



MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

81 E ALUMNI AVE, NEWMANSTOWN, PA 17073

Ph: 610-589-4750 millcreektwp@comcast.net www.millcreektwp.org

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 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 – Lowell Hartzall, 18 E Bethany Road was present to discuss the e-bikes, and electric motorcycles riding around the Township. He witnessed a group of local children riding these motorized vehicles in the middle of the street, and they have been seen disrespecting Township residents and vehicles driving. He also asked if Bethany Road could be patrolled more due to the constant speeding. A lot of people use the road along the mountain to avoid Route 422. This group of youths has also been riding up and down the middle of South Mountain Road, they do wheelies, don't have helmets and do not obey traffic laws.

Kevin and Molly Kegerise, 8 E Bethany -Were also present to comment on the dirt bikes, electric scooters and the speed on E Bethany Road. They asked about lowering the speed limit from 35 to 25 because of the constant speeding. It is very dangerous as many residents walk these back roads with their dogs and children. The dirt bikes are also causing a lot of noise disturbance. There was also concern regarding a gentlemen on an electric skateboard coming off the mountain carrying a small child, neither the rider or the child were in protective gear.

Officer Katzaman gave an update on what the Police Department had been doing to address the concerns over the children riding the bikes. They have stopped the youths and have spoken with both them and their parents. Officer Katzaman stated we've had multiple complaints about this. It's not just Bethany Road; it is all over Newberg Village, Main Street. So we started stopping these kids and talking to the parents. He also said he has not seen as many motorcycles, but that the electric motor dirt bikes seem to be more of an issue than the regular dirt bikes. He has been seeing more of them in the past few months. He also said he has been working with our Solicitor and the Board, to hopefully look at ordinances to address some of these problems.

Reports of Organizations:

Millcreek Township Planning Commission minutes-Sept-Reviewed
Commonwealth Code -Aug. Report-Reviewed
Newmanstown Water Authority minutes-Aug.-Reviewed
Newmanstown Volunteer Fire Company minutes-Sept-Reviewed
Police Activity report-Aug.-Reviewed

Police Activity Report-Chief Katzaman reported on the department's activity for the Month of August. Call volume for the department is increasing. A new reporting system is being installed next week for writing reports and tickets.

Minutes: August 12, 2026

Weidman made a motion to approve the minutes as printed Second by DeSantis, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Solicitor:

Possible Handicapped Ordinance:

The Solicitor stated at Last month's meeting, the Board authorized him to begin working on a draft ordinance. He prepared a draft ordinance and forwarded to the Chief last week for his comments, since this matter does involve the police department. He said hopefully in the near future once the Chief and him finalize the back and forth comments, he will disseminate that to the Board for review and comment. It is his hope that he will be able to be in a position to have the Township move forward with adoption of the ordinance in the very near future.

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. He stated he will be meeting with Craig again soon to continue discussing the draft ordinance. The ordinance will be on the October 7th Planning Commission meeting for discussion. The Solicitor said this ordinance will need to be submitted to Lebanon County Planning to review.

Research into possible future E-bike ordinance:

The Solicitor acknowledged the public comment regarding e-bikes and motorized scooters. He shared that he is also concerned because he sees them often as well. He anticipated the Board would want him to look into the matter. He said he started to do a little bit of research into sample e-bike ordinances and found a significant lack of them. During his research he came across a Lebanon Daily News article that Lebanon City Council had a first reading of some significant e-bike regulations at its meeting last month. They will hold a second reading at the end of this month. He is hoping this will result in the adoption of e-bike regulations, and the hope is also to be able to use these regulations as an example for a future ordinance. The Solicitor requested the Board to make a motion authorizing him to engage in detailed research of possible e-bike related sample ordinances and regulations and discuss them with the Chief. **Weidman made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to engage in detailed research of possible e-bike related sample ordinances and regulations and discuss them with the Chief. Second by Saul, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Fire Tax and Incentive Program Update:

The Solicitor reported that he and Supervisor DeSantis will continue to be in communication. He stated he provided Supervisor DeSantis with a working rough draft incentive program ordinance for his review that he had worked on. He also mentioned that around that same time, Supervisor DeSantis provided him with some information that relates to the program for the credits. He said they review each other's information and continue our communication. He said the intention is to pass the ordinance and accompanying resolution by the December meeting. Volunteers living in the Township will need to complete the year 2027 to have tax rebates applied in 2028.

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 another Municipality. A resolution would be prepared for the January 2027 reorganization meeting.

Action:

Fox Masonry Land Development Plan, 243 South Sheridan Road- The plan proposes the construction of a ten thousand eighty square foot contractor shop, business, gravel driveways, and storm water management structures and features. Plans and a clean letter were reviewed by the Planning Commission and were signed. **Weidman made a motion to approve the final land development plan for Fox Masonry, South Sheridan Road, Millcreek Township Plan. Second by DeSantis, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.** Plans were signed.

Hogeland Subdivision Sewer Module-Sewer Module reviewed. Secretary reported on the Sewage Module, Lebanon County Planning signed their portion, Millcreek Planning Commission signed their portion as well. Secretary to sign and return. **Weidman made a motion to approve the Hogeland subdivision sewer module. Second by Saul. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Unfinished Business

Discussion-Open additional CD account- The Secretary reached out to Bank of Bird-in Hand, in Schaefferstown for more information. Rates for a 12-month CD were 3.75% and an 18-month CD were 3.85% The Township currently has investments with PLIGIT. **DeSantis made a motion to open a PLIGIT CD. The Rate for nine months is currently at 4.10%, with an amount of \$200,000 from the general funds. Second by Weidman, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.** Secretary to look into any penalties for withdrawal.

South Mountain Road Culvert-traffic counts level 2 results- Road Foreman Risser reported a level 2 study was set up by Steckbeck with a company out of New Jersey. South Mountain Road did not pass the study to qualify for the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Grant.

2026-2027 LSA Grant Opportunities-South Mountain Road Culvert- Road Foreman Risser requested South Mountain Road be submitted for the LSA Grant. The grant is currently open. Other municipalities have applied for multiple grants for each of their departments. **DeSantis made a motion to pursue the LSA grant for the Highway Department for the South Mountain Bridge. Second by Weidman, all in favor, aye. Motion carries**

Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Grant Discussion- Road Foreman Risser spoke regarding the grant. The grant was to be used for South Mountain Road but it did not pass the traffic study. After speaking with Alex Kauffman from Steckbeck Engineering, the Township could apply for the grant for another project. Two of his ideas are Hogeland Bridge or paving North Kalbach Road. Both projects are around the same cost, 150-180 thousand. Hogeland Bridge has been closed for about four years. There has been discussion in the past regarding water movement under the bridge. North Kalbach Road is on the list to pave for next year. **DeSantis made a motion to pursue Hogeland Road Bridge for the dirt, gravel, and low-volume road grant as an alternative to North Kalbach Road. Second by Weidman all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

E-Bikes, mini-bikes, electric dirt bikes, scooters- Chief Katzaman reported that he and the other officers will continue to make contact with the youth riding these vehicles illegally and will also contact parents to educate them on the rules.

Rules Signs for path/park-The Board, along with Chief Katzaman and Road Foreman Risser had a discussion on the rules presented by the REC Board. The park rules will continue to be discussed and they will be sent to Quality Signs in Robesonia to be made.

New Business –

Walking Path Payment Application #1 Woodland Contractors -Road Foreman Risser reported that the walking path is finished, but the edges need to be filled and seeded. Woodland Contractors plan to get back there in the next week or two to finish. This is the first of two payments to pay for the bulk of the work.

Weidman made a motion to authorize the Secretary to make the payment to Woodland Contractors for the Walking Path Application #1 in the amount of \$86, 256.42 Second by Saul, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.

2027 MMO's-review & acknowledge- 2027 MMO's were reviewed and acknowledged. Uniformed \$43,019 and Non-Uniformed \$5,579.

Keystone Collections-LST Tax Collection-Secretary reported that Keystone Collections submitted information for review regarding Local Services Tax collection. They currently collect the Earned Income Tax for the Township. Contracting with Keystone to collect the LST tax will save the office hours of work each year. Keystone will deposit money collected directly into the general account and provide an e-mail record for tracking. They will also be able to collect more money for the Township and locate residents that are not currently paying this tax. The fee to use this service is 2% of what is collected. This will also help correct payments applied for and sent for Millcreek Township, Erie County. The Board agreed to gather more information and table until the October Board meeting.

26-27 Amtrust/Wesco Insurance: Workman's Comp Policy Review-Policy was reviewed by the Supervisors.

Trick-or-Treat night October 29th 6-8pm. Trick-or-Treat Night was discussed by the Board. **Weidman made a motion to establish Trick-or-Treat night for MillCreek Township for Thursday, October 29th, from 6-8 p.m. Second by DeSantis, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

PSATS 2026 Election of Trustees-Candidates were reviewed. **Weidman made a motion to authorize the Secretary, to fill out our 2026 ballot for Election of Trustees. Second by Saul all in favor, aye. Motion carries**

Myerstown Borough request for Fire Police assistance on November 28th for the Holiday Parade- A letter was received from Myerstown Borough requesting the assistance of the Newmanstown Volunteer Fire Police to assist with the Holiday Parade on November 28th, with a rain date of November 29th. **A motion was made by Weidman to allow the Fire Police to participate in the Myerstown Annual Holiday Parade on Saturday November 28th with a rain date of Sunday November 29th. Second by DeSantis, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Items for Police Department- Body cameras, -computers-hard drives, tasers, body armor, patches, Unit #91 life of vehicle and repairs, 287 Program.

Chief Katzaman reported that several items the police use are coming to their end of cycle. He presented information on Axon body cameras, four new cameras for all officers would be about \$3200. He spoke regarding the age and storage capacity of the desktop computers; they will soon need to be replaced. The current tasers are not supported anymore and will need to be updated. New body armor was discussed for each officer. Estimated prices are \$1500 per officer. Officer Katzaman also spoke on the age of the current police vehicles. Officer Cook is looking into some grants for these items. The 287 program was discussed. There are three models within the program, the model to best service Millcreek Township would be the Task Force Model. Officers would go to training for this program. This would go into effect if our officers would encounter someone wanted by ICE during a traffic stop. They would then be transported to the County facility. Officers will not be out doing any kind of raids. Officers would be monetarily compensated for each arrest. Officer Katzaman to obtain prices for items requested. Items will be added to the budget meeting.

Purchase Skidsteer Grapple from TLS Equipment- \$2000-Road Foreman Risser reported on road work completed using the grapple from TLS. TLS receives equipment and restores it to sell. Using the grapple allowed the Road Crew to quickly and easily remove roadside debris. TLS allowed the Township to use the grapple as needed and offered the grapple to the Township for a price of \$2000. Prices from other companies ranged from \$2300 to \$5600, and these units were not as big. Purchasing the grapple will be beneficial to the Township for years to come. Renting this equipment is \$110 per day. **DeSantis made a motion to pursue TLS equipment's quote for a skid steer grapple at two thousand dollars. Second by Weidman, all in favor, aye. Motion Carries.**

Appointment of Dan Hogeland to the Planning Commission -replacing Leon Ziegler. Leon has moved out of the Township. The Planning Commission has recommended Dan Hogeland to fill his position and finish his term for 2026. **Weidman made a motion to appoint Dan Hogeland to the Planning Commission to replace Leon Ziegler, and finish his term. Second by Saul, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.**

Road Foreman Report-Road Foreman Risser reported on the state of the Township roads. Road patching, pipe replacement, right-of-way clearing all continue. Roadside mowing, tree trimming and shoulder paving will be upcoming.

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

Adjournment- **Motion by Weidman to adjourn the meeting at 8:28pm. Second, by DeSantis. All aye, motion carried.**

WITNESS:

Secretary/Treasurer Lauren Ritchie

Eric J. Weidman, Chairman