

**PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
January 23, 2025**

The regular monthly meeting of the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at the Plainfield Township Municipal Building, located at 6292 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth, PA 18064.

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, Nolan Kemmerer, Supervisor, Jonathan Itterly and Supervisor Kenneth Fairchild.

Also present were Interim Township Manager, Nicole Beckett, Township Solicitor, David Backenstoe, Director of Finance, Amy Riger, and Administrative Assistant, Amy Kahler.

I. INTERIM TOWNSHIP MANAGER – NICOLE BECKETT:

Nicole reviewed the information and that PennDOT came in

1. Motion to approve Asphalt Maintenance Solutions Payment Application for the FB-3 Wearing Course and Fog Seal project in the amount of \$409,413.54, from Liquid Fuels as recommended by Keystone Consulting Engineers. (Project approved and closed out by PennDOT Municipal Services Representative)

2. Motion to approve Asphalt Maintenance Solutions Payment Application for the Bituminous Seal Coat project in the amount of \$329,769.48, from Liquid Fuels as recommended by Keystone Consulting Engineers. (Project reviewed by PennDOT Municipal Services Representative, the project was considered maintenance so project approval and closeout is not required)

ACTION: Motion was made by Nolan Kemmerer and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to approve Asphalt Maintenance Solutions Payments Applications for the FB-3 Wearing Course and Fog Seal project in the amount of \$409,413.54 and Bituminous Seal Coat project in the amount of \$329,769.48. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

II. SOLICITOR’S REPORT – (DAVID BACKENSTOE, ESQ.)

1. Discussion on the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance establishing regulations for Solar Energy Systems and amending SALDO to provide Land Development Review when a principal Solar Energy production facility is proposed.
 - a. Motion to advertise the amendment.

- b. Motion to send the proposed Ordinance to the Planning Commission for review.

Solicitor, David Backenstoe reviewed and indicated that there are no regulations in regards to solar fields, as accessory use not principle, the Zoning Officer has brought this to his attention. If a company wants to install a solar field on Farms they will enter into an agreement with a company, and then the company will then sell the energy, but we need to be prepared and make sure that we have the necessary reviews in place. We will have the ordinance in place and so moving forward all residents, companies etc are aware of the regulations and procedure moving forward. The Ordinances will include the requirements, fences, glare screens, setbacks, height, maintenance, also will include that there is a mandatory review every 5 years with an application for review. Accessory solar usage is and will be permitted as long as they comply with all permitting requirements that are within the ordinance. In the Farm & Forest District they will need to file a special exemption, also will include filing for a Land Development application. Supervisor Jonathan Itterly, indicated that wouldn't 1,000 square feet be a little small? Solicitor Backenstoe indicated that for a roof top or residential use we do not find that is to bad. Mr. Backenstoe indicated that if we see that residential applications are being forced to be reviewed by the Planning Commission, we can always revise the Ordinance. He would like to then move the ordinance to the Planning Commission for review and comments. Supervisor, Nolan Kemmerer, asked if they are able to make a solar farm on the preserved farmland? Solicitor Backenstoe indicated that he is 99.99% sure that you would need to file/pay the fee, just as it is a commercial property. They would need to follow all requirements.

ACTION: Motion was made by Ken Field and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to approve to move to Planning Commission and advertising of the Zoning Ordinance establishing regulations for Solar Energy Systems and amending SALDO to provide Land Development Review when a principal Solar Energy production facility is proposed. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

2. Discussion on the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance exempting Plainfield Township from the requirement of the Zoning Ordinance when undertaking a Municipal Function.
 - a. Motion to advertise the amendment.
 - b. Motion to send the proposed Ordinance to the Planning Commission for review.

Solicitor Backenstoe reviewed the Ordinance and requesting that this ordinance also be presented to Planning Commission and then advertisement.

ACTION: Motion was made by Kenneth Fairchild and seconded by Nolan Kemmerer to approve moving to Planning Commission and advertising of the Zoning Ordinance exempting Plainfield Township from the requirement of the Zoning Ordinance when undertaking a Municipal Function. *Prior to the vote, Chairman, Ken Field, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.*

III. 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):

- **Alan Gumeny**

Mr. Gumeny indicated that last week EPA came out with a risk assessment that PFAS is harmful to residents, animals, plants etc., that are near or within run off of PFAS. Mr. Gumeny also indicated that it was reported that Nazareth Authority withdrew or will be withdrawing the NPDES permit, they were going to be asking for a refund of the monies they had deposited/submitted to the Township for their permit.

Solicitor Backenstoe indicated that this issue will still be reviewed. On behalf of the Township the review process and necessary paperwork all remain, they are still in need to comply with Stormwater, Land Development Application, along with all review information and fees associated with the appropriate applications and reviews, also included with having the appropriate applications they will need to follow on regulations set within the Ordinance.

Chairman Ken Field, thanks Mr. Gumeny for staying on top and reporting the information.

- **Jane Mellert**

Ms. Mellert asked if the Township did officially receive the request to withdraw their Stormwater application.

Mr. Backenstoe indicated that, yes that is correct.

Ms. Mellert asked if anyone has reviewed the Knitters Trail information that had been reviewed and approved back some time ago, instead of purchasing another 4 acres.

Ms. Mellert asked why the financial reports were not added to the agenda?

Interim Township Manager, indicated that she will be working with the Director of Finance, this week on reports and advised they will be on the next agenda for review and approval.

IV. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

1. **Ken Field**

- Nothing to report.

2. **Glenn Borger**

- Mr Borger indicated that there was report of a very large explosion this morning , unsure of exactly what time, at RPM Metals. Administrative Assistant, Amy Kahler indicated she will follow up, and noted we did not receive any complaints within the office.

3. **Nolan Kemmerer**

- Nothing to report.

4. **Jonathan Itterly**

- Nothing to report.

5. **Kenneth Fairchild**

- Nothing to report.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Kenneth Fairchild to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kahler
Secretary
Plainfield Township