

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – May 26, 2022**

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 26, 2022. Workshop Meeting

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

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

No members of the public were in attendance.

Ms. McKenzie chaired the meeting. She announced that Executive Session was held before the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**- Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the Minutes for May 12, 2022. Mr. Garson seconded the motion which, passed 5-0. Mr. Molloy and Mr. Knapp abstained.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No public comment.

**SOLICITORS REPORT** – Mr. Scott had nothing to report.

**ENGINEER REPORT**- Mr. Catania had nothing to report.

**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT**- Max Cooper

**DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program**- Mr. Cooper said there appeared to be interest in using the grant program application for a project at Houston Park involving bridge restoration, streambank restoration, and the creation of access to the trail from the 320 side of Houston Park. He said he, Mr. Catania, and Mr. Grady met that afternoon to nail down a few options that can fit within the approximately \$295,000 limit. The grant maximum is \$250,000 and the Township match would be 15% (\$44,117). Mr. Cooper made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-12. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

**DCED Watershed Restoration and Protection Program** – Mr. Cooper said the Township is interested in applying for streambank restoration in Houston Park, which would coincide with the trail/access project application through the Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program. The project cost would be \$309,925, with the Township providing the 15% match. Mr. Cooper made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-11. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

**PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT** – Matthew Garson

**Growing Greener Program**- Mr. Garson said there is a proposal in the Pennsylvania General Assembly called Growing Greener 3. It would invest \$500 million in: conservation of open space and farmland, clean water initiatives, upgrades

in state parks and forests, projects to reduce flooding, and trails, greenways, and parks. Mr. Garson received a request from a resident to have the Township ask legislators to support the Growing Greener 3 proposal. If passed, the funding could go towards grant programs that may be available to the Township. The Board authorized Mr. Grady to submit a letter in support of the proposal.

Love our Parks – June Parks Commission Events – Mr. Garson said the Parks Commission is organizing several cleanup events in each of the parks in June. Each park has a representative who is leading the event. Dates will be made available soon for the locations. “Love Our Parks” yard signs are being sold at the Township building for \$20, and the proceeds will go towards improvements in the parks.

Hepford Movie Night – He said the Township has tentatively scheduled a movie night in Hepford Park on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. A second movie night will be held in Sapovits Park on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT-** Micah Knapp

Approval of Volunteer Firefighter Tax Rebates – Mr. Knapp made a motion to approve the Volunteer Fire fighter Tax rebate for Mr. Ransom in the amount of \$196.18. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Motion to approve right-of-way acquisition consultant- Mr. Knapp made a motion to authorize the Township administration to sign the contact with Stantec Engineering to help with the acquisition of rights-of-way on Providence Road in between Copples Lane and the Springhaven Country Club in relation to the grant-funded sidewalk project. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Penn Street – Mr. Knapp said the no further action will be taken on this request as there was a fair amount of opposition.

Washington St. Residential Parking permits- Mr. Knapp said no action will be taken on this request at this time.

#### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** – Kaitlin McKenzie

Sewer Rent Rebate Criteria – Ms. McKenzie said the township is still researching options for ways to index the income figure that would be used for determining the sewer rent rebate each year.

ARPA Funds- She said a draft guideline was created at the April ARPA meeting for allocating the funds. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to allocate \$30,000 to the Helen Kate Furness Library as part of the ARPA funds. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Bills List- Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the bills list in the amount of:

P-Card	\$50,250.87
Interim	\$709,374.10
A/P	\$615,705.93

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

#### **COMMUNITY, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT-** Shaina Barnes

2022 Summer Camp Registration Open –Informational- Ms. Barnes said the 2022 summer camp registration still has openings. The camp begins the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> and goes through July 28<sup>th</sup>, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to noon. The fee for all five weeks is \$295. Also, there are openings for camp counselor positions, and employees must be at least 16 years old.

Delco Solid Waste Listening Sessions- Ms. Barnes said the Solid Waste Authority is holding listening sessions so that people can offer their feedback about what direction they think the DCSWA should be taking regarding future waste disposal options. The EAC has been discussing this topic. Ideas included County-wide composting options, yard waste disposal, and electronics recycling.

Delaware County Community Partnering Program- Ms. Barnes said the Delaware County announced \$475,000 in federal funding to support a new micro-grant program in Delaware County. The Delaware County Community Partnering Program is specifically designed to provide outreach to historically underserved communities. The Delaware County Community Partnering Program will empower neighborhoods and build communities through the deployment of micro-grants. The average grant is expected to be \$25,000. Community groups, neighborhood groups, and organizations are eligible to receive a grant to help fund projects that are organized and sustained by neighborhood residents and community groups. Eligible projects can include community gardens, pocket parks, bicycle facilities, pedestrian enhancements, elder transport coordination, snow removal for physically restricted persons, or education initiatives such as energy awareness programs. The micro-grants can also be used to meet local cost-share requirements for other private and public grant opportunities. It does not appear that the Township would be eligible to apply.

EAC Update- She said the EAC discussed asking the Township to consider electric cars when replacing township cars.

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT** – Robert O’Connor

Speed Humps on Putnam Blvd – Mr. O’Connor said Charles has prepared a cost estimate and draft plan based on the feedback that was held at the community meeting last month. Mr. Catania presented his estimates and drafts. Mr. O’Connor made a motion to authorize the Public Works Department to install two speed humps and one raised crosswalk on Putnam Blvd, starting with the crosswalk at the pool. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Surrey Rd Streetlight Request- Mr. O’Connor said a survey is being sent to the immediately affected neighbors. Results should be available soon.

MS4 Update- Mr. Grady explained that the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) program has certain requirements that the Township needs to meet each year, including public education and efforts to reduce illicit discharges into the system. The MS4 permit is what allows the Township to send stormwater into the watershed creeks. There is also a pollutant reduction plan that all municipalities with MS4 permits must follow, which includes reducing sedimentation by 10% within a five-year period.

**BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT** – Kait McKenzie

Willow Road Escrow- Mr. Molloy said the developers, Lee and Erika Arters, have asked for approval to release the \$2,500 escrow for their development of 21 Willow Road. Mr. Catania and Linn Architects have reviewed and recommended its approval. Mr. Molloy made a motion to release the escrow in the amount of \$2,500 for 21 Willow Road. The motion passed 7-0.

R5-B Zoning Amendment- He said the Planning Commission reviewed and approved the proposed ordinance, which would correct the incongruency in the zoning code for R5-B. This amendment would allow for multi-family dwellings, which are currently banned in the code, even though much of the R5-B housing is currently multi-family housing. Mr. Molloy made a motion to authorize the advertising of the amended ordinance. The ordinance will be approved at a subsequent meeting.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT** – David Grady

Mr. Grady thanked the CAT club for their clean-ups all throughout the Township. South Media Fire Company Food Truck Fridays will be having another event in June, and he said to keep checking their Facebook page for more details. He said the Furness Library is holding their annual appeal, and he said to visit their website to donate. He said the summer meeting schedule is, June 9<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, and August 11<sup>th</sup>. PennDOT is paving Baltimore Pike throughout the summer months. June 11<sup>th</sup> is the next Household Hazardous Waste event at Rose Tree Park. Registration is required, and a link is available on the township website.

Ms. McKenzie said the next meeting is a combined meeting June 9th. The meeting was adjourned around 8:45 PM.