

LEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 13, 2026
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 Paul Magee, Martin Zimmel, Martin C. McDaniel, Donna Adipietro, and Jessica Cindrich. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present:

Betsy Rengers, Manager

Chief Brian Jameson

John Valinsky, LSSE Engineer,

Solicitor Steve Chesney

Tom Lench, Resident

Charlie Frederick, Resident

Erin Cosgrove, Resident

Joe Ferrang, Planning Commission Chairman

Deb Cheddar, Representing Resident Katie Melodini

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McDaniel announced that the Board held an Executive Session earlier, before tonight's meeting, to discuss hiring a full-time public works employee. A vote on this will occur later in the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Deb Cheddar, representing her daughter, resident Katie Melodini, asked the Board for an update on the Wernicki zoning matter. Mr. Chesney explained that the matter was ongoing and that he could not comment because of the nature of the violation. The Township has been in contact with the zoning officer and engineer, and the issue remains under review. There was a brief discussion of the issue. Since the Board has not received a recent legal update, Mr. McDaniel requested that the agenda be amended to include an Executive Session at the end of the meeting, during which Mr. Chesney would provide legal advice to the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Magee made a motion to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss ongoing litigation, seconded by Mrs. Adipietro. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

Resident Tom Lench asked the Board to consider acquiring property from a new owner to install Lunak Drive off of Watson Street in Leet Acres. Mr. Valinsky stated that the Township vacated the right-of-way in the 1960s and would be required to purchase the property. There was a brief discussion about the issue.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of the March 9, 2026, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2026, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Cindrich. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

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Approval of Bills and Current Invoices

Mr. Zimmel questioned a stop payment charge listed on the bill list. Ms. Rengers explained that the bank had mailed two checks on the same day, January 12, and neither had arrived at its destination. She contacted the vendors, who had not received the payments, so she stopped the payments to prevent fraud. Mr. McDaniel observed that certain descriptions on the bill list lacked sufficient detail and requested that more detailed information be provided on the list in the future.

MOTION: Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to pay the bills and invoices as presented in the amount of \$114,819.64. Mr. Magee seconded the motion. A formal roll-call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

Circulation of Department Reports

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 2026-26 (Immigration and Customs Enforcement Policy)

Chief Jameson explained that the Allegheny County District Attorney's office had issued an impartial policy governing how local police departments interact with immigration and customs enforcement officers (ICE). The policy outlined the level of enforcement by local departments based on the conditions of the arrest. Mr. Chesney reviewed the policy and explained that it differentiated between civil and judicial warrants. The DA's office recommended its adoption, and because it is the DA's policy, the office would back it if there were an issue. There was a discussion about the policy, federal laws, and the different types of warrants listed in it. Mrs. Cindrich was concerned about Section 10, which will require training officers on the different types of warrants listed in the policy. Chief Jameson explained that Mr. Chesney had researched the policy. Although there is no formal training at this point, he felt the training could be handled in-house at low or no cost. Mrs. Cindrich appreciated the effort that had gone into putting the policy together. She wanted the officers to be protected and questioned whether the Township should clarify the policy's language. There was a discussion about the specifics of the policy. Chief Jameson stated that the officers needed guidelines for handling the issue and was in favor of the policy, believing the DA's office would back it.

Resident Erin Cosgrove thanked the Board for considering the policy. She expressed gratitude to the police department for their community efforts, but believed ICE was a separate issue. She shared her views on ICE and some recent developments regarding a local immigration arrest. She is hopeful that the Quaker Valley Council of Governments would facilitate a similar policy with other communities.

The Board members expressed their opinions on the policy. There was consensus to proceed with the policy's adoption following the review by Mr. Chesney and Chief Jameson.

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MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-26, which sets forth the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office Immigration and Customs Enforcement Policy for the Leet Township Police Department. Mrs. Cindrich seconded the motion. A formal roll-call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

Landscaping the Veteran's Memorial

Mr. McDaniel stated that LSSE developed a landscaping plan for the memorial. Mr. Valinsky explained the design choices and reasoning behind the selected plant types. The discussion covered the plan's costs and details.

MOTION: Mrs. Cindrich moved to approve the LSSE landscape plan for the Veterans' Memorial and authorized the manager to implement it. Mr. Magee seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

Resolution 2026-27 (DCED Small Borrowing LGUDA)

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-27 for the Local Government Unit Debt Act for small borrowing under \$125,000.00 for the police vehicle purchase. Mrs. Adipietro seconded the motion. A formal roll-call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

Beech Street Speed Table

The Board is considering replacing the temporary speed table on Beech Street with a permanent one, and it will be included in the 2026 Paving Program design.

Synopsis of the March 25, 2026, Fair Oaks Fire Department Merger Meeting and Announcement of April 27, 2026, Workshop Meeting Presentation from Fire Department Representatives Ryan Buttermore and Mark Brooks.

Fire Department Merger Committee Member Donna Adipietro attended a merger meeting on March 24th and reported the following:

- Mr. Buttermore and Mr. Brooks will attend the April 27th Board of Commissioners Workshop meeting to present a preliminary presentation on the proposed merger.
- They calculated the costs with a formula that considered population, call volume, and additional variables.
- The merger will enable the department to apply for grants.
- New bylaws will be established for the merged department.
- The merged department will be a 501(c)(3).
- Membership status will be transferred over to the newly created department.
 1. Fire certification within the ranks will be reviewed to ensure proper classification and placement of members.
- Insurance policies will be combined.

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- An Interim Chief will be appointed.
- They will assess the assets and liabilities of each department.
- Ryan Buttermore is developing the financial side of the merger.

Hiring a Full-time Public Works Employee

MOTION: Mr. Magee made a motion to offer Shaun Buckley the full-time Public Works Laborer position at \$23.79 per hour plus benefits, subject to his passing a physical and drug test. Mr. Zimmel seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Motion to Scrap Super P and Monroe Salt Spreaders

Public Works Committee members, Mr. Magee and Mr. Zimmel, toured the Public Works Building and yard recently. The old salt spreaders were still sitting in the yard. The Township listed the Super P and Monroe salt spreaders on Municibid twice over the past year in an attempt to sell them, but there was no interest. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to have them scrapped.

Discussion/Motion on Purchase of Shelving Units for the Public Works Garage

Mr. Magee noted that the last two garage bays in the public works garage lacked shelving units, leading to disorganization. He asked the foreman to identify suitable shelving options and present them along with the costs at the upcoming workshop meeting.

Discussion/Motion to Open a Sunbelt Rental Account

Due to high demand at the current rental location, the Public Works Department has struggled to secure equipment when needed. Sunbelt Rental has recently opened a large equipment rental facility in Ambridge, but the Township must set up an account to rent from them.

MOTION: Mr. Magee made a motion to open an account at Sunbelt Rental. Mr. Zimmel seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

Discussion/Motion on LSSE Multimodal Grant Application

Mr. Valinsky provided the Board with a multimodal grant application that detailed the scope of work and estimated costs. Usually, the grant requires a 30% match, but a waiver can be requested. He assessed the Board's interest and planned to present a resolution for approval at the Workshop meeting if the Board agrees to proceed with the application.

MOTION: Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to authorize Mr. Valinsky to proceed with the multimodal grant application. Mr. Zimmel seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

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Discussion/Motion to Pay for a Commissioner to Attend the ALOM Conference for One Day

Mrs. Cindrich attended the ALOM conference at Seven Springs on April 11th. Mrs. Adipietro was also present. While there, she attended 6 different seminars. Mrs. Cindrich and Mr. Magee previously attended the newly elected official's course.

MOTION: Mr. Magee made a motion to pay for Mrs. Cindrich's registration fee and lunch while attending the Allegheny League of Municipalities Conference in Seven Springs, PA, on April 11, 2026. Mrs. Adipietro seconded the motion. The following votes were recorded: Mr. Magee, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; Mrs. Adipietro, yes; and Mrs. Cindrich, yes. The motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ms. Rengers reported that the Township received dividends of \$21,227.00 from the MRM Workers' Comp Pooled Trust Program and \$1,988.79 from MRM Property and Liability Trust. These dividends are paid annually, and their amounts fluctuate.

Ms. Rengers has two upcoming hearings with the magistrate for code violations.

Chief Jameson reported that he ordered the digital speed sign for Plum Street. He is in the process of receiving quotes for a camera system that would cover the entire municipal complex and Ambridge Ave Park. Ambridge Ave Park was recently vandalized with graffiti.

Mr. Valinsky stated that the grant projects, the Quaker Heights Stormwater Project and the Plum Street Sidewalk Project, should begin within the next three weeks. They were delayed in December due to the weather.

The salt shed project will be to rebuild the salt shed. Mr. Valinsky is working to get approval to use CoStars vendors for the salt shed and public works building project.

Mrs. Adipietro informed the Board that the COG is preparing to bid out the garbage contract. Ms. Rengers suggested that the Township may want to bid out the dumpster service separately due to the high prices. There was a brief discussion about the issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Valinsky reported that the Township had received a complaint from a resident on Plum Street regarding water drainage during rain events. LSSE inspected the road during a rainstorm and found the drainage to be slow because the road is relatively flat. LSSE asked if the Board would like to consider any stormwater improvements in that area. If so, LSSE will research grant opportunities.

Ms. Rengers reached out to the owners of the burned house on Myrtle Hill Road, as it had not yet been demolished. They explained that they are still in court with their insurance company regarding the matter. They also offered to send a letter to the residents on Myrtle Hill Rd to clarify their situation.

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Mr. McDaniel expressed interest in exploring live-stream meetings with the Owl conferencing system, which is already in use by several municipalities. He assigned Mr. Magee and Mrs. Cindrich to research the system and present their findings to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Ferrang complained about a leaning light post on Colonial Drive in Quaker Heights. Chief Jameson will contact Duquesne Light to arrange for its repair.

Mr. Lench asked about the guardrail on Camp Meeting Road that was destroyed in an accident there. The Township had already contacted Allegheny County to have it repaired. He also asked about clogged stormwater drains along Camp Meeting Road. The Leet Township Public Works Department had recently cleared a small section of the storm drains on Camp Meeting Road. The Allegheny County Maintenance Department then cleared most of the drains along Camp Meeting Road with a leaf machine.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:25 pm to discuss ongoing litigation with the Solicitor. Mr. Zimmel seconded the motion, with all in favor of it.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:38 pm after discussing ongoing litigation with the Solicitor. Mr. Magee seconded the motion, with all in favor of it.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m., seconded by Mr. Magee, with all in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

/s/Betsy Rengers

BETSY RENGERS, MANAGER

TOWNSHIP OF LEET

/s/Martin C. McDaniel

MARTIN C. MCDANIEL, PRESIDENT

Date: May 11, 2026