

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2022

The reorganization meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nether Providence, duly advertised and posted in accordance with law, was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, January 3, 2022 in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room, Township Municipal Building, 214 Sykes Lane, Wallingford, PA 19086.

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

Dave Grady, Township Manager
Police Chief David Splain
Township Engineer Charles Catania
Solicitor Robert Scott

United State District Judge Chad Kenney was present to swear in Robert O'Connor, whose family was in attendance. Mr. O'Connor gave a speech thanking his fellow Commissioners, the Township staff, and his family. He noted that he is honored to be serving a 7th term as Commissioner. Mr. Knapp congratulated Mr. O'Connor for becoming the longest serving Commissioner in the Township's history.

Delaware County Court of Common Pleas Judge Debra Krull was present to administer the oath of office to 2nd Ward Commissioner Matt Garson.

Judge Krull administered the oath of office to 4th Ward Commissioner McKenzie.

Judge Krull administered the oath of office to the new 5th Ward Commissioner Shaina Barnes, who was present with her family.

Judge Krull administered the oath of office to 7th Ward Commissioner Marty Molloy.

Judge Krull administered the oath to the Tax Collector Kris Laubscher.

Judge Krull administered the oath for office of Constable to Paul Jacobs.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Knapp nominated Mr. Garson as Vice President of the Board, Mr. O'Connor seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. Mr. Garson abstained.

Mr. Knapp nominated Ms. McKenzie as President of the Board, Mr. O'Connor seconded, and the motion passed 6-0. Ms. McKenzie abstained.

Ms. McKenzie then presided over the meeting.

Ms. McKenzie took a minute to talk about what has been done over the last couple of years. She said the Township has spent over \$1.5 million in road surfacing, acquired several tracts of land through grants, the Police Department completed accreditation status in 2021, the demolition of the Summit School was completed, a stream bank restoration in Gouley Park was completed to improve water quality, the rededication and renaming of Martha Burton Park took place, trails were installed in Furness Park, several recycling & shredding events were held, and several Family Fun Days & Summer Camps took place. She thanked former Commissioner Larry Baker for his efforts with those community events. She said the Township completed the \$1.1 million Moore Rd/Sidewalk project which was 90% grant-funded, acquired a new self-contained leaf machine purchased with 90% grant funding, and restarted the Environmental Advisory Committee. She noted the Township performed several traffic calming improvements, including speed hump installations in three locations. She said the Township has added a quarterly digital newsletter. Since 2016, the Township has received over \$3.5 million in grant funds. Ms. McKenzie thanked Township Manager Grady and the State and County elected officials who helped obtain the funding.

She mentioned several upcoming projects including the East Possum Hollow sidewalk project with 85% grant money, the East Rose Valley Road sidewalk project, and a sidewalk on portions of Providence Road. She said she is looking forward to the installation of a playground at Gouley Park as well as stormwater and recreational improvements at Sapovits Park. She said the Township will perform a feasibility study for the extension of the Leiper-Smedley Trail with a goal to reach the East Coast Greenway trail along Route 291.

Ms. McKenzie said the Township's goals are to complete the entire sidewalk on Providence Rd from Route 320 up to Plush Mill Road. She also hopes to expand the road resurfacing program. She also wants to continue to work on parks, such as Hepford Park, and continue to find open space acquisition opportunities.

She said she is very proud of what has been accomplished and where the Township is headed.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES OF BOARD

Ms. McKenzie moved to reappoint Township Solicitor Robert Scott. Mr. O'Conner seconded which passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie moved to appoint alternate Solicitor Montgomery, McCracken, Walker and Rhoads, LLC., Mr. Knapp seconded, which passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie moved to appoint Special Council on Labor & Personnel Matters Montgomery, McCracken, Walker and Rhoads, LLC., Mr. Knapp seconded, which passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie moved to reappoint Township Engineer Charles Catania, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie moved to appoint alternate Township Engineer Alternate Engineer T&M Engineering, seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to reappoint Building Code Official Linn Management, Mr. Knapp seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to reappoint Zoning Officer Maureen Feyas, Mr. Knapp seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to reappoint Code Enforcement Officer Richard Haywood, Mr. Molloy seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to reappoint Township Manager Dave Grady, Mr. Knapp seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to appoint vacancy Board Chair Frank Noyes, Mr. Knapp seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to appoint Patrick O'Rourke for the currently vacant Deputy Fire Marshall position, Mr. Knapp seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie motioned to reappoint Patrick O'Rourke to Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Knapp seconded, passed 7-0.

Ms. McKenzie mentioned there may be changes to Commissioner committee assignments in the future, but she said they will remain the same for now. Mr. Cooper will chair Building and Zoning; Mr. Garson will chair Parks and Open Space; Mr. Knapp will chair Public Safety; Ms. McKenzie will chair Finance and Administration; Ms. Barnes will chair Community Enhancement; Mr. O'Connor will chair Public Works; and Mr. Molloy will chair Infrastructure.

VACANCIES ON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEES

Ms. McKenzie mentioned there are a few vacancies to be filled, and most of them will be appointed on January 13th. She said there are four vacancies on the Planning Commission, four on the EAC, two on the Historical Commission, and two alternate positions on the Zoning Hearing Board. Ms. McKenzie said the next Zoning Hearing Board will take place before the January 13th meeting, so she motioned to appoint Marie McGuire to the Zoning Hearing Board, and Mr. Knapp seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Grady provided a reminder that Commissioner meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. Ms. McKenzie added the next meeting is the workshop meeting on January 13th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further reorganization, the meeting was adjourned.