

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP – April 10th, 2025

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM on Thursday, April 10th, 2025.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

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

EXCUSED:

Commissioner Barnes

10 member of the public was in attendance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

James Hansen 310 Rosewood Ln:

He said he is commenting regarding Rose Valley Road and Rosewood Lane and the ongoing safety issues for pedestrians. He said three things he wanted to talk about:

- 1 Electronic speed sign- recently installed on Rose Valley Rd. They were removed last week. The neighbors liked and supported it so why was it removed?

Ms. McKenzie responded- the Speed limit was changed and lowered. The Chief said he moved the speed sign to other places around the Township where it was needed.

Mr. Hansen:

- 2 Permanent LED lights on the Pedestrian sign- doesn't help them, but further down the road.
- 3 Issues on the left looking line of sight- Top of Rosewood turning to Rose Valley. Solution, he said, is to regrade the hillside- asked last year for this to be done and said it wasn't done yet. The owner of the said property to be graded spoke- He said trees were cut down and took some soil away, but still no change.

Ms. McKenzie said it's a state road and private property. The baseline is being done as a favor to the residents, NOT required. A new public works director is starting soon, and this project will be added to his list.

Mr. Garson commented that communication with PenDOT for any work on the hillside will be needed. Ms. McKenzie said the Township has applied for sidewalk grants for these areas, but has been unsuccessful so far.

Mr. Garson said the estimate on more speed signs is \$5,200 per sign, and then they have to get law enforcement out there.

Mr. Hansen said the crosswalks don't exist from Rosewood.

Ms. McKenzie said they would have to widen the road & add sidewalks, and regrade the hillside to satisfy complaints.

Mr. Hansen said this is a special case that needs a different approach from the Board.

Matilda Pahidz- 307 Rosewood lane:

She said she wants kids to be safe as they are going to the Middle school and high school for school. She doesn't agree that the Board has done everything to solve the problem. She wants the blinking pedestrian signs to stay as well.

Candace Carbone- Stated that crosswalks that would go into neighbors' yards were in great opposition to it being installed, as it led to their yard and stopped. There was substantial disagreement between neighbors. As for sidewalks, they are outrageously expensive and take a long time to install. The Board will continue to apply for grants for this area.

Ms. Pahidz- asked if only grants funded sidewalks. Kait replied YES. Ms. Pahidz offered to help write the grants. Stated that PennDOT owned the road, not the neighbors, and wants crosswalks added.

Mrs. Carbone- If neighbors on ALL sides agreed to add crosswalks to go into their yards, a petition could be made. Otherwise, not at this time with great disagreement.

Andy Rossi- 210 W. Rose Valley Road:

The father of the child was hit by a car while walking to the bus stop. Said you have to walk on a slanted ground not to be on the white line in the road. He asked about speed bumps being put in. The whole street has no level flat front yard to walk on.

Township Engineer said PennDOT has to be the ones to agree and install the speed humps. Historically, PennDOT has said NO. He said PennDOT would also have to ask for grant funding to widen the road there. So the Township is in the same situation for sidewalks.

Ms. McKenzie said they will ask PennDOT for speed bumps and will continue to look for grants that apply to this.

Couldn't hear what Charles said or the Audience.

Charles Taylor- Morgan Ln, adjacent to Rosewood:

Thank you for your support so far. Asking if an asphalt sidewalk like Rose Valley Road if can be done for this issue, also maybe rumble strips? Asking to please continue to update the neighbors on grants and any progress.

Leland Kelner- 302 Rosewood Lane.

Thanked the board for what they have already done. But we are worried. A Lot has changed; sight line is more obstructed now than in years past. Two utility poles are now in his yard and obstruct his view more. You can't see until you are on the road. He stated he is very happy about the speed limit change down to 30 mph. Asked if it can now be enforced more. Speeding before they even see the sign, or maybe more signs.

Ms. McKenzie asked if we could talk to Peco about removing or moving the 2 poles.

Pat Hardy- 213 Fairfield Drive

She has lived in this house for 35 years. She is concerned about young children walking to school and the traffic around this area. She asked for information to be made more publicly for the Township residents to know what is happening. She said 20 kids in these 2 blocks of radius. She has a petition signed by 19 households requesting a single stop sign. It would be put in her yard at 213 Fairfield and the corner of Laurel Lane. Two bus stops for 32 children who use this bus stop. She wants them to feel safe getting to school. Thank you, Mrs. Carbone and Officer Smith, for all your communication and help with the petition. The data showed that the average speed of cars is 24 mph. But, it takes just one car speeding and not seeing a child to cause an accident. She is asking for this one-stop sign to be added and for the police to enforce people rolling through the stop sign.

Ms. McKenzie said, This is a Township road, so the process is if the whole neighborhood is in favor of the stop sign, they typically move forward. The board and solicitor will look at the petition and have an ordinance drafted to be voted on at a later meeting.

Claudia Arce- 300 Fairfield Drive

Moved to that house with my small twins. I was always afraid to let him outside due to cars going fast. Concerned about the bus stop safety without this stop sign. Thank you for the support.

Committee Openings- Parks and Shade Tree

Approval of Minutes – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes from February 13, 2025, February 27, 2025, March 13, 2025 & March 27, 2025. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

SOLICITORS REPORT – None

ENGINEER REPORT- None

Government Relations Report- Max Cooper

EMS Update- Mr. Cooper said a meeting has been set up on April 24th as he invited multiple municipalities to have a larger discussion about the issue.

PECO utility pole installation – He said starting next week, PECO will begin installing new utility poles along Manchester Road. Once work is completed there, crews will continue to Woodward Road, followed by West Possum Hollow Road. During this project, roads will be reduced to one lane, with flaggers on site to direct traffic. Please use caution when traveling through these areas and allow extra time for possible delays.

2025 Street resurfacing project is tentatively set to start the week of April 21st pending PADOT approval.

Henry Ln delay – He said due to utility conflicts that need to be resolved, the Henry Lane drainage improvements project has been temporarily put on hold. Aqua is scheduled to begin their work on April 9th, with PECO expected to follow on April 14th.

Parks and Open Space Committee Report by Beth Henry

None

Public Safety Committee Report – Matthew Garson

Storm update from April 4th - Mr. Garson reported the Storm Damage Update - Between 4:52 AM and 8:31 AM, the Police Department responded to 47 calls for service related to this morning's storm. The Public Works Department was also actively involved, closing several roads due to downed trees and wires, and beginning cleanup efforts throughout the Township. The Township parks sustained some damage:

Sapovits Park

- A very large tree fell on the hill in the park.
- Another large tree fell on the bank of the creek.
- Much of the mulch in the playground was washed out by the heavy rains and will need to be replenished.

Furness Park

- A tree was down across the walking trail, but it has been cleared, and the trail is now safe and passable.
- Another tree fell and damaged the new post-and-rail fence along Turner Rd. No other visible damage was reported.

Leiper-Smedley Trail

- Significant damage occurred with 5-10 trees/branches falling along the trail.
- All trees and branches were cut and pushed off the edge of the trail. The trail is safe and passable.

Gouley Park

- This park sustained the most damage:
 - About 5 trees fell in the park.
 - Two trees fell along the fence line of the turf field, with damage to the corner closest to the hill due to one tree splitting and falling.
 - The heavy rains washed out much of the amended soil used for grading and most of the mulch.
 - The flagpole halyard was broken, and the flag was found in the brush.
 - The walking path to Locust Lane was shut down due to a utility pole snapping.
 - A tree was removed from across the path, and cones, barricades, and construction fencing were placed to prevent access to areas near downed wires.

We appreciate the swift response and hard work of our emergency personnel and Public Works team as they work to restore safety and access across our community.

Finance and Administration Committee Report by Kaitlin McKenzie

Ratify the Disaster Emergency Declaration for the April 4th storm. She said this is to help get funding for storm repairs. Ms. McKenzie made a motion to ratify her signature for Resolution 2025-3 to establish a disaster emergency for Nether Providence Township because of the effects of the April 4, 2025, downburst event. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Quotes for new public works fence – Ms. McKenzie made a motion to accept the lowest bid from Lanzetta Landscaping to put in a new fence at the public works garage in the amount of \$23,865.00. Mr. Garson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Community, Health, and Environment Report – Kait McKenzie

EAC Updates- Meeting minutes will be posted on the EAC page on the Township website. The Committee is full, next meeting is Wednesday, April 23rd. Items discussed will be: Public Education on pesticides, ms4 projects, Trees covered in ivy, food recovery project, and Crum Creek watershed helping the Township with it's raingardens.

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.

Electronics/Shredding Event – She said Nether Providence Township, in partnership with Swarthmore and Media Boroughs, is excited to host an Electronics Recycling and Shredding Event on Saturday, April 19th from 9 AM to 1 PM. The event will take place in the back parking lot of Strath Haven High School. This is a great opportunity to responsibly recycle electronics and safely shred documents you no longer need. We look forward to seeing you there!

Infrastructure and Public Works Committee – Robert O'Connor

Mulch program open – He said the Township is now accepting mulch orders! You can place your order at the Township Building Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. We accept cash or check only. Deliveries are scheduled for Thursday and Friday. Township resident pricing is: \$105 for a full truckload (5-6 cubic yards), \$65 for a half truckload (2-3 cubic yards). We're here to help you get your yard ready for the season! Feel free to stop by and place your order.

Building and Zoning Committee Report-

Zoning Hearing Board meeting- She said the Meeting Monday April 21 – 209 Governors Drive - The Zoning Hearing Board will be meeting at the Township Building 7:30pm on Monday April 21st to hear the application of John Schwartz and Courtney Schwartz, 209 Governors Drive, Wallingford, requesting the following variances: (1) from Section 300-128.1(B) (Accessory building area and bulk restrictions) to permit an accessory building with a footprint in excess of 500 square feet, to permit the construction of an 864 square foot two-story detached garage; (2) from Section 300-129.B(1) and Section 300-129.C(1) (Building projections into yards) to permit an accessory structure 5 feet further back from the front street line than the rearmost portion of the main building, in lieu of the required 10 feet; and (3) from section 300-129.E (Building projections into yards) to permit two accessory structures on the subject property, where only one is permitted.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – Maureen Feyas

None

Ms. McKeznie said the next meeting is on April 24th, 2025. The meeting was adjourned around 8:30 PM.