

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP –January 28, 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, January 28, 2021 via Zoom call and shown on YouTube.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Cooper
Commissioner Garson
Commissioner Knapp
Commissioner King
Commissioner O'Connor
Commissioner Molloy
EXCUSED: Commissioner McKenzie

ALSO PRESENT:

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

Mr. Knapp chaired the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Knapp made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting. Mr. Molloy seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. Mr. Knapp made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting. Mr. Molloy seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - Mr. Knapp moved to appoint Jane Miluski for a full term on the Environmental Advisory Committee. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. Mr. Knapp moved to re-appoint Gary Silver and Steven Henry for the Parks Commission. Mr. Molloy seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There was no public comment.

SOLICITORS REPORT – Mr. Scott had nothing to report.

ENGINEER REPORT - Mr. Catania had nothing to report.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – Mr. Grady

COVID Vaccination- Mr. Grady said Delaware County opened a new Health Center in Yeadon and Aston. Residents can register through the Chester County Health Department, and they are currently vaccinating Phase 1A. The County has not received the vaccines as quickly as they had hoped. For more information, go to netherprovidence.org or the County website.

COVID Testing- Delaware County has opened COVID Drive-thru testing sites which you can find at www.Delco.gov/testing.

Resident Clara Lear- Mr. Grady said a local resident turned 100 years old on January 28th. Mr. Grady dropped off a birthday card along with a certificate of recognition on behalf of the Township.

DELCO Childcare support- Mr. Grady noted that there is free school-aged childcare for parents that have been affected because of COVID-19, and they can apply for support. More information is available at www.ccpnpa.org/covid-support.

Library Update- Mr. Grady reported the Helen Kate Furness Library is doing a great job during COVID. They have continued to do events such as the Bookplate campaign, an online winter auction, their annual corporation meeting, and outdoor story times. Please visit www.hkflbrary.org for more information.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Micah Knapp (in place of Ms. McKenzie)

County Aid Resolution- Mr. Knapp moved to adopt resolution NO. 2021-3, a resolution authorizing an application to the Delaware County Council for an allocation of County Liquid Fuel Tax Funds in 2021 for the municipal roadway/street improvement program of 2021. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion passed 5-0 (Mr. Cooper had stepped away briefly).

Police Budget Reallocation- Mr. Knapp made a motion to reallocate line item 01410-105 to line 01410-102 in the amount of \$57,900.00 for an officer going from part time to full time. Mr. Cooper returned at this time. Mr. Molloy seconded this motion, which passed 6-0.

Pension Plan Summary- Mr. Knapp suggested tabling the summary until the next meeting so Ms. McKenzie can report on it.

Police Car Purchase - Chief Splain reported that the car manufacturers are busy with orders, and he is recommending that two police cars be authorized for purchase so that they will be ready for delivery in 2021. Chief Splain said he talked to Mr. Fiorenza about using drug forfeiture funds. Mr. Fiorenza agreed with Chief Splain and recommends purchasing two vehicles and that they will have the funds, from various accounts, if the cars arrive earlier than anticipated. Mr. Knapp moved to authorize Township Administration and Chief Splain to purchase two police vehicles and upfit them. Any overage for the cars above the \$65,000 budgeted in the General Fund, will be covered from the Drug Forfeiture Fund. Mr. Knapp made the motion to purchase two police vehicles this year, Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Warrant list- Mr. Knapp reported items from the A/P Bills list, A/P Procurement list, and the A/P Interim Bills. Mr. Knapp moved to approve the following bills list:

- A/P Bills in the amount of \$94,711.28
- A/P Procurement card in the amount of \$71,062.13
- A/P Interim Bills in the amount of \$162,424.78

Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT – Max Cooper

Status of Media Walk development at 310 Wallingford Avenue – Mr. Cooper reported the developer has requested the use of a strip of Township-owned property at the end of Dennis Lane for clearing of debris in the rear of the Media Walk property. This will be a temporary use. Mr. Scott suggested a temporary construction easement. Mr. Cooper moved to authorize the Township Solicitor to prepare a temporary construction easement for Media Walk. Mr. Molloy seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

February Zoning Cases- Mr. Cooper read the two zoning cases for the Monday, February 8th Zoning Hearing Board meeting. This was the continuance case #20-16 for 202 Highland Avenue requesting an exception from Section 300-128.1 and Section 300-129A of the Township Code in order to construct a 720 square foot garage in the front yard. The second was for case #21-01 at 118 Cameron Drive requesting a variance from Section 300-20 Side Yards, proposing an 8.7-foot side yard setback with an aggregate of 33.5 feet.

530 Washington Ave Subdivision- Mr. Cooper informed the Board this location wants to subdivide the single plot into 2 plots for future development. The plan has been reviewed by the Township Engineer and the Township Planning Commission has recommended its approval. Mr. Cooper read the plan and conditions of approval, and Mr. Wasylszyn accepted the conditions of approval, which included complying with all the comments of the Township Engineer, Planning Commission and Shade Tree Commission:

1. A fee in lieu of sidewalk installation on Washington Avenue shall be paid to the Township. This should be part of the subdivision approval.
2. Washington Avenue paving needs to be widened to the west side to 13.5 feet from the centerline of the Right of Way.
3. The approval by the Township of trees to be planted upon review and recommendation of the Shade Tree Commission.
4. Approval by DEP of sewer planning module.
5. Compliance with other applicable regulation.
6. The applicant accepts the conditions of approval.

In granting the approval, the following waivers also were granted.

1. Section 289-9A – waiver from installing sidewalks, payment to Township in lieu of sidewalk.
2. Section 289-10 - waiver to install curbing.

Mr. Cooper made a motion to accept the minor Subdivision plan of Albert Gentle Jr. at 530 Washington Avenue, and Mr. Knapp seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT - Matthew Garson

DCNR Grant Round Opening Soon- Mr. Garson noted that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has opened its grand round, and it requires a 50% match. The grant application is due in mid-April. Mr. Garson suggested the Parks Commission review the CORPOS plan priorities and make a list of parks and projects they would recommend and then bring it back to the Board to discuss. The Board discussed potentially applying for Martha Burton Park. Mr. Molloy noted that he has no issue with applying for Martha Burton Park, but he also feels that Hepford Park needs attention. If the CDBG grant is not awarded for Hepford Park, then it would rise to the top of his list of priorities.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT – Robert O’Connor

Road Resurfacing – Mr. O’Connor reported he has looked at the preliminary street list for 2021. Mr. Catania noted that the streets have not been rated at this point.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT REPORT- Stephanie King

Bare Root Tree Program- Ms. King reported this is a program which allows Township to purchase trees at a discounted price to be used on any Township public property. She has asked the Shade Tree Committee for suggestions. The application is due by February 12, 2021.

INFRASTRUCTURE REPEORT – Martin Molloy

Pine Ridge Road- Sewer pipe- Mr. Molloy said the Township has realized a storm sewer pipe is failing on Pine Ridge Road, and the estimated cost to replace it is \$35,00.00. Mr. Grady asked Mr. Catania if repairs could be made in the short-term until 2022 when the full replacement could be budgeted. Mr. Catania suggested he, Mr. Grady, and Mr. Dixon go out and look at the pipe and then discuss. The Board agreed with this.

East Rose Valley Walkway- Mr. Cooper gave an update on the public meeting that took place. Some were upset, but there also was positive feedback, too. He also said they are waiting on PennDOT to approve before construction starts.

TE-160 Resolution 2021-4 for Traffic Signal at E Rose Valley- Mr. Molloy moved that Township Manager be authorized to submit the application and sign this application on behalf of the Township for the TE-160 Traffic Signal application. Mr. O’Connor seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

Resolution 2021-5 for Highway occupancy Permit for E Rose Valley- Mr. Molloy made a motion to authorize Mr. Catania, Township Engineer, to submit the Highway Occupancy Permit application for East Rose Valley Road. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT- Micah Knapp

Volunteer Fire Company Tax Credit Criteria- Mr. Knapp said the Township adopted an ordinance in 2019 that allows volunteer firefighters to receive a 20% tax credit if they comply with certain criteria. Mr. Grady suggested the criteria be discussed at the next fire committee meeting. Mr. Knapp agreed and asked Mr. Grady to bring back the new criteria for the Board to approve after that meeting.

SAFER Grant- Mr. Knapp said the SAFER Grant is a grant that would pay for career firefighters. The due date for the grant is March 12th. Mr. Grady suggested additional comprehensive planning before applying for the grant. Mr. Knapp said this would be a good discussion for the fire committee, and he invited any interested Commissioners to join the discussion.

Mr. Knapp said the next meeting would be on February 11th. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.