MINUTES OF PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING JULY 9, 2025

1. Call to Order: The July 9, 2025, regular scheduled meeting of the Plumstead Township Board of Supervisors was held at Plumstead Township Municipal Building, 5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA. Chairman, James McComb, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

James McComb Chair
Daniel Hilferty Vice Chair
Kenneth Lichtenstein Member
Gregory Bankos Member
Matthew Given Member

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Township Manager: Stacey Mulholland

Township Solicitor: William Oetinger, Esq. *Township Engineer: Timothy Fulmer, PE

Asst. Twp. Manager: Steve Hicks

* Not Present

2. Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. McComb led the Board and Audience in a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Announcements:

Mr. McComb announced that the Board will meet for a Work Session meeting on July 30, 2025, and the previously scheduled Work Session meeting on July 23, 2025, has been canceled. Mr. McComb also announced that the Board met in Executive Session on July 9, 2025, to discuss personnel matters.

4. Public Comment:

Deb Noone of 5716 Bradshaw Rd. thanked the Board for appointing her as chair of the EAC.

5. Presentations:

5.1. Alan Bleam, Director of Public Works, Commemorating 40 Years with Plumstead Township:

Mr. McComb read a statement thanking Mr. Bleam for his 40 years of dedicated service to Plumstead Township, and presented Mr. Bleam with a service award certificate, recognizing his service on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Bleam gave a brief speech outlining his 40-year career serving the residents of Plumstead Township and thanked the Board for their recognition.

PA Rep. Shelby Labs presented Mr. Bleam with a citation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. Ms. Labs stated that as a lifelong Plumstead resident herself, she wanted to thank Mr. Bleam for his long career serving the community.

United States Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick was also in attendance to celebrate Mr. Bleam's milestone. Mr. Fitzpatrick gave a speech recognizing Mr. Bleam for his 40-year career at Plumstead Township. Mr. Fitzpatrick presented Mr. Bleam with an American flag that was flown over the US Capitol. Mr. Fitzpatrick then stated that he gave a speech at the US House of Representatives, which aired on CSPAN, to recognize Mr. Bleam's milestone achievement. As part of that speech, Mr. Fitzpatrick requested that the Speaker and the Minority Leader enter the speech into the Congressional Record, which they both agreed to, enshrining Mr. Bleam's 40-year achievement at Plumstead Township into American history.

Mr. Bleam once again thanked everyone in attendance for the recognition and support. Mr. McComb noted that in addition to serving as Director of Public Works, Mr. Bleam has also served as the chaplain for the Township's bridge dedications that are put on by the Veterans Committee.

CONSENSUS: By General Consent, the Board agreed to move agenda item 5.3, a presentation by Mr. Bleam, in front of agenda item 5.2.

5.3. 2025 Water Supply & Wells Reports and Road Program Update:

Mr. Bleam gave a brief overview of the Water Supply and Well Reports, stating that while there was a drought during 2024, Plumstead Township's water supply never dropped to an emergency level.

Regarding the roads, Mr. Bleam stated that all road chipping projects have been completed for 2025, and there are a few more paving projects left to finish up. Mr. Bleam stated that the Township is working with an engineering firm to study the intersection of 611 and Stump Roads. Additionally, Mr. Bleam stated that they are continuing to monitor the intersection at 611, Haring, and Curly Hill Roads.

5.2. Historic Advisory Committee – Kimberly Troup:

Ms. Troup gave a brief description of the Historical Advisory Committee and goes through a list of maps she created. Ms. Mulholland drew attention to the lack of attendance at committee meetings. Ms. Troup stated that LPEAC members Michael May and Jim Stark would like to join the HAC. Mr. Bankos suggested looking at the resolution that created the HAC to determine if it is still applicable.

Ms. Troup answered the Board's various questions regarding the short-term goals of the HAC, with Ms. Troup stating that she would like to publish maps, create walking tours and other educational tools. The Board members thanked Ms. Troup for the work that she has put in for the HAC recently but were concerned over the lack of quorum at the meetings as well as the importance of the HAC still maintaining a relationship with the Plumstead Historical Society.

Ms. Mulholland noted that the Plumstead Historical Society's 300th anniversary film will be shown in the New Hope Film Festival.

6. Old Business:

6.1. Police Pension Buy Back Reinstatement:

Mr. Oetinger gave a brief overview of the lump-sum payment regulations and the need to amend the current ordinance.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Given, seconded by Mr. Lichtenstein, the Board unanimously authorized the Township Solicitor to advertise the amendment to clarify the exclusion of lump-sum payments from the calculation of salary and provide for an immediate effective date.

Ms. Mulholland stated that there are three officers that have been impacted by the auditor's report and the Township must reimburse the impacted officers' pensions for a one-year period. Ms. Mulhollan suggested a Sept. to Sept. reimbursement with interest, which would be roughly \$12,000.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. McComb, seconded by Mr. Bankos, the Board unanimously authorized the reimbursement of payments, not to exceed \$15,000.

7. New Business:

7.1. Appointment of Chief David Mettin as Plumstead Township Director of Public Safety (DPS):

Ms. Mulholland gave a brief overview of the new DPS position, stating that in this new role, not only will Chief Mettin still be running the Plumstead Township Police Department, but he will now be coordinating with the volunteer fire companies and the EMS units to help ensure 24/7 emergency services coverage across the Township for now and well into the future. The Board members all thanked Chief Mettin for taking on this additional responsibility.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. McComb, seconded by Mr. Hilferty, the Board unanimously appointed Chief Mettin as the Plumstead Township Director of Public Safety and approved the Director of Public Safety Addendum that includes an additional \$25,000 and a 3% contribution to his 457-plan based on his full salary as Chief and DPS.

7.2. Lease Agreement for Landis Park Playing Field: In attendance from Romans Football was Gary Conover.

Mr. Oetinger reminded the board of the agreement and the details of the lease agreement.

Mr. Conover explained that his deceased son was the coach of the Romans football team, and it was his dream to have a dedicated field for the Romans Football team. Mr. Conover thanked the Board for allowing this to happen.

The Board inquired about public notice and expressed their concerns regarding parking. Mr. Hicks stated that a statement was prepared and would be posted on social media following the Board's decision. Ms. Mulholland and Mr. Bleam stated that the parking area can fit about 70 cars, and that the major GPS systems have been adjusted to ensure that people are not routed through Landis Greene. Mr. Hilferty suggested that someone from the organization directs traffic during football events.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Hilferty, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved entering into the agreement with Romans Football for use of the Landis Field from August through November.

7.3. Resolution 2025-11, Jerry Farra, Planning Commission Service:

The Board thanked Mr. Farra for serving on the Plumstead Township Planning Commission for 15 years and wished him luck in retirement.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Given, seconded by Mr. Lichtenstein, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 2025-11 recognizing Jerry Farra for his 15 years of service to the Township.

7.4. Resolution 2025-12 Fitness Court Grant: In attendance from the Parks Dept. was Duane Freed.

Ms. Mulholland gave a brief overview of the financial breakdown of this project, stating that the Township has been approved for a grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield for \$40,000 and in order to secure the grant, the Board

must pass a resolution to approve the funding of the fitness court. Some of the additional costs will be offset by an estate donation. Mr. Freed explained that the usage of the equipment will be tracked via GPS data by the fitness court equipment company. Mr. Freed stated that if the Board adopts the resolution, there will be a newsletter article coming out to promote the fitness court, which will be open in 2026.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Lichtenstein, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 2025-12 to adopt the plan and allocate funds for an outdoor fitness court as part of the 2025-2026 National Fitness Campaign.

7.5. Volunteer Fire Company Funding Requests: In attendance for the Pt. Pleasant Fire Company was Chief Scott Fleischer.

Ms. Mulholland reminded the Board that both fire companies requested funding at the June Board meeting, but the purpose of this meeting was to vote on the request of the Pt. Pleasant Fire Company. Mr. Fleischer stated that they have requested \$100,000 to assist with the cost of repairing a catastrophic sewer pipe failure. Mr. Fleischer stated that the fire company spent over \$200,000 on the repairs, and after the Township's contribution and insurance, the fire company is spending roughly \$25,000 out of pocket.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. McComb, seconded by Mr. Lichtenstein, the Board unanimously approved giving Pt. Pleasant Vol. Fire Company \$100,000 from the Fire and EMS Capitol Equipment Fund as a one-time exception.

7.6. Consideration of Conditional Use Application Waivers for Sink Birdies, LLC – 4939 Swamp Rd.:

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Lichtenstein, seconded by Mr. Hilferty, the Board unanimously authorized the Township Solicitor to advertise for a Conditional Use Hearing at the August 13, 2025, Board of Supervisors meeting.

- 8. Consent Agenda:
- 8.1. Minutes of June 11, 2025:
- 7.2. Bills list dated July 9, 2025, for \$399,127.39, subject to audit:

CONSENSUS: Upon General Consent, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

10. Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

10. Board of Supervisors Comments:

Mr. Given stated that Bucks County Gardens is holding an event to celebrate the renovation of the historic milkhouse, and he congratulated them on their accomplishment. Mr. Given also expressed his concern for the victims of the natural disasters in Texas.

Mr. Lichtenstein thanked Chief Mettin for taking on the DPS position, and Ms. Troup for her work with the HAC.

Mr. Bankos asked Chief Mettin how the July 4^{th} celebrations were from a police perspective. Chief Mettin stated that there were a couple of DUI arrests and a few calls about fireworks.

Mr. McComb stated that he sat in on a webinar regarding tiny homes and would like to task the Planning

Commission with discussing the allowance of tiny homes in Plumstead.

11. Adjournment: By General Consent, the meeting adjourned at 8:26p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date Approved: <u>08/13/25</u>

Steve Hicks, Asst. Township Manager