

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – September 12, 2024

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, September 12, 2024—Committee Meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Robert Scott	Township Solicitor
Dave Splain	Police Chief
Maureen Feyas	Assistant Manager
Charles Catania	Township Engineer

EXCUSED:

Commissioner Carbone

6 members of the public were in attendance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Committee Openings- Parks, Shade Tree, and EAC

Ms. McKenzie reminded the board they have been emailed a list of committees opening with description. She asked everyone to please share the information with their ward.

Approval of Minutes- None

SOLICITORS REPORT – None

ENGINEER REPORT- None

Government Relations Report- Max Cooper

Records Retention for Virtual Meetings – The Township IT contractor informed the Township that the recordings of virtual meetings are consuming excessive space on the server, and capacity is nearly exhausted. After consulting with Mr. Scott, it was decided that recordings may be deleted from the server once the Board of Commissioners has approved the official meeting minutes.

Revised resolution for Walkable Wallingford Sidewalk Project – The Township was originally granted a little over \$150,000 for the grant. The Township revised the scope of work and was granted \$176,112. Mr. Cooper made a motion to amend the grant award amount to \$176,112. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Parks & Open Space Committee- Beth Henry

Turf Field rental and fees – The Board is considering setting rental fees for the use of the turf field at Gouley Park. Ms. Henry pointed out that the turf field requires some general maintenance that other fields do not. Ms. McKenzie asked Maureen Feyas to reach out to the COG group to determine whether other municipalities with turf fields have established rental fees.

Bird Town Events – Ms. Henry noted she was at a recent park committee meeting and was asked to share information for upcoming Bird Town events. Ms. Henry noted the events and asked for them to be posted on the Township’s social media platforms and website.

Public Safety Committee Report – Matthew Garson

Discussion of potential ordinance for regulation of domestic animals – Mr. Garson asked the Board to consider creating an ordinance to regulate the number of domestic and farm animals allowed per household. He highlighted that Nether Providence is not a rural community and that it has limited land for farm animals. Mr. O'Connor mentioned a past issue in his ward involving pigs, which was never resolved. Mr. Scott will investigate this further.

Discussion of regulating parking and storage of vehicles in year yard, not on a hardened surface – Mr. Garson raised concerns about residents parking vehicles on grass in their rear yards. Mr. Scott clarified that if the vehicles are properly registered and inspected, the only regulation would pertain to the surface area on which they are parked. Further discussion on this matter will continue.

Introduction of the Local Share Account Grant – Mr. Garson introduced to the Board the Local Share Account Grant, this grant can be used on several different projects. This grant does not have a match. The Township has been awarded this grant in the past to install an elevator at the Township Building. Mr. Garson proposed applying for the purchase of Tag Readers that can be installed at all the entry points to the Township. Chief Splain is going to do research on the Tag Readers and present his finding at the next meeting.

2024 Volunteer Fire Relief Allocation – On September 18, 2024 the Township will received \$112,303.91 to support the Volunteer Fire Relief Association. The Board will discuss at the next meeting how to allocate the funds.

Finance and Administration Committee Report by Kaitlin McKenzie

Bills List- Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the Bills List in the amount of;

AP Interims List – \$309,112.93

A/P Procurement Card - \$52,431.26

A/P Bills List- \$176,276.83

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

Bank Signatures – TD Bank and PLGIT – With the departure of Dave Grady, Ms. McKenzie made a motion to remove him from the TD Bank and PLGIT accounts and to add Maureen Feyas. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garson and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Vehicle Auction – The Township is preparing to auction a 2016 and a 2007 Dodge Charger, which were previously used by the police and code enforcement. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to advertise the sale of these vehicles. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

Ratify salary increase for Maureen Feyas – Following her appointment as Interim Township Manager, Maureen Feyas will receive a salary increase to \$100,000. Ms. McKenzie made the motion, seconded by Mr. Garson, which was approved 6-0.

Advertisement of Township Manager Position – With Dave Grady’s departure, the Board has advertised the Township Manager position and has received 54 applications. Resumes are due by 11:59PM on Friday, September 13. **Appointment of Right to Know Officer** – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to appoint Maureen Feyas as the Right to Know Officer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Ratify of Consulting Agreement with Dave Grady - Dave Grady has agreed to stay on as a consultant until December 31, 2024, to assist with existing grants and projects at a rate of \$65.00 per hour. The motion, made by Ms. McKenzie and seconded by Mr. Cooper, passed 6-0.

Review of the Township Uniform and Non-Uniform MMO – Ms. McKenzie noted that there was a slight increase in the Non-Uniform MMO and a significant increase in the Police MMO. The Board will review these documents and revisit at the September 26th meeting.

Audit of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – The Township has received a proposal from Bee Bergvall & Co. their auditing company to perform an audit on the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds also known as AARPA funds. The fee will be billed at an hourly rate of \$225/hour, estimated range from \$2,000 to \$4,000. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Community, Health, and Environment Report – Shaina Barnes

Yard Waste Bidding Results – There were two companies that submitted bids for the yard waste bid. B & L proposed once a month yard waste collection – hauler contracts with processing facility base bid (2 Years) Year One - \$74.85, Year Two \$78.59. Once a month yard waste collection – Township contracts with processing facility Year

One - \$71.24, Year Two \$74.09. JP Masaro proposed Once a month yard waste collection - hauler contracts with processing facility base bid (2 Years) Year One - \$38.28, Year Two 39.72, They did not bid on the once a month yard waste collection – Township contracts with processing facility. The Board noted that the public works garage is coming to an end and the drop off site at the garage will be reopen. The Board would like to see what happens after the garage reopens and possibly revisit in 2025.

Family Fun Day - Our annual Family Fun Day is coming up on October 12th from noon to 3. There will be a rain date for October 13th if necessary. We will have food options, games, a petting zoo, and more! Admission is free as are most activities. We need volunteers to assist in running games! You can sign up through the link on our township's website. This year we are doing something new by having handmade craft vendors, which is something I will be trying so stop by and say hello! Vendors will be given 1 table and chair. Contact our Assistant Township Manager, Maureen, at mfeyas@netherprovidence.org if interested in reserving your spot for \$25!

Infrastructure and Public Works Committee – Robert O'Connor

Appointment of TPD to Perform Construction Inspection – Mr. O'Connor noted that the sidewalk project along Providence Rd is underway. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to appoint Traffic Planning and Design to perform the inspections for the Providence Rd sidewalk project. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Leiper Smedley Trail – Mr. O'Connor informed all that the Leiper Smedley Trail will be closed starting August 26th with the anticipation for reopening around the end of October.

2024 Road Resurfacing – He stated that there were four bids for the road resurfacing program. A F Damon was the low bidder. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to accept the bid from A F Damon in the amount of \$176,905.50. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.

Ratification of Multi-Municipal salt bid – At the August 8th meeting the Board Township Manager Grady informed the Board that the salt contract was up for renewal at the price of \$69.75/ton. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to accept the price of \$69.75/ton. Ms. McKenzie seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.

Asphalt Parking Lot Area – The Public Works Department asked the Board for permission to asphalt the parking lot at the garage. The Board has made a decision to visit the site and revisit the proposal at the next meeting.

Building and Zoning Committee Report- Kaitlin McKenzie

September ZHB Agenda – There are three applications on the agenda. 100 Westminster Dr requesting a variance to build a carport, 309 Bickmore Dr requesting a variance to construct a one-story addition, and 616 E Wiltshire Drive requesting a variance to build a deck on the rear of the property. The Zoning Hearing meeting is Monday, September 16th at 7:30PM at the Municipal Building.

424 Wallingford Ave Subdivision – Andrew Johnston from Wilkinson Apex gave the board a brief overview of the project. There is an existing home on the property, he would like to split the lot and construct a single family home. Ms. McKenzie asked if this plan was by right, which Mr. Johnston replied yes. Mr. Cooper asked if there was going to be stormwater management measured put in place with this project, which Mr. Johnston replied yes. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the subdivision. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.

INTERIM TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – Maureen Feyas

Ms. Feyas noted the next Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off is Saturday, October 12th at the Upper Chichester Municipal Building located on Furry Rd, Upper Chichester. Registration is open.

Ms. McKenzie said the next meeting is on September 26, 2024. The meeting was adjourned around 9:00 PM.