

**Ridley Township Board of Commissioners**  
**April 23, 2025**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by Board President Willert at 6:00pm on April 23, 2025 at the Township Building.

The following Commissioners were present: Mr. Saraceni, Mrs. Morrisette (*on phone*), Mrs. Cummins, Mr. McMenamin, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Warwick, Mr. Willert, Mr. Capozzoli and Mr. Bidoli.

Also present were Mr. Ryan (Township Manager), Mr. Catania (Township Engineer), Mr. Betzler (Controller) and Mr. Neill (Township Solicitor).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Willert discussed the Crozer situation and hospital closures. He introduced the Township Emergency Management Coordinator, John Byrne, Fire Company Coordinator, John Hudyma, Woodlyn Fire Chief Mike Poltrock, and Narberth Ambulance representatives John Mick and Patrick Glynn.

Mr. Willert requested ratification of a Declaration of Disaster Emergency and approval of a Resolution extending the Declaration of Disaster Emergency.

**Motion made by Mr. McMenamin, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve both Resolutions as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Willert requested approval to enter into a contract with Narberth Ambulance to cover ALS services in Ridley Township due to the closure of Crozer Ambulance operations.

**Motion made by Mr. McMenamin, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Willert introduced Mr. Byrne who reiterated that the Township has been working for several months on the “what-if” scenarios involving the Crozer system and had a plan in place to declare an emergency at the same time the ER’s closed.

Mr. Hudyma and Mr. Poltrock explained Holmes and Woodlyn ambulances would continue to serve as the BLS units in the Township and thanked the Board for their continued support.

Mr. Mick and Mr. Glynn thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve Ridley Township and explained they will have a unit at the Holmes Fire Company for service in the township. They thanked the Board for getting ahead and being the first municipality to lock down a contract immediately upon the closure of the Crozer system.

## **Public Forum**

- Jim Kelly appeared before the Board concerning traffic on Bullens Lane between MacDade Blvd. & Chester Pike. He thanked the Board for their work on the EMS issue.
- Rob Ernst appeared before the Board concerning shade trees.
- Elizabeth Hocker, 1209 Harper Avenue, appeared before the Board and thanked the first responders for their service. She also discussed pedestrian safety issues.
- Doug Hocker, 1209 Harper Avenue, appeared before the Board concerning pedestrian safety education.
- Suzanne deSeife, 1209 Harper Avenue, appeared before the Board concerning pedestrian safety issues and more education concerning these issues.
- Ruth Ann Davidson, 532 Manor Circle, appeared before the Board concerning tree canopies
- Jennifer Kauffeld, 654 Brighton Terrace, appeared before the Board with questions to Narberth Ambulance representatives.

## **Manager's Report**

Mr. McMenamin read a Resolution for James McDaid in honor of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Motion to adopt the Resolution made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Bidoli. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Ryan requested approval to appoint Sharon O'Connor as Treasurer.

**Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the appointment as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Ryan requested approval of a Resolution recognizing May as Frontline Worker Appreciation Month.

**Motion made by Mr. Bidoli, seconded by Mr. Saunders to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Ryan requested approval of Special Event permit requests – Home Depot Car Show on May 6<sup>th</sup>, Eastlawn Cemetery Springtime Story Hour on May 10<sup>th</sup> and Eastlawn Cemetery Plant Sale on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the requests as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Ryan requested approval to dispose of old tax department records in accordance with the Municipal Records Retention schedule.

**Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Capozzoli to approve the disposal of records as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

## **Recycling Report**

Mr. Capozzoli reported trash collected in March was 1,151.89 tons and recycling collected in March was 142.77 tons. 10 televisions were collected in March.

## **Controller's Report**

Mr. Betzler requested approval of new signature cards due to the appointment of a new Treasurer.

**Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve his request as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

**Solicitor's Report** - No Report

## **Engineer's Report**

Mr. Catania recommended approval of the following certificates: Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – MacDade & Holmes - \$1,830.00; Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – Green Light-Go grant - \$13,480.15; Mr. Rehab – Sewer Relining - \$79,488.00; Mr. Rehab – Manhole Rehabilitation - \$35,869.50, Musco Sports Lighting, LLC – Change Order No. 1 Blackrock Park; Lanzetta Landscaping, LLC – 6<sup>th</sup> & Stanbridge - \$9,745.00; Lanzetta Landscaping, LLC – Armstrong Ave Drainage - \$11,875.00; Dynamic Traffic, LLC – Fairview Rd & Chester Pike improvements - \$2,500.00; N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – Dale Road - \$18,500.00; and N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – Manhole adjustments - \$19,500.00

**Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the certificates as read. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Catania recommended award of the 2025 Road Program bid to N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. for their bid price of \$497,480.00.

**Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to award the bid as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Catania recommended award of the Blackrock Park Phase 3 Improvements bid to JMC Contractors at their bid price of \$159,220.00.

**Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to award the bid as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Catania recommended release of escrow to Wawa at 1920 W. MacDade Blvd. in the amount of \$636,517.63.

**Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Capozzoli to approve the escrow release as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Mr. Catania requested approval of a Resolution to apply for a PA Small Water and Sewer grant for stormwater improvements in the Leedom area in the amount of \$500,000.  
**Motion made by Mr. Saraceni, seconded by Mr. Warwick to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

### **Highway & Sanitation Committee Report**

Mr. Warwick announced there will be no trash collection on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (Primary Election Day) or Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day).

### **Law & Ordinance Committee Report** - No Report

### **Recreation Committee Report**

Mr. McMenammin reported on upcoming recreation programs.

### **Public Safety Committee Report**

Mr. Willert read the Public Safety Committee Report noting the calls for service in March totaled 1,228. He also thanked the police for responding to Mr. Warwick's request for patrols in the Leedom area concerning parking issues.

### **Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report**

Mr. Saraceni read the Health & Code Enforcement Committee report for March as follows:

- Permits Issued – 212
- Contractors Registered – 14
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 24
- Rental Inspections – 63
- Health Inspections – 17

### **Building Committee Report**

Mr. Saunders requested approval of 60-day extension request from Spark Car Wash for their temporary Certificate of Occupancy.

**Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the request as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

### **Library & Resource Center Committee Report**

Mrs. Cummins reported that 8,719 patrons visited the library and checked out or downloaded 15,577 books and other items in March. Program attendance at 82 programs was 4,435 people. In addition, the library staff accepted 163 new passport applications in March. She also reported on upcoming library programs.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Saunders reported all Commissioners received a list of this month's bills.

**Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Bidoli that the bills be approved subject to the Controller's review and approval. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

### **Old and New Business**

Mrs. Morrisette thanked the police & fire departments for their help at the Swarthmorewood AA Opening Day festivities. She also asked that the township look at the erosion issue behind the homes on Grace Road.

Mr. Warwick thanked the police for their efforts throughout Leedom and the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward. He also reminded residents to be mindful of speeding, parking and running Stop signs.

Mr. McMenamain thanked Mr. Willert, Mr. Ryan and the team of first responders for their assistance with the Crozer closure.

Mr. Saunders, Mrs. Cummins and Mr. Capozzoli echoed Mr. McMenamain's sentiments.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mrs. Cummins to adjourn the meeting, Motion carried unanimously (9-0).**

Meeting concluded at 7:08pm.