

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – March 9, 2023

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 9, 2023. Legislative Meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

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

EXCUSED: Commissioner Cooper
Commissioner Garson

ALSO PRESENT:

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

No members of the public in the audience.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Approval of Minutes - Mr. Molloy made a motion to approve the February 23, 2023 minutes. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion, which passed 3-0, with Ms. McKenzie abstaining.

Mr. Knapp arrived at this point.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions; ZHB Opening openings still available.

Planning Commission; Ms. McKenzie made a motion to appoint Jill Wheeler to the Planning Commission. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

EAC Appointment- Ms. McKenzie made a motion to appoint Noelle Coker, who has been an ad-hoc member, as a full member. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

3rd Ward Commissioner Opening - Ms. McKenzie said that Micah Knapp, the 3rd Ward Commissioner, is resigning to focus on other projects. She said that anyone interested in being appointed should email the Township Manager.

SOLICITORS REPORT – None

ENGINEER REPORT- None

Government Relations – Kait McKenzie

Comprehensive Plan Public Meeting – March 14th 7 PM at WES – Mr. Grady said the Township is in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan, which evaluates the existing land use, transportation systems, housing, community facilities and services, nature, and culture of the Township. The Plan projects future trends, establishes a series of goals, and proposes a list of policy and physical recommendations. This will be an opportunity for the public to weigh in on several questions. He said the meeting is on March 14th at 7 PM at Wallingford Elementary.

Providence Road Grant – Contracts Consolidation Request – Ms. McKenzie said the Township has requested that the three DCED grant contracts for Providence Road, totaling \$1.25M, be combined into one contract, which will make the administration of the project easier. One agreement expires on June 30, 2023, so the Township will need an extension for that contract if the three cannot be combined. No action is needed currently.

Parks and Open Space Committee Kait McKenzie

DCNR Application with NPAA Baseball – Ms. McKenzie said that Mr. Garson and Mr. Grady met with a representative from NPAA Baseball and discussed the possibility of using this grant program for dugouts at Bullens and Hepford Parks. This project has a 50% match requirement and can come in the form of cash or labor. The Board also discussed applying for the DCED's Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program, which could be an alternative funding source with a smaller match requirement.

Public Safety Committee Report- Micah Knapp

Vernon Street – Speed Hump Requests – Mr. Knapp said the Township has reviewed the survey responses, and the majority have responded in favor of installing the speed humps. The Township Engineer prepared a plan showing where speed humps could go. Speed humps are not supposed to be less than 150 feet from an intersection, which means there are only two locations where they could be installed. Mr. Knapp moved to approve speed humps, one in the 500 block and one in the 600 block. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Finance and Administration Committee -Kait McKenzie

Nothing to report

Community, Health, and Environment Report - Shaina Barnes

CRC Streams Cleanup March 25th – Ms. Barnes said the Chester Ridley Crum Watershed is hosting stream cleanups through the Delaware and Chester County region. There are two sites in Nether Providence: Smedley Park and Leiper Park.

Electronics Recycling and Shredding March 11th – She said the electronics recycling, and the paper shredding event is this Saturday, March 11th from 9 AM to 1 PM at Gouley Park. PAR Recycle Works and J&K Shredding will be on-site. Donations for Goodwill will be accepted.

Summer Camp Registration Opening – She said summer camp registration will open on April 3rd. The camp will go from June 26th to July 27th, Monday – Thursday from 8:30 AM to noon. The cost is \$295 for all five weeks.

Community Funding Projects Grant Program – Congresswoman Scanlon – She said this program was just announced this week, and the due date is March 20th. The Board discussed projects the grant can be used for. Ms. McKenzie and Mr. Molloy suggested applying for sidewalks on West Rose Valley Road. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023- 3 – authorizing the Township to apply to the Community Partnership Funding Program through Congresswoman Scanlon's office for sidewalks on W. Rose Valley Road. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Infrastructure and Public Works Committee -Robert O'Connor

Forest Ave – Low Volume Road Bids – Mr. O'Connor said the bids for the Low Volume Road drainage project on Forrest Avenue came in high. The Township has discussed with the Low Volume Road Program administrators, and the most cost-effective approach would be to have Public Works perform the work and then include the road restoration and repaving with the AF Damon Road program contract. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to reject the bids for the Forrest Ave Low Volume Road program. Mr. Knapp seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Aqua Contribution Offer – He said Aqua recently completed work in the Bent Drive and Twyckenham sections of Nether Providence and Upper Providence Township. Aqua has offered a contribution of \$91,000 for the road restoration, mill, and overlay. The cost to do curb-to-curb repaving for those sections would be \$107,463, based on the AF Damon figures from the Township's recent road program bids. The work was nearly equally divided between both townships, so it would make sense to split the additional cost of \$16,463, which would be \$8,231.50. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to accept the \$91,000 contribution offer from Aqua and then include these sections of the roads as a change order to the road program, contingent upon approval from Upper Providence Township. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Road Program – Change Orders – Mr. O’Connor made a motion to do a change order to include Forest Avenue, Bent Drive, and Twyckenham Drive in the AF Damon contract for the road program. Mr. Molloy seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

CDBG – Garden City Paving – Mr. O’Connor made a motion to advertise the Community Development Block Grant paving project. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion which, passed 5-0.

Building and Zoning Committee Report -Marty Molloy

March Zoning Hearing Board Agenda – Mr. Molloy said there are three residential cases on the docket, on Winding Lane, Chestnut Lane, and Glenwood Road.

Ground Solar Panel Array – He said the Planning Commission and the Zoning Officer have spent several Planning Commission Meetings discussing an ordinance for ground solar arrays. The Planning Commission has provided a series of parameters, including setbacks, ground coverage, and height. An ordinance is being drafted and will be sent to the County Planning Commission.

424 Wallingford Ave Rezoning – He said the Planning Commission reviewed the request to rezone 424 Wallingford Avenue and 702 Forrest Avenue from commercial to residential, and the Commission recommended its approval. The County Planning Commission is reviewing it.

Zoning Variance Approval Extension Period – He said in the current zoning when a zoning variance is granted, the applicant has six months to submit a building application, or the variance will expire. The Planning Commission reviewed the concept of extending the time period, and it has recommended a period of 18 months. An ordinance is being prepared and will be sent to the County Planning Commission.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – David Grady

Mr. Grady said the Township website has a link for Food Assistance help on our “news” feed. He said the Garden City Fire Company designer bag bingo event is on Saturday April, 15th, and there is more information on the Facebook page. The PennDOT Transportation Survey is available, and this is an opportunity to offer input on the 12-year plan. Mail-in voting applications are available, and May 9th is the deadline to apply for mail-in ballot. There is a CAT club clean up this Saturday, March 11th at Bullens Lane at 9 AM.

Mr. Garson said the next meeting is on March 23, 2023. The meeting was adjourned around 8:15 PM.