

LEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 2025

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting

President Martin C. McDaniel called the Regular Meeting of the Leet Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Leet Township Municipal Building, 194 Ambridge Ave., Fair Oaks, PA 15003. Formal roll call: The Commissioners present were Donna Adipietro, Martin P. Zimmer, Martin C. McDaniel, and Rody Nash. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Absent: Commissioner Dan Peluso

Also present:

Betsy Rengers, Manager

Steve Chesney, Solicitor

Joe Ferrang, Planning Commission Chair

Tom Weber, Civil Service Commission Chair

JoAnn Weber, Resident

Kris Shelton, Resident

Peggy Adams, Resident

Chief Brian Jameson

John Valinsky, LSSE Engineer

Crispin Conklin, Resident

Katherine Longwell, Resident

Robert Nuttall, Resident

Jimmie Lee DiIanni, Resident

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Peggy Adams inquired whether the Township had an ordinance prohibiting the paving of yards. Ms. Rengers explained that a zoning permit would be required for any alteration to a yard, and residents on Main Street would need permission from PennDOT for a curb cut. Mr. McDaniel explained that the Township had passed an ordinance that prohibited parking in front yards.

Resident Katherine Longwell addressed the Board regarding the proposed parking ordinance (Ordinance 2025-01), which is under consideration for approval. She reviewed several sections of the ordinance with the Board and believed they had overlooked some aspects of the regulations. Chief Jameson clarified that certain sections of the ordinance did not have any proposed wording changes. She questioned a weight limit on Ridge Street. There was a discussion about the wording.

Ms. Longwell asked the Board to amend the skateboard and scooter ordinance (Ordinance 2025-03) by adding the addresses of the township properties where these types of activities would be prohibited. Mr. McDaniel explained that the ordinance did not apply to sidewalks and streets. An ordinance was passed in 1996 for other parks prohibiting motorized vehicles. A child was recently injured on Township property, and Mr. Chesney explained that we are responsible for any injuries that occur there. Mr. McDaniel concurred that the ordinance could be further clarified by adding the addresses where this activity is prohibited.

Resident Kris Shelton complained about parking on Maple Alley. A truck has been parked in the alley, and a tree branch is overhanging, making access to her parking area difficult. There was a brief discussion about the issue. Mr. McDaniel forwarded the issue to the Public Safety Committee for review and discussion, and it will be scheduled for a future meeting agenda.

Resident Crispin Conklin agreed with Ms. Longwell that Ordinance 2025-03 could be further clarified by adding the addresses to the scooter and skateboard ordinance. He asked Chief Jameson about a truck parked in the lot at 620 Ambridge Ave. Chief Jameson explained that he was having

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a problem locating the vehicle's owner, and it may be referred to Code Enforcement for a letter to be sent to the property owner. Mr. Conklin requested the phone number of the zoning officer so he could contact him regarding the DEP and EPA regulations related to the impound lot at 620 Ambridge Ave. Ms. Rengers previously contacted the zoning officer about Mr. Conklin's request, and he will be in touch with Mr. Conklin.

Jimmie Lee DiIanni requested clarification from the Board regarding the parking ordinance on Plum Street. Chief Jameson explained that one side of Plum Street is posted with no parking signs. The Township allows residents to park in spots along the sidewalk, provided the sidewalk is not blocked. Residents are allowed to park in the overflow lot on Plum. No changes were made to the ordinance regarding Plum Street.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of the May 12, 2025, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Zimmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2025, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Adipietro. A formal roll-call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; and Mr. Nash, also yes. The motion carried.

Approval of the May 27, 2025, Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Zimmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2025, Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Adipietro. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, yes. Mr. Nash abstained from the vote because he was unable to attend the meeting. The motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. McDaniel explained that the bill list total was unusually high at \$273,264.56, primarily due to the \$150,000.00 payoff of the TAN loan.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmer made a motion to pay the bills and invoices as presented for \$273,264.56. Mrs. Adipietro seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; and Mr. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

Circulation of Department Reports

The Department Reports were circulating in the meeting room. Later in the meeting, a vote will be held to accept the reports.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 2025-01 (Parking Ordinance)

The Board agreed that the wording in the ordinance needed some revisions and corrections before it was voted on.

MOTION: Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to table Ordinance 2025-01 for revisions and corrections. Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion, with all in favor of it.

Ordinance 2025-03 (Prohibiting the use of electric, gas-powered, manually powered scooters, skateboards, skates, roller blades, bicycles, and other recreational vehicles not meant for regular roadway travel on township property, with certain exceptions)

The Board agreed to table Ordinance 2025-03 prohibiting the use of electric, gas-powered, manually powered scooters, skateboards, skates, roller blades, bicycles, and other recreational vehicles not meant for regular roadway travel on township property, with certain exceptions until the addresses of the properties where this type of activity is prohibited are added to the ordinance.

MOTION: Mr. Nash made a motion to table Ordinance 2025-03, prohibiting the use of electric, gas-powered, manually powered scooters, skateboards, skates, roller blades, bicycles, and other recreational vehicles not meant for regular roadway travel on township property, with certain exceptions, until the addresses of the property where this type of activity is prohibited are added to the ordinance. Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion, and all were in favor of it. The motion carried.

War Memorial Design Elements Discussion

Mrs. Adipietro said she has been researching design elements for the War Memorial, including benches and flagpoles. Mr. Valinsky compared his vendors with those of the township and found the prices to be comparable. They will continue to search for the best prices for these items. Remaining grant funds may be used for the purchase.

Quaker Heights Traffic Island Discussion

Quaker Heights Resident Tom Weber addressed the Board about reverting the traffic island to its original length in 2016. Mr. Nash had not noticed the change at the time and inquired about Mr. Weber's concerns. There was a discussion about the issue. Mr. McDaniel spoke with several Quaker Heights residents who had no issues with the length of the island. The discussion continued with a focus on the boulders located on the island and whether they presented a traffic hazard. Mr. McDaniel asked if the Board wanted to make a motion about the island, but no one did. The discussion ended.

NEW BUSINESS

Olde Sewickley Highlands Detention Basins

Recently, the township received a complaint regarding stormwater runoff from a detention basin in Olde Sewickley Highlands. Last year, the township repaired one of the three basins, so Mr. Valinsky inspected the remaining two basins on North Chaucer Court and at the end of Spenser Lane. He reported that the basins need repair and maintenance. Some of the metal corrugated pipes have corroded, and the basins require re-digging. Mr. Valinsky will apply for a grant to cover the costs of these repairs.

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Hiring a Seasonal Public Works Employee

Ms. Rengers reported that Foreman Andy Wanto had asked her if he could hire a seasonal employee for the Public Works Department. Mr. McDaniel explained that there are some outstanding projects, and another employee is needed to complete them. There was a discussion about hiring, pay, and the outstanding summer projects that need to be completed.

The Board will consider the list of projects to be done. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Cutting the Lawns of Properties with Code Violations

The Board briefly discussed properties with overgrown grass that require trimming, particularly those where the owners are unreachable. They considered whether the Public Works Department should mow the lawns, after which the Township would place a lien on the property. Mr. Chesney was not in favor of it and suggested doing a skip trace to locate the property owner.

Police Officer Resignation

This subject was tabled until after the officer's resignation date.

Liability Insurance Renewals

The Township was notified about upcoming insurance renewals. Another company requested the opportunity to bid on the insurance. Mr. McDaniel stated that the Township is enrolled in a municipal insurance program that is a nonprofit, and the Township receives annual dividends from the company. It was the consensus not to switch companies unless the renewal rates were too high.

Konica Copier Purchase

The Township's copier is now ten years old and is no longer repairable. Ms. Rengers received quotes on a comparable copier and asked the Board to purchase a Konica Copier for \$5,024.30. The Township would continue with the annual maintenance agreement, which covers all toner and repairs for approximately \$ 1,380.00 per year, depending on the number of copies.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmer made a motion to purchase a Konica C250i copier from Direct Image for \$5,024.30 and to enter into a maintenance agreement with them for approximately \$1380.00 per year. Mr. Nash seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; and Mr. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Leet Township Municipal Authority notified the Township that it was forced to raise rates due to Ambridge Municipal Authority's rate increase. The rate increase will take place in the fall.

The Allegheny County Conservation District granted the Quaker Valley School District's extension request to provide additional information for the permit.

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Pittsburgh Regional Transit provided updates on the status of funding requirements needed to prevent the loss of specific bus routes.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Jameson is exploring funding options for License Plate Reader cameras for the police cars. The cameras would identify cars with suspended plates due to insurance cancellations.

The new carport is scheduled for installation on June 18th. There is a slight discrepancy in the final payment amount, which will be paid with grant funds. We will present a check for payment once the garage is installed.

Mr. Valinsky reported that Columbia Gas had completed paving on Eckert, Neely, and Willow. The water authority is installing the speed hump on Plum Street, and it will be inspected. Grant applications were submitted for Mound Street Park. Line striping will take place at Ambridge Ave Park, and the playground equipment has been ordered.

The fire department did not submit a report.

MOTION: Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to accept the department reports as submitted, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, with everyone in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Kris Shelton reported that a car hit the speed hump in front of her house so hard that it bottomed out. She inquired if the township had a trampoline ordinance, and we do not. She inquired about code enforcement on Maple Alley and whether the township plans to replace the sidewalks on Beech Street. Mr. Valinsky stated that Plum and Orchard are slated for replacement.

Resident Katherine Longwell thought the Public Works Department was cutting lawns in Leet Acres for free. She stated that the Public Works Department is cutting along yards and berms. Mr. McDaniel asked Ms. Rengers for a written report on what the Public Works Department is cutting in the Township for the Commissioner's review.

Ms. Longwell requested that the Township have a second ingress and egress for Leet Acres. Mrs. Adipietro investigated, reviewed, and discussed this issue with the Board at previous meetings. There was a discussion about the issue and its feasibility. Mr. Zimmer pointed out that other neighborhoods in the township had one egress and ingress, such as Quaker Heights and Olde Sewickley Highlands. The discussion continued, and it will continue to be explored.

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Resident Jimmie Lee DiIanni complained about Plum Street Park, stating that the new speed hump did not deter speeding on the street. When the park is rented, the traffic and speeds increase. Cars will drive down to the park, turn around, and leave, and she's not sure what they are doing there. She felt like suspicious characters were lurking around. Mr. Zimmer mentioned that police are patrolling the park and recording their patrols in a journal. Mrs. DiIanni didn't think that the patrols were sufficient, and the township should build a different road to the park.

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Mr. Nash asked Chief Jameson to move the digital speed sign from Main Street to Plum Street to monitor the traffic and report back on his findings. The discussion continued.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Nash moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zimmel, with all in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

TOWNSHIP OF LEET

/s/Betsy Rengers

/s/Martin C. McDaniel

BETSY RENGERS, MANAGER

Date: July 14, 2025

MARTIN C. MCDANIEL, PRESIDENT