

**East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors**

**February 25, 2025**

**Regular Business Meeting Minutes**

The regular business meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 PM on February 25, 2025, in the meeting room at the East Rockhill Township Municipal Office, 1622 North Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944.

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Gary Volovnik	Supervisor Chairperson
	Dave Nyman	Supervisor Vice-Chairperson
	Jim Nietupski	Supervisor Member
	Marianne Hart Morano	Township Manager
	Mary Eberle, Esq.	Township Solicitor
	Steve Baluh, P.E.	Township Engineer
	Jeff Scholl	Public Works Director
	Chief Dickinson	Pennridge Regional Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Volovnik with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public were present.

**Announcement:**

- Next Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting is March 25, 2025 at 7:00 PM
- Executive Session to take place following the meeting for personnel, potential litigation and potential real estate acquisition.

**Special Presentation:**

**Deer Overpopulation Hunting Control on Township owned Open Space.** Mr. Michael Ward was present to review the benefits of deer control potentially on Township owned open space. Ms. Eberle stated hunting on open space would be permissible with authorization from the Board regardless of park rules prohibiting hunting.

There were numerous interjections from the public asking questions and providing comments without public comment protocol. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**Public Comment #1:**

- Vicki Sellers, 505 E. Callowhill St, stated a Starbucks is proposed in Perkasie Borough and believes there will be traffic congestion. She suggested that Mood's Covered Bridge should be two-way traffic or add a second bridge.

**Approval of Minutes and Bills Payable:**

**Approval of Minutes.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to approve the meeting minutes from the Board of Supervisors January 28, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Approval of Bills Payable.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve payment of the Bills List dated February 21, 2025 for a total amount of \$273,303.00 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Board and Commission Reports:**

**Pennridge Regional Police Department: Chief Dickinson**

The Chief shared the January 2025 Pennridge Regional Police activity report.

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Pennridge Regional Police Department report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Planning Commission: Marianne Hart Morano**

The February 13, 2025 agenda and draft minutes were provided to the Board.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to accept the Planning Commission report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority: Dave Nyman**

The January 2025 minutes and flow reports and February 24, 2025 agenda were provided to the Board. He noted that the Solicitor has begun a review of the 1975 Agreement and the Engineer has begun looking at a re-rating of the Plant capacity.

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Park and Recreation Committee: Marianne Hart Morano**

The February 11, 2025 agenda and draft meeting minutes were provided to the Board.

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Park and Recreation Committee report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Township Manager's Report: Marianne Hart Morano**

**Road Work Bids.**

**Bituminous Seal Coat Single Application.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to award the Bituminous Seal Coat Single Application bid on Clymer Road from Mountain View Drive to Sterner Mill Road, West Rock Road and Axehandle Road from Dublin Pike to Township boundary to Asphalt Industries in the amount of \$51,849.60 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to award the Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course bid on Campus Drive from Fifth Street to Sunnyside and Campus Drive intersection, Buck Drive, Deer Run Road and Pine Court to Asphalt Maintenance Solutions LLC in the amount of \$156,756.50 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Overlay.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to award the superpave asphalt bid on Harriet Drive, Meadow Lane and Willow Court to Bray Brothers in the amount of \$141,040.00 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Overlay.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to table the superpave asphalt bid on Old Bethlehem Pike from Tabor Road to Forrest Road as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Volunteer Fire Services.** Mrs. Morano stated Perkasio Borough is working with Perkasio Fire Company to determine future renovations needed at their Borough fire station, has begun discussions on the regionalization of fire departments and is seeking a grant to assist with future needs in buildings and equipment.

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to support the fire companies but table any decision until financial commitment is known. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Township Manager report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Public Works Report: Jeff Scholl**

Public Works activities as of February 21, 2025 were provided to the Board. The report is on file.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to approve the Township Public Works report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Township Engineer Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.**

**Renew Bible Church Land Development**, tax map parcel 12-014-004 for parking and building additions located in the CE Cultural Educational Zoning District. Mr. Dave Artman, Mr. Scott Mease P.E. and Mr. Brett Ely were present. Planning Commission has recommended preliminary land development approval and waiver requests to the Board of Supervisors. The preferred emergency exit is onto Fifth Street. Perkasio Fire Department does not have any concerns with the emergency exit onto Fifth Street.

- George Hawthorne, 690 Schwenkmill Road, stated cars back up onto Fifth Street. Mr. Mease stated a turning lane was being added on Fifth Street and part of the land development submission is adding parking lot improvements to further facilitate internal circulation of traffic.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to grant preliminary land development approval to Renew Bible Church and granting of waivers as recommended by the Planning Commission. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Christ Community Bible Church Waiver of Land Development**, tax map parcel 12-009-191-001 for front portico enclosure located in the RR Rural Residential Zoning District. Mr. Jim Linske, architect, and Mr. Mark Nace were present.

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to grant a waiver of land development approval to Christ Community Bible Church as recommended by the Planning Commission. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Stone Edge Culvert.** Mr. Baluh stated the designer Engineer requires additional survey mapping detail.

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Township Engineer report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Township Solicitor Report: Mary Eberle, Esq.**

**Conditional Use Application.** A conditional use application has been received for Perkasio Regional Authority Well House #14. The hearing will be held March 25, 2025.

**Resolution 2025-07 Open Space Policy.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt **Resolution 2025-07** formalizing open space preservation requests as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to authorize the refund of open space Township appraisal expenses received to date. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Draft Ordinance for Volunteer Emergency Services Tax Rebate.** Ms. Eberle stated the draft Ordinance is based on a point system with a \$1,000.00 maximum rebate.

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize advertisement of the Volunteer Emergency Services Tax Rebate draft ordinance as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to approve the Township Solicitor report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Department and Emergency Services Reports:**

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to acknowledge receipt of the Department and Emergency Services reports. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**New or Other Business Supervisors' Items:**

- Mr. Nietupski stated he wanted to clarify Ms. Sellers public comment and more than one request to open the bridge to two-lanes was needed.
- Mr. Nyman stated the Mood's Covered Bridge is County owned and it was restricted to one-way traffic due to the slope of the road causing damage to the bridge when entering from Fifth Street to Branch Road.

- Mr. Volovnik stated the Supervisors attended a County meeting with all Bucks County Townships where there was discussion of the serious issue of volunteer fire and emergency services shortage and the potential future financial impact to address the shortage.

**Public Comment #2:**

There was none.

**Adjournment:**

**On motion** by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adjourn the regular meeting into Executive Session. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Hart Morano  
Township Manager