

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – February 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, February 25, 2021 via Zoom call and shown on YouTube.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Cooper
Commissioner Garson
Commissioner McKenzie
Commissioner O'Connor (arrived late)
Commissioner Molloy
Commissioner Knapp
Commissioner King

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 February 11, 2021 meeting. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS-

EAC chair/ Vice chair- Mr. Scott noted that the Code does not permit a co-chair, but there is nothing that prohibits the creation of a vice chair position. Mr. Knapp made a motion to make Bill Silverstein chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0. Mr. Knapp then authorized the Chair of EAC to approve or appoint chair positions for the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There was no public comment.

SOLICITORS REPORT – Mr. Scott had nothing to report.

ENGINEER REPORTE- Mr. Catania reported on the Community Development Block Grant Project in Garden City. Mr. Grady said he would mail out a letter to residents impacted by the project. Mr. Garson clarified that this is from the CDGB program of 2020.

DELCORA - Mr. Catania reported the findings from the Rose Valley sewer area which are connected to the Moylan-Rose Valley train station. He noted that the sanitary sewer does not appear to be connected to the storm sewer, which was the original concern. He said he will report more later this topic.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – Mr. Grady

Mr. Grady reported on COVID-19 Vaccinations and COVID-19 testing sites and the updated information which could be found on the Nether Providence website or www.Delcopa.gov/testing website. Mr. Grady reported that the Bureau of Elections is finalizing preparations for the 2021 municipal primary election which will be held on Tuesday, May 18th. Questions from residents or commissioners can be found at www.VoterReg@co.delaware.pa.us. Mr. Grady shared information from Delco Housing Improvement Services which included programs for lead hazard reduction, housing rehabilitation deferred loans, first time homeowners, blighted property demolition, and community action agencies. Healthcare enrollment can be done at www.healthcare.gov. The CRC Stream cleanup on March 20th listed two parks in the Township for cleanups: Smedley Park and Leiper Park. Mr. Grady shared an updated list of foods needed for the Media food bank. Mr. Grady shared that a new bill is being considered for local governments to advertise meetings electronically instead of by print.

BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT – Max Cooper

Status of Media Walk development at 310 Wallingford Avenue – Mr. Cooper reported that the framing of one of the units has been constructed and site work continues. The Township continues to monitor the drainage as it has been a concern of residents in the area.

Escrow release Media Walk - Mr. Cooper made a motion to release an escrow in the amount of \$99,155.80 to Progressive Homes for Media Walk, per the recommendation of the Township Engineer. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Escrow Release – 304 W. Rose Valley Road- Mr. Cooper reported that Solicitor Scott reviewed and suggested the board proceed with the escrow release. Mr. Cooper made a motion to release an escrow in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Bickmore Group. Mr. Molloy seconded, and the motion passed 6-0.
Mr. O’Connor arrived.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Kaitlin McKenzie

Warrant List- Ms. McKenzie shared the reports on A/P Bills, A/P Interims, and the A/P List Bill. She noted the Township staff try to put as much on the procurement card as possible to maximize the rebate amount. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to pay:

A/P Interim funds	\$ 1,730,434.68
A/P Procurement Card List	\$ 81,585.17
A/P Bills	\$97,495.03

Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Live Board Meetings- Ms. McKenzie opened the floor for Board members to discuss when and how to resume live board meetings. There was discussion about how to allow public comment, either virtually or in-person. Mr. Knapp asked if the Township needed to amend the state of emergency declaration, and Mr. Scott said he would investigate. Mr. Grady said he will determine if any additional technology would be needed for hosting and streaming the live meetings. He will then report back to Board at the next board meeting. The goal is to resume live meetings with masks in April.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT - Matthew Garson

DCNR Grant Round Opening Soon- Mr. Garson suggested the Parks Commission, which meets on March 8th, discuss applying for the DCNR grant for Martha Burton Park. He said Mr. Knapp has reached out to members of the community around the park and asked them to attend the meeting as well.

Sapovits Park Work- Mr. Garson shared that the updated plans have a path that goes the perimeter of the park. Park improvements will happen after storm water improvements are completed.

Gouley Park/ Summit School Site- Mr. Garson reported they are waiting to hear back from the state about a couple of things before they can start any park improvements. The Grant for the playground they applied for was approved in 2020. Mr. Garson said it would be about a year until construction begins.

Covanta/Zero-waste Resolution - Mr. Garson reported that he received an email from a member of Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living (CRCQL). The member is a resident of the Township and a former ECA member. The email included a resolution they are asking the Township to pass in which the Township would request that the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority not renew its contract with Covanta in Chester, a trash-to-steam plant. Mr. Garson suggested the Board ask the Township EAC to revise the resolution and come do a presentation for the board.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT – Robert O’Connor

Road Resurfacing – Mr. O’Connor said the preliminary street list was available, but the Township Engineer would be doing the final street rankings before the March 11th meeting.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT REPORT- Stephanie King

2021 Summer Camp – Ms. King shared some considerations for camp, due to the pandemic, including the need for camp to be outside. She then opened it up for discussion about proceeding with the camp and extra costs this year. There was discussion about extra costs, such as buying or renting tents, and health and safety guidelines. Mr. Knapp made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to use up to \$5,000.00 for procurement of tents and health and safety items for the 2021 summer camp. Ms. King seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT – Martin Molloy

Pine Ridge Road- Mr. Molloy reported the estimated cost to replace the sewer line is \$35,000, but he said there is a possibility of opening the storm drain to allow the stream to continue its normal flow. This also could get the Township MS4 credits. Ms. McKenzie suggested the Township first contact the homeowners of the properties affected. Mr. Grady will gather information to give to the homeowners.

E Rose Valley Sidewalk- Mr. Molloy made a motion to approve the 3rd Amendment for Grant NO000064950, which extends the contract deadline through June 30, 2022. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT- Micah Knapp

Fire Committee – Volunteer Fire Company Tax Credit Criteria- Mr. Knapp shared the program criteria that is in place now. He said the criteria is somewhat subjective, and he would suggest delegating to the fire chiefs as far as determining who is considered an active volunteer. Solicitor Scott suggested that the fire companies create the criteria, as long as it is consistent. Mr. Grady noted the criteria was pulled in from Act 172. Mr. Scott said Act 172 is clear in that the benefit is only available for volunteers who are property owners. Mr. Knapp suggested Mr. Grady discuss with the fire company chiefs and explain the criteria are meant to be broad.

Lapidea Hills Speed Mitigation- Mr. Cooper reported and shared the new drawings for the speed mitigation project. Mr. Molloy asked what the Country Club was doing to help with the problem. Mr. Cooper said he would reach out to them and get back to the Board.

Trailer Parking- Mr. Knapp said there was interest in amending the code for trailers that are a nuisance but do not fall into the commercial vehicle category. Ms. McKenzie suggested Mr. Grady reach out to other townships to see how they handle this.

Baltimore Pike- Speed Limit-Mr. Catania noted that he and Mr. Grady spoke with a representative of Delaware County, and the County would be cutting down a tree and trimming back the overgrowth to improve the sight-line from Pine Ridge Road onto Baltimore Pike. Mr. Catania said he, Chief Splain, and Mr. Grady met with PennDOT, and PennDOT said the traffic incident history does not support extra measures, such as a traffic light. They offered to install additional signage. Chief Splain explained that traffic enforcement in the area is difficult since the Township Police cannot use radars and there is not much room for the police to safely pull over a driver. He is going to contact the State Police to work with them on additional traffic enforcement.

Mr. Knapp said the next meeting would be on March 11th. The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 PM.