BENEZETTE TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES September 2, 2025

The Benezette Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on 09/02/2025 at the Township Pavilion, 105 School House Rd. Benezette, PA. Present were Supervisors **Tom Wilson**, **Amanda Maholtz** and **Dave Weber**. Please see the sign-in sheet for visitors present. **Tom Wilson** began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, MEETING FLOW REVIEW & PROTOCAL:

Meetings are tape recorded each month and transcribed to create meeting minutes.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AUGUST 2025 TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: NONE

MOTION TO ACCEPT AUGUST 2025 TOWNSHIP TREASURER'S REPORT:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: NONE

MOTION TO REAPPOINT ROADMASTER: Supervisor Wilson made a motion to appoint Michael Beamer as Roadmaster. Supervisor Maholtz is not against Mike being the Roadmaster, but the township still has a Roadmaster, and the township can't just reappoint someone. Wilson mentioned that Maholtz hired Mike to eventually be the Roadmaster, Maholtz agreed, but a new Roadmaster cannot be appointed while the township has a Roadmaster. A resident stated this should be tabled for next meeting. The subject should be brought up at a public meeting, as it was, that the township is thinking about making Michael Beamer Roadmaster. The Road Crew is currently working without any Roadmaster guidance. Supervisor Weber would like to talk to Mike about being the Roadmaster. Wilson stated the Road Crew have been on their own without a Roadmaster for a month now and are doing a fantastic job.

FIRST: SECOND: YES: NO:

COMMENTS: Motion failed to be seconded, tabled for next meeting.

STONE SUPPLIER: Supervisor Wilson stated it's time to call around and get stone prices. We also need to make sure the supplier can handle the township's needs and has enough trucks. Supervisor Weber agrees and thinks it's an annual requirement.

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: Wendy will call around and get prices for 1B limestone and 2A limestone from different stone suppliers with delivery to the township. Wendy will also find out how many trucks the suppliers have to ensure the supplier can accommodate the township's needs.

GARBAGE DUMPSTER AREA: Supervisor Wilson stated the Township has used its contracted number of 30-yard dumpsters for the year, which is 14. Any 30-yeard dumpster swaps after 14 must be paid for by the township, which will be approximately \$1000 per swap. Many times, this dumpster needs to be swapped out weekly. Supervisor Maholtz provided everyone in attendance with research she has done on different dumpster options and the cost of each. The garbage ordinance will need to be updated by the Township Solicitor. A resident stated he would be willing to staff the dumpster for \$100 a month. He wants the authorization to use the backhoe to smash the trash in the dumpster down. Supervisor Wilson stated he thinks we should go back to having a couple big dumpster days a year and have them manned. Identification and a copy of your Waste Management bill will be required before using the dumpster. Wilson stated we need new and updated signage. Another option would be to put stone down and move the smaller dumpsters outside of the gate. There are out-of-town people that drive to Benezette just to drop off their trash. There is a realtor telling new property owners that garbage is included in their sewage bill. Wilson stated the township doesn't make a dime off the dumpsters. The Waste Management contract runs out July 2026. Wilson stated the township should get rid of the 30-yard dumpsters and go to a couple large dumpster days a year and have them manned for paying customers only. The township will still allow for metal drop off, but the township will recycle it for scrap money, bringing some money to the township. Maholtz stated she spoke with the trash department and their suggestion to enforce illegal dumping is to get an ordinance in place and do the best you can. Once word gets out that the township is fining for violations it should deter others. Bob Trayer mentioned that Bradco will make any signs the township wants. Bob will take care of getting with the Bradco representative once the township knows what verbiage to put on the signs. Supervisor Weber stated to get the signs up so there is proper notification or there is going to be a mess. Supervisor Wilson stated to make the effective date October 1st so there is enough time to get signs made and property owners and Waste Management customers to be notified of the change. More cameras need to be added to the dumpster area. The Supervisors will email Wendy with verbiage for the signs to be ordered.

<u>FEMA UPDATE:</u> Wendy stated the township has six FEMA projects that are currently obligated, two of which went from obligated to invoiced. When projects go from obligated to invoiced payment will be received within 30-45 days. The two projects the township will be receiving funds for are Winslow Hill/Gray Hill Road in the amount of \$19,317.98 and Grant Road Completed Repairs in the amount of \$16,806.35.

GRANT ROAD: Supervisor Wilson stated Grant Road needs to be fixed. Supervisor Weber stated that work does need DEP Permits. Wilson stated this needs to get done and it should have been done before rainy season. There are approximately 50 camps over there and it's a disaster waiting to happen, especially being down to only one pipe. Wilson stated the township needs to put attention on that road. Weber stated we will have to do permitting first and go from there. Wilson states we will have to get with DEP and have a meeting to see what permitting is required. All

supervisors agree that Grant Road needs repaired. Weber stated we should put some numbers together so we know what the cost will be. Wilson stated we should do the work in-house and hire contractors for the concrete work.

AMBULANCE DONATION: \$1250.00 donation to the Ambulance.

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS:

CENTRAL MOUNTAIN ATV ASSOCIATION: Letter of support request for the 13th annual tour

for Elk and Toys for Tots on November 8, 2025.

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0 COMMENTS: ATV Association will be liable for any damage to the township grounds.

<u>CONSIDER UNUSED PROPERTY SALES:</u> Unused equipment will be put on Municibid with no reserve. The property sales will be placed on hold.

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS:

HANDICAP RAMP / DECK: Supervisor Maholtz reached out to seven contractors for quotes. Randy Morrison Construction provided a quote. The cost is approximately \$18,000 to replace the deck and ramp. Maholtz was able to contact our insurance company. Our insurance company said that since we are going to use pressure treated lumber instead of composite our insurance will cover everything. Maholtz stated we need to get the contract approved here. Supervisor Wilson asked Supervisor Maholtz why she opened an insurance claim on her own. It should have been brought up at a public meeting because it is a major financial decision for the township. Wilson stated he looked at the ramp and the deck and said it could be repaired in house for about \$500. The deck and ramp do need replaced in the future, but right now it can be repaired. Wilson is against opening an insurance claim. Maholtz argued the project is major and needs replacement. People need to be able to get into the building. The township building is also the election hall. Wilson mentioned the deductible is \$1000 and the repairs would be \$500. Wilson is concerned the insurance could possibly get canceled for opening a claim. Maholtz mentioned we are having township meetings outside because residents cannot get up the steps. Wilson wants to make repairs now and budget for replacement later. Supervisor Weber does not agree with making repairs. The ramp and deck need to be replaced to avoid injuries, and it needs to be safe. Maholtz mentioned that the ADA specifications need to be correct because this is a public building. A resident mentioned that a meeting is not necessary when there is a hazard. Maholtz mentioned that when Morrison Construction looked at the job, he said it was not safe, and the deck was close to collapsing at some point. Maholtz thinks the best option for the township is to go through with the insurance claim and have the deck and ramp replaced.

FIRST: MAHOLTZ SECOND: WEBER YES: 2 NO: 1

COMMENTS: Wilson voted NO

<u>BRIDGE UPDATE</u>: Supervisor Maholtz is looking into getting the bridge listed as historical. If the bridge is listed as historical there would be grants to repair the bridge. The bridge is the only safe access to the playground.

<u>LITTLE FREE LIBRARY DONATION:</u> Hazelnut Cottage has offered to donate a little free library that can be placed on the schoolhouse grounds.

FIRST: MAHOLTZ SECOND: WEBER YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS:

AMERICA250PA PROJECT COMPLETION AND SHIRTS: Maholtz stated the America250PA project at the playground is complete. The township received a \$4000 grant for the playground project. There are extra T-shirts available if anyone would like one. A toddler swing seat was upgraded, two swing seats were updated, and ADA swing seat was added, wood mulch was replaced with rubber mulch, and gardens were planted.

PURCHASE HIGH VISABILITY HOODIES FOR ROAD CREW:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: Purchase 6 hoodies (3 for Mike and 3 for Bob) from Dave's Pro Shop with a \$200 budget.

ROADMASTERS REPORT: In your packets

TOWNSHIP PUBLIC FORUM: Supervisor Wilson commented we received bill from Jay Township for tar and chip project. Wilson attended the Jay Township meeting. There were errors on the invoice. Benezette Township was charged for 150 gallons of oil on Summerson Road that was not used. Jay Township Roadmaster, Jeff Stefanek, told Wilson that he calculated incorrectly and that Jay Township shot the oil at a rate of .5 gallon per yard. When Wilson spoke with Midland Oil, Devan told Wilson the oil was shot down at a rate of .3 - .35 gallons per yard. Jay Township's Solicitor was at the meeting and would not allow anyone to answer questions and told them to be silent about who put this all together.

Wilson questioned Weber and Maholtz about why they took their pay for the last meeting. Weber answered that he was here and showed up. Wilson asked Weber if he was going to keep it or turn in tonight's check to make it even. Weber said he's keeping it. Wilson asked Maholtz if she was going to keep her check or turn it back in. Maholtz asked how to turn it back in, she direct deposits her check at the beginning of the meeting so she doesn't lose it. Weber stated the meeting technically ended when Maholtz left the meeting and asked Wilson if he turned his check in for last meeting. Wilson did not take his check for the last meeting. Mike Kosh stated Maholtz's check will be donated to the Ambulance. Weber turned in his check for this meeting to be voided.

Wilson started questioning Weber about his timecard for the week of the tar and chip week. Weber stated he is not talking about this anymore.

A resident asked if the supervisors could get together and get ahold of PennDOT to get lines painted on Gray Hill Road. Wendy will take care of this.

Wilson stated Maholtz and Weber held an Executive Session in the Solicitor's office on August 21, 2025. There are no minutes from that meeting in the office and Wilson has a right to see those minutes. Wendy will email the Solicitor's office to get a copy of the minutes.

Donna wants the outhouses painted. Maholtz asked if it's the floors. Donna wants the floors and walls painted.

TOWNSHIP PORTION OF THE MEETING ADJOURNED:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS:

BENEZETTE TOWNSHIP SEWAGE MEETING MINUTES September 2, 2025

MOTION TO ACCEPT JULY 2025 SEWAGE MEETING MINUTES:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: NONE

MOTION TO ACCEPT JULY AND AUGUST 2025 SEWAGE TREASURER'S REPORT:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: NONE

<u>CONSENT ORDER AND AGREEMENT:</u> Benezette Township will be out of the Consent Order and Agreement.

<u>DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS:</u> Motion for delinquent sewage accounts over \$1000 to put a lien

on their property.

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: NONE

<u>ONLINE PAYMENTS:</u> Online payments are live and going well. An ACH bank transfer costs less than the price of a postage stamp. Customers contact Wendy, letting her know what payment method they wish to use, so fees are properly added. Customers also have the option to have their sewage bills emailed to them. Maholtz thanked Wendy for her work getting this process off the ground.

SEWAGE PUBLIC FORUM:

SEWAGE MEETING ADJOURNED:

FIRST: WILSON SECOND: MAHOLTZ YES: 3 NO: 0

COMMENTS: NONE