

MAHONING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

MINUTES

December 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

Robert Slaw called the meeting to order at 6:00PM at the Mahoning Township Building 2175 Blakeslee Blvd Dr. West, Lehighton, PA 18235.

PRESENT:

Robert Slaw, Chairman; Deborah McGowan, Vice-Chair; Ronald Wenrich, Supervisor, Carol Etheridge, Thomas Nanovic, Solicitor; Megan Nanovic, Attorney and Natalie D. Haggerty, Secretary-Treasurer

ABSENT:

Ronald Reeser, Supervisor; Stephen Wanner, Zoning Officer and Audie Mertz, Chief of Police

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Todd Wingert: First I like to say that the neighbors and I appreciate that the Board is sympathetic to our cause (slaughterhouse). Also, the issue with the fence and it turned around. The nuts and bolts of this are them having a permit for slaughtering. They should not have it. The previous owner that got the permit pulled the wool over the zoning officer's eye. He didn't do his due diligence; there is not enough footage there for them to have a slaughterhouse and for twenty eight years it was not. It cannot be grandfathered. The owner before was Ebert and he could have had slaughtering but didn't because of too many upgrades and regulations, so he did not slaughter. I know it will come down to money and lawsuits, I know everybody involved should be held accountable if there is a mistake. I know the goat owner, it's not so much there fault, but the realtor had the previous owner get the zoning permit. If they want to have a butcher shop there will be no complaints by the neighbors; but the slaughtering there is still going to be smells and flies and they are too close to all the other neighbors. There are still issues. Temporary fence was put up by Holly because they were walking on Joni's property and someone took down the no trespassing signs.

Deborah McGowan: I contacted John Nano; he is with the Department of Agricultural -USDA. Had a very extensive phone conversation with him. According to him unfortunately they are committing no violations. Unfortunately, as soon as hooves hit the ground, they are responsible for food, water, and bedding, this is a requirement of USDA. The end trail situation and how they are disposing of that is under discussion. Whose liable? If you see them taking goats out of their cars, it is legal. It is called custom exempt butchering. Nothing illegal about it.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION

Ronald Wenrich made a motion to approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2025 Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS:

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to approve the following transfers:

\$16,845.09 Payroll Checking to General Checking 11/13/25

\$16,999.93 Payroll Checking to General Checking 11/20/25

\$16,026.92 Payroll Checking to General Checking 11/26/25

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\$17,859.36 Payroll Checking to General Checking 12/4/25

537.97 Residential Street Light to General Checking

\$595.20 Residential Fire Hydrant to General Checking

Seconded by Ronald Wenrich. Robert Slaw, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORT:

MOTION

Ronald Wenrich made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for November 2025. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS AND PAYROLLS:

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to approve the following bills and payrolls:

Bill List #539 in the amount of \$178,284.55

General Check's #25505-#25539

State Check's #1902-#1903

Building and Land Check #1123

Subdivision Land Development Check's #1649-#1650

Seconded by Ronald Wenrich. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

MOTION

Ronald Wenrich made a motion to accept and place on file the following reports:

Mahoning Township Road Department Reports November 3, 2025-November 28, 2025

Mahoning Township Road Department Equipment and Fuel Log for November 2025

Mahoning Valley Ambulance November 2025 Directors Report

Mahoning Township Municipal Authority Minutes for October 15, 2025

Mahoning Township Building and Zoning Report November 2025

Carbon County Tax Committee 2026 Proposed Budget

Mahoning Valley Vol. Fire Co #1 Firemen's Relief Assoc. January-1, 2022-December 31, 2024

Mahoning Township Police Department Fuel Log November 2025

Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried. Noted the Fire Company to keep up the good work and congratulations on a successful audit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #2025-27: Adoption of the 2026 Budget

MOTION

Carol Etheridge made a motion to adopt Resolution #2025-27: "A Resolution of the Township of Mahoning appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of the municipal government, set forth during the year 2026. The total revenues for the fiscal year 2026 be in the amount of \$3,610,954.00 and the total expenditures for the fiscal year 2026 be in the amount of \$3,610,954.00. Seconded by Ronald Wenrich. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald

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Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Resolution #2025-28: Adoption of the 2026 Tax Levy

MOTION

Ronald Wenrich made a motion to adopt Resolution #2025-28 : “A Resolution of the Township of Mahoning, fixing the tax rate for year 2026. Tax rate for General Purposes the sum of 6 mills, For Fire Protection Purposes the sum of .5 mills, For Road Machinery Purposes the sum of .5 mills For Building and Land Purposes the sum of .75 mills. Seconded by Deborah McGowan. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Fredericks Grove Road Solar LLC Decision (Motion to Sign)

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to sign Fredericks Grove Solar LLC Decision. Seconded by Ronald Wenrich. Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes; Robert Slaw, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Motion to Award Bid for 2011 Dodge to Ramseys Septic Service in the amount of \$24,601

MOTION

Robert Slaw made a motion to award bid to Ramseys Septic Service in the amount of \$24,601.00. Seconded by Ronald Wenrich. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Motion to Advertise for Part Time Police Administration Secretary

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to advertise for parttime police administration secretary. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Motion to Schedule and Advertise Conditional Use Hearing for Mudrick Meadows

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to schedule on January 14, 2026 6:00pm and advertise to give public notice of Mudrick Meadows Conditional Use Hearing. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Motion to Appoint Timothy Eckhart to CCMA (5year term)

MOTION

Carol Etheridge made a motion to appoint Timothy Eckhart to Central Carbon Municipal Authority retroactive January 1, 2025. Seconded by Deborah McGowan. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Motion to Advertise to Rebid Dehumidification System

MOTION

Ronald Wenrich made a motion to advertise that the township will be accepting bids for a dehumidification system. Seconded by Deborah McGowan. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich,

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yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ULP Agreement

MOTION

Carol Etheridge made a motion to approve the ULP Agreement. Seconded by Deborah McGowan. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Mahoning Township Historical Society Ordinance

TABLE – Schedule meeting at Jan. meeting.

Mahoning Valley Fire Co. License Agreement

Attorney Nanovic addressed a few items within the agreement with Fire Chief Ebbert and the Board. All items have been addressed; final agreement will be drafted for approval.

ZONING ORDINANCES

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to advertise workshop for purpose of zoning ordinances on January 13, 2026 at 5:30pm. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Note: invite Planning Commission, engineer, and zoning officer.

(Warehouse Ordinance, Data Center Ordinance, R-1 Zoning District Schedule of Uses)

CORRESPONDENCE:

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to accept and place on file the correspondence dated December 10, 2025. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes and Carol Etheridge, yes 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

***CARBON CONSERVATION DISTRICT, CHRIS STORM

RE : PENNDOT OPERATORS TRAINING FACILITY PROJECT ADEQUACY REVIEW, 1971 MAHONING DRIVE EAST. PLAN ADEQUATELY ADDRESS EROSION AND SEDIMENT POLLUTION CONTROL AND MEETS MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEP RULES AND REGULATIONS.

***FAMILY PROMISE OF CARBON COUNTY, CATHY

RE: THANK YOU FOR DONATION

***LTL CONSULTANTS, STEPHEN WANNER

RE: NOTICE OF VIOLATION, ACCUMULATION OF JUNK/RUBBISH & JUNK VEHICLES, 54 CHAPEL DR

***LTL CONSULTANTS, STEPHEN WANNER

RE: COURTESY LETTER, MANUFACTURED HOUSE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT PERMIT, 1321 MAHONING DR EAST

***NANOVIC LAW OFFICES, THOMAS NANOVIC

RE: REQUEST FOR DATE AND REVIEW OF ATTACHED PUBLIC NOTICE FOR CONDITIONAL USE HEARING FOR MUDRICK MEADOWS BANQUET HALL

***NANOVIC LAW OFFICES, THOMAS NANOVIC

RE: PSATS DECISION ON AMENDING AGENDA AT MEETING.

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***IAN FARRELL

RE: LETTER OF INTEREST TO BE APPOINTED AS PRIMARY SEO FOR 2026 FOR MAHONING TOWNSHIP

***ALL COUNTY AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

RE: LETTER OF INTEREST TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PRIMARY SEO FOR 2026 FOR MAHONING TOWNSHIP

***LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MAHONING DRIVE-IN

***PSATS NEWS BULLETIN, NOVEMBER 2025

***PA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, LTAP, FALL 2025 QUARTERLY REVIEW OF NEWS

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Road – No one present, out plowing

Police- Carol Etheridge: it is going very well. We had two meetings with the FOP. Deb and I are very happy with the conversations we have been having and willingness to come to the table and go through the items. We are making good progress. No more details to share because it is an active negotiation. Deb McGowan added that the arbitration has not been settled yet, that is something we will have to discuss in executive session. The letter that we received is incorrect, the date is correct if we go to arbitration which is set for February 20th, but the place is incorrect, which is Danville the other Mahoning Township. So, Chris Gerber did manage to get that straightened out and that is set for February 20. According to my latest conversation with Chris. Both him and Todd are happy to push it off for another 25 days from the February 20th if we are coming close. Jeffrey is here; we have some sticking points; but I think we can work them out. There are some things we need to sit down about. With Carols financial statements and different points, we are making with the raises and the pension contribution I think we can work it out. Its going well.

Robert questioned radios. Not all portables were covered. When do they phase out? By the end of next year.

Fire- We are in the same boat with the radios.

MOTION

Ronald Wenrich made a motion to amend agenda to waive Mahoning Township zoning and building permit fees for Mahoning Valley Ambulance roof replacement. Seconded by Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to waive Mahoning Township zoning and building permit fees for Mahoning Valley Ambulance roof replacement. Seconded by Robert Slaw. Robert Slaw, yes; Ronald Wenrich, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

OFFICIALS:

Deborah McGowan presented plaques to Robert Slaw, Ronald Wenrich and Myron Blahy for appreciation of years of service.

Robert Slaw: It has been a privilege to work with all of you and former supervisor. I appreciate all work put in.

Mark Ebbert thanked Robert, Ron, and Zeke on behalf of fire company for all they have done to support them.

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Robert Slaw questioned the request to purchase two radios for our police department.

Robert Slaw announced there will be an executive session at the conclusion of the meeting for legal and personnel.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION

Deborah McGowan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. Seconded Carol Etheridge. Robert Slaw, yes; Deborah McGowan, yes Ronald Wenrich, yes and Carol Etheridge 4-0 vote. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Natalie D. Haggerty
Secretary-Treasurer