

EAST BUFFALO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg, PA, 17837
November 10, 2025

Chairman Knight called the Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Those present: Chairman James Knight; Vice Chairman Tom Zorn; Supervisor Evans; Assistant Roadmaster Jeff Oberdorf; Aleigh Heckman; Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Jolene Helwig; Township Solicitor Peter Matson; Planning/Zoning Tom MacDonald.

Members of the public are in attendance: Tina Prowant; Justin Strawser (Daily Item); and Gawhara Abouzeid (Standard Journal).

Hearing of Visitors: Tina Prowant EBT resident asked for the individual totals of all the park projects.

Reports of Officials:

- Chairman Knight
 - October 28th attended a webinar for our tree grant for Turtle Creek Park. It went through all the information about the delivery plans and all of that was passed on to Steve and Jeff. Brain Auman, Steve, Jeff, and I walked the Turtle Creek Park site last Friday to sort out the plans for our planting event happening on November 15th.
 - On November 3rd, I attended the Buffalo Township Supervisors' Meeting with Chief Blount from the fire department. Chief Blount presented them with financial information about the department and asked them to consider increasing their contributions next year, but they need some time to review everything before they can give a number.
- Vice Chairman Zorn:
 - I attended the PSATS Solar Grid Webinar on October 28th, and Tom Murphy said that he is willing to review any ordinances of a township, and I am wondering if we could go ahead and send him ours to see what his review comments would be.
 - On October 29th I attended a PSATS Financing for the Township webinar and on October 31st Jeff, Jo and I had a meeting on our emergency operations with our Emergency Management Coordinator Matt Exley.
 - Mentioned that he would be attending a meeting on November 11th regarding Rabbit Transit System and how it may apply to our township.
- Supervisor Evans:
 - She gave a report on our first Halloween in the Park on October 25th, which was held at the Fairground Road Park. We had about seventy-five (75) trick-or-treaters and handed out six prizes (youngest, oldest, cutest, scariest, and most unusual). She would like to see it done again next year.
 - She reported that she attended a meeting with the police department to discuss the insurance plan for retirees, all of whom are East Buffalo people and are grandfathered as far as their medical cost are concerned.

- Assistant Roadmaster Oberdorf
 - Stated that the steel showed up for the bridge and on Thursday they planned to set it. The project will then be shut down for the year because it is getting too cold and the cost to finish it this year is going to outweigh a lot more than holding off until next year.
 - Jeff stated that the next project will be the Lan Avon Pipe Project starting the following Monday. This will cause a road closure since they will be closing the end of the roadway towards the river.
 - He mentioned that they will have a couple trucks suited up and ready to go in cause of pending weather.
- Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Helwig
 - Mentioned she attended some of the same meetings as the other board members.
 - Mentioned she attended the County Reassessment Meeting on October 30 which was at 6:30 PM at the Government Center. The meeting held a lot of information and the result of that was realizing that if the Board wishes to raise taxes, they should do so in 2026 or 2027 due to being unable to do so once it is 2028. This is due to the cyber attack in March causing the loss of 1,100 files, so 2028 will be revenue neutral. The reassessment started at the beginning of this month. Individuals are going around talking to residents beginning in Greg Township, then White Deer, then Kelly Township, followed by Lewisburg Borough and East Buffalo Township. By the end of this year, they should have talked to or visited all properties in those areas. If they are unable to reach residents, a door hanger will be left. By November 15, all certified values should be entered to estimate the 2026 Estimated Real Estate Taxes
 - She spoke to our recycling coordinator about the 902-grant application for reimbursement. It was submitted and approved, but due to the budget not being passed the money is being held by the State.
 - Stated that Aleigh Heckman started as secretary on Monday, November 3rd, and success at beginning of her role.
 - The recycling newsletter will switch from twice a year, to once a year to save on postage costs and to avoid resident confusion from two editions. Also mention of the 2026 brush permits now being available for residents to pick up at the office.

Chairman Knight acknowledged no receipt of the October Buffalo Valley Regional Police Departments (BVRPD) Reports due to meeting being held after township meeting.

Chairman Knight acknowledged Board receipt of the October Central Keystone Council of Governments (CKCOG) Report.

Motion by Supervisor Evans seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the Lot Consolidation for Lands of Kurin Williams & Lindsey Folio.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve the October 27, 2025, work session meeting minutes as distributed.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the expenditures for October 2025 as presented.

Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Chairman Knight was sent information Thursday November 6 regarding the Proposed Amendments to Chapter 10 via email and was unable to view it until Monday morning as well as did not realize other members were not

attached on the email. The Board of Supervisors decided to table the the Proposed Amendments to Chapter 10 until the November 24, 2025, Work Session Meeting.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve **Resolution 25-2025** for the East Buffalo Township Investment Policy with the addition of the operating reserve fund added to section 3A.
Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the first reading and authorize the publication of the proposed 2026 draft budget with General fund millage of 3.90%; Fire Fund millage of 0.75%; Street Light millage of 0.07%; Fire Hydrant millage of 0.07%. Motion died due to a lack of a second.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve the first reading and authorize the publication of the proposed 2026 draft budget with General Fund millage of 3.80%; Fire Fund millage of 0.75%; Street Light millage of 0.07%; Fire Hydrant millage of 0.07%. Final voting on the 2026 Budget will be at the Board meeting on December 8, 2025.
Knight -y; Zorn-n; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to accept the bid from Hepco Construction Inc. for the Salt Shed project with the initial anticipated cost of \$653,959.80.
Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to convene the 2026 annual organization meeting at 5:00 PM on January 5th, with the business meeting commencing immediately following the organization meeting.
Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to acknowledge Aleigh Heckman as the new hire for the Secretary position starting November 3, 2025, with a starting wage of \$23.00 an hour.
Knight-y; Zorn-y; Evans-y; Motion Carried

For the Good of the Order:

- Chairman Knight announced information about a Design Meeting for Turtle Creek Park Phase 1 project on October 30, 2025. There were details of the scope and current estimate and some questions that were resolved. They have already met with DCNR and received approval, so they wish to submit further once DCNR approves the drawings.

Announcements:

- Chairman Knight announced a reminder that East Buffalo Township is going to be doing a tree planting event that the community is welcome to come help on Saturday, November 15th, at the Turtle Creek Park. The trees are both through the Healing the Planet Grant and the Pennsylvania Tree Grant from DCNR.
- Township Manager asked for an executive session.

Press Time:

- Justin Strawser (Daily Item) asked for clarification on Aleigh's duties and if it would relieve Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Helwig of some of her duties, the answer was yes.
- Gawhara Abouzeid (Standard Journal) asked for clarification on last year's milage compared to this year's milage.
- EBT Resident Tina Prowant had questions regarding the Recycling Newsletter now being once a year rather than two times per year and the cost difference associated with it. She was informed that the

newsletter printing and shipping costs would be decreased by \$2,000 with publication only being once a year.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to enter an Executive Session at 6:44 PM

Motion by Vice Chairman Zorn seconded by Chairman Knight to exit the Executive Session at 6:49 PM

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to adjourn at 6:49 PM


Jolene Helwig, Secretary


James Knight, Chairman


Tom Zorn, Vice Chairman


Katie Evans, Supervisor