



MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Eric J. Weidman, commencing with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present: Eric J. Weidman, Chairman
John DeSantis, V. Chairman
Adam Saul, Supervisor
Andrew Morrow, Solicitor
Lauren Ritchie, Sec./Treas.

Public Comment - None

Swearing in of Officers-Chief Katzaman, Officer Liggett, Officer Lerch: Chairman Weidman swore in Terry Katzaman as the Chief of Police for Millcreek Township, David Liggett and John Lerch for the positions of Police Officer in the Township.

Reports of Organizations:

Millcreek Township Planning Commission minutes-Aug-Reviewed
Commonwealth Code -July Report-Reviewed
Newmanstown Water Authority minutes-July-Reviewed
Newmanstown Volunteer Fire Company minutes-August-Reviewed
Western Berks Ambulance Activity Report-July-Reviewed
Newmanstown Recreation Board minutes-July/August-Reviewed
Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority minutes-July-Reviewed
Police Activity report-July-Reviewed
GLR minutes-July -Reviewed

Police Activity Report-Chief Katzaman reported on the department's activity for the Month of June. Call volume for the department is up from last year.

Minutes: July 8, 2026 & Special Meeting July 31, 2026

Weidman made a motion to approve the minutes as printed for the July 8th meeting and the special meeting held July 31st. Second by DeSantis, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the installation of the new air conditioning unit for the Township building and also the hiring of two new police officers.

Public Hearing- Community Development Block Grant Program –Dan Lyons

Dan Lyons and Sydney Richardson, of the Lebanon County Redevelopment Authority, were present to speak regarding Millcreek Township's Community Development Block Grant program. Mr. Lyons reported that the Township receives an annual allocation of funding of about ninety thousand dollars every year from the state to be used on eligible community development. The Township is an entitlement community in the state's small communities' program. The goal of the program is primarily to benefit folks of low and moderate income; it can also be used to eliminate slum and blight or respond to urgent needs. The Township has been participating since 2022, and in that time, has allocated their funding to the handicap accessibility project recently completed at the baseball field. Mr. Lyons stated that the program has assisted one household in the Township so far and are about to finish up another. The Township has money remaining in the housing rehab program and no other eligible activities are planned at this point. This program is open to Township residents. Income eligible township residents apply for deferred loans to fix up their properties. The purpose of the public hearing is to request feed back from the public and to inquire on ideas the Township may have regarding the funds available. The Secretary will be reaching out to Karen Brown with Commonwealth Code to see if any residents she has been working with could benefit from this program.

Solicitor:

Dog Kennel Ordinance Update:

The Solicitor updated the Board on possible Dog Kennel Ordinance. He met with Chairman of the Planning Commission Craig Thompson to discuss a working draft ordinance. The Planning Commission is going to be discussing the ordinance at their next meeting in September. The Solicitor said this ordinance will need to be submitted to Lebanon County Planning to review because this will deal with zoning.

Fire Tax and Incentive Program Update:

The Solicitor reported that he and Supervisor DeSantis will continue to be in communication. The Solicitor discussed the incentive program. He stated it would be an incentive program for volunteers who are residents of the Township. The program would need to be passed this year for it to start January 1, 2027, and would be based on a point system where, if a resident gets up to a certain number of points, then they would be eligible for certain tax rebates the following year. The Solicitor also spoke regarding the fire tax. The Solicitor said if the Board is looking to enact a fire tax for 2027, he will need to prepare a resolution in advance of the end of the calendar year.

Agricultural Security Area Application- Jeffrey & Lucinda Newswanger-563 State Route 419, Newmanstown- 24-2389890-368760-0000- Pending, 180—days Deemed Approved Resolution

The Solicitor stated that on June 30th, Jeffrey and Lucinda Newswanger submitted an application for the addition in the Ag Security Area of the Township. He said that under PA law, individuals can have their farms added to the Ag Security Area. He explained at the Supervisor meeting in July, the township has to wait 180 days, and if there are no objections, then there is a deemed approval. At the meeting subsequent to those 180 days is when a resolution would be prepared. He has done this for other Municipalities. A resolution would be prepared for the January 2027 reorganization meeting.

Possible Handicapped Ordinance:

The Solicitor stated he has done some research of sample handicap parking ordinances. He provided the Supervisors with three examples. He will be taking the best of the three and making adjustments as needed. The Solicitor stated that when a draft is finished, he will send it to Chief Katzman for review. He recommended the Secretary reach out to other municipalities for examples of applications. The Solicitor requested the Board make a motion to authorize him to begin working on the handicap parking ordinance.

Weidman made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to begin working on the handicapped parking ordinance. Second by Saul, all in favor, aye. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Discussion-Newmanstown Ambulance -Fuel bill-The Secretary presented the fuel reports for June and July. An adjustment is done monthly to account for the fuel used by the fire company, taking it from the fire fuel budget and assigning the amount back to the road department. The board decided to continue this practice and add the fuel used by the ambulance to the budget.

Discussion-Open additional CD account-Secretary acquired rates from three different banks. Jonestown Bank, Fulton Bank, and PLIGIT. The Township currently has investments with both PLIGIT and Jonestown Bank. The Board advised the Secretary to reach out to PLIGIT and Bank of Bird-in Hand, in Schaefferstown for more information.

South Mountain Road Culvert-traffic counts level 2- The Secretary reported that Alex Kauffman with Steckbeck Engineering performed a level one traffic count by the South Mountain culvert. The outcome was 42 cars in less than an hour. This outcome may disqualify the Township from receiving the grant. A level 2 traffic count is still able to be performed. This will allow the Township to monitor the road with counting equipment for a full 24 hours. The Supervisors advised the Secretary to reach out to Alex to set up a level 2 study.

Newmanstown UC Church Tent Revival September 27-30-The Secretary reported that Newmanstown UC Church(New Life Fellowship) reached out to organize a revival in Memorial Park, September 27-30. At the July Supervisor meeting the Secretary was requested to gather more information for the event. The church provided proof of insurance, and times for the event. **A motion was made by DeSantis to approve the 23rd of September to the 30th of September for Newmanstown UC Church to host a tent revival in September at Memorial Park. Second by Weidman, all in favor, aye. Motion carries**

New Business –

Part Time Police Officer Rate-Officer Lerch was hired at a rate of \$28 per hour. Our current part-time officer, Officer Cook, has been with the Township for 14 years. The Board decided to raise Officer Cook's pay to the current part-time rate of \$28 per hour. **Weidman made a motion to bring up Officer Cook's police part time police rate to \$28 an hour effective immediately. Second by DeSantis, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Walking path/park rules-The completion of the walking path was discussed. The Newmanstown REC Board offered their suggestions for rules regarding the path. Some of those rules included, no dirt bikes, motorcycles, ATV's, gas powered bikes. No littering or disposal of refuse, yard waste and pet waste. Pets must be controlled at all times along the path. Chief Katzman also mentioned rules regarding e-bikes. Road Foreman Risser would like there to be a rule regarding metal detecting. Electric wheelchairs will be allowed on the path. Will need a future ordinance.

PennDOT Winter Maintenance Agreement-This is our third year into the agreement. PennDot reimburses the Township for taking care of the roads during the winter. The amount received will be \$20,428.13. Road Foreman Risser asked that the Secretary reach out to PennDot regarding the right of way on these state roads. They will need to be properly cut back so Township trucks are not damaged while plowing. **Weidman made a motion to enter into the winter maintenance agreement with PennDOT, for the amount of \$20,428.13. Second by DeSantis, all in favor aye. Motion carries.**

CM High Traffic Light Maintenance Repair Estimate-A maintenance estimate was received from C.M. High to repair the push button signs at the traffic light. The signs are faded and need to be replaced. **A motion was made by DeSantis to accept C.M. High's traffic light maintenance repair estimate for \$372.05. Second by Weidman, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Code of Appeals Board-Reappointment Brenda Anderson-1 year term-Brenda Anderson is part of the Code of Appeals Board. Her term has expired and she is interested in being re-appointed for a second term. **A motion was made by Weidman to reappoint Brenda Anderson to a one-year term on the Code of Appeals Board. Second by Saul, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Womelsdorf Borough request for Fire Police assistance on August 30th POW/MIA Ride
A letter was received from Womelsdorf Borough requesting the assistance of the Newmanstown Volunteer Fire Police to shut roads on August 30th for the POW/MIA ride. **A motion was made by DeSantis to allow the Fire Police to support the annual POW/MIA ride in Womelsdorf Borough. Second by Weidman, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

2026-2027 LSA Grant Opportunities-Ideas were discussed for the 2026 LSA Grant. The Grant will open in September. Some ideas included Hogeland Road bridge, paving Kalbach and Krumstown roads and upgrading the REC bathrooms at the White Swan Park/Noel Hertzog Memorial Fields. Past practice has been submitting the grant for the Fire Company, both the Township and the Fire Company are eligible to receive grants funds.

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Discussion-Bethany Road & Memorial Blvd Guide Rails-The Secretary reported she received a plan for guide rails at Bethany Road and Memorial Blvd. These guide rails will be part of the final road upgrades for the Bethany Road project they are protecting a steep drop over drainpipes. The construction company for the project installed new piping across the road for proper water runoff. The Board requested the Secretary find out who will be responsible for maintaining the guide rails until the development is finished and the road is dedicated to the Township.

Road Foreman Report- Supervisor DeSantis updated the board on the monthly activities of the Road Crew. Line painting in the Township will start the week of the 17th.

Bills/Treasurers Report-**Motion by Weidman to accept the Treasurers Report and pay the bills as necessary. Second, by Saul. All aye, motion carried.**

Adjournment- **Motion by Weidman to adjourn the meeting at 7:49pm. Second, by DeSantis. All aye, motion carried.**

WITNESS:

Secretary/Treasurer Lauren Ritchie

Eric J. Weidman, Chairman