MINUTES

NON-LEGISLATIVE MEETING – JULY 2, 2025

The July 2, 2025, Non-Legislative Meeting of the Lower Swatara Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Jon G. Wilt. President Wilt called for the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

The following officials were in attendance:

- Jon G. Wilt, President
- Todd F. Truntz, Vice President
- Ronald J. Paul, Assistant Secretary
- Michael J. Davies, Commissioner
- Christopher DeHart, Commissioner
- Zachary Border, Manager
- Tracey Bechtel, Township Secretary
- Brett Flower, Solicitor
- Shawn Fabian, HRG
- Rich Snyder, Planning and Zoning Coordinator
- Scott Washinger, Public Works Director
- Brian Davis, MS4 Coordinator
- Tom Bell, Jr., Police Chief

Residents and visitors in attendance: Please see attached sign-in sheet.

President Wilt announced that Item 4. On the Agenda, swearing in of the four Officers will be delayed until the District Magistrate arrives, he has a prior commitment at 7:00. He welcomed the visitors and opened the floor for public comment.

THE SWEARING IN OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS: (Judge Smith arrived at 7:30)

Chief Bell took a moment to thank the Board of Commissioners for all the support they have led to this agency over the last year that he has been here. It is amazing where we have come, the addition of these four (4) will be a total of six (6) new hires this year, which is much needed. He thanks them all for their support and encouragement for making this happen and he could not have done it without their support and guidance.

SWEARING IN OF JON HAMERSKY:

Chief Bell presented Jon Hamersky's Bio: Jon Hamersky of Cleona Pennsylvania graduated from Cedar Crest High School in 2011. After High School Cadet Hamersky attended Lebanon Valley College and Harrisburg Area Community College.

Cadat Hamersky has worked for Wellspan Hospital as an Emergency Room Medication History Coordinator since 2020. Cadet Hamersky is bilingual and is a competitive shooter.

Cadet Hamersky is joined today by his wife Bethany, their four children Lillian, Madelyn, Nolan, and Ella. Jon's father, Michael Hamersky is also here tonight.

The Lower Swatara Township Police Department is excited to welcome him to our department and look forward to a long and illustrious career here in Lower Swatara Township.

The Honorable Michael J. Smith swore in Jon Hamersky and congratulated him.

SWEARING IN OF ANTHONY SCHLEE:

Chief Bell presented Anthony Schlee's Bio: Anthony Schlee is originally from the Baltimore Maryland area, but currently resides in Hummelstown Pennsylvania, he graduated from Archbishop Curley High School in 2021. After High School Cadet Schlee attended Bloomsburg University and graduated with a degree in criminal justice/legal studies in 2025. During his time at Bloomsburg Cadet Schlee played soccer all 4 years and was team Captain for his last two years.

Cadet Schlee is joined today by his girlfriend Lillie Weaver, his parents Lawrence and Jessica Schlee, his siblings Joseph and Isabella Schlee, as well as Lillie's parents Neil and Lucie Weaver, her sister Ella, and her grandparents Steve and Lucie Doyle.

The Lower Swatara Township Police Department is excited to welcome him to our department and look forward to a long and illustrious career here in Lower Swatara Township.

The Honorable Michael J. Smith swore in Anthony Schlee and congratulated him.

SWEARING IN OF CARTER BRANDT:

Chief Bell presented Carter Brandt's Bio: Carter Brandt is originally from Danville Virginia, but currently resides in Hummelstown Pennsylvania, he graduated from the Hargrove Military Academy 2018. After High School Cadet Brandt attended the Citadel, Liberty university, and Summit International School of Ministry.

Cadet Brandt has worked as a life coach, and most recently with OPS security at Ft. Indiantown Gap.

Cadet Brandt is joined today by his wife Isabel, his brother Edward, and his friend Micah Wenzel.

The Lower Swatara Township Police Department is excited to welcome him to our department and look forward to a long and illustrious career here in Lower Swatara Township.

The Honorable Michael J. Smith swore in Carter Brandt and congratulated him.

SWEARING IN OF CADE CARTWRIGHT:

Chief Bell presented Cade Cartwright's Bio: Cade Cartwright is from the Harrisburg area; he graduated from Central Dauphin High School in 2018. After High School Cadet Cartwright attended Harrisburg Area Community College and Penn State University he graduated from Penn State with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2022.

Cadet Cartwright has worked as a Probation Officer at the Dauphin County Work Release Center since 2022.

Cadet Cartwright is joined today by his girlfriend, Shawna Shade, his parents Matthew and Christi Cartwright, his brother, Kevin and his grandfather Tom Golden.

The Lower Swatara Township Police Department is excited to welcome him to our department and look forward to a long and illustrious career here in Lower Swatara Township.

The Honorable Michael J. Smith Swore in Cade Cartwright and congratulated him.

Vice President Truntz commented that the Board had an opportunity to interview each of these fine young men last evening and they all walked away very impressed with each and every one of them. The families have a lot to be proud of, and we are very lucky here at Lower Swatara Township to have four fine new officers. He congratulated and welcomed them aboard.

President Wilt noted that they will be a welcomed addition, and he wanted to give credit to our Chief, who has been on top of this recruitment and has done a fantastic job.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tim Knoll, Farmhouse Lane stated he is a 53-year homeowner in the Township with his wife Ginny, who has been on the Recreation Board for over 45 years, and he is a member of the Pension Committee as well. He is here this evening along with Aydan Michtich who has an eagle scout project for the pickle ball courts at the Richard L. Shireman Park. He noted the email that the Township sent out this Monday about the excitement of the park, but quite frankly he is disappointed with the park. He passed out pictures showing stones and rocks being washed out onto the walking paths and making them unpassable in the park and they have been like this for over a month. He can understand why the Township has not taken possession of the park from the contractor, because the contractor is not doing their job. He asked if anyone could tell him when the last time the contractor was on site to do any work. Commissioner DeHart noted that he saw them out there last week laying concrete, redoing sidewalks, and cutting down the dead trees. Mr. Knoll stated that he would appreciate knowing and is sure the citizens would also like to know who is on top of the contractor, obviously the contractor has not done their job. Mr. Border informed him that last Monday the Public Works Department, HRG and himself went out with the VP from Horst Construction to walk around the whole park. They expressed the concerns and all the issues we have had with them. It has been a fight back and forth between us and them and we are trying to stay on top of them. Mr. Knoll assured Mr. Border that he is not blaming him but noted that in the fall of 2024 Mr. Border told him that the pickle ball courts would be opening in October, then in spring he was told May and for a while there, they were playing some pickle ball, but now the course has been padlocked for the last month or so.

Mr. Fabian told Mr. Knoll that he shares his frustration that it is taking this long to get this completed so it can be opened to the public. The trails are the major issue right now for being able to

accept substantial completion and take over ownership of the park. It will continue to be a construction site till these issues are worked through. A lot of the other issues on site are more punch list items that you clean up once substantial completion has been achieved, and you work toward final completion. There are also issues with the pickle ball courts, some of the tensioning on the nets pulled bolts out of the concrete so those items need to be addressed and fixed. We continue to have erosion issues with the trails, especially in the steeper sloped areas, which is the major issue right now to overcome on site. Mr. Fabian added that the tremendous amount of rain that we have had has not made this issue any easier to fix with the contractor. He indicated that they continue to work within the contract mechanism to try to come to a resolution. If that does not happen there are clauses in the contract that the Township can force resolution, he added it is always better to get voluntary compliance.

Mr. Knoll asked what justification the contractor had for the washout of stones on the walking path and why has nobody touched them for over a month. Mr. Fabian indicated that is what is being argued about with the contractor, why this has not been resolved. He has not gotten an answer to his satisfaction yet. Mr. Border added that when they met with Horst Construction on Monday, the one question the contractor asked was, what does the Township need from them to turn this back over to the Township? We told them that the paths need to be fixed and to make sure that no more washouts happen. Mr. Border added that the one thing the contractor said that would hurt the company would be if the Township gave them a one-star review on google, which would indicate a bad experience, and asked what they can do to make this right and they still haven't done what we asked which makes this all very frustrating.

Mr. Knoll asked if anyone could tell him, because people are calling Ginny, since she has been on the Rec Board for 45 years, when the pickle ball courts are going to reopen. Vice President Truntz noted that "reopened" is not the right word, they officially have not been opened at all yet. Mr. Knoll stated that there has been play going on there for about 3 or 4 weeks. Vice President Truntz agreed and added that is why we had to put locks on it because it was not turned over from the contractor yet. Mr. Knoll stated that he would like to give credit to those that constructed the pickle ball courts because they done an outstanding job. He played there with his grandchildren. He just wants to know when they will open officially. Mr. Fabian again indicated when the trails are finished and HRG can process substantial completion. Commissioner DeHart remarked that it has not been turned over yet, so it is all in the contractor's hands, we start using it, they can turn around and say, you started using it we are done, it is yours now. He stated that years ago there was a situation where Steelton was building a fire department building and they used two bays because the old station was being torn down before the project was finished and when the time came for the punchlist items, the contractor said you're already using it, were done, we're not doing anything else.

Mr. Knoll thanked the Board for their time.

Jody and Rodney Mrakovich, 1551 N. Union St stated they are here this evening because they are having issue with bamboo from a neighbor's property. Mrs. Mrakovich explained that this type of bamboo is called "running bamboo," which can damage lawns, gardens, fences, and septic systems. They have been having issues with it coming up near their inground pool. Mrs. Mrakovich explained that this grows about a foot a week and it has continued maintenance. (They brought in a 15 ft piece of root that they dug out earlier in the day to show the Board along with other pictures and research information). They informed the Board that they tried to look up to see if Lower Swatara had an ordinance against obnoxious weeds, they could not find one, so they are asking for consideration of an ordinance for running bamboo. They noted that they do not care if the neighbor has running bamboo, they just do not want it in their yard, but because the roots are already over in their yard, it will be an ongoing problem for them. Vice President Truntz asked if there were any herbicide that would kill it. Mrs. Mrakovich explained that bamboo is very hard to kill, to contain it you must dig a trench about 30 to 33 inches down. The problem is the back and side of the yard where the bamboo is, is about 250+ feet. That is a big burden! She is concerned with their septic system because it is coming up closer to the drainage field. It is growing through their fences, which again requires constant maintenance to try to prevent damage to their property, she added that she just cut some out right next to their pool. This could be a very expensive problem if it continues to grow. Mr. and Mrs. Mrakovich do not feel it should be their burden, they did not plant the bamboo, the neighbor behind them did.

Commissioner DeHart asked if The Township did an ordinance, what would happen, what enforcement would we have, he added that it sounds more like a neighbor dispute than an ordinance problem. Solicitor Flower explained that the Township does have an obnoxious weed ordinance, the code enforcement, Chapter 5, Part 6; and why they didn't see it specially is because Townships adopt the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), so it is by reference, the only things that they are seeing in that section are the Township's modifications, so the Township does have the ability to issue a citation. Mr. Mrakovich indicated that they did have code enforcement out and the gentlemen did say it was an obnoxious weed, it was an issue, and he would reach out to the homeowner behind us. Mr. Mrakovich noted that he does not have a personal issue with the homeowner, he just does not want his bamboo which his neighbor has declined to do anything about it. The Mrakovich's would prefer not to be here this evening regarding this issue, but they are at a loss for what else to do. Mr. Mrakovich added that he would hope by adopting an ordinance this could help someone else down the road, that it be contained within the property owner who is planting it and restricted to encroach the neighboring properties. Solicitor Flower stated the IPMC is adopted in the majority of Pennsylvania municipalities so it will have

a definition for obnoxious weeds, if code enforcement already determined it is an obnoxious weed, they can issue a citation for it and take the homeowner to the MDJ. Mr. Border indicated that the code department said bamboo is not under the Pennsylvania Law and is not considered an obnoxious weed. Mrs. Mrakovich stated that Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources lists it as an invasive species. She stated that they have a 15-foot-long root, it would have to be an obnoxious weed. Solicitor Flower indicated that the IPMC does not give a list of plants specifically that are obnoxious and ones that are not. They define it by the characteristics of the weed. Vice President Truntz asked if it is an obnoxious weed and it falls into this statue, what tools to we have, we can cite them, they pay a $25 fine, how does that escalate, do we have the power to say you have to barricade this on your own property. Solicitor Flower stated that the citation is the Township's fine, it is only $25 or whatever the amount, but once they get to the MDJ they are typically $175 based on costs and everything, so it is a deterrent. Mr. Mrakovich asked if the Township could force a property owner to contain such weed. Solicitor Flower explained, because it is on private property, beyond issuing citations there's not much more that can be done, going through a civil proceeding to seek what is called an injunction, the Township has no interest in keeping it off private property, interest meaning, legal interest not that the Township doesn't care. The Township has no ability to enforce the Mrakovich's personal property, it is their property rights so any civil action would be against them and their neighbor. Vice President Truntz asked if the neighbor is the one who planted the bamboo. Mr. Mrakovich indicated yes, and stated that this has been years going on, he and his wife just took over this property, his dad still lives there, he is 87 years old, he kept up with the bamboo over the years, he kept cutting it and taking it down, but he cannot physically do that anymore. They do not want to do it now that they are taking over the home, it is never ending, it is going to end up ruining something then that expense will fall on them as the property owner.

Mrs Mrakovich asked for clarity that based on what was said earlier their only other option is legal action, by contacting a lawyer. Vice President Truntz commented that unfortunately that is correct. Commissioner Davies commented, document and sue for damages. He added that one might wish people had respect for municipal ordinances and their neighbor's properties, but it is not something that the Township has the magic ability to make happen. He noted he was very surprised to see the number of Dauphin County municipalities that actually do have an ordinance specifically mentioning this particular species and it does help to narrow and define the issue and the problem and it could be a point of information should they reach the point that they would have to be involved in legal action against their neighbor for damages, but he doesn't think that really makes The Township able to force them to comply, that's just the sad reality of the circumstance. Vice President Truntz asked if The Township had a specific ordinance to this effect, is there any way we can craft it to say after so many citations you go to jail, what availability do we have. Solicitor Flower responded that if they do not pay, they go to jail. The

Township's main recourse is issuing citations more frequently, she does believe that there is a statue that says after so many summary citations it escalates to a misdemeanor of the third degree but typically does not. There must be some defiance before you get put in jail. Solicitor Flowers requested the Mrakovich's to take a picture of the root that they brought in with them with something for scale and provide that to the Township.

Commissioner Davies expressed that he appreciated the time to do the research and educate the Board, because he was totally unaware of any adjoining municipality or any municipality in the county had actually attempted to address this issue, and if we have a little time to take a look at this, we can see if that is something that would help their circumstance. Commissioner Davies also added that it is extremely difficult to enforce compliance with these types of situations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Solicitor Flower asked to have the Minuets of June 18, 2025, Legislative Meeting tabled for corrections to the road vacation motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Davies to table the Minutes of June 18, 2025, Legislative Meeting.

APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 1 TO ANKIEWICZ ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE FIDDLERS ELBOW CULVERT REPLACEMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner DeHart, seconded by Commissioner Davies to approve the application for Payment No. 1 to Ankiewicz Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of $175,015.00 for the Fiddlers Elbow Culvert Replacement. The motion was unanimously approved.

ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF AND FORWARDING A COMPLETED APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE TO THE RESPECTIVE PLANNING AGENCIES

A motion was made by Commissioner DeHart, seconded by Vice President Truntz to approve the acknowledgment of receipt of and forwarding a completed Application for Amendment to Zoning Ordinance to the respective planning agencies. The motion was unanimously approved.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF ZACHARY HINER, PUBLIC WORKS LABORER.

The Board accepted the resignation of Zachary Hiner, Public Works Laborer, effective June 23, 2025.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Planning and Zoning/Codes Department:

Mr. Snyder presented the monthly report. Updates to projects include **Cramer Auto** – Punchlist items are still being completed in preparation for final Financial Security Adjustment; **McDonald's Restaurant** – A Pre-Construction Meeting was held on 6/24/2025; and site work commenced on 6/25/2025; **Linden Centre Hotel #2** – Framing has commenced; **Union Knoll** – A Pre-Construction Meeting relative to two (2) Highway Occupancy Permits (HOPs) is scheduled for 6/30/2025. Preliminary site work is pending; **MASD New K-3 Elementary** – Both site work and building construction are progressing. The Operations Building is nearing completion. Masonry walls and steel are being constructed at the school; **Catherine Hershey School** – Punchlist items are being completed in preparation for a final Financial Security Adjustment. Teachers will begin occupancy in July 2025, and students will begin such in August 2025; **Illuminated Integration Office and Trade Shop** – LSTMA punch list items are being completed; **The Ponds on Fulling Mill** – Both site work and building construction are progressing; **Penn Preserve** – Both site work and dwelling construction on final lot of the development are nearing completion; **Penn State Chiller Building** – Site work has commenced. All building code inspections are being completed by the PA Department of Labor & Industry; **UGI CNG Facility** – Site work is progressing; and building construction has commenced.

The Zoning Hearing Board: **No pending items.**

The Planning Commission: **Brook Meadow Farms (Preliminary/Final Plan)** – Tabled by the Planning Commission on 2/27/2025; **Greenfield Drive & Blue Raider Lane** – Upon another written request, tabled by the Plan Designer until 07/28/2025. A request for another Time Extension will be on the BOC Legislative Agenda for 7/16/202; **Palomba LDP** – Recommended for approval by the Planning Commission on 5/22/2025. Both the Plan and the respective waiver requests will be on the BOC Legislative Agenda for 7/16/2025; **Fulling Mills (2025)** – An Application for Amendment to Zoning Ordinance will be on the BOC Workshop Agenda for 7/2/2025; **The Middletown Home (Building 1)** – On the Planning Commission Agenda for 7/24/2025.

Permit activity for the month of June 2025 is as follows: Commercial – 5; Residential – 9; Sewer – 2; Sign – 0; Shop drawings – 1; Demolition – 0; Zoning – 15; Street Cut – 4.

Public Works Department

Mr. Washinger updated the Board on the following: **Public Work:** Parks are continually being mowed in between the rain. Trying to get caught up on the Right of Way mowing. **Shireman's Park:** Met with Horst to go over the deficiencies within the park construction. Our concerns were discussed. Six of the

eight ADA bench pads are poured and in place. We will begin setting the benches sometime this week as time allows. **Fire House:** The reconstruction of the firehouse entrance area will begin July 2, 2025. We are still waiting on the compressor for the dry chemical feed system. The caulking around the front windows of the firehouse will be replaced. One interior window needs caulking replaced as well. Waiting for the final quote from Stoltzfus to determine what contractor we will be using to repair the shingled roof area that leaks only during certain storms. Once repaired we will be able to set a budget to have the entire roof replaced within the next 5 years or so. **North Union Street:** D.E. Gemmel will be placing thermoplastic lines on the roadway from Longview to Fiddlers Elbow. Mr. Washinger is only doing a portion of this road for now to determine if this line will last without discoloration. Once it has been determined that the lines will hold up under the dire conditions from Pennsy Supply then he will contract out the remainder of the road to be done. **Garage Door: The** photo sensors on the one garage door in public works needed to be replaced. The door would constantly get stuck in either the open or closed position.

Commissioner DeHart asked if we were looking at repairing the garage, the rust spots on the outside. Mr. Border indicated that he reached out to the gentlemen and is getting a new quote. Commissioner DeHart recommended that in the wintertime when it is warm enough the building should be washed down because those spots are being caused by the salt.

Commissioner DeHart asked if there had been any more thought about the pavilion over in Old Reliance Park. Mr. Border noted that where the big pavilion is located it is quite a distance from the playground area, so it would be a good idea to put a small pavilion type structure over by the playground to provide some shade there.

MS4/Stormwater Department:

Mr. Davis updated the Board on the following: **Stormwater Complaints** – There are no outstanding stormwater complaints at this time. **Draft MS4 Permit** – The Department of Environmental Protection is still reviewing comments from municipalities regarding the new MS4 permit and will have a final version available in early summer. **WREP Program** – WREP has finally completed a draft scope of work for next year's BMP Inventory and GIS mapping. We will be meeting on July 23rd to finalize this scope with all members before putting out for bids on the project. Tri-County has also submitted its application for the 2025 Growing Greener Grant. The Rosedale stream restoration above Lisa Lake and the associated flood mitigation project in the Flats were included as part of the grant application. We are now in a holding pattern as we wait to see if the grant is awarded. If it is, WREP will need to meet and discuss which projects from the application will be greenlit to proceed. **Storm Fest** – Reminder that Camp Hill Borough will be hosting their annual StormFest on July 23rd It is an intermunicipal fair focused on providing the public with education about stormwater management and environmental protection. The Township will be participating in this event to meet our MCM #1 permit requirements. Mr. Davis is currently working on a display focused on

demonstrating how ground cover (grass, dirt, and gravel) can have various effects on the amount of runoff generated during rain events. **Stormwater Ordinance Updates** – Updates to our stormwater ordinance are on hold, pending the final terms from the draft MS4 permit. Depending on the requirements set out by DEP, the Township may benefit from making certain changes to this ordinance. **Old Reliance Dam** – Public Works has placed an order for the trash rack, required by DEP, to be installed at the dam's upstream inlet. This is currently being fabricated.

Commissioner Paul inquired about the Shope Gardens drainage basin, the fence looks nice, the vegetation that is growing in it is about fifteen feet high. How do we maintain it? Mr. Davis noted that he and Mr. Washinger went out there last week and had a conversation about what needs to be done trying to maintain that and keep it looking more attractive. The very large vegetation along the side slopes on the outside, those are the tallest things that you can see and are blocking the view of the interior. We have let that go these last couple of years because we are trying to catch as much additional water as possible. We need to plant a lot of large vegetation in the middle and some of that is really starting to come in now, so we are going to start trimming back the outside vegetation to about four feet high.

Vice President Truntz asked if that basin is full of water. Mr. Davis described it as two parts. The upper side is mostly dry these days, if you recall that it was always wet, but we have a lot of vegetation established there and it has been working more effectively to soak up water. The bottom end still has some cattails in it, still tends to fill with water, he is hoping, as part of all this, that once we clear out more cattails, we can get a few more things planted this fall.

Commissioner DeHart stated that there is a plate under there that goes to the turnpike for drainage. Mr. Davis indicated that it is not in the garden itself. It is at the corner of Donald where it crosses. Commissioner DeHart asked who maintains that. Mr. Davis said the Turnpike Commission owns that. Commissioner DeHart asked if there is any agreement that we maintain that, because he recalls there were rumors ten to fifteen years ago that the Turnpike gave us an escrow to maintain it.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Vialytics

Mr. Border reported that he had set up Vialytics to do a demonstration with some staff. He saw this company at a conference and thought it could be something the Township could benefit from. He explained to the Board that Vialytics is an AI-powered road management system that can help municipalities optimize road maintenance. How it works is employees mount a smartphone with the Vialytics app on their windshield and drive on the roads. The app will automatically take pictures every few meters, GPS tracking and timestamps are recorded along with the images, the system can also document other infrastructure like traffic signs and manhole covers. The collected images are uploaded to a server and AI identifies and categorizes

different types of road damage, such as cracks, potholes, and other defects, with a high degree of accuracy, it can also differentiate between various types of cracks and provides objective data for prioritizing repairs based on the severity and extent of damage. It can also calculate the cost of repairs based on predefined repair types and customized pricing. It will facilitate the creation and management of work orders for road maintenance tasks.

Mr. Border noted that the last road study was done in 2017. This is not a one-time study and done, this will be an ongoing, we can keep these phones, and this will give us a constant updated database of road conditions which will be beneficial for our 5-year plan for budgeting purposes. He wanted to see if the Board would be interested in this tool for the Township and if so, we could put it into next year's budget. Commissioner DeHart asked how much this would cost. Mr. Border indicated around $8,000/year. Mr. Fabian noted that they had looked into RoadBotics a few years back and it only looked into roads, not the signage, and for the whole drive around as a one-time thing, he believes it was more than $8,000. Commissioner DeHart commented that he believes when HRG did the road study it was over $30,000. Mr. Border will get additional information to the Board and feedback from other municipalities that are using it.

Brentwood Drive

Mr. Border recalled the gentlemen from Brentwood Drive that were here at the last meeting. He and Mr. Washinger went down there yesterday, and we came up with a solution. The grass is good till about the center line, the curb to center line is where it is bad, it is just stone and dirt. Our thought was to dig that out, put topsoil then sod down. He asked the Solicitor if the Township could come up with an Agreement that states it is the homeowner's responsibility to water the grass so they cannot come back and say, it is our fault that it is not growing. The Solicitor indicated that an agreement can be made.

Commissioner Paul asked how many properties there are. Mr. Border explained that originally Mr. Acker sent out about twenty emails to his neighbors, but he only got seven responses back that indicated they were interested. Mr. Border asked the Board if he should look at all the properties or only the seven that responded back to him. The Board was in favor with the seven that responded. Commissioner Davies emphasized that this should not be done in August. Mr. Border indicated that they talked about fall time.

Hazardous Mitigation Resolution

Mr. Border noted that the Resolution to adopt the County's Hazardous Mitigation as Lower Swatara Township's Hazardous Mitigation plan will be on the Legislative meeting agenda.

Commissioner DeHart noted that at the Georgetown play area and some of the other play areas we should plan for added sun coverage over the playsets, so it is not so hot. Something that can be put up in the spring and taking down in the fall, so they are not there during the winter. Commissioner Paul questioned if

Commissioner DeHart is indicating that we have plenty of recreation money to do these things. Commissioner DeHart responded, yes, Commissioner Paul stated that he understands that as well.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Fabian reported on the following: Richard **L. Shireman Park** – Horst, HRG and Township Staff performed a detailed site walk Monday June 23, 2025, to walk through Horst's plan to bring the site into a sate ready for substantial completion. Horst is creating a plan to address the remaining items. **Fiddler's Elbow Box Culvert** – Veolia continues to prepare their permit submission for PADEP's review and as agreed to let us know as soon as they see the permit so we can re-engage the contactor for construction. Old Castle has agreed to continue to store the culvert so that it does not need to be delivered to site until construction. **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program** – The home demolition projects, the asbestos abatement is scheduled for July 14th for both homes, utility disconnect letters were received, those are all in the process now. Looking at the timeline for the project it is probably most realistic to look at an extension for substantial and final completion. The recommendation when HRG was reviewing through how long it takes for the abatement, the disconnections, and the processing of the actual demolitions it would make sense to push it to September 30, 2025 for substantial and October 31, for final. If the Board and staff are agreeable to that, HRG can get a Change Order processed for the Board to act on at a later date. **2024 CIP Stormwater Improvement Project** – The additional SUE work has been completed and surveyed in the field. Final confirmation of utility depths in the next week or so to be able to attempt additional engineering solutions to resolve the high-pressure gas line and waterline conflicts. HRG also completed all the highway occupancy permitting for the Lumber St. Mr. Border was able to sign the permit submission and HRG will submit to PennDOT. **N. Union St. Traffic Study** – They are through the initial data collection and into the analysis phase right now. Some of the preliminary findings validate some of the concerns that we raised concerning this project, but they have not completed that analysis yet, review and finalize the Study should be by mid-August 2025.

Mr. Fabian mentioned to the Board that FEMA is updating their mapping for Dauphin County, the last mapping was in 2012. They are processing the latest map revisions and their zone revisions. As soon as they send out GIS data of the new zones, there are quite a few revisions within Lower Swatara Township for additions and deletions of the zones based on actual topography, so it is making changes to the actual flood map for the insurance maps. HRG will review when the data comes in before they finalize the maps. We will have new flood maps within the next two years.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Commissioner DeHart thanked everyone for coming out. It was nice to hire four good cadets tonight, they will be a great addition to the team, it is great to be almost fully staffed again. He thanked Chief Bell for all his help with getting people to work here.

Commissioner Davies agreed with Commissioner DeHart with Chief Bell doing a great job of bringing us up to strength in the Police Department, we welcome the four new cadets and wish them great success in their coming career. He also greatly appreciates the folks coming out and making us aware of some issues that homeowners have. It would be nice for us to look at trying to address them, there are a lot more problems and actually there is a lot more problems with bamboo in our Township than perhaps just these folks are experiencing. It just so happens that it is not in an area where it is critical infringement from one neighbor to another yet. He has seen a number of groves of bamboo that could become problematic at some point, because it is pernicious in its rate of growth.

Commissioner Paul asked for an executive session following tonight's meeting for potential litigation.

Vice President Truntz echoed the sentiments of his fellow Commissioners about the Police Department and welcome these fellows aboard and for the great job the Chief is doing, but he would like to expand that to the entire Township. He noted that he has been on this Board for about ten years and he served on the Authority Board for about four years prior, this is the best he has ever seen the Township run, we got great staff, a great manager, a great board, a lot of great things going on here in the Township, he just wanted to say thanks to the folks that are here every day doing the work, its recognized and much appreciated. He thanks everyone for coming out and hopes everyone enjoys the upcoming holiday weekend.

President Wilt stated he is glad we have four great people starting the Academy this coming week, this is a true testament to our Chief. He hopes they all make it through; there is no reason to think that they would not. He thanked everyone for coming out and offering their comments and added that everyone enjoys his birthday tomorrow (a little self-promotion).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no other comments, a motion was made by Commissioner DeHart, seconded by Commissioner Davies to adjourn the meeting and convene into executive session. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

ATTEST:

Tracey Bechtel
Township Secretary

PLEASE PRINT NAME CLEARLY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 2, 2025
WORKSHOP **MEETING (7:00 PM)**

Name/Organization	Address/Contact Information
Dale Messick	Res. Dent.
Ron Burkholder	LST
Mike Wood	HRG
Shawna Shade	HBG
Cade Cartwright	
Lillie Weaver	
Anthony Schlee	
Jessica Schlee	
Bella Schlee	
Lumi D Ruen	
Ella Weaver	
Lucie Doyle	
Neil Weaver	
Steve Doyle	
Joe Schlee	
Lamy Sithu	
Tim & Cindy NOLL	
Kara Eckly	Middletown
Ryan Richtich	middletown
Son + Bethany Hamersley	Lebanon County
MIKE HAMERSLEY	~

PLEASE PRINT NAME CLEARLY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 2, 2025
WORKSHOP **MEETING (7:00 PM)**

Name/Organization	Address/Contact Information
Rodney & Jody MRAKOVICH	15511 N. UNION St 99111-5371