

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – July 13, 2023**

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, July 13, 2023—legislative Meeting.

### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner McKenzie  
Commissioner Garson  
Commissioner Barnes  
Commissioner O'Connor  
Commissioner Henry

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Dave Grady	Township Manager
Robert Scott	Township Solicitor
Charles Catania	Township Engineer

**EXCUSED:** Commissioner Cooper  
Commissioner Molloy

About 30 members of the public, which included the Strath Haven Baseball Team, and their families, were present for the meeting.

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

**Strath Haven Baseball Team Recognition-** Mr. Filli spoke on behalf of the Strath Haven High School Baseball team. He spoke of how proud he was of each player on his team and all that they accomplished this season. Mr. Filli ended by thanking the whole community for their love and support. Ms. McKenzie presented the plaque on behalf of the Township for their amazing accomplishment.

**Passing of Darryl Dixon-** Ms. McKenzie shared the sudden passing of beloved and treasured Township Public Works Director Darryl Dixon. She shared the Service will be July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm at Sapovits Park. Commissioner O'Connor shared condolences and memories of Darryl, as did Commissioners McKenzie, Garson, and the Township Manager.

**Approval of Minutes** – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the June 15<sup>th</sup> minutes. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Appointments to Boards and Commissions:** Mr. McKenzie noted there is an opening on the Zoning Hearing Board.

**SOLICITORS REPORT** – None

**ENGINEER REPORT-** Mr. Catania said the Township received a grant to fund the demolition and clearing of 703 Atlanta Court. He stated it has been a problem for a while and it is a safety issue.

**Government Relations** – Kaitlin McKenzie

**CDBG Bids Received** – Ms. McKenzie said there was a request for additional funding from the County as the bids came in higher than the grant amount. County Council approved the Township's request for the additional funding needed for the road resurfacing program in Garden City Manor. The request was an increase from \$100,000 to \$142,721.80. This will allow the Township to pave Atlanta Court, Austin Court, Boston Court, Denver Court, Raleigh Court, and Salem Court.

**Parks & Open Space Committee-** Beth Henry

Creekside Courts – Ms. Henry said the Township has a meeting scheduled for August 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of the Township leasing the tennis courts from Creekside Swim Club and rehabbing and converting the courts to pickleball courts. The Delco Dills have been involved with the discussions as well.

Sapovits Park – DCNR – She said she met with two South Media neighborhood representatives recently and discussed the usage of the approximately \$30,000 left in available grant funding. One idea was the installation of a softball field. Decades ago, there was an adult softball league that played there, and the field could pay tribute to that league, which still has a reunion each summer. Unfortunately, the cost of the field installation (backstop, grading work, Diamond Tex dirt, ADA path to dugouts) exceeds the available funding. Another idea was rehabbing the lower basketball court to expand its usage. The Township Engineer is drawing up the estimate, but he thinks it should fit within the \$30,000 budget. Another possibility is the installation of a piece of play equipment, such as a zip line. Ms. Henry made a motion to allocate the remaining \$30,000.00 from the grant to the Sapovits lower basketball courts. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Award of Martha Burton Park Project Bids – Ms. Henry said bids were received for the materials for the Martha Burton Park project. There were two bids, and the low bid was \$45,906.58 from A to U Services, which is just slightly over the available budget. The Township Engineer realized there is one procedural step that needs to happen with the DCNR, but the Board could award the bids subject to the DCNR's review and approval of the bid documents. Ms. Henry made a motion to award the bid to A to U Services in the amount of \$45,906.58 subject to the DCNR's review and approval of the bid documents. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Public Safety Committee Report-** Matthew Garson

Stop Sign Request – Ronaldson/Washington – Mr. Garson said the Township received a request for stop signs at the intersection of Ronaldson and Washington. The Township Engineer did a warrant analysis of the intersection and determined that stop signs would be warranted. Mr. Garson made a motion to advertise an ordinance for the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Ronaldson and Washington. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Police MOU with WSSD – the memorandum of understanding with the Wallingford Swarthmore School District and the Township Police is ready for signing, according to WSSD. The MOU establishes procedures to be followed when certain incidents requiring police presence occur on school property. Mr. Garson made a motion to approve the MOU. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Finance and Administration Committee** -Kait McKenzie

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

AP Interims List – TOTAL - \$46,648.93

A/P Procurement Card - TOTAL –\$34,819.75

A/P Bills List TOTAL – \$306,459.57

Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Approval of Providence Rd ROW Plan – Ms. McKenzie said Traffic Planning and Design has prepared a right-of-way plan that is needed for the installation of the sidewalk. The plan is ready for recording and needs the approval of the Township. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the Township's ROW plans. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Acquisition of Right-of-Way Providence Road – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the advertisement of the acquisition of the ROW on Providence Road. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Township Building Elevator Project – Motion to Accept Bids – Ms. McKenzie said the Township received bids on July 11<sup>th</sup> for the grant-funded civic access/elevator installation project. The bids came in favorably. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to accept the bid from LJ Paoella Construction, the general contractor low bidder, including the total alternates, of \$452,275. Alternates include the replacement of the roof and all of the windows upstairs. Charles Higgins and Sons was the low bidder for electric, including alternates, of \$7,000. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Community, Health, and Environment Report** – Shaina Barnes

Movie Nights – July 15 at Hepford and August 12 at Sapovits – Ms. Barnes said the first movie night is this Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM at Hepford Park. Toy Story will be shown. There is no cost to attend. Please come and join us!

Recycling Disposition – Motion to Advertise for Bids – The Township's contract with Republic Services is in its final

year, and there are no remaining option years. The Township will need to go out to bid for the recycling disposition, which is just the processing of the recycling and not the actual collection. Ms. Barnes made a motion to advertise for the bidding of the recycling disposition. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Infrastructure and Public Works Committee** -Robert O'Connor

Public Works Director Position – Mr. O'Connor said, as noted earlier in the meeting, Darryl Dixon passed away, and a new Public Works Director is needed. The Assistant Public Works Director, Michael MacCall, is interested in becoming the Director. He has served the Township for over 40 years. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to appoint Michael MacCall to Public Works Director. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Parkridge Drive Sewer Repair – Award of Proposal – Mr. O'Connor said the Township Engineer obtained three proposals for the repair to the Parkridge Drive storm sewer. The low bid was in the amount of \$14,965 from Battlefield Enterprises. The Township Engineer has been satisfied with their work on past projects. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to accept the bid in the amount of \$14,965 from Battlefield Enterprises. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

902 Grant Award – Leaf Truck and Recycling Cans – He said the Township applied for funding from the DEP for a self-contained leaf truck and recycling cans. The Township was awarded \$314,911.00, which is 90% of the project cost. A grant contract will be sent soon.

Multimodal Grant Open – Mr. O'Connor said the DCED's Multimodal Transportation Fund grant opportunity is open. He noted that applying for W. Rose Valley Road would be beyond the scope of the typical grant award for this program. One other area that was considered is completing the connection on Brookhaven Road between Providence Road and Kershaw, including the installation of the overhead flashing beacons at the intersection. Mr. Catania is drawing up an estimate. There is no match required at this time. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to apply for the Multimodal Transportation Grant for a sidewalk on Brookhaven Road between Providence Road and Kershaw Road and for overhead flashing beacons at Brookhaven Road and Kershaw Road and on Providence Road at Chatham Place. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Multi-municipal Salt Bid – motion to participate – He said there are 10 municipalities that share a salt bid and Mr. Grady recommends that the Township participate in the bid for two reasons: first, the past salt bid pricing has been lower than what the Township obtained through the COSTARS program; second, the COSTARS program has minimum purchase requirements, which can lead to overstock of salt at the PWD garage. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to participate in the multi-municipal salt bid. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Building and Zoning Committee Report** – Kaitlin McKenzie

Ground Solar Panel Array – She said they are checking with the County to see if they have reviewed the ordinance. They were scheduled to review it last month. The item was tabled since the County Planning Commission had not provided comments yet.

Deck Permitting – Zoning Change – Ms. McKenzie said our current code says that a building permit is needed for any deck that is 15" in height from the ground. The Uniform Construction Code regulates decks at 30". Mr. Grady recommends changing our zoning code to be consistent with the UCC, since the Township could run across situations where a deck is between 15"-30" in height from the ground. It would be awkward to require only a zoning permit in those situations. No permits are needed (setbacks do not apply) to decks under the height requirements. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to authorize the Township Solicitor to write up an amendment for the deck code. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT** – David Grady

Mr. Grady said the summer meeting schedule includes only one meeting in July and August. The CAT Club will be holding a clean-up on August 12<sup>th</sup>. The Foundry Church is hosting a movie night on July 29<sup>th</sup>. The LIHWAP program has reopened for those who need assistance with delinquent water or sewer bills. The Bulk Trash Event date is being changed as it will conflict with Darryl Dixon's Memorial Service. There is a Household Hazardous Waste Event on September 9<sup>th</sup> at the Emergency Training Center in Sharon Hill. Staff Thank You: to Maureen Feyas and the summer camp staff along with the Camp Director, Brianna Dunn. Thank you to Mike McCall for stepping up in the last couple of months while Darryl was out sick, especially now as Mike is now moving on to be the Director of Public Works. Thank you to Officer Markunas for helping with a difficult situation involving multiple properties.

Ms. McKenzie said the next meeting is on August 10, 2023. The meeting was adjourned around 8:45 PM.