

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – January 26, 2023

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, January 26, 2023. Legislative Meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Commissioner McKenzie	
Commissioner Barnes	
Commissioner Cooper	
Commissioner O'Connor	
Commissioner Molloy	
Commissioner Garson	
Commissioner Knapp	Arrived later.

ALSO PRESENT:

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

There were no members of the public in the audience.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Garson made a motion to approve the minutes from January 12th, 2023. Ms. McKenzie seconded, and the motion passed 4-0 with 2 abstentions.

Vacancy Board Appointment - Ms. McKenzie explained that the Vacancy Board is used in case of a vacancy in a Commissioner role where someone is needed to break a tie in the vote for appointment of the replacement Commissioner. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to appoint Maureen Riley as the Vacancy Board Chair. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to reappoint Lisa Jacobs to the Shade Tree Committee. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

SOLICITORS REPORT – None

ENGINEER REPORT- Mr. Catania said his items were covered in the agenda.

Government Relations – Max Cooper

PECO Tree Work – Mr. Cooper said the Township has not received a starting date for the reliability project. PECO is aware of the tree licensing requirements and the upcoming right-of-way excavation ordinance.

Parks and Open Space Committee -Matt Garson

Hepford Baseball Field Work – Mr. Garson said the Township is continuing discussions with the Swarthmore Recreation Association and will meet with the SRA Board in February. He said that nothing has been finalized and options are still being explored.

Finance and Administration Committee -Kait McKenzie

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

A/P Procurement Card –\$ 42,916.32

A/P Bills List – \$424,947.04

AP Interims List - \$236,159.33

Mr. Garson Seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Motion to appoint auditor – Bee, Bergvall & Co. –Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve Bee Bergvall to continue to be the Township’s auditor to perform the 2022 audit. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Motion to approve truck rental agreement with Upper Providence – The Township needed to rent a vehicle from Upper Providence Township for purposes of an employee’s commercial driver’s license test. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the truck rental agreement with Upper Providence. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Munilogic – GIS Software – 36 Month Term Agreement Consideration – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the Munilogic GIS software Agreement, pending Solicitor Scott’s approval. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Motion to advertise bidding for 2016 Dodge Charger – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to advertise bidding for 2016 Dodge Charger. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Motion to advertise bidding for 2016 Cub Cadet Mower – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to advertise bidding for 2016 Cub Cadet Mower. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Safety Committee -Micah Knapp

Vernon Street – Speed Hump Requests – He said the Township has been collecting survey responses from residents along Vernon Street. Most of the responses so far have been in favor of the speed humps, but there have been a few opposed. He noted the Township is still collecting responses.

Motion to Adopt Stop Sign Ordinance - Mr. Knapp made a motion adopt ordinance 847 for a multi-way stop at Bickmore Drive and Scott Lane; stop signs at Pennsylvania Avenue and New Jersey Ave; and Pennsylvania and New Jersey Avenue and Madison Court. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

W. Rose Valley Road Safety Improvements – He said the Township, along with the Township Engineer, is exploring options available for pedestrian safety. Mr. Molloy said one short-term possibility is the installation of flashing pedestrian signs, where there are LED lights around the perimeter of the sign. These cost about \$800 per sign. These are not the same as the flashing beacon lights, and they are not actuated by pedestrians, but these signs would bring more attention to pedestrians. He made a motion for the Township to purchase four of the pedestrian signs for installation on West Rose Valley Road. Mr. Garson seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Community, Health, and Environment Report - Shaina Barnes

There was no new information to report.

Infrastructure and Public Works Committee -Robert O’Connor

Public Right-of-Way Access for Utilities Ordinance Consideration – Mr. O’Connor noted that the ordinance sets standards for excavations occurring in any public rights of way and adds standards for managing drainage of stormwater in connection with excavations occurring in public streets, sidewalks, and rights of way. He said the ordinance has been advertised. He made a motion to adopt ordinance 846 amending Chapter 221 for right-of-way excavation. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

2023 Road Program – Motion to Advertise for bids – Mr. O’Connor noted that Mr. Catania had worked with the Township to assess the roads. The comprehensive list of the Township roads was provided to the Board, with the worst-rated roads at the top. There are also roads that need to be restored from Aqua work, and the Township will receive a contribution from Aqua. The Township’s budget for the roads, including the use of the road loan, is just over \$1.1M, with about \$700,000 estimated for Phase I. The various roads were selected. Mr. O’Connor made a motion to advertise Phase I of the 2023 Road Program for bidding. Ms. McKenzie seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Motion to Advertise Bids for Public Works Garage Work – Linn Architects has prepared the bid package and is ready to advertise the project. Mr. O’Connor made a motion to put the Public Works Garage addition out for bid, and Mr. Garson seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Public Works Truck #7 – Repairs – Mr. O’Connor noted that truck #7 in the Public Works Department is in need of about \$20,000 worth of repairs. Mr. Grady said that the Public Works Director and the Public Works Mechanic, Carl Schaefer recommended that the truck be auctioned off. To compensate for the lost truck during the winter plowing, a different truck can be equipped with a salt box spreader for about \$6,000. The Board agreed with that recommendation.

Highway Report – Mr. O’Connor read the Highway Report, which the Public Works Director had prepared. He noted that the Township responded to 92 PA One Calls, cleaned the culverts and sewers, performed pothole repairs, maintained Township vehicles, and completed leaf season. He thanked Public Works for their efforts.

Building and Zoning Committee Report -Marty Molloy

Small Wireless Facilities Motion to Advertise Ordinance – Mr. Molloy said the Planning Commission and the Zoning Officer prepared and reviewed the ordinance. This ordinance sets design standards for small wireless facilities on the top of utility poles. The Township cannot ban small wireless facilities, but state code allows for the regulation of their design. Mr. Molloy made a motion to adopt ordinance 848 for amending the Small Wireless Facilities ordinance of the Township by adding design standards for small wireless support structures. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – David Grady

Mr. Grady said there will be Christmas tree collections until January 31st. He said the 2023 Delaware County Household Hazardous Waste Event schedule is available on the Township website. He said there are Delco River Rink Tickets available at the Township Building, and the tickets are good through February 26th. He noted that the Township and the Boroughs of Media and Swarthmore are hosting an electronics recycling and paper shredding event on March 11th at Gouley Park at 101 Plush Mill Road. Please bring donations for Goodwill.

Ms. McKenzie said the next meeting is on February 9, 2023. The meeting was adjourned around 8:15 PM.