

Conestoga Township Board of Supervisors

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 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.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Jessie L. Ebersole, Secretary/Treasurer

Chester LeRoy Eshleman, Roadcrew

Doris Warfel, 39 Sandhill Rd

Charles Fulmer, 4 Safe Harbor Village

Ken & Debra Brooks, 4430 Main St

Donna Hoar, 69 Colemanville Church Rd

Mike Speicher, 2919 Main St

James Stoltzfus, 7 Safe Harbor Village

Benuel Esh, 4459 Main St & Safe Harbor Village

Gary & Michele Miller, 3498 Main St

Jon Heinly, Lancaster Public Library

Brian J. Herr, Roadmaster

Chris & Barb Bair, 208 Run Valley Rd

Donald Connelly, 90 Buck Run Rd

Jordan Hostetter, 241 Pequea Blvd

Carl & Lori Longenecker, 4339 Main St

Lynda Like, 4180 Main St

Don Linton, 133 Brenner Hollow Rd

Daniel Stoltzfus, 447 Conestoga Blvd

Peter Douglass, Hearthstone Property Mgmt

Justin Stoltzfus, LNP

PUBLIC COMMENT

Doris Warfel of 39 Sandhill Road voiced her concern for the sidewalk conditions and weed growth. Tom Grassel responded that notices are currently being sent to property owners regarding sidewalk and property maintenance concerns that have been brought to the Township's attention.

Don Connelly of 90 Buck Run Road inquired on the progress of the pool area and the consideration of replacement activities. Tom Grassel responded that no future plans will be determined until the demolition is completed.

Debra Brooks of 4430 Main Street inquired on the cancellation of the Zoning Hearing Board hearing for the two appeals that were advertised for the last Wednesday night. Tom Grassel stated that the meeting was postponed until October.

Lori Longenecker of 4339 Main Street asked when the driveway used for logging near 4459 Main Street would be returned to its original state prior to logging. Tom Grassel replied that there is no date or status of the driveway from the PennDOT at this time.

Carl Longenecker of 4339 Main Street as a follow-up, asked if there is potential for a permanent driveway. Tom Grassel responded that it could be a potential future driveway but it is out of our jurisdiction to regulated. It will require State permitting.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held on August 4, 2026, to discuss legal matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, BILLS AND TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Grassel made a **motion** to approve the August 4, 2026 Board of Supervisor Meeting Minutes with a second by Joe Devoy. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Joe Devoy made a **motion** to approve the August 2026 Bills and Treasurer's Report as presented with a second by Matthew Connelly. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The Planning Commission was held on August 24, 2026 to review a subdivision plan for 65 River Corner Road.

The Zoning Hearing Board advertised meeting was cancelled. An agreement was made to continue the hearings for October 28, 2026, to allow for a process of bringing the properties into compliance. Please watch for future advertisements and notices.

NEW BUSINESS

Jon Heinly, Director of Donor Advising gave a presentation on the Lancaster Public Library. He stated that in 2025, 21% of the Conestoga residents are library cardholders with 3487 physical materials being borrowed by those residents. There was a total of 183,850 patron visits with 64,862 patron computer and wireless sessions, and 420,382 materials circulated within the community. He noted that grant funding supported the purchase of a van equipped with a mobile laptop and hotspot connection to provide library resources and services throughout the community. He showed the projected loss of revenue for their draft 2027 Budget due to the forced elimination of passport services and the completion of the ARPA grant funding. He discussed the "Vote Yes for Libraries" initiative. They are currently collecting petition signatures to have the question put on the November ballot. The referendum would be for a dedicated property tax that would only be used for Libraries. He closed by thanking the Township and residents for their support.

Joe Devoy made a **motion** to ratify entering into a Stormwater Management Agreement and Declaration of Easement for 1254 Long Lane. This was necessary for the new home being constructed. Tom Grassel seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Tom Grassel made a **motion**, seconded by Matthew Connelly to approve the resolution for Plan Revision for New Land Development and for the second submittal to DEP for the Sewage Facilities Planning Module for Benuel Esh and James Stoltzfus - 3 Lot Subdivision at 4459 Main Street. Tom Grassel explained that this was for the original subdivision plan that was approved contingent on satisfying DEP's regulations. The Sewage Facilities Planning Module was delinquent and therefore a second submittal is necessary. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

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TOWNSHIP OF CONESTOGA
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 15

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONESTOGA TOWNSHIP FOR PLAN REVISION FOR NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SEWAGE FACILITIES PLANNING MODULE FOR ESH/STOLTZFUS 3 LOT SUBDIVISION

Joe Devoy made a **motion** to acknowledge and accept the Time Extension for the Preliminary/Final Subdivision and Stormwater Management Plan for 65 River Corner Road. Tom Grassel seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Tom Grassel made a **motion**, seconded by Joe Devoy to enter into Holding Tank Agreements for 5801 River Road and 3267 Main Street. Matthew Connelly explained that these agreements are necessary because there is no available space on either property for an additional on-lot sewage system. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Joe Devoy made a **motion** to approve the 2027 Minimum Municipal Obligation in the amount of \$60,613 for the Non-Police Pension Plan. He mentioned that it is a calculation for the minimum amount a municipality is required to contribute each year to fund the non-police employee's pension plan. Matthew Connelly seconded the motion. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Tom Grassel made a **motion**, seconded by Joe Devoy to provide a letter of commitment for local matching funds to the Lancaster County Planning Department for a 2027 PA DEP grant application. Matthew Connelly mentioned this is to assist with the costs associated with the Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

Joe Devoy made a **motion**, seconded by Tom Grassel to authorize the Solicitor's preparation of a Zoning Ordinance amendment to regulate land uses for Short Term Rentals.

Jordan Hostetter of 241 Pequea Blvd, stated he currently has a B&B and lives on-site part time. He asked what the Supervisors intend to address with a Short-Term Rental Ordinance. Joe Devoy responded that they would like to see inspections, registration and licensing for all Short-Term Rentals. Matthew Connelly added that they are in favor of Short-Term Rentals and are looking to set rules and regulations such as occupancy standards as well as health and safety measures. Mr. Hostetter mentioned a notice he received stating they need to stop bookings until an ordinance is put in place. Joe Devoy stated it is not their intent to put property owners out of business and will revisit communications with the Zoning Officer.

Peter Douglass of Hearthstone Property Management, asked if the Supervisors were looking at mimicking any other municipalities Short-Term Rental Ordinances. Tom Grassel replied that we do tend to review other local municipalities of similar demographics for drafting purposes.

Benuel Esh of 4459 Main Street and Safe Harbor Village, stated he is glad to hear further discussions will take place with being able to continue operations. He mentioned a few positive and beneficial aspects to allowing Short-Term Rentals.

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Debra Brooks asked if there will be consideration for limiting the number of people allowed to rent at the facility. Her concern is that someone will rent the facility and then for instance hold a family reunion inviting 20 people. Joe Devoy replied that nothing has been determined yet, and that we would look for our Solicitor to prepare the ordinance.

Chris Bair of 208 Run Valley Road, asked for the definition of a short-term rental. Matthew Connelly responded that the rental would typically be less than 30 days. With no further discussions the motion passed (3-0).

ROADMASTER REPORT

Brian Herr reported that the roadcrew was a little busy with the recent storms. There was significant damage to the recently completed pipework, and that the repairs were completed the following day. He mentioned normal vehicle maintenance continues on an ongoing basis, and that the second round of roadside mowing was completed entirely with the new machine. He noted that the Township received the check for the grant that funded the machine and reiterated that the grant is funded through gambling revenues rather than taxpayer dollars. He mentioned we are still awaiting delivery of the dump body and hydraulics to complete the upfit of the new dump truck. Line painting that was to be completed last month, was delayed due to the weather conditions, noting that the application cannot be applied if the road surface has moisture.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matthew Connelly mentioned the office will be closed September 7th in observance of Labor Day. The Conestoga Classic Car Show will be held September 26, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM with Main Street Road closure from Sandhill Road to Rineer Road. The next Board of Supervisors regular meeting will be held October 6th. If you did not attend Representative Mentzer's Townhall Meeting held at Fire Hall, he gave a wonderful presentation. He talked mostly about Data Centers and the State Budget. Lastly, Matthew mention that the fire company is holding a golf outing on Friday, October 16th at Crossgates Golf Club. Please consider sponsorships.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,



Jessie L. Ebersole

Conestoga Township Secretary

