

**Freedom Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
October 16, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Board of Supervisors

Matt Young, Chairperson
Paul Kellett, Vice-Chairperson
Brett Johnston

Township Officials

Zach Gulden, Manager
Linus Fenicle, Solicitor
Mike Wenschhof, Road Superintendent

Members of the Public Present

Mary & Ed Buchheit, Jim Geleta, Seth Pritchett, & Terry DeWitt (Liberty Township Police).

Call to Order

Chair Young called the Board of Supervisor's Meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2024, regular meeting. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Monthly Expenses

Mr. Gulden stated that the Boyle Road project has been completed; therefore, that expenditure is shown on the Highway Aid Fund financial statement.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve the bills in the amount of \$468.00 from the Escrow Account, \$22,694.82 from the General Fund, and \$100,635.00 from the Highway Aid Fund. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Manager & Road Reports

Mr. Gulden read the Manager's report. The Manager completed the following tasks in September:

- Misc. phone calls / emails / website updates.
- Submitted monthly solar meter reading.
- Monthly & quarterly employment tax reports and payments.

- Monthly reconciliation of all bank accounts.
- September 11th Board of Supervisor’s meeting minutes.
- 1x bank deposits.
- Prepared and mailed KPI stormwater management review invoices for reimbursement.
- Prepared meeting date change advertisement for October & November, provided to Gettysburg Times, and posted door/website.
- Finalized Resolution 2024-08 & promulgation.
- Contacted PennDOT to learn process of permitting electronic speed signs. Received quotes from PennDOT / COSTARS approved vendor and added to 2025 draft budget.
- 1x right-to-know request.
 - Letter of intent for police study.
- County emergency services contacted the Township and requested specific documents for the Emergency Management Coordinator appointment, so they can send them to the state for approval. Filled out documentation and ordered criminal background check as required.

Mr. Gulden read the road report. The Department of Public Works completed the following tasks in September:

- Mowing, weed trimming, brush cutting, and trash pick-up along roadways.
- Cleared roads and berms of limbs and debris after rain and windstorms.
- Mowing, trimming, and clearing of Township lot.
- Performed misc. shop and mower maintenance.
- The Boyle Road project was performed with base repair, paving, and ditching being completed on September 20th.
- Returned PA One calls.

Public Works Employee	Hours Worked
Mike Wenschhof	108
Brett Johnston	0
Steve Long	0

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve September’s Road Report as submitted. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Chair Young. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

EMS, Fire, & Police Reports

EMS

- Mr. Gulden read the EMS reports. Adams Regional Emergency Medical Service (AREMS) had seven calls in July, three in August, and one in September within Freedom Township.

FIRE

- Mr. Gulden read the fire report. Greenmount Fire Department had six calls in the month of September.

- Type of calls:
 - 1 commercial fire.
 - 1 fluid spill.
 - 1 automatic alarm.
 - 1x med assist.
 - 1 gas leak.
 - 1 inside investigation.

- Location of calls:
 - 3 to Frederick County, MD.
 - 3 to Freedom Township.

POLICE

- Liberty Township Police's Officer in Charge, Terry DeWitt, read September's police report.

- Hours Worked = 35
 - Administrative Hours = 5
 - Patrol Hours = 30

- Traffic Stops = 12
 - Citations = 9
 - Warnings = 3

- Total Incidents = 21

- Traffic Details = 8

- Patrol Officer Morris and Harvey have completed their field training, have been handling complaints, and conducting traffic/patrol duties solo.

- Specific complaints about speeding were made at the Highland Township & Freedom Township meetings and through two residents of Liberty Township. Details were assigned and results are being met. Several citations were issued for the offense of speeding on Bullfrog Road (Freedom and Liberty Townships) /Knoxlyn Orrtanna Road and in Freedom Township in various locations.

- Inquired about the Center for Traffic Safety Grant funding and the allotment for all three townships. Details will be scheduled accordingly to the grant specifications.

- Interviewed and recommended the hiring of Patrol Officer Kenneth Hassinger.
- Community events for Halloween. The Police Department will join Greenmount Fire Department on October 26th and Blue Ridge Sportsman's Association on October 27th with treats for the children and this would allow Officers to be available to interact with the parents and children of the communities.
- The Police Department ordered uniforms for all the current Patrol Officers. This includes winter shirts for under the outer carrier vests.
- A new Pre-Arrest Breath test instrument, a new set of batteries for the ENRADDs, two (2) cameras for patrol work and two (2) Stream lights were purchased.
- The 2025 preliminary Police Department budget was submitted to Liberty Township Secretary/Treasurer.
- National Drug Take Back at Carroll Valley Borough building Saturday, October 26th, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Body camera footage over 60 days has been deleted.

Old Business

A. 2025 budget discussion.

Mr. Gulden stated that he made the adjustments based on feedback from the Supervisor's at the September 11th meeting and asked if there were any other changes that needed to be made. There were none.

New Business

A. Approval of Resolution 2024-08 & Promulgation for consideration.

Mr. Gulden stated that the Township must reapprove the Emergency Operations Plan of Adams County every two years to be compliant with the PA Emergency Management Services Code.

Chair Young made a **MOTION** to approve Resolution 2024-08 and the accompanying Promulgation. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Vice-Chair Kellett. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

B. Discussion of solar powered speed sign.

Mr. Gulden stated that he talked to PennDOT regarding solar powered speed signs, they provided permitting guidance and a list of approved sign vendors. He received a quote from a COSTARS approved vendor, RadarSign, for a solar powered speed sign model TC-600S. Vice-Chair Kellett requested adding the optional simulated camera flash and white strobe. Total cost is \$4,043.00, which has been added to the 2025 proposed budget. Mr. Gulden said he will bring the purchase to the January Board of Supervisor's meeting for consideration, since it would be made in 2025.

The Board requested the PennDOT permit include the following locations:

1. The vicinity of the Greenmount Fire Department going southbound.
2. The vicinity of the intersection of Gordon and Bullfrog Roads.
3. The vicinity of the intersection of Pumping Station and Cunningham Roads.
4. Boyle Road.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to submit the necessary permit to PennDOT. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Chair Young. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

C. Approval of Supervisor Brett Johnson attending the PSU Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Training on November 6, 2024, and November 7, 2024, at a cost of \$660.05 for consideration.

Mr. Gulden stated that Chair Young expressed interest in applying for the County's dirt and gravel road grant program, so he reached out to the county for guidance, and they said that at least one road employee must be certified in this course in order to apply for the grant. Vice-Chair Kellett recommended increasing the stipend to \$750.00 to cover any additional costs.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve Supervisor Brett Johnson attending the PSU Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Training on November 6, 2024, and November 7, 2024, at a cost of up to \$750.00. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Chair Young. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Other Business

None

Public Comment

Mr. Pritchett expressed concern with cars spotlighting and owl watching along his property on Bigham Road. He requested the Board consider closing Bigham Road and making it a private lane. Mr. Fenicle stated that it would be a huge legal undertaking if the Board was interested. The Board stated they were not interested in closing Bigham Road.

Mr. Geleta asked if the Township sprayed weed killer along his property on Pumping Station Road. The Board responded that it is a PennDOT road, and they suggest contacting them and/or the Adams County Conservation District.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Young made a **MOTION** to adjourn. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Vice-Chair Kellett. Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.