



West Pikeland Township

ATTENDING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	ATTENDING TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL
Noreen Vigilante, Chair	Joseph L. Romano III, Township Manager
Harold M. Hallman III, Vice Chair	Sergeant Wayne O'Connell, Officer-in-Charge
Steven F. Costa, Supervisor	Dorene Guistwhite, Township Treasurer
Thomas J. McLewee Jr., Supervisor	Melissa Rheinstadter, Solicitor
Carin Mifsud, Supervisor	Jennifer Wachsmuth, Township Secretary

Ms. Vigilante called the meeting to order on October 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the October 6, 2025, Board of Supervisors agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mifsud and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2025, Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hallman and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Vigilante reported that there will be executive sessions held on October 8, 13 and 27, 2025. The topic of discussion for these sessions will be personnel.

REPORTS

Uwchlan Ambulance Corps Briefing

Mr. Steve Nash and Chief Keith Johnson of the Uwchlan Ambulance Corp provided a report on the services provided to West Pikeland Township. They presented their vision and mission which emphasizes their training efforts and Junior programs for engagement and volunteer support. Expenses were outlined as well as past sources of revenue. Using a fair funding formula, a request for support for 2026 was made. The public was invited to ask questions which were responded to promptly. The Board thanked them for their time and service.

Parks and Recreation/HYS Fall Festival & Holiday Stroll

Mr. Loudin, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation committee and Mr. Compton, Executive Director of Historic Yellow Springs spoke about two events coming up in 2025 – Fall Fest on Sunday, October 12th 12-4pm and Holiday Stroll on Friday, December 12th 5-9pm. For safety of all attendees, Art School Road will be closed two hours prior to the start of the event and remain closed for one hour after the event ends. Road Closure signs and barricades will be placed out appropriately by our Public Works team to restrict/redirect cars, and the township's solar powered sign board positioned by

Mr. Hallman. Volunteers with hi-visibility vests will be onsite to direct traffic based on the driver's intended destination (Salt has a performance at the same time as the Fall Fest event). Ample lighting will be used to illuminate the Holiday Stroll. Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the Road Closure request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mifsud and passed unanimously.

Mr. Romano requested an update from Mr. Compton on the repairs to the library. Mr. Compton reported that the insurance company agreed to the recommendation regarding the partial roof replacement. Signed/sealed plans for the project were received this week, and HARB was consulted. Attention to the hole in the roof to be completed as soon as possible so the enter restrictions can be lifted. Plans to relocate the contents in the section of the building where the roof will be rebuilt are next. Mr. Hallman raised concern and asked that the sycamore trees receive appropriate maintenance as it appears to need it. Mr. Compton agreed and further outlined the active efforts to ensure the health and wellness of the trees on the property as well as appropriate reduction/removal when needed. Extensive efforts to treat the existing trees to ensure their longevity occur several times each year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Oath of Office – Township Secretary

Chairperson Vigilante swore in Jennifer Wachsmuth as Township Secretary.

Police Department Organizational Structure

Mr. Romano updated the Board on the police force structure recommended by The Pennsylvania Police Chiefs Association, based on 21st Century Best Practices. It will necessitate an increase in police personnel and financial support. The proposed staffing model is aligned with comparable police departments, reflecting a standard ratio of approximately 1.2 officers per 1,000 residents. Under this model, six (6) officers (excluding the Chief of Police) would be required, supporting the total recommendation of seven (7) sworn officers.

Police Chief Executive Search

Mr. Romano updated the public that WPT Supervisors have reviewed the applicants' resumes and selected eleven individuals to move on to the next phase: a video interview. From there, the pool will be narrowed to six candidates, who will participate in a tabletop exercise/interview facilitated by the Pennsylvania Police Chiefs Association. Following this, three finalists will be chosen by leadership for interviews. A final selection is expected by early December.

NEW BUSINESS

none

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Vigilante opened the floor for public comment. Ms. Rheinstadter stated that comments would be limited to three minutes to ensure the meeting remained orderly and on schedule.

- Resident Gordon McElroy expressed concern about the expense and effort it takes to gather leaves and branches from his property into the approved format required by his waste removal provider. Feels that with common sense in use, we should be able to continue to burn this type of yard waste. Additionally, he expressed his support for Wayne O'Connell as our Police Chief.
- Resident Bob Ohren concurred that careful burning of yard waste should be allowed.
- Resident Bill White commented that the agenda for the Board of Supervisors meeting posted the Friday before should not have been changed. Changes should only occur when time sensitive alterations are needed. Secondly, he praised the property checks completed by our Police department. Thirdly, he requested an update on the proposed ordinance regarding solicitation he read about in the Planning Commission meeting minutes from August 11, 2025 and finally questioned whether the referendum cost increase would cover 100% of the police expense.
- Resident Robert Boden wanted to know how to present questions to the auditor. Mr. Romano instructed him to email questions to: manager@westpikeland.com.
- Resident Chris Maguire shared his frustration surrounding the township's efforts searching for the next Police Chief. It is his opinion that Wayne O'Connell is the obvious choice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held at the Township Building, 1645 Art School Road, Chester Springs, PA, on:

- Monday, October 20, 2025, at 7:30 PM
- Monday, November 3, 2025, at 7:30 PM
- Budget works sessions will be held on Tuesday, October 7th and 14th at 6:30pm. Sessions are open to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mifsud made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. McLewee and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer K. Wachsmuth
Township Secretary