

Nether Providence Township - Board of Commissioners (BOC)

Meeting Minutes — May 28, 2026

A public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township was called to order at 7:30 PM.

PRESENT:

- Commissioner Michael Keller
- Commissioner Max Cooper
- Commissioner Kaitlin McKenzie
- Commissioner Shaina Barnes
- Commissioner Robert O'Connor
- Commissioner Alex Hillemeier

ALSO PRESENT:

- Maureen Feyas, Township Manager
- Robert Scott, Township Solicitor
- Charles, Township Engineer

ABSENT:

- Commissioner Henry

Executive Session Note: Announced to be held after the completion of the main meeting tonight.

Public Comment:

- **Joe McGee (612 School Lane):** Reported that PECO is currently performing gas main pipe replacements on School Lane and intends to only repave up to the center line of the street. He requested that the Township coordinate with PECO to arrange for full, curb-to-curb repaving of the damaged roadway. The Board and Township Engineer Charles noted that they are in contact with PECO; typically, the Township seeks a financial contribution in lieu of piecemeal paving to bundle the street into its annual resurfacing bid program for a better price, which means residents may have to wait a few months for the final street-wide paving to occur.

- **Paul Harrington (213 Martroy Lane):** Extended his appreciation to the Police Department and the Board for their high-visibility traffic enforcement and responsiveness regarding the stop sign safety issues at Martroy and Avondale.
- He then questioned a proposal to establish a multi-municipal EMS authority, raising concerns over its independent power to levy household fees, potential cross-subsidization between the six participating towns, and his own estimate that household costs could reach \$172 rather than the projected sub-\$100 fee.
- In response, Commissioner Max Cooper and the Board justified the authority structure by explaining that it ensures financial durability while maintaining public accountability through locally appointed board members. They noted that replacing the traditional property tax model with a flat household fee ensures that historically tax-exempt entities, like local colleges and hospitals, pay their fair share based on actual utilization. Furthermore, the Board emphasized that a shared, regional fleet creates massive economies of scale and is economically necessary to combat skyrocketing local EMS costs, which surged from \$0 to **\$277,000 last year** due to the closure of Crozer EMS, especially given Nether Providence's high volume of low-reimbursement Medicare and Medicaid calls from local senior facilities. The Board concluded by reminding the public that this was the first of multiple discussion sessions ahead of a collective multi-municipal vote targeted for **mid-to-late summer 2026**

Committee Openings: Reminded residents of ongoing volunteer vacancies on the Historical Commission. Commissioners were asked to continue advertising these roles to their constituents.

Solicitor's & Engineer's Reports

- **Solicitor's Report:** No additional updates outside of regular agenda items.
- **Engineer's Report:** * *Providence Road Sidewalk (Rose Valley Connect):* Progress signing occurred today; the project is expected to go out for contractor bids at the end of June for July consideration, targeting fall construction.
 - *Houston Park Trail Project:* Formal contractor bids will be received on June 10th for evaluation at the following meeting.
 - *Hepford Park (CDBG Grant):* Five bids were formally received and submitted to the County Office of Community Development for contract considerations, ranging from \$123,336 to \$238,238. Bidders included Del Environmental Construction Services (\$123,336), Joseph Jenkins LLC (\$156,670.70), T. Schaefer Contractors (\$158,590), Ernell Company (\$168,600), and LTech Enterprises (\$238,238).
 - *Houston Park Stream Stabilization:* Construction on the stream bank stabilization project is actively underway and running smoothly with no disruption to local baseball games.

1. Public Safety Committee Report (Max Cooper)

- **a. EMS Updates:** The multi-municipal working group continues to meet every other week to refine the proposed budget, fee schedules, and articles of incorporation. The process remains on target for a collective review and approval mid-to-late summer, where all six member municipalities will hold a shared meeting to vote on adoption and appoint a local board representative.
- **b. Fire Committee:** Ongoing productive conversations continue regarding the regional fire unification process and refining cooperative department workflows.
- **c. Walkable Wallingford 2:** Following up on a pedestrian infrastructure request from a neighboring Eagle Scout candidate at Spring Haven and East Rose Valley, the committee proposed launching a formal "Walkable Wallingford 2" initiative. This planning project will update the township's original decade-old pedestrian blueprint to map out short-term connectors (e.g., up to the Wallingford swim club) and major sidewalk expansions, which will serve as a guiding document for future grant sourcing. The Board discussed reaching out to graduate municipal planning or engineering programs (such as Villanova, Drexel, or Temple) to secure an intern or graduate student to lead the heavy drafting work in the fall alongside a resident-backed local working group.

2. Government Relations Report (Mike Keller)

- No report.

3. Parks and Open Space Committee Report (Presented by Kait McKenzie)

- **a. Resolution for DCED Watershed Restoration and Protection Program Grant:**
Reviewed Resolution 2026-10 authorizing a grant application for a \$316,537 project to fund Zones 3 and 4 of the Houston Park stream bank restoration (covering the pool area by the bridge and the section closest to the Providence Road trailhead). The grant requests 85% of funding with a 15% Township match.
 - **Motion:** To approve Resolution 2026-10.
 - **Vote:** Approved 6-0.
- **b. Resolution for DCED Greenways, Trails, and Restoration Program Grant:**
Reviewed Resolution 2026-11 authorizing a grant application for a \$307,050 project to build a curving, 750-square-yard ADA-accessible pedestrian path connecting the Leaper Street hillside entrance of Sappovitz Park to the central recreation area, including tree replacements, benches, lighting, and an ADA parking space.
 - **Motion:** To approve Resolution 2026-11.
 - **Vote:** Approved 6-0.

4. Finance and Administration Committee Report (Kaitlin McKenzie)

- **Summer Meeting Schedule:** Announced that the Board will reduce its summer assembly schedule to one meeting per month. The official upcoming summer session dates are designated as **June 11th**, **July 23rd**, and **August 13th**, and will be published on the Township website.

- **Bills List:** The Board reviewed and approved the newly categorized monthly bills layout compiled by staff, spanning consistent, variable, quarterly, and unusual/grant-reimbursed expense tiers.
 - **Motion:** To approve the Bills List for \$146,693.20, Interim Bills for \$786,018.50, and the P-Card total in the amount of \$32,804.53.
 - **Vote:** Approved 6-0.

5. Community, Health, and Environment Report (Shaina Barnes)

- **a. EAC Updates:** No updates.
- **b. Historical Commission Updates if any:** Emphasized that summer is an ideal, slower-paced time for interested community history enthusiasts to apply for open seats and revitalize the commission.
- **c. Summer Camp:** Applications are still actively being accepted for volunteers and youth campers; however, all paid staff and camp counselor positions have been officially filled for the season.

6. Infrastructure and Public Works Committee Report (Robert O'Connor)

- **Public Works Report:** * Crews have carried out routine vehicle upkeep, stormwater inlet repairs, sanitary sewer line maintenance, and local park trash and mulch details.
 - *Spring Haven & Sycamore Sinkhole:* Third-party contractors have successfully repaired the joints inside the subsurface sanitary sewer line and the sinkhole has been filled, allowing the intersection to reopen to traffic. Public Works crews will apply final asphalt paving once the backfill stone settles completely.
 - *Osborne & Rose Valley Roads:* The Commonwealth communicated that repair work is expected to begin this week on state-owned, broken storm pipes that have been causing roadway sinkholes.
 - *Signage & Road Painting:* Road line painting has begun for the summer. Concurrently, a comprehensive township-wide street sign replacement and repair initiative has launched, starting in the Seventh Ward and moving sequentially across the municipality.
 - *Composting:* Leaf composting processing operations have officially begun at the township leaf site. Public works crews have completed many rounds of bag leaf collection, mulch deliveries, and ongoing trash removal throughout the township parks and municipal buildings.
 - *Putnam Boulevard:* A rolled gutter issue raised by a constituent was successfully resolved by the Public Works director.

7. Building and Zoning Committee Report (Alex Hillemeier)

- No report.

Manager's Report

- **Free Health Screenings:** The Delaware County Health Department is offering free mammograms and wellness screenings at the Wellness Center (115 West Fifth Street, Chester) on Wednesday, June 17th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Registration is required by June 10th.
- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection:** The next regional collection event will take place on Saturday, June 13th at the Upper Chichester Municipal Building (8500 Ridge Road). The event is free, but residents must register in advance online.

Adjournment

- The meeting was officially adjourned.
- **Next Session:** The next combined Legislative and Workshop meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, June 11th, 2026.**