La Plume Township

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2026

The La Plume Township Board of Supervisors met for a regular session on the above date. The meeting was called to order by Chair Lisa Huffsmith. Present were Co-Chair Gerry Henry, Supervisor Jeremy Wohlken, Township Engineer John Seamans, and Treasurer Tina Kaleta. Visitors in attendance were Planning Commission Chair Bruce Van Fleet, Planning Commission Secretary Jo Anne Klingel, and Eric Davis, CPA, Ginader, Jones & Co., LLP. The minutes of the June meeting were approved in a motion made by Gerry Henry and 2nd by Jeremy Wohlken. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and will be filed by Anne Oswald. Payment of the monthly bills were approved in a motion by Gerry Henry, 2nd by Jeremy Wohlken.

ROADMASTER'S REPORT:

Gerry worked around the township building removing old guardrails and brush making room for the ditch cleaning dirt. From June 22 through June 29, he worked on clearing brush on North Turnpike Road preparing for the ditch cleaning project. Engles Excavation LLC will be starting the ditch cleaning project on Monday, July 13th. A check for $3,000 will be issued to Engles Excavation LLC for the start of this project. On June 30, tree branches were cut on Sunset which were blocking speed limit signs. Met with UGI and they marked the gas lines on North Turnpike Road. John and Gerry met with Larry Wintersek from Lackawanna County Road and Bridges and looked over the bridge on North Turnpike Road. He reviewed the 2 engineers' reports and gave his recommendations. Depending on the fix decided for the bridge, the price could range from $100,00 to $500,000. Additional testing (price for this unknown) must be done on water flow coming in and amount of weight the bridge can bear, to determine what the actual weight limit will be. Gerry and John will work on a solution. John Devine from Atlas Engineering, working with the Dalton Sewer Authority, is willing to work on grants regarding the North Turnpike bridge repair. John Devine and John Seamans will get together regarding applying for grant. Gerry also has a contact person at the Lackawanna County Board of Commissioners, Chief of Staff, Brian Jeffers, who may be able to help us with funding the bridge project. Once the additional testing is complete, we will reach out to Mr. Jeffers. The liquid fuels audit will take place on Monday, July 13th.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

John Seamans spent time getting the background information for the dirt, gravel road contract. He is also working on easements for slush pipes. John will be in touch with John Devine regarding working on North Turnpike Road bridge grant.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT:

Nothing to report

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

Bruce Van Fleet, Planning Commission Chair said Dalton Sewer Authority is looking to see what their next step is needed to proceed. They were denied a building permit. An application for a Hearing by the Zoning Hearing Board must be completed by the Dalton Sewer Authority. Anthony will be asked to follow-up.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Dalton Sewer Authority expansion – see Planning Commission Report above
- Keystone College Miller Library expansion – no update
- Keystone College roundabout signage - no update
- PA PUC – All information was sent to Attorney Shane Scanlon for review and legal advice
- Ditch Cleaning- Will begin on Monday, July 13th. $3,000 will be paid to Engles Excavation LLC towards bill

NEW BUSINESS:

- Keystone College Harris Hall – plans were dropped off at township building
- Bruce Van Fleet mentioned the Tall Timbers sewer plant is leaking water into the first house just beyond the trailer park. We have not been officially notified by any of the parties.
- We are having problems receiving mail in a timely fashion from the La Plume post office. Several examples were given.
- Zoning book update - Sara Hailstone, President of Hailstone Economics, LLC has provided an outline and quote of $35,000 to update La Plume Township Zoning book. A motion was made by Lisa Huffsmith and 2nd by Jeremy Wohlken move forward with the updating of the townships zoning ordinances.
- Josiah Lewis, website coordinator, is retiring and we will be looking for a replacement.

VISITOR'S:

Eric Davis, Auditor from Ginader, Jones & Co., LLP attended the meeting to present the findings of the 2025 La Plume Township Audit. All accounts were reconciled with no errors or misrepresentations. A motion was made to approve the audit results made by Lisa Huffsmith and 2nd by Jeremy Wohlken.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Lisa Huffsmith, 2nd by Jeremy Wohlken.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Oswald - Secretary