
REGULAR SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING

May 27, 2025

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Hanover Township, Northampton County, was called to order by Chair Susan Lawless at the Hanover Township Municipal Building, 3630 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA, 18017 at 7:00 P.M.

Present were Supervisors Lawless, Prendeville, Gross, Versteeg, Diacogiannis, Township Engineer Brien Kocher, and Township Solicitor James Broughal.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville, seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board approved the agenda. Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville, seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board approved the minutes from the meeting of the Board of Supervisors dated May 13, 2025. Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville, seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board approved the list of bills and transfers dated May 27, 2025. Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

Ms. Versteeg shared Pennsylvania's new distracted driving law, 'Paul Miller's Law', which will take effect June 5, 2025. The law prohibits the use of handheld devices while driving, including phones, even at a red light. Drivers caught using a handheld device will receive a warning during the first year (June 2025 to June 2026), but starting June 2026, the driver will face a \$50 fine, plus court costs and fees. This law also includes tablets, portable gaming devices, and other similar devices.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Diacogiannis – Road District #1, reported that the Colonial Regional Police Department placed three candidates in the wait list in which they are conditionally hired so that they can attend the police academy.

Ms. Versteeg - Road District #2, had nothing to report.

Mr. Gross – Road District #3, thanked the Public Works Department and Mr. Hudson for making Brentwood Avenue more pleasant to drive on due to the sinkhole damage.

Ms. Lawless – Road District #4, had nothing to report.

Mr. Prendeville – Road District #5, had nothing to report.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – Mr. Diacogiannis

PLANNING & ZONING – Ms. Versteeg

DEVELOPMENTS – Mr. Gross

6904 Stueben Road – MPC Deadline

Mr. Gross noted for the record, the developer for 6904 Stueben Road Land Development is granting the Township an extension to review the plans under the MPC deadline to May 31, 2026, per the attorney letter dated May 20, 2025.

ADMINISTRATION – Mr. Prendeville

Bid Advertisement – Residential Solid Waste & Recycling Collection 2026-2030

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to authorize the Township Secretary to advertise the bid for the 2026-2030 Residential Solid Waste & Recycling Collection on June 4, 2025, and June 18, 2025

Bids are due by July 15 and the bid award will occur on July 29.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

UCC Building Officials and Code Review Board

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to direct the staff to begin the process of transitioning to the NAZ COG UCC Building Code Officials and Code Review Board.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Brown & Brown – Township Insurance

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to authorize the Township Manager to execute the applicable paperwork with Brown & Brown to renew the Township's insurance policies, effective June 1, 2025. The total cost for the 2025 renewal premium is \$71,025.00.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Resolution 2025 – 11 2025 Grow NORCO Grant

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to adopt Resolution 2025-11, stating Hanover Township's desire to apply for a grant with the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development from the 2025 Grow NORCO grant program. The Township is requesting a grant of \$50,000.00 to be used to remove and replace the bleachers in the gymnasium of the Hanover Township Community Center located at 3660 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

81 Highland Partners LP – Tax Assessment

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to authorize the Township Solicitor to notify the Northampton County Assessment office that it is agreeable to the settlement offer for the 81 Highland Partners LP docketed at C-48-CV-2025-12317.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Legal Opinion on Incorporating Trash Fees into Real Estate Taxes

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to authorize Gross McGinley, L.L.P., to prepare an opinion regarding payment of costs of residential waste & recycling collection contracts in the real estate tax.

Mr. Broughal provided information from the Second Class Township Code and explained there may be some issues if the Township moves forward with incorporating trash fees into real estate taxes and advised the Board to be careful.

Greg Hughes, 856 Merrivale Road, questioned the Board on why they would want to combine the fees and taxes.

Jay Finnigan, 4208 Maria Lane, explained that back in 2000-2008, the Township incorporated the trash fees into real estate taxes and commercial property owners approached him and indicated that if it continued to be in the taxes, they would file a class action lawsuit against the Township to recoup what they've been paying for many years in their taxes. Mr. Finnigan provided information regarding the Second Class Statue Code and stated it isn't in the Township's best interest to incorporate the fees and taxes.

Ms. Lawless clarified that she wants to know what her options are and asked Mr. Broughal to locate the opinion regarding this matter.

Mr. Diacogiannis moved the Board to table the motion until they receive an updated opinion from the Solicitor's office.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Policy 37 – Volunteer Fire Company Vehicle Reimbursement

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to approve updated Policy 37 - Volunteer Fire Company Vehicle Reimbursement with a rate of \$10.00.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Grant Writer Assistance for the Volunteer Fire Company

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to authorize up to \$5,000 in 2025 to pay for the assistance of a grant writer for the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Fire Savings Account Investment Request

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to direct the staff to invest a portion of the fire savings in CD investment accounts.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

Amendment to Community Center Kitchen Lease

Mr. Prendeville moved the Board to authorize the Chair to execute the amended kitchen lease for the Hanover Township Community Center. This amendment will allow a month-to-month sublease to Hen and Haw Hot Chicken LLC., to use refrigerator space and for dish washing.

Mr. Gross seconded the motion.

Mr. Diacogiannis, aye, Mr. Prendeville, aye, Mr. Gross, aye, Ms. Versteeg, aye, Ms. Lawless, aye.

PUBLIC WORKS – Mr. Diacogiannis

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer – Mr. Kocher had nothing to report.

Solicitor – Mr. Broughal had nothing to report.

Recreation Director – Mr. Terenzio reported that Armed Forces Day was held on May 17 and was a good event. Mr. Terenzio thanked Jay Finnigan, the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Hudson, guest speaker General Pam McGaha, CRPD, Detective Templeton, the American Legion Band of Bethlehem, American Legion 379, Boy Scout group 352, and the Public Works Department who helped set up the event.

Upcoming events are:

- June 4 through June 7 is the Hanover Township Carnival - June 4 will be \$2 per ride, June 5 will have a DJ and will be wristband night
- June 5, Bingo at the Hanover Township Community Center. The beneficiary is the Hanover Township Stringrays (swim team) with great raffles
- June 7, the pool reopens. Free entry to anyone who plans to attend. The pool will be open from 12:00pm-7:00pm, daily
- June 8, Summer camp begins
- June 21, Dip n Dance at the pool
- July 11, 4th Annual HTCC Golf Tournament at Whitetail Golf Club
- July 12, Dip n Dance at the pool
- August 5, National Night Out and a Dip n Dance at the pool

Township Manager – Mr. Hudson reported that during the month of May, the Township recognized the Colonial Regional Police Department during police week and provided them snacks, recognized the Hanover Township Fire Company and EMS for International Firefighter Day and EMS week by providing them snacks, and recognized the Public Works Department for Public Works week by providing them lunch. The Public Works Department and Mr. Hudson attended ASA Packer Elementary School as well as Hanover Elementary School with a few of the Township trucks and equipment for the Touch A Truck event. The students, student staff, and Hanover Township staff enjoyed it. The watermain break on Schoenersville Road has been repaired. The pool is ready for opening on June 7. Township newsletters are almost done with the review process and will be sent out in the next few weeks.

Greg Hughes, 856 Merrivale Road, suggested placing an article in the newsletter regarding the Fireworks Ordinance. Mr. Hudson explained that the newsletter submissions are completed but we will inform the residents through social media.

Ms. Lawless noted the next Board of Supervisors meeting will be on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

Upon motion of Mr. Prendeville the Board adjourned at 8:05pm.

Kimberly R. Lymanstall
Township Secretary