PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING November 17, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Plainfield Township Planning Commission was held on Monday, November 17, 2025, at the Plainfield Township Municipal Building, located at 6292 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth, PA 18064.

Chairman, Paul Levits, called the meeting to order at 7:03P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Approximately 4 members of the public were in attendance.

ROLL CALL:

The following Commissioners answered roll call: Paul Levits, Allen Schafer, Terry Kleintop, Robin Dingle, and Glenn Geissinger.

Also present were Permit Coordinator/Secretary, Amy Kahler, Solicitor, David Backenstoe, Keystone Consulting Engineers Representative, Kevin Horvath, and Zoning Officer, Elizabeth Amato.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. Approval of the February 26, 2025 Special Planning Commission Meeting Minutes-
- 2. Approval of the March 17, 2025 Special Planning Commission Meeting Minutes-

Chairman, Paul Levits, indicated that at the recent Board of Supervisors meeting held on November 10, 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved for the transcripts to be purchased for the 4 Special Planning Commissions Meeting Minutes. Once these are obtained, we will distribute for review and approved.

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Geissinger and seconded by Robin Dingle to table the February 26, 2025 and March 17, 2025 Special Planning Commission Meeting minutes. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Paul Levits, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

3. Approval of the October 20, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes-

ACTION: Motion was made by Robin Dingle and seconded by Allen Schafer to approve the October 20, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting minutes. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Paul Levits, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Commissioner, Robin Dingle, indicated that under roll call it should indicate that Glenn Geissinger was not present. Ms. Dingle indicated that on page 4, it should say that the Planning Commission requested third party review from an Environmental Attorney, a Traffic Study, and Cultural study. Ms. Dingle also indicated that all documents, including agendas, should be updated to reflect that the Waste Management submission is Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation not Preliminary/Final Land Development.

Page 9, the motion indicates "motion approved, Vote 2-2", we can not approve if the vote was 2-2.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0, with Glenn Geissinger abstaining.

TIME EXTENSION REQUEST:

- 1. PC-2022-010- RPM Metals Recycling, Inc. Site Plan Application
 - Application Received: July 7, 2022
 - Expires: <u>December 31, 2025</u>

Extension request received to extend to June 30, 2026.

ACTION: Motion was made by Allen Schafer and seconded by Glenn Geissinger to approve the PC-2022-010 RPM Metals Recycling Inc. Site Plan Application, extension request to June 30, 2026. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Paul Levits, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Solicitor David Backenstoe, indicated that Attorney Deschler is present on the matter, but Mr. Backenstoe provided some background that he had received information that CRG has now been taken over by Mr. Jaindl. As Mr. Backenstoe understands Mr. Jaindl is meeting with different parties and working on moving forward with the plans. Commissioner, Terry Kleintop, indicated that the last review letters that were issued were extremely extensive and asked if there is a status of compliance. Mr. Backenstoe does not have a status but is assuming that the matter will be coming back before the Board of Supervisors and possibly the Planning Commission if the plans are amended. Attorney Deschler, indicated that the only reason that there is a plan before the Planning Commission is for the site plan review due to the zoning violations.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

- 2. PC-2024 -005 Grand Central Sanitary Landfill- Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation
 - Application Received: September 15, 2025
 - Expires: December 14, 2025

Extension request received to extend to January 15, 2026.

Commissioner, Robin Dingle, requested that all documents including agendas be amended to reflect that Grand Central Sanitary Landfill is referenced only as a Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation and not a Preliminary/Final Land Development and Lot Consolidation.

Solicitor David Backenstoe, indicated that the submission is for Preliminary Land Development. Waste Management is requesting an extension until January 15, 2026.

ACTION: Motion was made by Allen Schafer and seconded by Glenn Geissinger to approve the PC-2024-005 Grand Central Sanitary Landfill- Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation, extension request to January 15, 2026. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Paul Levits, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Solicitor, David Backenstoe, indicated that there is a typo at the bottom left side of the extension request indicating November 10, 2026, which should read November 10, 2025, an amended extension has been requested.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

- 3. PC-2024 -008 The Estates at Shady Lane- Major Subdivision and Land Development
 - Application Received: **December 9, 2024**
 - Expires: December 31, 2025

Extension request received to extend to March 31, 2026.

ACTION: Motion was made by Robin Dingle and seconded by Glenn Geissinger to approve the PC-2024-008 The Estates of Shady Lane- Major Subdivision and Land Development Application, extension request to March 31, 2026. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Paul Levits, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

CURRENT/NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Presentation by Mary Beth Peters, Entech Engineering, to discuss Plainfield Township's Act 537 Plan
 - a. Discuss and provide review.

Ms. Mary Beth Peters, proceeded with an introduction of herself and how Act 537 became a plan, where it is today and why it is before the Planning Commission for review and comment. Commissioners and Mary Beth Peters discussed if the plan is currently required, when it would be required, and if it would be possible for DEP to change the septic tank pumping requirements. The commissioners also discussed the potential cost impact on the Township and residents. Ms. Peters stated if the updated plan

is approved by the Board of Supervisors, it would be a requirement for all residents within Plainfield Township, not just for properties that have issues or concerns with their septic systems. Ms. Peters indicated that previously DEP rejected the plan which proposed the septic tank pumping requirement only for residents with concerns or issues with their tank. DEP is requesting the plan be uniform and includes all residents. Commissioner, Robin Dingle, feels that DEP is pushing a generic model of what the expectation is. Ms. Peters indicated that it is a requirement to have a Sewage Management Plan in place and it shall be reviewed and updated every ten years. Ms. Peters reviewed how the plan would be implemented; the updated plan would require all residents in the Township to have their septic tanks pumped every 5 years. A certified company would need to perform the tank pumping and provide documentation to the Township, if the property owner fails to comply, violations could be issued. Commissioner, Glenn Geissinger, said that all systems don't have the same maintenance requirements and some may need to be pumped more often than others. Commissioner, Robin Dingle, asked if we wait, do the surveys that were completed have to be redone. Ms. Mary Beth Peters indicated that, yes, additional costs would be incurred because the current surveys, data, and information would be out of date. Ms. Dingle indicated that there is no point in approving the plan at this time. We could place verbiage on the updated plan that enforcement would not start until Pennsylvania State Legislation passes the mandatory law to implement. Resident, Jane Mellert, agreed with Commissioner, Robin Dingle, to place a hold until the mandate is in effect. Ms. Mellert indicated that there has been a lot of money spent on gathering the data and completing the plan. Commissioner, Allen Schafer, indicated that he feels we should do nothing. Keystone Consulting Engineers Representative, Kevin Horvath, verified information with Ms. Peters that DEP approved other agreements that were submitted with a 3- and 5-year pumping schedule. Ms. Peters stated that is correct, at this point Plainfield Township is requesting a 5-year pumping schedule, DEP could come back and say they do not agree and require something different. If recommendation for this plan is approved, it would be dated January 1, 2026 and would need to be reviewed and updated 10 years from that date.

ACTION: Motion was made by Allen Schafer and seconded by Glenn Geissinger recommending not to move forward with the Act 537 Plan and send letters to State Representative Lisa Boscola and Representative Ann Flood requesting to not support the mandatory pumping that DEP is requesting to put into place. Prior to the vote, Chairman, Paul Levits, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

Resident, Jane Mellert, indicated that it would be one thing to not accept and move forward with the pumping plan but to not move forward with the whole plan is different. Commissioner, Robin Dingle, indicated that there is no current mandate in place for Plainfield Township to require this for our residents.

2. Discussion of start time for Planning Commission meetings in 2026.

Chairman, Paul Levits, opened a discussion with the other commissioners on preferences on times for the Planning Commission meetings in 2026. Majority of the Commissioners agreed to keep holding the Planning Commission meeting at 7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to come before the Planning Commission, the motion was made by Allen Schafer and seconded by Paul Levits to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kahler

Secretary/Permit Coordinator

Plainfield Township