

October 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building with Chairman John Beaufort presiding.

Members Present: John Beaufort, Paul Knupp, Dan Resenic, Stephanie Verna, and Wade Stoner.

Others Present: Township Manager Michael Strelac, Solicitor Dan Hudock, Police Chief Michael Matrunics, and Finance Officer Beverly Warfel.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Agenda Items

There were no comments from the public.

COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Stoner stated he wanted to recognize the efforts of the Police Department, volunteer fire departments, and other volunteers for keeping Fort Days smooth. So much of the work goes on behind the scenes. He also wanted to acknowledge Diana Kuzemchak for her work with the rec board.

Supervisor Knupp wanted to echo Supervisor Stoner's comments and to also thank the Public Works department for their contribution to Fort Days. He also believes things went smoothly.

Supervisor Resenic also thanked the Police Department, and the volunteer fire departments. The only complaint he heard was about the traffic and that is always a complaint.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Supervisor Stoner and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to approve the minutes of the September 22nd meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) DCNR re: Ligonier Valley Trail Grant
- b) PennDOT municipal bridge first notification – municipal bridge preservation
- c) Ligonier Valley Library request for donation
- d) Ligonier Valley Library thank you for donation

MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Strelac shared that at the last meeting he made a long thank you to all those who worked on grants, which continues to expand with the Township having received a DCNR grant for half the cost, or \$163,300, to update Ligonier Valley Trail. He also provided a public works update, with news that the public works crew will be changing to a 7-3 shift starting Monday, October 19.

Supervisor Beaufort asked a question as to who the Township will be requesting funds from for the Township match for the DCNR grant. Mr. Strelac listed funds already on hand and who provided them. There will be some "work in kind" provided and he is also looking forward to perhaps some volunteer work.

Supervisor Knupp questioned the amount of time the Township will have to complete the work. Mr. Strelic indicated he believes the time frame to be two years from the signing of the contract.

Finally and in response to Chairman Beaufort's question if there was an actual plan yet of the work to be done on the trail, Supervisor Stoner explained that the Eads Group has been instrumental in developing such a plan including a needs assessment & drawings indicating areas that need specific remediation and improvement.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Hudock stated there are two open code matters in litigation. The Township already received default judgements in both. These properties are on Coyote Lane and Byers Road. The court needs to set the penalty amounts. On December 3rd both hearings are scheduled, but he believes one will be resolved prior to that hearing.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Matrunics expressed that Fort Days was successful with minimal problems. He stated that Friday the department was acknowledged by Fort Days with the Ralph Bennett award. Overall, it was a good weekend except for the wash out on Sunday.

Supervisor Beaufort stated there are lots of hours spent in preparation for this event by the Police Department and others. Further referencing the police department, he indicated that we have just had to replace two officers. He stated that prior to consolidation our departments lost officers after training because wages seemed to be non-competitive. Contract negotiations are coming up next year and the Commission will be looking at current wages versus other municipalities which may require change.

Supervisor Knupp stated the same thing is occurring with the public works personnel.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Verna presented the fund balances for the end of September and two bill pay lists.

Fund Balances (month end)	September 2026
General Fund	\$ 287,051
General Fund Reserves	\$ 1,543,104
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund	\$ 179,803
Capital Fund Reserves	\$ 799,457
Ligonier Beach Park Fund	\$ -
Ligonier Trail Fund	\$ 75,950
Developer's Fund*	\$ 14,721
*Fire Insurance Escrow	
*Escrow	\$ 4,000
*Hydrogreen, LLC	\$ 5,000
*LVSD Capital Project	\$ 5,000
*Mill Creek Memorial Park	
*Community Garden	\$ 721
*Ligonier Trail	
Total Funds	\$ 2,900,087

Bill Pay List:

General Fund: \$ 59,266.13

Capital Fund (Act 13): \$ 24,570.28

A motion was made by Supervisor Verna and seconded by Supervisor Stoner to approve the payment of bills. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance 2026-OR-02 Community Development Board – Supervisor Beaufort stated that this is still being discussed but will be removed from the agenda for the time being.

- b) Resolution 2026-R-03 Ligonier Valley Police Commission Code of Conduct –

A motion was made by Supervisor Resenic and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to approve Resolution 2026-R-03. Motion carried unanimously.

- c) Public Works laborer –

A motion was made by Supervisor Stoner and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to hire Harley Kelly as public works laborer. Motion carried unanimously.

- d) Pension actuarial administrative services.

A motion was made by Supervisor Stoner and seconded by Supervisor Verna to enter into an agreement with Acrisure for pension actuarial services. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance 2026-OR-04 No Parking 711 North – After discussion it was decided to place this item on hold until after discussion with owner of the property in question.

b) Ligonier Valley Hall of Fame 5k –

A motion was made by Supervisor Beaufort and seconded by Supervisor Stoner to approve a special events permit for the Ligonier Valley Hall of Fame 5k, with date changed to April 11, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.

c) Trick-or-Treat date and time.

A motion was made by Supervisor Verna and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to set the Township's official trick or treating hours to October 31st from 6 to 8 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

d) Expiring terms (Planning, ZHB; Recreation Board; LTMA; LVPD –

A motion was made by Supervisor Resenic and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to advertise for letters of interest for expiring terms. Motion carried unanimously.

e) Shannon-Burke Plan –

A motion was made by Supervisor Verna and seconded by Supervisor Stoner to approve the Shannon-Burke Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

f) Trail fundraising letter –

A motion was made by Supervisor Verna and seconded by Supervisor Resenic to authorize requesting and receiving donations for the Ligonier Valley Trail. Motion carried unanimously.

g) Coyote Lane Violation –

The Board went to the Executive Session to discuss legal strategy related to Coyote Lane Litigation. No action was taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- For personnel matters related to public works laborer agenda item.
- For legal strategy related to Coyote Lane litigation.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. and returned at 7:46 p.m. After Executive Session, action was taken on the personnel matter. No action was taken related to the Coyote Lane litigation.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – All other

There were no additional comments from the public.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Knupp stated he is not happy with sound system and would like to bring Greg back to refine the system. The Board indicated agreement.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Supervisor Verna and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to adjourn the meeting. All the Board was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Warfel
Finance Officer/Assistant Secretary