

September 2, 2025

ATKINSON MILLS, PA

On August 4, 2025, The Wayne Township Board of Supervisors met for their regular monthly meeting at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held at the Country Crossroads Community Center, 3055 Ferguson Valley Road, McVeytown, PA. Members of the Board present were Ted Reed, Chuck Miles and Don Gearhart. In attendance representing Wayne Township were Lavonda Runk, Township Auditor; Jeff Hoover, Recreation Advisory Board Chairman. Twenty- four residents were also present.

Chairman Ted Reed called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Don made the motion to approve the minutes; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Ted gave the Treasurers Report.

Ted stated before the public comment period that there will be two public comment periods. The first one is for comment on the agenda and the second comment session will follow after the agenda items and will be a general comment period. Ted stated that everyone will be given five minutes in which to speak, and please give name and address and only Wayne Township residents and/or Wayne Township tax payers will be recognized to speak.

Ted opened the floor for public comment on the agenda. Ken A. Smith, 100 Missing Pines, Mcveytown, asked what the recording equipment was about? Ted explained that a resident was live streaming the meeting. Ken then claimed that he thought that was a form of intimidation for the residents to have to speak in front of a camera. Ted explained that it is legal for residents to video or voice record meetings as long as it is announced beforehand. Lavonda Runk, 381 Old 22 Road, McVeytown, commented next on the proposed sewage ordinance changes. LaVonda asked why the supervisors were changing the process? It was explained to her that the process was not being changed but only the wording in the old ordinance, which seems to be the problem, was being changed to match and clarify the process that has been in place for the past 16 years. Dwight Aurand, 594 Old 22 Road, McVeytown, commented next on his concern about the wording in the new ordinance stating that the on-lot sewage inspector has to be a SEO. Dwight commented that the original ordinance allowed for a possible cheaper alternative than an SEO doing the inspections. Todd Kauffman, 33 Wysteria Lane, McVeytown, commented next that the only thing the Supervisors ever talk about is raising taxes. Tracie Holder, 228 Sechrist Lane, McVeytown, commented next and asked the Township to hold off on passing Ordinance 2025-2. Tracie also commented that she thought no tax money should be spent on the playground unless it is grant money. No other public comments were made.

Don Gearhart, Supervisor, then asked to speak and clarify statements he made the previous meeting about his feelings concerning the recreation park and the Recreation Board. Don explained that he was not initially in favor of the Recreation Board but since has seen that the Board is doing a good job and is fiscally responsible. Don said the Recreation Board has so far paid its own way and has spent no Township funds even though the Board has budgeted them an amount. Don then asked the residents to put their differences aside and imagine what could be done for the community if everyone worked together towards the same goals.

Chuck asked to speak next and addressed the purchase time line for the park benches. Chuck explained the Supervisors approved the purchase at the March 4, 2024, meeting. That very week, AARP announced a \$10,000 grant program for parks and recreation. The Board decided to hold off purchasing the benches immediately until it found out whether it was rewarded the grant for the benches and wood canopies. The Board found out in July it did not receive the grant and proceeded to purchase the benches that it had already approved in March. Chuck then went on to explain the Board's position on the change to the sewage ordinance. Ordinance 2025-2 is not changing procedure but clarifying the wording in the old ordinance to reflect what has been done for the past 16 years. The wording now complies to DEP's regulations and recommendations. Chuck also addressed the petition that was given to the Board recommending the board not to pass the On-lot Sewage Ordinance revisions and recommending an alternative way to do sewage pumping and inspections. Chuck explained that the petition was not creditable because it represented a small minority of citizens, the people he talked to about the petition didn't really understand what was in the petition and the petition did not represent what DEP required and recommended to the Township. Chuck then went on describe incidents that happened recently at the Community Center and Recreation Park concerning a local resident. She showed up at a Senior's Meeting and caused a disturbance concerning the quilting rack and the non-existent material that supposedly went with it. The resident then chastised the seniors for praying for the supervisors. She was asked to leave and was escorted out of the building.

Chuck then mentioned a separate incident involving the same person with a Recreation Board member at the Community Park in which she cursed at him multiple times for no apparent reason.

Chuck made the motion to pass Ordinance 2025-2 amending Septic Ordinance 2009-1; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Ted announced that this year's Mifflin County Liquid Fuels Allocation is \$4919.

After some discussion as to who wants to go, Don made the motion to send Ted to the Code Enforcement Academy training seminar being held by PSATS August 28,2025; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Don made the motion to add the Mifflin County Board of Appeals request to exonerate Alice Stine's delinquent property taxes from 2014-2024 to the agenda. The reason for the exoneration is that she has been paying taxes on a parcel of land that does not exist; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Don made the motion to exonerate Alice Stine's delinquent real estate taxes on parcel number 21 ,06-0145; Chuck seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Ted made mention that no estimates were solicited for the shed that was discussed at July's meeting. There were no new Water Department or Grant updates.

Jeff Hoover gave the Recreation Board update and thanked the community for the good turnout and the hard work that was put in to making the Community picnic a success. Jeff also mentioned future events that are being planned such as Trunk or Treat and the Christmas event.

Ted opened the floor to for the residents present to make general comment. [Due to the failure of the Township's recording devise, the following commentators may not be in the order in which they spoke]. Sgt. Jared Hartsock gave an update of the PSP call and citation activity in Wayne Township. Ben Sunderland, 3813 US Hwy 522 South, McVeytown, commented on the meaning of the word educated versus uninformed and encouraged the community to work together. Cathy Louer, 781 Big Greenbriar Road, McVeytown, commented on the differences she sees in the positive attitude of the community compared to the negativity she was seeing in the meeting. She also mentioned how taken back she was by all of the profanity she heard coming from some of the people attending the meeting and how she did not expect such behavior. She encouraged the people to be more civil to each other and put their differences aside. Jason Snyder, 227 Bens Lane, McVeytown, commented on the heavy trucks running on the newly paved section of Ferguson Valley Road. Jason thought that the road should have a weight limit to prevent the inevitable damage to the road surface. Todd Kauffman, 33 Wysteria Lane, McVeytown, spoke and said the minutes from June were full of lies and enumerated several mistakes that were made. Ted asked Todd to point them out to him and they would be verified and corrected if need be. Dwight Aurand, 594 Old 22 Road, McVeytown, spoke and pointed out several road problems and gave other useful information concerning the roads. Ken Smith, 100 Missing Pines, McVeytown, spoke and conveyed his disappointment that Ordinance 2025-2 was passed.

Chuck made the motion to pay the bills; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Don made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Theodore M. Reed Secretary