

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – May 22, 2025**

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 22, 2025.

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Maureen Feyas	Township Manager
Charles Catania	Township Engineer
Bob Scott	Township Solicitor
Chief Splain	Police Chief
EXCUSED	Commissioner Carbone

15 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.

### **Police Commendations and Officer of the Year-**

Chief David Splain presented 20 certificates of recognition and commendation to officers in the Nether Providence Township Police Department at the Board of Commissioners meeting Thursday.

- Twenty-five years of service: Sgts. Michael Montgomery and Matthew Liss, and Traffic Safety Officer Kevin Smith. Sgt. Montgomery was hired on Oct. 5, 1999; Liss was hired Jan. 3, 2000; and Smith was hired on Aug. 28, 1999. "Over their 25 years of service, all three officers have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the community's safety, security and well-being," Chief Splain said.
- Triumphant awards: Sgt. Michael Worrell and Officers Jordan Culbreath and Michael Coverdale (2). The award recognizes officers who attain the highest average score on the department's handgun qualification course in a calendar year. In 2025, Worrell, Culbreath and Coverdale attained an average score of 250 out of 250 on the department's handgun qualification course. In 2024, Coverdale attained an average score of 246 out of 250.
- Life Saving award: Sgt. Montgomery, Officers Smith, Culbreath, and James MacIntosh. This award recognizes an act that saved or preserved a human life that otherwise would have immediately expired without intervention.
- Exceptional Duty award: Sgt. Montgomery, Officers Culbreath, Taryn Kelly, Robert Brake (2), Michael Dolan and Detective James Irely (2).
- Officer of the Year: Sgt. Worrell. The award is named after Detective Sgt. Raymond L. White, who suffered a heart attack while processing a homicide scene and died, days later, on April 10, 1983. "Being named Officer of the Year is a special recognition because it is decided by a vote among your peers," said Chief Splain, noting that Sgt. Worrell received 32

% of the votes as the 2025 recipient. "Over the years, he has consistently demonstrated commitment to this department, the community he serves, and this country."

Sgt. Worrell also serves as a Sergeant First Class with the Army National Guard. He was initially hired by the NPPD as a part-time officer in June 2014. In December 2014, he left to pursue a full-time position with the Drexel University Police Department and was later hired by the Philadelphia Police Department. In November 2016, he returned to NPPD and was hired as a full-time officer. In January 2025, he was promoted to Sergeant and is currently the supervisor of Squad 3.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**Committee Openings- Parks and Shade Tree**

Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve Joe Stock for the Shade Tree Commission and Sarah Ponzio for the Parks Commission. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

**Approval of Minutes** – Next meeting

**SOLICITORS REPORT** – None

**ENGINEER REPORT-**

West Rose Valley Rd Follow-up contact with PADOT; awaiting response  
Henry Lane- will be done in the next 30 days  
Road resurfacing is done

**Government Relations Report-** Max Cooper

**EMS Update- EMS Working Group Update**

Mr. Cooper provided an update from the weekly EMS working group meeting. Three potential plans were presented for consideration:

- **Two plans** involve pooling municipal funds to hire outside EMS contractors.
- **The third plan**, referred to as the "*Swarthmore Plan*," focuses on enhancing existing EMS services based in Swarthmore. This plan proposes upgrading Swarthmore's current two BLS (Basic Life Support) ambulances by converting one to ALS (Advanced Life Support) for improved patient care.

Among the options, the Swarthmore Plan garnered the most informal support from participating municipalities. The proposed upgrade would offer greater municipal control over costs, including staffing decisions, and has the potential to generate revenue. The estimated municipal contribution would be \$80,000, to be shared by Swarthmore, Rose Valley, Rutledge, and Nether Providence. Municipalities have a 90-day window to finalize a decision.

Mr. Cooper requested input from the Board regarding preferred plan options and guidance on how to determine a fair cost-sharing formula. He noted that Nether Providence currently receives 66% of its EMS response from Swarthmore and 35% from Media.

The Board engaged in discussion. Ms. McKenzie noted that regardless of the plan selected, a new budget line item would be required. After deliberation, Mr. Cooper concluded that the Board appears interested in supporting both Media and Swarthmore services. The next step will involve collecting data to establish appropriate funding ratios for both ambulance services.

Mr. Cooper will collaborate with Mr. Scott to draft resolution language for consideration at the next meeting.

### **Parks and Open Space Committee Report** by Beth Henry

Scout Thank You – Mrs. Henry had a Thank you to Maxim Kurchan for installing the steps, benches and planting trees at Gouley Park as park of his Eagle Scout Service Project

Martha Burton Update – She said work on Martha Burton Park is well underway, with the entire path and four square being completely dug out. The public works crew has started putting material back in this week and should be done with the path sometime next week. They are continuing to try to stay on schedule despite the rain over the last two weeks, and are making good progress on the park grant projects.

Gouley Park Update – She said the public works crew installed a silt sock and dirt berm along the parking lot to capture the rain runoff and direct the water to the inlet in the corner of the parking lot. This silt sock is temporary, allowing the dirt berm a chance to settle without being washed away by the rain runoff. We will also use this silt sock as a test to determine if this water management plan will address the problem of rain runoff onto the turf field. We may need to explore alternative water management options in the future, but the dirt berm and silt sock will provide us with a good idea of the next steps necessary to resolve the turf field issues. Nick will keep everyone updated as they work to address the issue. The fence was also replaced at Gouley Park where the tree fell around the turf field.

### **Public Safety Committee Report** – Matthew Garson

Public Hearing for stop signs on Laurel Ln at Fairfield Dr. is scheduled for Thursday, June 12th.

### **Finance and Administration Committee Report** by Kaitlin McKenzie

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

#### **April:**

Bills List Total - \$223,741.56

Interim Total \$148,244.27

Procurement Card Total - \$28,538.29

#### **May:**

Bills List Total - \$685,878.77

Interim Total \$101,851.71

Procurement Card Total - \$44,038.66

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

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

Summer Camp – She said the Township is excited to offer our Summer Camp program again this year!

Camp will run from June 23rd to July 24th, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to noon at Nether Providence Elementary School. The registration fee is \$300.00, and registration opens on April 14th.

Registration forms are available on our website. We are also looking for counselors and CITs—application forms can be found online as well.

Bulk Trash Event – Ms. McKenzie said the Township will be hosting a Bulk Trash Drop-Off event on Saturday, May 31st from 10 AM to 2 PM. You can drop off your items at Hepford Park or the South Media Fire Station. Please remember, we are unable to accept electronics or hazardous waste at this event.

### **Infrastructure and Public Works Committee** – Robert O'Connor

Public Works Update – Mr. O'Connor said the fence and gates around the public works garage were completed this week. The new F-550 arrived on Friday of last week, and we are working on getting the truck ready to be added to the fleet. Other township vehicles and equipment were maintained over the last two weeks according to the maintenance schedule. We were also able to use a safety grant from Delaware Valley Insurance Trust to purchase cones, barricades, and other road safety signs that we needed. These road safety items were picked up this week and are ready for use as needed.

**Building and Zoning Committee Report-** Candice Carbone

None

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT** – Maureen Feyas

She said the Public works garage cameras have been installed and are up and running.

Ms. McKeznie said the next meeting is on June 12, 2025. The meeting was adjourned around 8:30 PM.