

Conestoga Township Board of Supervisors

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 in the Conestoga Township Public Meeting Room located at 3959 Main Street, Conestoga, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Chairman of the Board, Matthew Connelly followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

Chairman Matthew Connelly, Vice Chairman Thomas Grassel Jr. and Joseph Devoy

OTHERS PRESENT

Jessie L. Ebersole, Secretary/Treasurer
Brian J. Herr, Roadmaster
C. LeRoy Eshleman, Roadcrew
Chris & Barb Bair, 208 Run Valley Rd
Gary & Michele Miller, 3498 Main St
Bob Eshbach, 65 Colemanville Rd
Fritz Schroeder, Lancaster Conservancy
James Stoltzfus, 4459 Main St

Paul Spangler, 312 River Corner Rd
Parke Rineer, 3470 Main St
Harris Malkin, 1684 Long Ln
Lynda Like, 4180 Main St
Ally Oktela, 82 River Corner Rd
Justin Stoltzfus, LNP
Brandon Tennis, Lancaster Conservancy

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lyndia Like, 4180 Main Street, expressed concern regarding a block structure being constructed at 325 Conestoga Boulevard without a permit. Joe Devoy stated that the Township office will review the matter and verify the permitting status.

Ally Oktela, 82 River Corner Road, thanked the Board for addressing the concern she raised at the previous meeting by contacting the property owner and ensuring that the grass at 3130 Main Street was mowed.

Bob Eshbach, 65 Colemanville Road, inquired whether the Township could fill the gutter, address the washout, and install a diversion at the path leading to the trail. Tom Grassel responded that the maintenance of this area is not the Township's responsibility, nor does the Township intend for the path to become a public access point. Mr. Eshbach further noted that two large stone blocks had been removed from River Hill Road. Tom Grassel stated that the Township repurposed those blocks at Brenner Hollow Road.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held on October 14, 2025 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, BILLS AND TREASURER'S REPORT

Joe Devoy made a **motion** to approve the October 14, 2025 Budget Meeting Minutes with a second by Tom Grassel. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Tom Grassel made a **motion** to approve the October 14, 2025 Board of Supervisor Meeting Minutes with a second by Matthew Connelly. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Conestoga Township Board of Supervisors

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Joe Devoy made a **motion** to approve the October 2025 Bills and Treasurer's Report as presented with a second by Tom Grassel. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The Planning Commission did not meet in October.

The Zoning Hearing Board did not meet in October.

NEW BUSINESS

Representatives Fritz Schroeder and Brandon Tennis of the Lancaster Conservancy provided an overview of their project to develop a Master Plan for the Lancaster River Hills Conservation Area. It is a Master Plan for eight nature preserves, three of which are in Conestoga Township; Shenks Ferry, Fox Hollow, and Pequea. They requested that a few individuals from the Township participate on the project's steering committee to support the planning process.

Joe Devoy made a **motion**, seconded by Tom Grassel to approve the Preliminary / Final Subdivision Plan for 4459 Main Street including the ordinance waivers of a Sketch Plan and for the Survey Monuments and Markers to be as indicated on the plan and contingent on DEP's approval of the new land development plan application submission, the Solicitor's approval of the Declaration of Access Easements and Maintenance Agreement and the Township's Emergency Services approval of the access. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Tom Grassel made a **motion**, seconded by Matthew Connelly to adopt the Personnel Policy Amendment 2025.01 relating to employee benefits eligibility for health coverage. Jessie Ebersole explained that the policy amendment updates the eligibility rules for spouse and dependent children. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Joe Devoy made a **motion**, seconded by Matthew Connelly to accept and advertise the 2026 Proposed Budget for public review. Joe Devoy commended Jessie Ebersole for her work in preparing the proposed budget amid the challenges anticipated for the upcoming year, including the unexpected Silver Mine bridge repair. He noted that the proposed budget includes a millage increase from 0.871 to 0.94, which is expected to generate approximately \$20,000 in additional annual revenue. For a property assessed at \$200,000, this represents an estimated annual tax increase of about \$13.80. Matthew Connelly further remarked that the Township has not enacted a millage increase since 2012. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

ROADMASTER REPORT

Brian Herr reported that the paving on Brenner Hollow Road has been completed. He expressed his appreciation for Tom Grassel's contributions to the project, noting that Tom's skillful track hoe operation was essential to its success. Brian also reminded the public that this project was funded through a Lancaster County Conservation Grant and that close-out paperwork will be submitted soon.

Conestoga Township Board of Supervisors

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

He further reported that the base repair on River Road, from the Shenks Ferry Road intersection south to Route 324, has been completed and commended Long's Asphalt for their quality work. He noted that the final round of mowing is complete and that necessary repairs were made to both the mower and loader.

Tom thanked the road crew, stating that he has worked with them on several projects this year and is proud that all employees are township residents with a vested interest as taxpayers. He added that the crew works exceptionally well together, including temporary employee Barry Rankin. Tom also thanked Brian for securing the Conservancy grant and Jessie for ensuring the accuracy of the grant submission. He concluded by stating, "We have a great team."

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matthew Connelly announced the Township Office will be closing November 11th in observation of Veterans Day and November 27th in observation of Thanksgiving Day. He also announced that the next Board of Supervisors regular meeting will be held December 2nd. He announced Election results, congratulating Tom Grassel as Supervisor for another six years, Gary Erb as Board of Auditor for another six years and Jason Sweigart as the new Judge of Elections.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,



Jessie L. Ebersole
Conestoga Township Secretary