

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP –April 22, 2021

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, April 22, 2021. Executive Session was held before the meeting.

ROLL CALL

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

ALSO PRESENT:

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

EXCUSED: Chief Splain

Mr. Knapp chaired the meeting. There was one member of the public in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Knapp made a motion to approve the Minutes from March 25, 2021. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0. Mr. Garson and Ms. King abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

William Jones Jr. of Chester - He said he was speaking on behalf of many Chester residents, and he wants all contact and business with Covanta to cease. He feels the residents are being poisoned for the benefit of Covanta. He said many may directly refute any public official saying otherwise. He stated there are many health effects to the community because of the facility. They are asking their neighboring communities for help. He asked the Township to support the proposed Covanta resolution.

Walter Adams 606 Morris Lane – He said he disagrees with any Commissioner's belief that the Township should not tell another government what to do. He stated a resolution is an appropriate action from local agencies to County agencies. He stated he supports the proposed Covanta resolution and urged the Board to support it.

Carol Fanconi, 103 Quaint Road – Mr. Knapp said he and the Commissioners had received her letter, and he would like to move on from Public Comment unless there was new information that had not been shared at the prior meetings.

SOLICITORS REPORT – Mr. Scott had nothing to report.

ENGINEER REPORT- Mr. Catania said his items would be covered later in the meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT- Micah Knapp

Covanta/ Zero Waste Resolution- Mr. Grady explained that Ms. Fanconi had asked for the “or” to be removed from the last sentence in the first clause. The Board agreed with the change. Mr. Knapp moved to adopt resolution 2021-9, which asked the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority to not extend its contract with Covanta, and it called for the Township to explore Zero Waste Strategies. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 7-0. Mr. Knapp explained that the Board will continue to take caution when reviewing requests that tread into the jurisdiction of other governing authorities.

Stop Sign at Harvey and Pine- - Mr. Catania stated he is still collecting information.

Stop Signs in Lapidea Hills- The Board of Commissioners discussed adding stop signs at four intersections in the Lapidea Hills neighborhood near the Springhaven Golf Club. Mr. Knapp moved to advertise seven stop signs in Lapidea Hills, and Mr. Cooper seconded the move, which passed 7-0.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT - Matthew Garson

NPAA Soccer Grant Application- Mr. Sam Griggs spoke on behalf of the Nether United Soccer association regarding a grant application to the DCED for improvements to be made to the Houston Park soccer fields. He said matching funds will come from NPAA Soccer. He is asking the Township for an approval letter. Mr. Garson Moved to authorize the Township Manager to draft a letter of support. Mr. Knapp seconded the move, which passed 7-0.

Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program Open- Mr. Garson shared that the Township could use the plans for Hepford Park from a past CDBG grant application. He said this would be discussed more at a future meeting.

Furness Park Dedication- Mr. Garson said the park will be dedicated on June 12th. There is a 5pm clean-up and then the opening ceremony will be at 6:30 PM.

BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT – Max Cooper

Status of Media Walk development at 310 Wallingford Avenue – Mr. Cooper said site work is continuing at the Media Walk development.

Escrow Release #7- Media Walk- Mr. Cooper said the Township Engineer reviewed the escrow release request from Progressive New Homes, and the Engineer recommended its approval. Mr. Cooper made a motion to release Escrow #7 in the amount of \$52,280.09 for Media Walk. Mr. Knapp seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Kaitlin McKenzie

457 Plan Administrator Proposal - Ms. McKenzie explained that the Township offers a 457-retirement plan for employees, and the current administrator is ICMA. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to make CBIZ/INR an alternate option for the 457-retirement plan administration for the Township employees. Mr. Knapp seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Pension Actuarial Assumptions- Ms. McKenzie shared that Mockenhaupt Benefits Group suggested updating several of the actuarial assumptions for the pension plans, including lowering the assumed interest rate, updating the mortality table, and lowering the inflation rate. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to authorize the Mockenhaupt Benefits Group to do a study of the effect on the MMO of changing the assumptions for the non-uniform pension plan for \$600.00 and uniform pension plan for \$600.00. Mr. Cooper seconded the Motion, which passed 7-0.

Warrant List- Ms. McKenzie reported on several items within the Warrant List.

Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the warrant list:

A/P Interims	\$28,170.62
A/P Procurement Card	\$81,559.99
A/P Bills	\$390,086.53

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

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT – Robert O’Connor

Road Resurfacing- Phase II Bids- Mr. O’Connor reported that bids had been opened for Phase II of the Road Program and that Mecos was the lowest. Mr. Catania said he is reviewing their references and will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Public Works Department- Mr. O’Connor shared the Public Works Department report for the month.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT REPORT- Stephanie King

2021 Summer Camp Registration Open- Ms. King shared that 120 out of 165 camp spots have been filled. She also stated Camp Counselors are needed, and more information is available on the Township website.

PHS Tree Planting Ceremony- Ms. King shared there will be a tree planting event on April 24th at Hepford Park at 10:00 AM. She thanked Lisa Jacobs for organizing the event.

CDBG Project- Ms. King said the bids for the sanitary sewer service were higher than expected. Ms. King moved to reject the bids and re-video the lines. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

INFRASTRUCTURE REPEORT – Martin Molloy

Watershed Restoration Protection Program Open- Mr. Molloy affirmed that Mr. Catania would start to prepare estimates for the Canterbury/Governs Basin project from the Pollutant Reduction Plan for the WRPP grant application.

E. Possum Hollow Sidewalk Project- Funding amendment- Mr. Molloy shared the state has been able to provide the additional estimated amount for the project, without a need for the Township to contribute additional funding. Mr. Grady said the Township could be required to pay the additional funding if bids come in higher than the amended reimbursement amount. Mr. Molloy made a motion to Approve Amendment A to Agreement 0631132-A in the amount of \$664,000. Mr. Knapp seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

E. Rose Valley Walkway- Engineering Inspection- Mr. Molloy made a motion to Authorize Catania Engineering to do the Engineering Inspection for the East Rose Valley Walkway Project. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Gouley Park Streambank Restoration WRPP- Mr. Molloy said bids were received for the Gouley Park Streambank Restoration project. Mr. Molloy made a motion to accept the low bid, along with the alternate items, from Ambient Group LLC. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT -

Mr. Grady shared that it was Earth Day. He said there is information about electronics recycling through Retriver on the Township website. He thanked Jess Trout for organizing the Leiper Smedley Trail clean-up and Cheryl Plunkett for the Chester Park clean-up, both of which are scheduled for April 24th. He thanked Liz Mudrick for organizing a successful clean-up on April 18th in Houston Park. Mr. Grady shared the plan for the Eagle Scouts working on the Furness Trail park benches and bamboo management. He reported three recent grants were awarded to the Township: \$250,000 in Multimodal Transportation funds for Walkable Wallingford – Providence Road Sidewalk, Phase II; \$42,000 in Greenways, Trails and Recreation funding to go toward Furness Park Phase II Trail Development; and \$22,000 in CFA Watershed Restoration Protection Program funding for Palmers Lane water quality improvements. Mr. Knapp thanked Representative Leanne Krueger and Senator John Kane for their efforts towards these grant awards. Mr. Grady shared that all adults became eligible on April 13th for COVID vaccines. He said Delaware County has a vaccine program for the homebound and to call 484-276-2100 for registration and information. Delaware County has an Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program for those affected by COVID and more information can be found at Delco-ERA.org. He said there will be a shredding and electronics recycling event on July 17th at Gouley Park. Mr. Knapp made a proclamation that May 2nd – 8th is Children’s Mental Health Week in Nether Providence Township. Mr. Grady reported there are secure drop boxes available for the municipal primary elections, including one at the Furness Library. The Township has asked PennDOT to do a safety review on Turner Road near Knoll Road as well as on Waterville Road near Hastings Avenue. He shared the South Media Fire Company will be doing its monthly food truck fundraiser on May 7th. The Garden City Fire Company is also having a food truck fundraiser on May 1st.

Mr. Knapp said the next meeting would be the workshop meeting on May 13th. The meeting was adjourned around 9:15 PM.