

EAST BUFFALO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC WORK SESSION MEETING
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg, PA, 17837
January 26, 2026

Chairman Knight called the Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 5:52 PM.

Those present: Chairman James Knight; Vice Chairman Tom Zorn (online); Supervisor Katie Evans; Township Manager/Treasurer Jolene Helwig; Assistant Roadmaster Jeff Oberdorf; and Township Secretary Aleigh Heckman (online).

Members of the public in attendance: Tina Prowant (online); and Gawhara Abouzeid (Standard Journal) (online).

Chairman Knight announced an Information Session was held on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 10:00 AM to discuss proposed changes to the Solar Zoning Ordinance.

Hearing of Visitors: no public comment

Report of Officials:

- Chairman Knight
 - He attended a meeting on January 8th with Brian Auman, Bill Hackenberg, Secretary Heckman, and Manager Helwig, to discuss the Turtle Creek forest management plan.
 - On January 15, Secretary Heckman, Manager Helwig and I met with HRG to review the status of the Safety Action Plan; also attended the CSFES meeting.
 - Brian Auman and I attended a meeting with the Environmental Studies class at Bucknell to present a trail mapping project at Turtle Creek Park. I received an email today that our project was selected by one of the groups and will be working on that project this spring.
 - He mentioned that the Township was notified by Senator Yaw's office that we received a DCED Multimodal Transportation grant for West Market Street for \$410K; heard from Representative Thompson's office that our request for West Market Street is included in this proposed transportation budget but hasn't heard if it has passed through the House.
- Vice Chairman Zorn
 - He mentioned attending the solar meeting, the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission meeting on December 10th, and attending the CSFES meeting.
- Supervisor Evans
 - She mentioned attending the solar meeting, and the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission meeting on December 10th; stated there were 5,026 calls for the entire year; most crimes committed are what are considered part one crimes that are considered the lesser of seriousness. She informed us that there were 612 traffic citations issued; a new officer will start in March to fill the hole when Sergeant Burns retires. The co-responder had 28 contact cases, where majority of the contacts were in East Buffalo Township and Lewisburg Borough. They have a vacancy on the Civil Service Commission that will need to be filled before they do test for the Sergeant position. The BVRPC also held their reorganization, and she was appointed to the police contract negotiations committee. Supervisor Evans told the board and public about some of the expenditures that were approved by the commission; a new police vehicle to replace the unmarked car and ammunition the officers would be using for their yearly qualifications.

- She attended the Planning Commission meeting on January 21st; stated the commission voted no on the Proposed SALDO/Zoning Ordinance Amendment regarding Chapter 22, Part 5 inspections for streets and related stormwater facilities and voted yes Chapter 27, Parts 2 and 4 adding churches as a permitted use in the General Commercial Zoning District and providing a definition for churches.
- Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Helwig
 - Informed the Board that she completed the Pennsylvania Municipal Government Academy Graduate Program (PMGA).
 - State the 2025 Annual Township Report and Executive Summary Report were completed minus the fire information.
 - Reminded the Board that the Township had their first fire inspection and only had a few minor things that needed to be corrected before their return on February 26th.
 - Mentioned that the America250PA Semi quincennial has kickoff in Union County with a ceremony held at the courthouse on January 21st. Many more events to happen throughout the year.
- Assistant Roadmaster Oberdorf
 - Mentioned he was part of the fire inspection on the complex; minor things to fix; and complete.
 - Informed the Board that Steve, Rick, and himself met with Brian Haight from PennDOT our municipal representative to discuss and work on our bid contract for River Road, South 7th Street and Lan Avon.
- Township Secretary Heckman
 - She mentioned that she attended several of the meetings with Supervisors and Township Manager.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisors Evans to approve the January 5, 2026, Organization meeting minutes as distributed.

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

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve the January 5, 2026, Business meeting minutes as distributed.

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

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve **Resolution 03-2026** to amend Resolution 02-2026 the current four (4%) percent pay increase of \$70,470.40 to \$72,552.38, based on Resolution 03-2025 approved on January 6, 2025, the Township Manager's 2025 wage was for \$69,761.90.

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

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to reapply for the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund grant for fiscal year 2026 and 2027, for phase three of the West Market Street project and to have a follow up, pending discussions with PennDOT about revising the application.

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

The Board of Supervisors took no action on the streetlight at the intersection of Hilltop and Smoketown Road. Instead, they agreed to have a conversation with Patrick Anderson, Senior Director – Engineering & Operation Citizen's Electric Company and to send out a letter to the residences that would be affected by the streetlight.

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Supervisor Evans to approve Proposal V5 Turtle Creek Park, Park Improvements for two (2) 8'x8' Mini Shelter with one (1) bench with Metal Roofing - \$30,176.00; one (1) 16'x28' Low-Pitch beam shelter, in-ground columns with Metal Roofing - \$13,286.00 - Total Cost \$43,462.

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

Motion by Chairman Knight seconded by Vice Chairman Zorn to approve Proposal Turtle Creek Park, Park Improvements Site Amenities are for one (1) 32-gallon litter receptacle - \$1,133.00; one (1) steel bike rack for six (6) bikes - \$1,257.00; plus, freight – Total Cost \$2,581.00.

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

For the Good of the Order:

- Chairman Knight mentioned two scouts have approached him about doing Eagle Scout projects at Turtle Creek Park; one would like to build bat boxes and the other to do repairs on the bridge, deck, and railing over the creek.

Announcements: no comments.

Press Time:

- Gawhara Abouzeid (Standard Journal) asked for clarification on the DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant.

Motion by Vice Chairman Zorn seconded by Chairman Knight to adjourn at 6:31 PM.


Secretary


James Knight, Chairman


Tom Zorn, Vice Chairman


Katie Evans, Supervisor

