT** - (Mr. Garson)

**Summit School demolition**- After discussion, Mr. Garson authorized to advertise for bids for demolition of the school building. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

**Lease of Urban Field** - Mr. Garson stated the lease with NPAA Soccer expires in May of 2020 and they want a 10-year lease renewal. We have checked with other municipalities and none have leases in that they issue permits. Mr. Garson stated they were to contact neighbors on the light issue so we should wait to hear on that. Mr. Baker suggested the new lease not allow outside groups to use the field for a profit. The Board agreed this provision should be included.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT** (Mr. Knapp)

**Traffic Calming** – Mr. Sullivan said he received Charles’ design to construct pillows on Harvey Road and the public works department will be installing them. Noted no reference on Beatty Rd.

**Stop signs** – Mr. Knapp stated we have authorized them on Anderson at Ronaldson, but we will put on hold until next month to see if there are other stop sign requests.

**Parking on Oakland Avenue** - Mr. Knapp noted complaints about parking and we contacted neighbors. He said we have heard from 3 so far so we will wait till next month.

**Parking on E. Country Club and Smithfield Roads** – Mr. Sullivan noted a problem with parking due to football games. Chief Splain noted temporary signs prohibiting parking have been put up and seem to work. Mr. Knapp noted football season is almost over.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT** (Mr. O’Connor)

**Recycling Disposition bid** – Mr. Sullivan stated we received bids for collection and disposal in amount of \$85 per resident for Mascaro and for collection only of \$54 per residents from B & L. He stated we also received bid from Republic Services for \$95 per ton and referenced a spreadsheet comparing the prices. It was noted the \$95 per ton is offset by 80% of the ACR (Average Commodity Revenue). Mr. Sullivan stated any scenario using B & L to collect and Republic to dispose seems to be a savings, but there will be logistics with dealing with 2 companies. The Board asked Mr. Fulginitti from Republic about the recycling market and he believes it has stabilized at the bottom. Mr. Knapp felt it was cost saving and he favored separation of contracts. Mr. Sullivan asked Mr. Fulginiti if \$30/ton ACR is accurate. He said last 12 months it was between \$25 & \$35 per ton. He felt now was the lowest the ACR has been. Mr. Cummings stated we have until next month to decide. Mr. Baker asked about legality of selecting bids. Board discussed and felt it was legal to have 2 separate bids. The Board will discuss at the October 24 meeting.

**Sale of leaf machines on GovDeals** – Mr. O’Connor noted email from Darryl and moved to authorize the sale of 3 leaf machines on GovDeals. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion and asked if we got new machines. Mr. Cummings stated we have received the 2 trailer machines but are waiting still waiting for the truck. The motion passed 6 to 0. It was noted leaf collection starts October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**MANAGERS REPORT** – Mr. Cummings noted there would be a land development submission by Springhaven Country Club for poll area improvements, but it may not be submitted for a couple of months. He noted Sid’s Barber Shop is celebrating 50 years in business and Angela Hewett was awarded the Del. Co. Historical Society’s Lewis Smith award. He noted the Nether Providence Historical Society is sponsoring a talk on the “First Railway” at the Furness Library on October 20 and that there have been spotted lanternfly sightings in the Township.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Sullivan noted the next meeting would be a budget meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.