

**HICKORY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
July 7, 2025**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hickory Township Board of Supervisors held at the Hickory Township Municipal Building was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Christopher J. Fabian.

Supervisors Present: Christopher J. Fabian
Michael E. Hall
William W. Dean (via phone)

Staff Present: Jason Medure, Esquire – Solicitor
Lisa Schlemmer - Secretary/Treasurer

Other Attendees: Lucille Wallas Neal Miller Andy J. Byler
Josh Latore Seth Miller Phineas J. Byler
Ray Marr Michael Miller Tom Houston
Dillon Keener Rudolph Miller

Supervisor Hall made a motion to accept the June 2, 2025 regular meeting minutes without correction. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Dean. All in favor. Motion carried.

The June Treasurer's Report was read. Supervisor Dean made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report and pay all regular bills, incoming bills and payroll. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

Building Permits:

Applicant	Address	Proposed Improvement
Lori Zulauf	1874 LaClair Drive	Roof over existing rear deck
William C. Porada	235 Bowden Road	36' x 36' horse barn
Thomas Wellman	1504 Harlansburg Road	24' above ground pool

Announcement: Supervisor Fabian read the Operation Healthy Ellwood flyer offering free medical, dental, vision and veterinary care to anyone in the area regardless of income or residency. Copies of the flyer have been posted on the Township bulletin board, website and meeting room.

Public Comments: Rudy Miller asked to be allowed to read portions of the Wilmington Township Ordinance and discuss the denial of his Special Exception application by the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Miller was advised by Supervisor Fabian to leave whatever information he wants the Supervisors to review at the Township. Solicitor Medure requested that Mr. Miller provide any requested zoning changes or topics of discussion in writing.

Jon Sweet asked about the status of roadside mowing. Supervisor Hall advised that the Township took possession of a 2015 John Deere tractor on July 1, 2025. Mowing commenced that afternoon immediately after pick up of the machine and mowing has continued daily since.

Lucille Wallas inquired about the procedure for the pending decision on the Conditional Use application for a proposed solar farm development on Cameron Road. Solicitor Medure advised that a decision would be rendered within 45 days from the date of the Conditional Use hearing.

Old Business: Supervisor Fabian made a motion to advertise the following Township equipment for sale: 1) Ford Tiger tractor without the broom attachment; 2) ditch cleaners; and 3) Motorola radios. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Dean. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business: The Township's current Solicitation Ordinance has been in place since 1980. Supervisor Fabian provided a brief synopsis of the new Solicitation Ordinance, touching on main points and asked for any questions from the meeting attendees. Having heard none, Supervisor Hall made a motion to adopt Ordinance #1-2025. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Dean. All in favor. Motion carried. Thereafter, Jon Sweet asked what the Ordinance is about and who is going to enforce it. The Ordinance is about peddling and soliciting within Township limits. Enforcement would be handled by the Pennsylvania State Police.

The Lawrence County Recorder of Deeds will soon update their system to remit realty transfer tax payments to all County municipalities via automatic ACH deposit rather than via check sent by USPS. The Supervisors agreed that the ACH Authorization form should be completed and returned to the Lawrence County Recorder of Deeds allowing ACH payment access to the Township account.

Supervisor Fabian made a motion to table discussion of the temporary structure fee. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Fabian made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 P.M. Motion seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

HICKORY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
July 28, 2025

A special meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman, Michael Hall.

Supervisors Present: Christopher J. Fabian (via phone)
Michael E. Hall
William W. Dean

Staff Present: Jason Medure, Esquire - Solicitor
Lisa Schlemmer - Secretary/Treasurer

Other attendees: Ronalyn Mitcheltree
Dillon Keener
Jared Martin

Public Comments: None

New Business: The Supervisors reviewed the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law prepared by Solicitor Medure concerning the Conditional Use Application of Bollinger Solar, LLC to develop a solar energy facility on 8.17 acres of vacant farmland owned by Lance and Megan Nimmo. Solicitor Medure read the conditions contained in said Findings. Motion to approve the Findings was made by Supervisor Dean and seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hall and seconded by Supervisor Dean to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 P.M. All in favor. Motion carried.

HICKORY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
July 30, 2025

A special meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Chairman, Christopher Fabian.

Supervisors Present: Christopher J. Fabian
Michael E. Hall
William W. Dean

Staff Present: Jason Medure, Esquire - Solicitor
Lisa Schlemmer - Secretary/Treasurer

<u>Other attendees:</u>	David White	Christian Schlesinger
	Lori Ostrowski	Mark A. Ostrowski
	Nick Vercilla	Rudolph Miller
	Phineas Byler	Van Malley
	Lili Rose Malley	

Public Comments: Lori Ostrowski voiced concerns about the power poles and lines affecting the surrounding houses, such as outages and power surges and safety concerns. She also expressed displeasure that a residential area ripe for future housing development would be used for solar fields. In her opinion the solar fields would negatively impact drawing new residents to the Township.

Lili Malley expressed her concern about the devaluation of the all the residential properties situated all along Cameron Road.

Van Malley reiterated the same concerns as those raised by the other attendees.

Christian Schlesinger of Forefront Power asked to address some of the residents' concerns. He stated that there is absolutely no danger to the surrounding residents because the power generated goes to a substation owned by the utility. The utility then distributes the electricity. He said that Forefront Power has an interconnection agreement with the utility already, although he did not know where the substation was located or if the substation is at capacity at this time. He said that substation upgrade costs are millions of dollars, so developers cannot afford to pay for the substation upgrades. The substation capacity should allay fears about the number of solar field projects that can be placed within a municipality. On amending their power pole configuration, he offered that Forefront contacted the utility company about pad mounted equipment or underground equipment. The utility was not amenable to that proposal. The sole change offered by the utility was to reduce the number of poles from 6 to 4. Mr. Schlesinger also offered that a solar field is temporary use and not permanent use such as a housing development or mobile home park. Ms. Ostrowski replied that a 30-year solar contract is hardly temporary.

New Business: Solicitor Medure provided a factual background and read the *Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law* concerning the Conditional Use Application of FFP PA Lawrence Project 1, LLC and FFP PA Lawrence Project 2, LLC to develop solar energy facilities on approximately 50 acres of vacant farmland owned by Gregory J. Wallas property located along Cameron Road. Supervisor Fabian made a motion to vote whether to approve or deny the proposed solar project. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Dean. The Supervisors unanimously voted to deny the proposed solar project with no one being in favor of the conditional use application.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hall and seconded by Supervisor Dean to adjourn the meeting at 5:16 P.M. All in favor. Motion carried.