

Board of Supervisors Meeting

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

July 20, 2026, 7:30 PM
1645 Art School Road, Chester Springs, PA 19425

I. Call to Order

Chairman Thomas McLewee called the meeting to order.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda for July 20, 2026 was made by Supervisor Vigilante and seconded by Supervisor Costa. The motion carried 5-0 (Chair McLewee, Supervisor Costa, Supervisor Hallman, Supervisor Maher, Supervisor Vigilante all voted yes).

IV. Approval of Minutes (Monday, July 6, 2026 Board of Supervisors)

Motion to approve the agenda for July 20, 2026 was made by Supervisor Vigilante and seconded by Supervisor Maher. Prior to the vote, Supervisor Costa requested the addition to the minutes regarding the Anselma Crossing project extension. Township Secretary Wachsmuth also outlined changes to add details to a resident's comments which had been requested earlier in the day by Supervisor Hallman.

Due to the late addition of these proposed edits, Supervisor Vigilante was uncomfortable voting on the changes without seeing them first. The board elected to table final approval of the minutes until the next meeting. The board approved posting the minutes on the township website in draft form, subject to revision.

Motion to post July 6, 2026 minutes on the township website in draft form, subject to change, was made by Supervisor Hallman and seconded by Supervisor Costa. The motion carried 5-0 (Chair McLewee, Supervisor Costa, Supervisor Hallman, Supervisor Maher, Supervisor Vigilante all voted yes).

V. Reports

a. Police (Chief Goggin)

Chief of Police Thomas Goggin reported two significant traffic incidents on Route 113. The first, occurring on June 19th, involved serious injuries to five individuals and remains under active investigation. The second, a fatal crash, claimed the life of a 19-year-old. Chief Goggin noted that assistance was provided by neighboring municipalities through mutual aid. He described both events as highly unusual for the township, noting that the last known fatal crash on Route 113 occurred in the 1980s.

A directed patrol detail has been deployed on Route 113, resulting in 15 to 20 citations per day for speeds well above the posted limit. Speed signboards have been deployed to display vehicle speeds. Chief Goggin confirmed that most citations are issued to individuals who do not reside in the township, and attributed increased traffic volume in part to the rapid population growth of Phoenixville Borough. The board discussed the potential for additional deterrents that may be implemented. The board noted the funds from the sale of two decommissioned Ford Explorers could also be directed toward traffic enforcement equipment such as additional speed signboards.

Chief Goggin also reported on operational improvements to the evidence room, standardizing evidence collection procedures to align with Chester County Detective practices to facilitate seamless transfer in major crime investigations. He noted the department is pursuing updated training in digital forensics. Finally, Chief Goggin presented a potential agreement with a company called CrimeWatch, a community information platform used by other Chester County departments, which would allow the township to publish controlled, non-social-media information for residents. The board expressed interest in continuing to evaluate the platform.

b. Approval of Bills (Dorene Guistwhite)

Township Treasurer Dorene Guistwhite reported the following fund balances: General Fund at \$3,300,000; Escrow at \$95,000; Open Space at \$3,500,000; Liquid Fuels at \$491,000; and Library Tax Fund at \$92,000. Expenses were reported as slightly below budget. The liquid fuels audit was completed this week with no findings.

Motion to approve the bills was made by Supervisor Maher and seconded by Supervisor Vigilante. The motion carried 5-0 (Chair McLewee, Supervisor Costa, Supervisor Hallman, Supervisor Maher, Supervisor Vigilante all voted yes).

c. Chester Springs Library Report - Q2 (Nancy Niggel, Library Director)

Library Director Nancy Niggel reported:

- New staff member hired
- StoryWalk was installed at Walnut Lane Park. New story to be displayed later this week.
- Seed Connection Library had been on display at the Township Building earlier in the summer but has since been removed
- Planning a community reopening event - date TBD
- Held Legislative Breakfast with Chester County Library System, attended by Supervisor Hallman

- Summer Reading program in effect
- New Insurance secured that allows for off-site programming
- Decorated a bell for the Bells across the County program celebrating America 250, currently on display at Henrietta Hankin Library
- Presentation Proposal submitted to the 2026 Pennsylvania Library Association conference on the Seed Library. It was accepted.
- Display updated at Henrietta Hankin Library with Mosaics
- Demand and use of E-material (books and magazines) up - fast growing areas of collections. Focus majority of the materials budget for 2026 to acquire more E-materials.
- 2 additional programs added this year over 2025, as well as 103 more attendees. Pleased with the growth

Supervisor Vigilante asked when Director Niggel hoped to reopen the library. Director Niggel could not confirm a specific date due to ongoing project complications.

VI. Unfinished Business

a. Motion to ratify Extension for Anselma Mill Crossing Project

Township Manager presented the terms of the extension, noting it would extend the deadline to January 15, 2027, pursuant to Section 508 of the Municipalities Planning Code. The board requested that the Township Manager and Solicitor contact the applicant for a status update prior to that date. Supervisor Hallman noted the project has been pending for approximately 16 years.

Motion to ratify the six-month extension for the Anselma Crossing Project to January 15, 2027 was made by Supervisor Vigilante and seconded by Supervisor Maher. The motion carried 5-0 (Chair McLewee, Supervisor Costa, Supervisor Hallman, Supervisor Maher, Supervisor Vigilante all voted yes).

VII. New Business

a. Certificate of Appropriateness: 1668 Art School Road

The certificate pertains to the removal of existing stairs and handrails and installation of new stairs with an X-pattern handrail at 1668 Art School Road. Supervisor Hallman requested confirmation that the HARB committee provided a letter of review and approval. The Township Manager confirmed yes.

Motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 1668 Art School Road was made by Supervisor Costa and seconded by Supervisor Vigilante. The motion carried 5-0 (Chair McLewee, Supervisor Costa, Supervisor Hallman, Supervisor Maher, Supervisor Vigilante all voted yes).

b. Certificate of Appropriateness: 1701 Art School Road

This certificate pertains to the removal of the decking floorboards and installation of replacement composite materials in a neutral gray color.

Motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 1701 Art School Road was made by Supervisor Vigilante and seconded by Supervisor Costa. The motion carried 5-0 (Chair McLewee, Supervisor Costa, Supervisor Hallman, Supervisor Maher, Supervisor Vigilante all voted yes).

c. **Notice** - Chair McLewee noted that an executive session was held prior to the meeting on July 20th on the topic of real estate.

VIII. Public Comment

Mike Leader of Oak Hill Road requested an update on the status of the SALT Theater - urging the board to keep SALT in the Village.

Sue McElroy of Messner Road asked for an update on the Agreement of Sale to purchase 1001 Kimberton Road. Township Manager Blatcher advised that the agreement of sale document is available for review on the township website.

Supervisor Hallman noted that the Kimberton Fair was taking place and encouraged community attendance.

IX. Announcements

Chair McLewee announced the next Board of Supervisors meetings will be held on Monday, August 3, and Monday, August 17, 2026 at 7:30 PM.

X. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Vigilante and seconded by Supervisor Costa. The motion passed unanimously, adjourning the meeting at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Wachsmuth
Township Secretary