



**RANSOM TOWNSHIP
LACKAWANNA COUNTY**

April 7, 2025
Supervisors' Monthly Meeting

Chairman Bird called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chairman Bird and Supervisors Wells and Scott - present – Quorum declared

Attendance: Artie and Angelika Mercado, Elizabeth Thompson, Cheryl Macheska, Lenay Blackwell, Jerry Blackwell, Barbara Wetzel, Bob Lukasiewicz, Joan Degilio, Marie Pasternak, Susan Bernoski, Daniel Harvey, Elaine Bartholme, Janet Clark, Dan Powell, Mark Miller, David Kastik, Charles Samsock, Paula Noto, Jim Kashuba, Jodi Kashuba, John Henry, Canine Officer Matt McDonald, John Stempfoski, James Waters, and Chief Jeff LaCoe.

Minutes of the March 3, 2025 meeting were read by Secretary – Supervisor Wells made a motion to accept the minutes as read – 2nd by Supervisor Scott– all in favor –motion carried

POLICE REPORT: Officer McDonald reported 48 Taylor police activities in Ransom Township including 12 traffic stops, 13 building checks, 4 motor assists, 2 wires down, 2 welfare checks and 1 dog complaint.

FIRE REPORT: Chief LaCoe reported 10 responses in Ransom Township – 2 Fire and 8 EMS. The burn ban is currently lifted but will come back if the weather turns.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS: Chairman Bird introduced James Water of the Chinchilla Hose Company. They will now provide our primary ambulance service. They are working on getting an ambulance closer to this location to decrease response time.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Abrahamsen gave a solar hearing update listing the dates as April 16th and 17th with a start time of 6pm. Residents wishing to be a party may sign in and present their evidence before the Board. He also reminded everyone that the solicitor represents Ransom Township with legal advice and direction to maintain legal compliance in matters as they arise.

SUPERVISORS: Chairman Bird said that the distribution of garbage cans will possibly be in May. He advised residents to bring bulk items to Spring Cleanup days on May 9th and 10th. Waste Management is planning to implement fees for bulk item curbside pickup in the near future.

ZONING: No report.

STAFF REPORT: Chairman Bird reported on the following:

1. Treasury Report:
 - General Fund: \$1,971,103.69
 - Liquid Fuels: \$750,616.86
 - Revenues: \$28,045.87
 - Expenditure: \$71,277.81
- 2 Recycling for February was 2.89 tons. Recycling for March was 4.73 tons. This month's recycling date will be April 25.

Next Planning Commission Meeting will be April 21, 2025 @ 6:30 pm at the Township Building.
Next Supervisor's Meeting will be May 12, 2025 @ 6:00 pm at the Township Building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments were dynamic and lively as attendees shared opinions, questions, fears and concerns about the upcoming solar hearings.

Cheryl Macheska - has been diligently gathering information and documents to begin the process of seeking historical designation for the Church and cemeteries near the proposed solar farm. She also noted that the Taylor Police are doing a good job in our township.

Sue Berkoski – shared news about a proposed daycare in Newton Township that must put in its own sewage treatment plant. She questioned the effect on Gardner Creek and the trout who live there if sewage was allowed to vent out into the creek. Chairman Bird was going to investigate the matter.

Having no further business or comments, Supervisor Scott made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Supervisor Wells all in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Julie Kelly
Secretary