

**MERCER TOWNSHIP, BUTLER COUNTY**  
**4629 WILLIAM FLYNN HWY, PO BOX 380, HARRISVILLE, PA 16038**  
**MEETING MINUTES – June 16, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by: John Bennett, Jr. Members present: John Bennett, Jr; William Long; Emil Treese; Nikki Ciochetto. Visitors: Josh Kalp, EADS; Debra Crum, resident. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** Motion to accept the May 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes as printed: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** D. Crum asked if it would be possible to connect her home to public sewage. She has an appointment for a Private On-Lot Sewage Permit. Nikki will provide her more information after discussed. See **"200 Shields Road"** for further information. **OLD BUSINESS: Kozy Rest Sewage Expansion:** See **"Meetings/Conferences/Training"** section for pre-construction meeting notes. Received a proposal from Dan Goncz, Gannett Fleming to provide the 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection. Kozy Rest also contacted another company (KJ Consulting & Environmental Services) as an inspection option & sent preliminary cost estimates in an email this afternoon. Both were reviewed & discussed. Supervisors determined that Gannett Fleming was the better choice as they are familiar with the Grove City sewage system & they also have experience with public sewage system inspections. Motion to accept the proposed Consulting Services Agreement dated June 11, 2025 from Gannett Fleming as the inspectors for Mercer Township Board of Supervisors at a cost not-to-exceed for part-time Construction Observation services: \$10,900.00: J. Bennett, Jr. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. Kozy Rest will send this amount to Mercer Township to be held in escrow to cover all related expenses. **Public Sewer: Incomplete connections / inspections (5). Delinquencies-Three + months (10). Property Liens (7). Notice of Claim:** Filed on H. Russell estate. **Sheriff Sale (2). Auto Pay:** 45 of 119 accounts. **Delinquency Rate:** Total-12%; Severe-4%. **Sewer Lateral Inspections (0). Grinder Pumps:** One out for repair. **Concrete Stanchions:** Appears some of the field has been repaired. **Pump #2:** Evaluated & cleaned on 5-2-25. **Harrisville Borough Agreement:** Reviewing. Will be revised when Marion/Kozy Rest connect. **Private Sewer: On-Lot Sewage Permits (2025):** B. Snyder; J. Zahn; S. Sammarco (Ken McMurdy-agent). **Holding Tanks:** 3 agreements (Dollar General, Violante & Anglin) to be recorded & returned. Office will pursue. **Office: Building Permits (2025):** B. Rider (roof solar); D. Reich (house/garage); C. Haring (pole barn); S. Pierce/J. Krenke (above ground pool); 4330 WFH cell tower (back-up generator/concrete pad); G. Shreve (2) (demo old trailer, new doublewide); J. Bennett Jr (pool); D. Kellogg (house); Tooley (trailer demo), S. Fisher (home); R. Young (garage). **Road Bonds:** Blue Ox Timber (Whitaker/Centertown). Road damage has been noted. Will not release bond until fixed. Photos will be taken when project is completed. J. Kalp will help us determine costs for repairs. **Subdivision Plans: (0). Municipal Garage:** Issues with the new truck continue. Needs to go back to Hunters for repair. Old truck was at Hunter's for work. **2025 Paving Project:** Wiest Asphalt, Inc. is the Bid Recipient for the 2025 Mercer Twp. Paving Project at a bid total of: \$98,558.58. Paving began today. **Butler County Use Fee Grant Application:** We will receive a \$50,000 grant upon paving project completion. \$50,000 will be used from General Fund to pay for the paving project which will later be reimbursed by the grant. Balance of project will be paid from Liquid Fuels. **EMC/Weather – Emergency Management Coordinator:** no report. **EMS QRS Agencies:** Harrisville VFC will be the designated QRS agency once they report that they have completed their licensure. Office has requested an update. No progress. **Aneгада Energy:** Received notice dated 6-10-25 of intent to apply for coverage under Erosion & Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP-4) for Earth Disturbance Associated with Oil & Gas Exploration, etc. from the PA DEP. Also received noticed dated 6-10-25 of intent to apply for coverage under the "Joint Application for PA Water Obstruction & Encroachment permit & US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit. **"For Love of the Lost"/Fish property:** Solicitor received signatures for both Mr. Fish & For Love of the Lost. Motion to accept & sign the agreement for the Fish/Love of the Lost property clean up enforcement: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **227 Browntown Rd. tree:** Has been removed along with a second hazard tree. **NEW BUSINESS: 200 Shields Road:** Request for estimate to hook into Forestville STP. Supervisors need to investigate extending the public sewage line & determine if we will do so. Discussed with J. Kalp. Act 537 plan determines public sewage area vs. private on-lot sewage areas. Discussed a way to extend the public sewage line on Shields Rd. to the front of her house. Would need to have our solicitor prepare a Developer's Extension Agreement that would require homeowner to bond or escrow a portion of the total cost. Homeowner would be responsible for the total construction cost & would install per Twp engineering direction, & later turn part of the line over to the Twp. Supervisors decided to have homeowner pursue the private on-lot option first, & to then pursue the public sewage extension if needed. **McTighe Storage:** Mailed letter & also spoke to Mr. McTighe regarding the plugged culvert on Browntown Rd. He stated he will call someone to have it replaced. Replaced today: 6-16-25. **OTHER BUSINESS: Grass Complaint:** Office received a complaint about a neighbor's grass being uncut & snakes coming onto their property. J. Bennett responded. Mercer Township has no ordinance regulating grass height. **MEETINGS / CONFERENCES / TRAINING: PSATS Conference:** (May 4-7, 2025) Bill attended. Afternoon sessions were educational. **Mercer Co. COG:** (5-21-25) John attended. Routine maintenance was reported in all municipalities. **Kozy Rest Pre Construction Mtg:** (6-2-25) Nikki attended. All interested parties discussed & reviewed the planned timeline & each entity's roles to be completed. Construction is scheduled to begin approx. June 23<sup>rd</sup> & conclude by Labor Day. Residents will be contacted near the end of the project to be given instructions for requesting tap location preferences. **Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Mtg:** (6-10-25) Updates provided by Commissioners. Discussion about new cell phone law in effect 6-5-25. Statistics show more deaths now occur from cell phone use than drunk driving. **Pine-Harrisville Authority:** (no mtg.) **ROAD REPORT:** 5/14/25-Mowed STP & checked sign on Shields. 5/15/25-Replaced speed limit sign on Shields. 5/16/25-Bill & I checked tree on Browntown. Also checked water problem at Rider's. 5/17/25-Twp Clean Up: John, Bill Greg & Pete worked. 5/19/25-Got load of cold patch, changed bucket on loader, loaded old cold patch, Greg, Bob & I repaired potholes. 5/20/25-Bob, Greg & I repaired potholes. 5/22/25-Checked roads for flood damage. Bill & I put boom mower back together & put charger on grader. 5/23/25-Bob, Greg & I cleaned ditches on Browntown, Sutherland & Whitaker. 5/28/25-Bill & I took old truck to Hunters for repair. 5/29/25-Greg & I mowed Shields, Glacial Till & part of Harmony. 5/30/25-Greg & I mowed Browntown & Prairie. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund: \$140,994; Sewer Fund: \$61,387; Liquid Fuels Fund: \$150,138; Capital Reserve: \$75,752; Escrow Fund: \$5,017; Total: \$433,288. **Harrisville Boro:** Paid for 3<sup>rd</sup> load of anti-skid, invoice dated 2-18-25 on 5-23-25. **VISA:** Supervisors' three cards have been cancelled. Will activate the main card to be used while still dealing with customer service to remove Lori Giesler's name from the main card & switch to Nikki Ciochetto. E. Treese requested we renew his card so he can pay for supplies & equipment maintenance. Need to sign documents provided. Motion to sign Business Officer Resolution Form #25-0616-01 providing a list of authorized officers (Nikki Ciochetto; John Bennett Jr; & William Long) to TCM Bank for making changes to the VISA credit card business account & also the Business Account Maintenance Form with a total credit limit of \$20,000 (\$15,000 on the main card in Nikki Ciochetto's name & \$5,000 in Emil Treese's name): W. Long. Second: J. Bennett. All in favor, motion carried. Financial Report dated 5-16-25 to 6-12-25 received & reviewed by all Supervisors. Motion to accept the Financial Report & pay all expenses: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:35 pm: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Nikki L. Ciochetto, Sec./Treas.