

**PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MEETING
JUNE 11, 2025**

The regular monthly meeting of the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at the Plainfield Township Fire Hall, located at 6480 Sullivan Trail, Wind Gap, PA 18091.

Chairman, Ken Field, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

ROLL CALL:

The following Supervisors answered roll call: Chairman, Ken Field, Vice Chairman, Glenn Borger, Supervisor, Jonathan Itterly, and Supervisor, Kenneth Fairchild. Supervisor, Nolan Kemmerer, was absent.

Also present were Township Manager, Paige Stefanelli, Solicitor, David Backenstoe, Esq., Township Engineer Representative, Dave Crowther, Township Engineer, Kevin Horvath, P.E., Secretary/Permit Coordinator, Amy Kahler, and Finance Director, Nicholas Steiner.

Approximately 48 members of the public were in attendance.

I. GUEST SPEAKERS/PRESENTATIONS:

1. Paul Azzaretto - Morgan Stanley Update:

Mr. Azzaretto reviewed Plainfield Townships bonds and portfolio directed that the accounts are stable based on the interest. Mr. Azzaretto indicated that there were no interest rate cuts.

2. Grand Central Sanitary Landfill (Waste Management) Monthly Update:

Ms. Adrienne Fors and Mr. Joe Statile provided a monthly update about Grand Central Sanitary Landfill on behalf of Waste Management. Ms. Fors advised that they hosted another successful bird walk and will be hosting a Blood Drive on July 24, 2025. Mr. Statile advised that Waste Management has been averaging about 2,000 tons per day. A resident had asked Mr. Joe Statile when he would project the Landfill to be closed, and Mr. Statile responded that he was unable to provide a definitely answer but around 4 years or so.

II. SECRETARY -- AMY KAHLER:

1. Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes- April 9, 2025- DRAFT:

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to approve the Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes for April 9, 2025. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

2. Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes- May 14, 2025- DRAFT:

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to table the Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2025. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.*

Supervisor, Glenn Borger, requested his comments to be placed into the minutes on Page 8.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

III. FINANCE DIRECTOR -- NICHOLAS STEINER:

1. Review and Approval of Accounts Payable (\$357,545.15) and Monthly Treasurer's Report:
2. Approval of Supplemental Accounts Payable List:

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to approve the Accounts Payable and Supplemental Accounts Payable List in the total amount of \$387,805.76. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

3. Approval to Transfer \$19,983.33 from 2021 DEP Growing Greener to Environmental Fund:

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the transfer of \$19,983.33 from 2021 DEP Growing Greener to the Environmental Fund. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

IV. TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPRESENTATIVE -- DAVE CROWTHER:

A. Updates and Discussion:

1. Report on Investigation Analysis of Road Work on Horizon Drive (Dotta's Development) - Update Only:

Township Engineer Representative, Dave Crowther, reported that the chip and seal project had been completed on all of the roadways in Dotta's Development. It had been

brought to the attention of the Township that the roads were not setting, so Keystone Consulting Engineering was awarded approval to review the work that had been completed and will be meeting with AMS, who was contracted to complete the work, to review the information and status of the roads.

B. For Consideration:

2. Approval for Preliminary/Final Conditional Land Development for Green Knight Industrial Park II- PC-2022-015- Lot 5:

Township Engineer Representative, Dave Crowther, reviewed the Planning Commission's recommendation letter dated May 19, 2025, for approval of Preliminary/Final Conditional Land Development Plan for Green Knight Industrial Park II- PC-2022-015- Lot #6G, 6H, and 6I.

ACTION: Motion was made by Jonathan Itterly and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to approve the Preliminary/Final Conditional Land Development for Green Knight Industrial Park II- PC-2022-015- Lot 6. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

3. Geotechnical Investigation Proposal- Hahn Road Stability:

Township Engineer Representative, Dave Crowther, presented the geotechnical investigation proposal for Hahn Road stability has been reviewed. Mr. Crowther reviewed the information and condition of roadway with Earth Engineering. Earth Engineering would like to provide a full study of Hahn Road in the amount of \$21,950.00.

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to table the Geotechnical Investigation Proposal from Earth Engineering for Hahn Road Stability in the amount of \$21,950. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

4. Consideration of Approval to send PennDOT Correspondence- Request for Brake Retarder Restrictions on Henry Road (S.R. 1008): Township Engineer Representative, Dave Crowther, presented a letter to PennDOT regarding a study for brake retarder restrictions on Henry Road.

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to approve Keystone Engineering to send correspondence to PennDOT requesting brake retarder restrictions on Henry Road (S.R. 1008). *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

5. Approval for a Time Extension of 180 days for the Preliminary/Final Conditional Approval located at 40 Green Knight Industrial Park II- Lot 5:

Township Engineer Representative, Dave Crowther, presented a request for a time extension of 180 days, extending the approval through December.

ACTION: Motion was made by Jonathan Itterly and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to approve the time extension of 180 days for the Preliminary/Final Conditional Approval located at 40 Green Knight Industrial Park II- Lot 5. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

V. TOWNSHIP MANAGER -- PAIGE STEFANELLI:

C. New Business:

1. Approval to Advertise for Seasonal Road Department Employee at a rate \$25.00 per hour:

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve advertising for a Seasonal Road Department Employee at a rate of \$25.00 per hour. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

VI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT -- DAVID BACKENSTOE, ESQ.:

1. Consideration to Adopt Ordinance No. 424 regarding Speed Limit Reduction for Mud Run Road:

Solicitor David Backenstoe presented Ordinance No. 424 regarding speed limit reduction for Mud Run Road from 35mph to 25mph.

ACTION: Motion was made by Ken Field and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to adopt Ordinance No. 424 regarding Speed Limit Reduction for Mud Run Road. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

2. Approval to Advertise Ordinance No. 425 regarding Roof Mounted and Ground Mounted Solar Array Energy Systems:

Solicitor David Backenstoe presented Ordinance No. 425 regarding commercial solar ordinance additions for roof mounted and ground mounted solar array energy systems. Some discussions took place between residents and Solicitor Backenstoe reviewing opinions and suggestions on options to have considered in the Ordinance.

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Glenn Borger to table advertising Ordinance No. 425 regarding Roof Mounted and Ground Mounted Solar Array Energy Systems. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

3. Consideration for Adoption of Resolution No. 2025-16 Rescinding Resolution 2019-24 concerning the Citizen Advisory Board Appointment Policy:

Solicitor Backenstoe presented Resolution No. 2025-16 rescinding Resolution 2019-24 concerning the Citizen Advisory Board Appointment Policy. Resident, Robin Dingle, asked why to rescind the Resolution why not make amendments, would it not be harder to reimplement another Resolutions of its kind. Resident, Paul Levits inquired what exactly are the issues within the Resolution. Chairman, Ken Field advised that the Resolution is to restrictive and seems to cater towards a group of individuals.

ACTION: Motion was made by Ken Field and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to adopt Resolution No. 2025-16 Rescinding Resolution 2019-24 concerning the Citizen Advisory Board Appointment Policy. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 3-1 with Supervisor Glenn Borger opposed.

4. Consideration of Approval to allow Township Solicitor and Township Manager to forward Proposed Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendment per Waste Management's Request to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and Plainfield Township Planning Commission for their Review and Consideration:

Township Manager, Paige Stefanelli, read opinion and suggestions from Zoning Officer, Liz Amato.

ACTION: Motion was made by Jonathan Itterly and seconded by Ken Field to table the consideration of approval to allow Township Solicitor and Township Manager to forward Proposed Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendment per Waste Management's Request to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and Plainfield Township Planning Commission for their Review and Consideration. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Resident, Jane Mellert inquired if the Plainfield Township will be sending any additional information besides the proposed Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendments. Solicitor, David Backenstoe, advised that they will be providing the review packet.

Resident, Lisa Rogers, inquired about Strategic Solutions and the status of the company submitting the review from the audit. Solicitor Backenstoe advised that Strategic Solutions still has the information provided and are still reviewing the documents.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

5. Hometown Press Publication Notice:

Solicitor, David Backenstoe reported that he had been contacted by the Publisher, Phil Solomon, a publication will be sent out in August 2025 reflecting Plainfield Community Guide with a disclaimer, but Mr. Backenstoe is asking to clarify the wording a little bit further to reflect, "This publication is not endorsed by the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors". Chairman, Ken Field, indicated that he agrees and that it would be a good idea.

VII. ROAD DEPARTMENT, PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT, RECREATION BOARD AND FIRE COMPANY AND AMBULANCE REPORTS:

1. Planning and Zoning Report:
2. Road Department Report:
3. Fire Company and Ambulance Report- May 2025:

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to accept the May 2025 Fire Company and Ambulance Report. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

VIII. SLATE BELT REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

1. Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report- June 2025:

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Jonathan Itterly to accept the Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report for June 2025. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.* Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

IX. CITIZEN'S AGENDA/NON-AGENDA (*Only persons who have signed the Sign-In Sheet by 6:15 PM will be allowed to speak. There is a 5-minute time limit for speakers*):

- **Ted Manento**

Mr. Manento, Supervisor for Wind Gap Municipal Authority, advised that this would possibly be an additional expense to our 1,300 customers. Please keep in mind, there is no transfer station and if Waste Management is no longer accepting sludge, it will be an additional cost to our customers to have to transfer the waste to another facility that does accept it.

- **John Riccio**

Resident, Mr. Riccio, expressed having the assistance of Waste Management's donations to help offset taxes. Mr. Riccio expresses his vote for rezoning of Waste Management.

- **Millie Beahn**

Ms. Beahn expressed her concern with rescinding the Citizen Advisory Board Appointment Policy, all citizens have a right to express their concerns and offer input.

- **David Anthony**

Mr. Anthony expressed his opinion if Waste Management is not rezoned the economic impact that this will have on Plainfield Township will be unreal. Mr. Anthony advised that based on the report provided by Susquehanna Accounting & Consulting Solutions Inc. our taxes will be raised approximately \$5,000.00. Mr. Anthony expressed the impact that this will have on our youth and maintaining of sports, and the fields etc. that this will have.

- **Heather Hershey**

Ms. Hershey expressed some political concerns from mailings that she has received. Ms. Hershey advised that she has resided on Grand Central Road and the smell has not been an issue, they have continued to have outdoor parties etc. Ms. Hershey stated that she is not against the Rezoning request.

- **Michael Smith**

Mr. Smith expressed concerns about transparency in communications and the Right-to-Know information that he has recently received indicates that members are not open or transparent. Members and/or public are trying to persuade others opinions. Mr. Smith does not understand why the need to have Strategic Solutions review the request from Waste Management, in Mr. Smith's opinion it seems that the Board of Supervisors is opinion shopping.

- **Jane Mellert**

Mrs. Mellert spoke and said that she feels that Strategic Solutions was not provided with all of the documentation to be reviewed. Ms. Mellert expressed concern that the Board of Supervisors is not fully aware of the Class Action Lawsuit that Waste Management is currently in with regards to the odor. Ms. Mellert also indicated that the action request had been added quickly to the agenda at the last minute.

- **Robin Dingle**

Ms. Dingle discussed the need for full disclosure when planning a public meeting and proper preparation for discussions. Ms. Dingle requested the list of items that is being requested for review from Strategic Solutions also be provided to the Planning

Commission members and that the Commissioners are made aware that Strategic Solutions will be attending a public meeting. The appeal of the Resolution seems unprepared; Ms. Dingle feels that this matter should be discussed before a vote is made to repeal the Resolution.

- **Paul Romano**

Mr. Romano expressed support for the landfill rezoning request but questioned why Plainfield Township pays for trash services. Mr. Romano said that he had moved to Plainfield Township for a reason, he was aware of the present Landfill.

- **Debra Mouisset**

Ms. Debra Mouisset spoke about living and working in Plainfield Township. Ms. Mouisset expressed the impact that Waste Management has had on our youth, different groups and community events that contributed to.

- **Jason Santo**

Ms. Santo spoke about the unique character of the township and suggested a referendum be completed.

- **Paul Levits**

Mr. Levits spoke about future planning and development timelines, noting concerns about the Township's decision-making process and what the process will be over the next 20 years.

- **Pete Albanese**

Mr. Albanese expressed that Plainfield Township has always been a Blue-Collar Community and will always be. Mr. Albanese provided information from the past and how industrial businesses could have been bringing in good revenue to the Township, but they were denied or given a hard time about minuscule items. He indicated Waste Management

X. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

- **Ken Field**

Nothing to report.

- **Glenn Borger**

Nothing to report.

- **Nolan Kemmerer**

Absent

- **Jonathan Itterly**

Nothing to report.

- **Kenneth Fairchild**

Nothing to report.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, the motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved. Vote 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kahler
Secretary/Permit Coordinator
Plainfield Township