

MINUTES
RICHLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
August 11, 2025

The Richland Township Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Monday, August 11, 2025 at the Richland Township Municipal Building, 322 Schoolhouse Road, Johnstown, PA 15904 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

*Bob Heffelfinger, Chair
Keith W. Saylor
Gary A. Paul
Brian H. Lehman*

*Bryan J. Beppler, Executive Director
Kimberly D. Stayrook, Administrative Assistant
George Gvozdoch, Jr., Solicitor*

ABSENT

Jeffrey D. Wingard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Heffelfinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES – July 28, 2025

- Mr. Lehman moved to approve the minutes of July 28, 2025 as distributed, seconded by Mr. Paul. All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS - *The Public has the right and the opportunity to comment on any agenda item. No comments*

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Bishop McCort Catholic High School – Permission To Turn The Town Teal

A letter was received from Bishop McCort HS, requesting permission to “Turn The Town Teal”, which allows students to place teal ribbons throughout the Township for the month of September.

- Mr. Paul moved to approve the Bishop McCort Event, “Turn The Town Teal”, seconded by Mr. Saylor. All in favor.

Letter from Cambria County Board of Assessment & Appeals – August 20, 2025 Hearing Schedule:
Commercial – Karruli LLC (300 Galleria Drive – Retention Pond beside Sheetz); Luther Development LP (1215 Scalp Avenue – Team Kia Plaza); Hogue, Ricky S & Karen L. (Gathering Place Property); Cambria Prime Realty LLC (VA/Park Homes/Planet Fitness)

Chair Heffelfinger read a letter from the Cambria County Board of Assessment & Appeals, indicating that a hearing has been scheduled on August 20th for the following: Commercial – Karruli LLC (300 Galleria Drive – Retention Pond beside Sheetz); Luther Development LP (1215 Scalp Avenue – Team Kia Plaza); Hogue, Ricky S & Karen L. (Gathering Place Property); Cambria Prime Realty LLC (VA/Park Homes/Planet Fitness)

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OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Payment of the Bills

- *It was moved by Mr. Saylor to approve the general fund bills in the amount of \$129,870.92 and payroll in the amount of \$96,436.84, seconded by Mr. Lehman. All in favor.*
- *It was moved by Mr. Saylor to approve the Out of Meeting Check made payable to Principal Life in the amount of \$2,679.58, seconded by Mr. Lehman. All in favor.*

Richland School District Resource Officer MOU/Agreement July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

The Richland School District and Richland Township representatives drafted a new Resource Officer agreement and Memorandum of Understanding effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Upon completion of their review, the Board was in agreement with the agreement.

- *It was moved by Mr. Lehman to approve the Richland School District and Richland Township Resource Officer MOU agreement for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, seconded by Mr. Paul. All in favor.*

PennDOT – Request Permission For Nighttime Work 7:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. (Noise Ordinance)

****US 219 Overpass Structure***

****Between US219 SB Off Ramp and Theatre Drive***

****Entrance To Town Center Drive***

**** Milling and Paving SR 0756 from 219 Interchange To Buchanan Street***

Richland School District's Campus Connect Initiative (Part of REACHLand Connect Multimodal Corridor Project) – Support

Mr. Beppler drafted a letter to the PA Commonwealth Financing Authority, indicating the Township's support of the Richland School District's application for a Multi-Model Grant for the Campus Initiative project. A brief discussion was held regarding what the proposed project entailed, location, etc. Mr. Lehman noted that the entire project is the Richland School Districts project, expense, etc. Richland Township has no commitment to maintain, fund or anything other than support of the project.

- *Mr. Lehman moved to authorize sending the letter of support for the Richland School District project. seconded by Mr. Paul. All in favor.*

UPJ – Firework Display Permit; 8/28/2025

An application and necessary Hold Harmless Agreements, etc. was submitted for Township approval to hold a fireworks display.

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- It was moved by Mr. Saylor to approve the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown fireworks display permit, with the event to be held on August 28th, seconded by Mr. Lehman. All in favor.

An application and necessary Hold Harmless Agreements, etc. was submitted for Township approval to hold a fireworks display.

UPJ – Fireworks Display permit; 10/18/2025

- It was moved by Mr. Saylor to approve the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown fireworks display permit, with the event to be held October 18, 2025.

Public Comment

Mr. Strushensky, Mya Drive asked about the location of project “Reachland” and where the tunnel is proposed to be. Chair Heffelfinger stated that there are multiple grants available at the state level. Any out-of-pocket expenses for the Richland School District are unknown. Mr. Strushensky asked if there are any taxpayer monies being expended at first, and it was stated that they will have to be ongoing maintenance, upkeep, alot like the sidewalks that UPJ installed and maintains.

Mr. Strushensky asked about the fireworks display at the Willows on June 16th. He finds it odd that the Airport is permitting such an event. Mr. Beppler stated that all the necessary approvals, ie. FAA, etc. have been obtained.

A brief discussion was held on residential solar panels and the township’s position on them. Chair Heffelfinger gave an explanation about zoning regulations, concerns with decommissioning them in the future, lifespan, etc. He noted that the panels are considered hazardous waste material.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly D. Staybrook

Administrative Assistant