

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

Meeting Minutes — June 11, 2026

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

PRESENT:

- Commissioner Max Cooper
- Commissioner Kaitlin McKenzie
- Commissioner Shaina Barnes
- Commissioner Robert O'Connor
- Commissioner Beth Henry
- Commissioner Alex Hillemeier

ALSO PRESENT:

- Caity Kennedy, Assistant Township Manager
- Solicitor Megan Burns (for Bob Scott)
- Charles, Township Engineer

ABSENT:

- Commissioner Michael Keller

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Dave Piper (605 School Lane):** Requested a paving and restoration update for School Lane. PECO completed gas work, leaving the connection point to his driveway unpaved stone, risking structural damage. Township Engineer: Full-width curb-to-curb paving for School Lane is estimated at \$40,000. We are awaiting an offer from PECO, which is generally about 50%. They offer \$13/square yard for restoration. The annual state-funded liquid fuels resurfacing contract is already finalized and cannot be modified without major delays. The Board will explore lumping remaining PECO and Aqua road restorations into a secondary fall bidding round if budget allows. Public Works will temporarily fill localized potholes with asphalt near affected properties.
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PRESENTATION — Township MS-4 Status

- **Presenter:** Kristen Chorney from Catania Engineering reviewed the federal NPDES / MS-4 storm water permit obligations.
 - **Permit Status:** The township is at the end of its 5-year permit cycle (February 2021 to March 2026). The next state annual report is due at the end of September.
 - **Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) Data:** * **Dicks Run & Ridley Creek:** Achieved approximately 80% of the sediment reduction target. Stream bank restoration yielded the highest sediment reduction "bang for the buck".
 - **Vernon Run:** Exceeded requirements (171% reduction) due to extensive work at Sapovits Park.
 - **Crumb Creek:** Missed the target; engineering will inquire if excess credits from Vernon Run can be transferred.
 - **Future Outlook:** The next regulatory permit cycle will pivot from monitoring sediment loading to managing total water volume.
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Solicitor's & Engineer's Reports

- **Solicitor:** No report presented outside of specific agenda items.
- **Engineer:** PECO Work on Governors Drive: we received an \$82,000 offer for restoration; estimated cost is \$130,000.

1. Public Safety Committee — Max Cooper

- **a. EMS Updates:** The multi-municipal working group reached consensus on financial guardrails (capping fee increases to inflation plus a minor margin) and operational board structures. Ties in board votes will count as a failure to force consensus. A public up-or-down membership vote is targeted for mid-to-late summer. The group is vetting the legal durability of the Indiana County model against the centralized deployment structure of MESA.
- **b. Fire Committee:** A unified command structure will launch in Q4 2026 / January 2027 under Chief Patrick O'Rourke, with station chiefs serving as deputy chiefs. Specialized administrative and operational workgroups have been established to handle recruitment, standardized standard operating guidelines (SOGs), apparatus replacement, and mutual aid run cards. The next oversight meeting is postponed until fall.
- **c. Walkable Wallingford 2.0:** The Board is seeking technical planning partners and resident volunteers to draft the next generation of the township's decade-old sidewalk network blueprint. Commissioner Hillemeier voiced interest in participating.

2. Government Relations Committee — Kaitlin McKenzie (for Mike Keller)

- **a. ARLE Funding Grant Resolution:** President McKenzie moved to approve **Resolution 2026-12** authorizing an application for PennDOT's Automated Red Light

Enforcement (ARLE) grant program. The grant seeks \$678,777 to fund a necessary traffic light installation at the dangerous intersection of Baltimore Pike and Turner Road.

- Motion seconded, passed 6-0.

3. Parks and Open Space Committee — Beth Henry

- **a. Parks Updates:** Kudzu remediation is progressing at Furness Park via an Arch Wild grant. The Gouley Park turf field remains closed for ongoing maintenance. Stream bank restoration is underway at Houston Park, and a walkway path grant application was submitted for Sapovits Park.
- **b. PY 2025 CDBG Project (Hepford Park):** The township received 5 competitive bids for parking lot and pathway upgrades, funded by a \$131,000 Community Development Block Grant.
 - Motion to award the contract to the lowest bidder, Delaware Environmental Construction Services, for \$123,336 passed 6-0.
- **c. Houston Park Trail Award:** Upgrades are backed by combined Delco Greenways and DCED grants totaling \$336,920 remaining funds.
 - Motion to award the contract to the lowest bidder, ML Company Inc., for \$256,525 passed 6-0.

4. Finance and Administration Committee — Kaitlin McKenzie

- **b. Bond Reduction (Oak Valley):** TP Investments requested a performance bond reduction based on completed development lots.
 - Motion to approve a reduction of \$214,276.30, retaining a remaining balance of \$98,298.55, passed 6-0.
- **c. Leiper House Report:** A very preliminary structural engineering assessment estimated that comprehensive rehabilitation of the historic house requires approximately \$500,000, excluding mechanical or plumbing. Critical issues include a failing cedar-shake roof, water/insect rot on window frames, shift in the rear porch brick pillars, an unlevel interior timber staircase, and interior lead-based paint.
 - *Actions taken:* Solicitor's advice was noted to commission a \$250–\$500 title search to investigate deed covenants before executing repairs or exploring a sale. The back porch will be restricted from public weekend visitors effective immediately due to liability concerns. A specialized advisory sub-committee will form to map long-term solutions. Commissioner Hillemeier noted a prospective local roofing lead will contact management.
- **d. PECO Gas Restoration:** No additional updates beyond public comment.
- **e. Blacktop Trailer Sale Resolution:** The Public Works department replaced an oversized trailer requiring a commercial driver's license (CDL) with a smaller model.
 - Motion to authorize listing the surplus blacktop trailer on Municibid with a reserve price of \$12,000 passed 6-0.
- **a. Bills List:**
 - Motion to approve the regular bills list (\$196,425.70), interim bills list (\$29,479.61), and the P-Card balance (\$24,014.74) passed 6-0.

5. Community, Health, and Environment — Shaina Barnes

- **a. EAC Updates:** Announced a 4-part environmental educational lecture series held on the first Tuesday of every month starting in September, addressing autumn planting, bird nesting, and composting.
- **b. Historical Commission:** Reissued a call for community volunteers to fill vacant seats.
- **c. Summer Camp:** Active registration continues for the seasonal township camp program.

6. Infrastructure and Public Works — Robert O'Connor

- **a. Public Works Report:** Routine infrastructure, storm water inlet repairs, and sewer lines remain clear. PennDOT reported minor delays on the structural work at Osborne Road and Rose Valley Road; steel temporary road plates are secured over the site to preserve traffic safety. Regional street sign cleaning and standard road line painting are underway. Leaf composting operations have finished, with raw material converted to mulch; internal mechanical overhauls (liners and impellers) are active to prepare the fleet for fall. PECO/Aqua will repaint the train station crosswalks, while Public Works covers secondary markings.

7. Building and Zoning Committee — Alex Hillemeyer

- *None.*

Manager's Report: None.

Adjournment: The public session concluded to move to Executive Session.

- **Next Meeting:** The next Combined Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, July 23, 2026.**