

**April 14, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, April 24, 2026, at 7:40 p.m. in the Municipal Building with Chairman John Beaufort presiding.

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

**Others Present:** Township Manager Michael Strelac, Solicitor Dan Hudock, and Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Rick Krouse.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Agenda Items**

Dawn Kissell commented on the rezoning of Waterford from Agriculture to Commercial, and on the Ligonier Country Market moving to the Waterford VFD site. Mrs. Kissell stated that the Country Market may be able to operate at the Waterford VFD site via a special exemption as a “use not otherwise listed.” Mrs. Kissell commented on other options that would allow the Country Market to operate on the Waterford grounds.

Christy Boyd commented on emails between the Waterford VFD and the Ligonier Country Market.

Lori Frye commented on the proposed drain pipe agreement on Mill Road. Mrs. Frye and Mrs. Legato would like to see plans prior to signing.

Rob Derk commented on what would happen if the Waterford fire department went defunct. Mr. Derk stated that the property has to go to another non-profit. If another non-profit does not take the property, the property goes to Ligonier Township.

**COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Wade Stoner commented on the difficulty of adjudicating difficult issues. Mr. Stoner stated that Supervisors are doing the best that they can for the community.

Supervisor Paul Knupp thanked the audience for attending.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Stoner and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to approve the minutes of the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE –**

- a) Allegheny Foundation re: pedestrian safety project
- b) Loyalhanna Watershed re: 21st Annual Great Ligonier Valley Cleanup
- c) Court of Common Pleas re: free and clear sale
- d) PennDOT (x2) re: bridge preservation, 30 over Mill Creek
- e) Dawn Kissell re: Waterford VFD zoning
- f) Ligonier Country Market packet

**REPORTS:**

**MANAGER REPORT** – Mr. Strelac commented on the Finance Officer being absent. He also reported that spring real estate taxes are starting to come in.

**SOLICITOR REPORT** – Mr. Hudock reported on the Cherokee Lane code violation matter.

**POLICE REPORT** – Chief Matrunic presented the police report.

**TREASURER REPORT** – Treasurer Verna presented the Treasurer’s Report and the Bill pay lists.

<b>Fund Balances (month end)</b>	<b>March 2026</b>
General Fund	\$ 358,793
General Fund Reserves	\$ 1,411,578
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund	\$ 465,689
Capital Fund Reserves	\$ 599,906
Ligonier Beach Park Fund	\$ 39,923
Developer's Fund*	\$ 57,150
*Fire Insurance Escrow	\$ 38,720
*Escrow	\$ 4,000
*Hydrogreen, LLC	\$ 5,000
*LVSD Capital Project	\$ 5,000
*Mill Creek Memorial Park	\$ 1,209
*Community Garden	\$ 721
*Ligonier Trail	\$ 2,500
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$ 3,101,885</b>

- a) Approval of bill pay lists
  - General Fund: \$ 59,071.60
  - Ligonier Beach: \$ 17,680.89
  - Liquid Fuels: \$ 51,000.84
  - Capital Reserve (Act 13): \$ 776.84

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** –

- a) Resolution 2026-R-01 – Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement – No action taken. Held over to next meeting.
- b) Ordinance 2026-OR-01 amending zoning code at solar – No action taken. Held over to next meeting. The next Planning Commission meeting is April 23.
- c) Resolution 2026-R-03 – Ligonier Valley Police Commission Code of Conduct – No action taken. Held over to next meeting.
- d) Resolution 2026-R-05 DCNR grant application Ligonier Trail – No action taken. Held over to next meeting.

- e) Fort Ligonier Days Detour –The meeting with Fort Ligonier Days has not yet been scheduled. The Fort Days Committee indicates they do not want to meet. No Action taken. Held over to next meeting.
- f) Sale of equipment – No action taken. Auctions end April 24. Held over to next meeting

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Waterford VFD rezoning – Solicitor Hudock clarified that the PA Ethics Commission advised that Supervisors Beaufort and Knupp recuse themselves, and that with their recusal the vote requires a vote of 3-0 to be approved. Supervisor Stoner stated that this is a complex issue, and he would like to table the matter and review other options. Supervisor Verna spoke about alternative options for the Waterford VFD properties.

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Stoner to table the request in order to gather more information. Motion died due to lack of second.

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Resenic to approve the zoning request. Motion died due to lack of second.

No action was taken.

Solicitor Hudock explained that with no action taken, the issue can remain on the agenda for future meetings, or can simply be dropped completely. There is no requirement for Supervisors to do anything.

- b) Ligonier Country Market special events permits

No action was taken

- c) Ligonier Valley Learning Center consolidation plan – Mr. Krouse explained the plan. No non-conformities are being created, some non-conformities are being eliminated, the SEO reviewed, the Planning Commission recommended approval.

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Verna and seconded by Supervisor Resenic to approve the Ligonier Valley Learning Center plan. The motion passed unanimously.

- d) Mark Spitzer plan – No action taken. The owners have not yet signed the subdivision plans. Held over to next meeting.

- e) Drain pipe agreement, Mill Road – Supervisor Beaufort explained the issue with Mill Road.

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Resenic and seconded by Supervisor Verna to approve the agreement between Ligonier Township, Tracy Legato, and Lori Frye. The motion passed unanimously.

- f) Ligonier Beach fencing – Supervisor Beaufort explained the cleanup of the property the previous weekend.

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Resenic and seconded by Supervisor Verna to open the property to the public, fill in the old filter house basement, and have public works maintain the property. The motion passed unanimously.

g) Resolution 2026-R-09 DCNR grant application Ligonier Beach – The resolution was tabled until the next meeting based on the upcoming meeting this Friday with the regional DCNR representative. Supervisor Beaufort stated that he wants to start a new committee to handle the Ligonier Beach property instead of the Recreation Board. No action taken. Held over to next meeting.

h) Township of Ligonier vs. Dennis & Karen Beard settlement

**A motion** was made by Supervisor Resenic and seconded by Supervisor Knupp to approve settling the code complaint in the amount of \$3,250. The motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Executive Session to discuss legal strategy related to the Township of Ligonier vs. Dennis & Karen Beard litigation.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC -**

Dan Stevens commented on Mill Road and Fort Ligonier Days.

Cindy Brown commented on the Ligonier Beach property, its potential cost to taxpayers, and revenue generating possibilities for the property.

Pat McDowell asked the board to consider adjusting the zoning code to allow public safety facilities to exist in any zone.

Terrell Funk commented on Ligonier Beach and the possibility of a new committee to oversee the property.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISOR -**

Supervisor Resenic commented on whether the Ligonier Beach pool shell could be an attractive nuisance. Supervisor Resenic further commented on insurance at the Ligonier Beach property.

Supervisor Verna commented on the cleanup of the Ligonier Beach property and the elimination of hazards at the property. Supervisor Verna also commented on individual board members reaching out to Township vendors. Supervisor Verna further commented on the long term impacts of zoning changes.

Supervisor Beaufort commented on existing liabilities on township assets, such as the hiking trail. Supervisor Beaufort also commented on next steps for the Ligonier Beach property.

Supervisor Stoner stated that the Ligonier Beach cleanup eliminated hazards at the property.

Supervisor Knupp commented on the possibility of changing the zoning code to allow public safety facilities to exist anywhere in the township.

**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 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Strelie  
Township Manager