



# West Pikeland Township

ATTENDING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	ATTENDING TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL
Thomas J. McLewee Jr., Chair	Joseph L. Romano III, Township Manager
Noreen Vigilante, Vice Chair, via Phone	Tom Goggin, Chief of Police
Steven F. Costa, Supervisor	Dorene Guistwhite, Township Treasurer
Harold M. Hallman III, Supervisor	Joan Blatcher, Township Manager in Training
Bryan Maher, Supervisor	Jennifer Wachsmuth, Township Secretary

Mr. McLewee called the meeting to order on March 16, 2026 at 7:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McLewee asked for a moment of silence in honor of Pennsylvania State Trooper Corporal Timothy O'Connor, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on Sunday, March 8, 2026.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McLewee reported an executive session was held on March 2nd and March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 regarding real estate.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. McLewee announced an addition to the agenda tonight, the resignation of our Township Manager.

Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the March 16, 2026, Board of Supervisors agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Maher and passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Maher and passed unanimously.

### **REPORTS**

#### *Police:*

Chief Goggin reported statistics for the month of February 2026:

- Winter Storm February 16. No significant issues, well-staffed and managed
- 111 calls for service (alarm activations, well checks, assistance to Fire & EMS); 210 YTD
- 325 patrol Checks (Business and School), 714 YTD
- 45 vehicle stops; 91 YTD
- 60 traffic Citations: 115 YTD
- 1 reportable Crash; 1 YTD
- 7 non-reportable crashes (no injuries, vehicles able to leave w/o being towed): 16 YTD
- 2 Assault/Other; 2 YTD

- 1 larceny/theft; 2 YTD
- 0 minor drug offenses, 2 YTD
- 1 identity theft/fraud; 4 YTD
- Investigating Future Dept of Justice Grant opportunities for bullet proof vest replacements
- Officer DeForrest attended Firearms Simulator Training
- Chief Goggin transferred his Act 57 Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance authorization to the West Pikeland Police Department

Mr. Hallman requested to be copied or emailed a copy of the Patrolmen schedule. Mr. Romano reported that the schedule is available via the shared calendar and asked Ms. Wachsmuth to ensure that all Supervisors have access to view the calendar.

Mr. Costa confirmed that the Township Manager meets regularly with the Chief of Police to discuss current status and to stay on top of our long-term capital planning, forecasting for 5-10 years, and ensuring that the force operates at current standards. Mr. Costa asked Chief Goggin if there were any items of need in this calendar year that we should be focused on. Mr. Romano added that the bulletproof vest expiration is 2027, and that the grant search was proactive.

Mr. McLewee advised that he and Chief Goggin meet regularly and Chief is encouraged to let he and the board know of anything the force needs. Mr. Romano confirmed that if there is a shortfall in PPE he will work with Chief and the Board to address it immediately.

Mr. Hallman inquired about the status of the long guns, as there was conversation last year regarding their replacement. Chief Goggin reported that they are currently in operable condition, but he appreciated the reminder to reevaluate their status.

*Treasurer Report/Approval of Bills:*

Ms. Guistwhite reviewed the written report provided to the Board.

Ms. Guistwhite reported that the in-office portion of the 2025 audit is complete and we have received our Liquid Fuels funds. She also advised that we have used all our Road Salt budget for 2026. (\$43,000 spent, \$40,000 budgeted). The good news is that we are now totally stocked for the next snow event, which hopefully is many months away.

Mr. Maher complimented Ms. Guistwhite for her accurate prediction of Road Salt needs.

Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the bills. Mr. Maher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. Addendum to the Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Romano reported that the Township Planning Commission received a presentation from Mr. Rick Trailles of Natural Lands on February 9, 2026, during which the PROST Plan was reviewed. Following the presentation and discussion, the Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the plan. Prior to adoption, a formally advertised notice will be posted sharing with readers that the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) Plan will be

considered for adoption on April 20, 2026. In accordance with MPC Section 302(b) and Section 107(a), notice of the public hearing must be published once in each of two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation. The first advertisement must appear no more than 30 days before the hearing (March 23, 2026), and the second must appear at least seven days prior to the hearing (April 13, 2026).

Provided that no substantial revisions are proposed, the PROST supplement will be considered for adoption at the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 20, 2026.

Mr. Maher made a motion to approve of advertising the PROST Supplement to the Comprehensive Plan on March 23 and April 13, 2026. Mr. Costa seconded and the motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### a. Township Manager Resignation Notice

Mr. Romano stated that as we have found an excellent individual who views the Manager position as a calling to serve rather than simply a job, he is seeking leadership's approval to amend his previously submitted resignation (originally dated February 2, effective May 2). His resignation will now be effective April 5, 2026. With this change, the soon-to-be appointed Manager, Joan Blatcher, will assume her duties on April 6, 2026. As agreed, M. Romano will remain in place as an employee to assist with the transition through April 28, 2026.

Mr. Costa requested that a job responsibilities outline be prepared citing Mr. Romano's duties during the transition training.

Mr. Maher clarified that 2<sup>nd</sup> class township code in Pennsylvania only permits one township manager.

Mr. Costa made a motion to accept Mr. Romano's resignation as Township Manager effective April 5, 2026. Mr. Maher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### a. Appointment of Township Manager

Mr. Romano requested the BoS formal appointment of Joan Blatcher as Township Manager effective April 6, 2026.

Mr. Costa made a motion to approve Joan Blatcher as Township Manager effective April 6, 2026, seconded by Mr. Maher. The motion passed unanimously.

#### b. Resolution 2026-11 (Compensation of Township Manager)

Mr. Romano stated that pursuant to IAW PA Second Class Code, Article XIII, Section 1301(b), this Resolution sets compensation for the Township Manager.

Mr. Maher made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-11 setting compensation for the Township Manager. Mr. Costa seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. McLewee opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Rob Kocher, Township Resident, requests review and repairs/updates to the roads and drainage in Pickering Estates. (Stirrup, Hunt Club, Fox, Davis)

Mr. Costa thanked Mr. Kocher for his request and advised that the annual Board of Supervisors Road tour should be scheduled in the near future.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be at 7:30pm on:

- Monday, April 6, 2026
- Monday, April 20, 2026

Mr. Maher reminded all that the Burn Ordinance working session hosted by the Environmental Advisory Council is this Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. The community is encouraged to attend and work through the concerns with the current approved ordinance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to address, Mr. Costa made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Maher. Mr. McLewee adjourned the meeting at 7:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Wachsmuth  
Township Secretary