

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – October 27, 2022**

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, October 27, 2022. Legislative Meeting.

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

**NOT PRESENT:** Commissioner Knapp

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

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

15 members of the public were in attendance.

Ms. McKenzie chaired the meeting. She announced that Executive Session would be held after the meeting.

Approval of Minutes- Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2022. Mr. Garson seconded the motion which passed 5-0. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve October 13, 2022, minutes. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 4-0, Mr. Cooper abstained.

**Rep. Krueger presented Eagle Scout awards to Jack Dougherty and Ryan Dougherty and thanked them for their service projects in the Township.**

**Rep. Krueger presented Commissioner McKenzie with a grant check in the amount of \$262,676.00 for Houston Park's two grant projects. Ms. McKenzie shared her gratitude on behalf of the Township.**

#### **Appointments to Boards and Commissions – ZHB Alternate Opening – 10/27**

Ms. McKenzie made a motion to appoint Dana Pickup as a ZHB Alternate. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

#### **South Media Fire Company Budget Presentation-**

Chief Max Hopkins provided an update on several items from 2022: he said the fire company was successful in building their volunteer base and membership. He said expenses that took place this year were: roof replacement, station generator replacement, and the cleaning up of the back training yard. The South Media Fire Company President Rob Hopkins discussed future capital projects they wanted the board to be aware of, such as replacing the front apron paving and the need for a new truck in 2024. He said the company would not be asking for an increase over the 2022 contribution. Ms. McKenzie thanked the representatives for their time and efforts in serving South Media Fire Company and the Township. She noted that fire trucks are a sizable long-term expense, and she said each of the Township's fire companies should review their resources over the next year.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**SOLICITORS REPORT** – Nothing to report.

**ENGINEER REPORT-** Mr. Catania reported that PennDOT would be repaving Chestnut Parkway and Waterville Road. He said several sanitary sewer covers would need to be adjusted as part of the work.

**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT-** Max Cooper

PECO Tree Work – Mr. Cooper said the township was notified this week that PECO is planning to postpone its projects, except for the Parkridge Drive work, until 2023. PECO is seeking to hold a meeting with Township officials, the State Representative, and the State Senator in mid-November.

Comprehensive Plan – Stakeholder Interview Committee Appointments – there are still two openings on the Comprehensive Plan Stakeholder Interview Committee. Mr. Cooper made a motion to appoint Ati Bailey as a Stakeholder Interview committee member. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

District Justice Location – Mr. Garson said Judge Gallard is working in a location that is outside the district, and he said it would make sense for the Township to ask the County to consider moving Judge Gallard to a location within the district that she serves. The Board asked Solicitor Scott to reach out to the administrative office of the courts.

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

Gouley Park Playground Completion – Mr. Garson said the Gouley Park playground has been completed. The Board thanked the Public Works Department who did a phenomenal job constructing the playground.

**Agenda Addition-** Mr. Garson made a motion to add discussion for Hepford Park Grant Project to the agenda. Ms. Mackenzie second the motion, which passed 6-0.

Hepford Park Grant- Mr. Garson made a motion to approve allocating the remaining grant funds for Hepford Park for regrading the baseball field and a new batting cage. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT-** Kait McKenzie

Riddle/Main Line Health EMS Funding Demands – Mr. Grady said Media Fire Company, who has an EMS service, teamed up with Riddle in the early 1990s to provide advanced life support options by sharing a paramedic from Riddle. Riddle/Main Line are now saying they need an additional \$90,000 in 2023, and even more in 2024. Media Fire cannot handle this extra cost on their own and they have asked the municipalities of Media Borough, Upper Providence, Middletown, and Nether Providence to share in these additional costs. Mr. Grady had a meeting with the other municipal managers, he said more discussion is needed.

**FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** – Kaitlin McKenzie

2023 Draft Budget – MS. McKenzie said the Board will continue to review the budget at the November 3rd meeting. Garden City Fire Company will do their budget presentation November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

DVT Rate Stabilization Fund Usage – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the usage of the rate stabilization balances, in the amount of:

- Delaware Valley Workers Comp Trust Rate Stabilization Balance - \$1,006
- Delaware Valley Property and Liability Trust Rate Stabilization Balance - \$8,977
- Delaware Valley Health Trust Rate Stabilization Balance - \$61,748

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

Fee Schedule Updating – She said after consulting with our Building Code officials, has proposed a few changes to the fee schedule. The main change is the mechanical fee, which the Township administration felt was too high at 3%. The new proposed fee is 2%. There are also several minimum and maximum fees that are being set. Ms. McKenzie suggested the Board table until the next meeting.

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

Interim        \$306,094.14  
A/P P-card    \$51,315.73  
A/P Bills      \$332,198.21

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

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

Waste Committee Appointments – Ms. Barnes said the waste committee still needs representatives from the 3rd and 6th wards. She noted the committee would begin meeting in November.

Family Fun Day –Ms. Barnes thanked the sponsors of Family Fun Day 2023. Mr. Grady read the list of Family Fun Day sponsors.

Single Use Plastics Ban Discussion/EAC Updates -She the recent EAC meeting was cancelled, so she did not have any updates.

DEP 902 Grant – Ms. Barnes made a motion to approve authorizing an application to the Pennsylvania department of environmental protection’s 902 grant, funding from the DEP in an amount not to exceed \$350,000, which requires a 10% match, for the leaf collection truck and recycling cans. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

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

Public Right-of-Way Access for Utilities Ordinance Consideration – Mr. O’Connor said Bob Scott received a draft ordinance from another municipality. He is reviewing and editing for the Board.

**BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT** – Marty Molloy

Garden City Fire Co –Zoning Relief for Structure/Request for Waiver of Application Fees – Garden City Fire Company is applying for a special exception to add a storage structure on their property. They are asking for a waiver of the \$500 Zoning Hearing Board application fee. Mr. Molloy made a motion to grant the waiver of the application fees to Garden City Fire Company for their shed project. Mr. O’ Connor seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Media Walk – Escrow Release #20 – He said Mr. Catania is still reviewing this. There was an issue with a fence being installed right next to a new tree. Mr. Catania suggested that Progressive New Homes move the tree before the escrow release should be approved.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT** – David Grady

Mr. Grady said the LIHWAP Program is ending October 28<sup>th</sup>. He said the Halloween decorating contest was a success again this year. Thank you to the judges, who included Maureen Feyas and Chief Splain. Placements are still in discussion. He said the electronics recycling and shredding event is happening on October 29<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 1 PM at Gouley Park and to check the website for more information and fees for larger electronics. Goodwill also will be at the event to collect donations. The Helen Kate Furness Library is looking for board members and more information is available on the Township website. The Township has received a subdivision request for the comcast lot at 414 New Jersey Avenue. They are looking to build 11 homes. This will be going before the Township’s Planning Commission.

Ms. McKenzie said the next meeting is on November 3rd. The meeting was adjourned around 9:00 PM.