

September 4, 2025

Township of Ontelaunee  
35 Ontelaunee Dr.  
Reading, PA 19605

**The regular meeting of the Ontelaunee Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chairman Josh Steingraber in the Ontelaunee Township building with Supervisor Jeremy Hoagland and Charles Grebloski present.**

Additional Meeting Attendees: Bill McMullen, Engineer  
Elizabeth MaGovern, Solicitor  
Kim Y. Berger, Secretary

Visitors- Scott Cahill, Schuylkill Valley Library representatives, Edward Rohricht, Melissa Yoder, Luke Yoder

A motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and seconded by Jeremy Hoagland to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2025 meeting. Vote 3:0

**EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** – No report submitted

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** – No report submitted

**EMS** – July report

**BUSINESS FROM FLOOR:**

Scott Cahill of Snyder Road was present to discuss the issue with the crop cannons and the load booms that happen every 13 minutes from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. He stated he is trying to run a business and both himself and his workers have almost been trampled due to the cannons scaring his horses constantly. Supervisor Steingraber stated that the Board had a meeting with Mr. Hoffman regarding this issue. Mr. Hoffman had stated he has tried many different alternatives to scare the birds away from their crops, however the crop cannons seem to be the most effective way. Mr. Steingraber stated that the season will be coming to an end in the next 20 days or so, approximately around September 25 and then the cannons will cease. It was also stated that Mr. Hoffman has a right to farm. The board does not want to be put in a position where the AG's office would become involved. The developer who owns the land that Mr. Hoffman is leasing will be scheduling a meeting in the near future to discuss the project. This may be discussed at that time.

Ed Rohricht of Bewley Lane was present to discuss the issue with his neighbor and the noise and smell from their chickens. Mr. Rohricht discussed his family cannot be outside due to the noise from the chickens, rooster and turkey as well as the smell that is coming from their coop. He stated that most times when they have visitors, they cannot be outside due to these conditions. Mr. Rohricht also stated that the birds are kept in small areas which are inhumane. Mr. Rohricht requested that the ordinance not be adopted as it is but two acres remain necessary to have these birds. Mr. Rohricht stated that at the Zoning Hearing held at the end of August that the property owner stated they did not have a rooster, however, they do have a rooster as it is still making the noises.

Melissa Yoder, resident of the neighboring property, stated that they have had chickens for many years. They keep their animals, which are pets very clean. The animals are not inhumanly treated. They do not sell the eggs, if they have an abundance they give the eggs away. Solicitor Magovern asked Ms. Yoder if she had a

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rooster and a turkey. She stated that they did. Solicitor Magovern wanted to be sure that Ms. Yoder knew she had to remove the rooster and the turkey as they are not allowed per the new ordinance, if it is adopted. In addition, since they continued the Zoning Hearing Board from August to the end of September, they could always ask for a variance to keep those two birds as well. If the variance is denied, they would have to remove both the rooster and the turkey from the premises.

**TAX COLLECTION:** A motion was made by Jeremy Hoagland and seconded by Josh Steingraber to approve the Tax Collector report for August 2025. Vote 3:0

Real Estate Taxes -	\$8,714.14
Real Estate Interims -	\$ 0.00

## ***August 2025 Public Works Daily Log***

August 1, 2025

- PA One Calls
- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean Up
- Township Check
- Tree Removal on Bowers Rd
- Boom Mowing Township

August 2, 2025

- Saturday

August 3, 2025

- Sunday

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- Hydrant Flushing
- PA One Calls
- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean up
- Township Check
- Picked up Trash and Removal of Debris covering Storm drains
- Boom Mowing of Township

August 5, 2025

- PA One Calls
- Pump Station Work Order
- Service John Deere Mower (replaced a part)
- Set up for National Night Out
- Boom Mowed State Portion E.Huller (not finished)

August 6, 2025

- Park Trash

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- Park Debris Check/Clean up
- John Deere Part Run
- Clean Up for National Night Out
- Mowed Township Building
- Leesport Fill Pile Removal

August 7, 2025

- Township Check
- Supply Run for Trailer Lights
- Fixed/Replaced Street Sign on Rt73 and Ontelaunee Drive
- Leesport Fill Pile removal

August 8, 2025

- PA One Calls
- Colorimeter Calibration Pick Up
- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean up
- Leesport Fill Pile Removal

August 9, 2025

- Saturday

August 10, 2025

- Sunday

August 11, 2025

- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean Up
- Drag Baseball Field
- Hydrant Flushing
- Payroll
- Township Check
- Boom Mowed (Continued E.Huller)

August 12, 2025

- Issue On Loose Ln (Branches, Limbs)
- Boom mowed Loose Ln
- Backhoe Clean up on Loose Ln
- Took All Debris on Loose Ln to Berks Soil & Stone
- Kindt Corner State Portion Boom Mowing
- Closed Rd on Kindt Corner
- Truck #2 Plugged tire

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August 13, 2025

- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean Up
- PA One Call
- Township Check (Down Street Sign)
- Boom Mowed E.Huller finished
- Flagging on E.Huller
- Kindt Corner Boom Mowing
- (O.t Down Street Sign, Set up temp sign)

August 14, 2025

- Removal of Temp Sign
- Installed New Stop Sign/post/sleeve (Kindt Corner & Ontelaunee)
- PA One Calls
- Bewley Retention Pond Mowed
- Pick Up Lab Samples
- Drop Of Lab Samples at M.J Rieder
- Picked up New Forks for the Backhoe
- Dropped of Lender Foks
- Sewer Pump Station Mowing
- State Boom Mowing Continued

August 15,2025

- Rec A&B Mowed
- Weed Whacking of Intersections on RT 61 (W.Huller to Birch Hill)
- Beachwood intersection weed whacked
- Dries Rd Bridge Weed Whacked
- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean up
- Dragged Baseball Field
- PA One Calls
- Boom Mowed (Synder Rd State Portion)

August 16,2025

- Saturday

August 17, 2025

- Sunday

August 18,2025

- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean up
- Hydrant Flushing
- Tree Hanging down on Canal St

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- Road closed Canal St
- Removal of Down Tree
- PA One Call
- Continued State Boom Mowing of Synder Rd

August 19, 2025

- Boom Mowed Willow Creek Rd
- Township Check
- Township Building Mowed
- North Point Mowed
- PA One Calls
- Cleaning Up of Shop
- Washed Backhoe

August 20, 2025

- Checked Snow Equipment
- Installed Agers on Freight Liners to Inspect
- Spinners installed on Freight Liners to Inspect
- Installed Plows to Inspect
- Training on how to install and removal of plows
- Serviced Plows
- Drove All Snow Vehicles to run Fluids threw
- Filled Pothole at Berkly Rd

August 21, 2025

- PA One Call
- Created two Temp Signpost for Emergencies
- Boom Mowing of State Portion on Park Rd
- Rt 222 boom mowed for visibility for when you pull out of E.Huller
- Synder Rd & Heffner Visibility Issue Boom Mowed and Clean up Not finished
- Dumped Yard waste

August 22, 2025

- PA One Call
- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean up
- Continued working on Synder Rd & Heffner Visibility Issue
- Boom Mowed/Chain saws/ Clean up
- Dumped yard waste

August 23, 2025

- Saturday

August 24, 2025

- Sunday

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August 25, 2025

- PA One Calls
- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean Up
- Drag Baseball Field
- Hydrant Flushing
- Bewley Retention Pond Mowed
- Pumpstation Mowed
- North Point Mowed
- Leesport Ave State Portion Started
- Road Closed Leesport Ave
- Payroll

August 26, 2025

- PA One Calls
- State Portion Boom Mowing Leesport Ave Finished
- Road closed Leesport Ave
- Flagging on Leesport Ave
- State Portion Boom Mowing W. Huller
- Road Closed on W. Huller

August 27, 2025

- PA One Calls
- Started Monthly Report
- Investigating Issue on Synder Road with Gray Water
- Investigating S. Riverside issue
- Road Closed Willow Creek
- Boom Mowed Park Embankment Willow Creek

August 28, 2025

- PA One Calls
- Water Billing Run
- Replace Water Meters
- State Portion Cross Keys
- Serviced Boom Mower (Tire Low)
- Supply Run
- Township Check
- Willow Creek Rd Township Boom Mowing

August 29, 2025

- Park Trash
- Park Debris Check/Clean Up
- PA One Calls
- Pressure Wash at Township Building

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- White Fence around cell tower
- Main Entrance for Township
- Main Entrance for Police
- White Fence next to salt shed
- Hedge trim bushes around property
- Removed milling located behind the Recycling Dumpster
- Pour Water/Chlorine Down the floor traps at township
- Township check
  - Removal of Advertisement Signs
  - Check for Roadkill
  - Check for Debris on Roadway
  - Removed Debris from Storm drains

August 30, 2025

- Saturday

August 31, 2025

- Sunday

#### **Fuel Used**

- Truck #1- \$281.34
- Truck #2- \$109.77
- Truck #3- \$63.03
- Truck #4- \$81.83
- Truck #5 - \$55.16
- Truck #5 DEF- \$0.00
- Truck #6 – \$152.92
- Truck #7- \$92.04
- Truck #7 DEF- \$9.73
- Truck #8- \$87.76
- Truck #8 DEF- \$0.00
- Gasoline Cans- \$195.15
- Backhoe- \$82.51
- Backhoe DEF- \$0.00
- John Deere Boom Mower-\$690.66
- John Deere Boom Mower DEF- \$12.87
- Woodchipper- \$0.00

#### **Purchases & Expenses**

- Kuzan's True Value- \$153.33
- Deer Country Farm & Lawn- \$167.65
- Advance Auto Parts Professional- \$25.45
- Stoney Creek Rentals- \$95.88
- Kantners Tire Service Inc.- \$1480.00

#### **Foreman**

Israel Santiago

## **August 2025 Engineer's Report**

### **Subdivisions and Land Development Projects**

1. **Printz Lot Annexation** - Recommended action regarding the plan is listed on the agenda.
2. **Birch Hill Road (Perry Township Land Development)** - Recommended action regarding the plan is listed on the agenda.
3. **Epting Tract Subdivision** – Recommended action regarding the acceptance of an extension for action on the Preliminary Plan to December 4, 2025 is listed on the agenda.
4. **McIntosh Farms II** - The patching and paving of the off-site portion of Ida Red Drive is scheduled for September 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting.

ARRO is conducting periodic observations of project improvements.

5. **Reitnauer Land Development Plan** - ARRO is conducting periodic observations of project improvements.

Discussion of the project landscape plantings is listed on the agenda.

6. **Crow Holdings Land Development (CHI)** - Right-of-way and easement documents were provided to the SVSD. It is our understanding that right-of-way, easement and improvement agreements remain to be reviewed and approved by the SVSD.

DCED concurred with the scope of work for the grant funds for signalization upgrades at the intersection of Ontelaunee Drive and Lakeshore Drive. The developer's consultant and representatives of Crow Holdings were informed that the bid document preparation would be by Bowman with review and administration of the bidding process conducted by ARRO on behalf of the Township.

7. **Miele Group Land Development** - ARRO is conducting periodic observations of project improvements.

8. **Schuylkill Valley School District (SVSD)** – *No change since the last report.*

*The SVSD Consultant presented plans for discussion at the Planning Commission meeting held on July 17, 2025.*

9. **McIntosh Farms III Development** – *No change since the last report.*

*A request for a water will serve correspondence was received from the developer. This correspondence will be held until a definitive resolution to the water supply is arranged.*

10. **Pottsville Wholesale Development** – *No change since the last report.*

*A pre-submission meeting was held with the developer. The developer anticipates submitting a preliminary/final plan for the August Planning Commission meeting.*



11. Willow Creek Farms (Gaspari Tract) – No change since the last report.

*An extension grant from the developer is listed on the meeting agenda for action by the Supervisors.*

12. General Engineering

- a. Orchard Lane Swale - Arlan R. Wessner was informed of the acceptance of his quote in the amount of \$21,900.00 for armoring 525 feet of approximately 1,200 feet of roadside swale along Orchard Lane. To date no schedule for the work has been received.
- b. Orchard Lane/Canal Street - M & A Excavation completed paving restoration. They did not utilize a sub-contractor as originally thought; therefore, additional paving above trench restoration at the curve on Canal Street to improve drainage was not conducted.
- c. SR 0073 Speed Study

Bowman completed the speed study from SR 0061 to the Township line on SR 0073 and provided copies to the Township under separate cover. The TE-101 form for signage changes and the periodic placement of a speed indicator sign was submitted to PennDOT. To date no response has been received from PennDOT.

- d. Full Landscape and Tree Service Stormwater Plan/Sewer Plan/Sewer Planning Module

ARRO responded to an information request for the Component 3 Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the project.

- e. Stormwater Management Ordinance Exemptions - If satisfactory to the Board of Supervisors the following exemptions will be utilized for an amendment to the Stormwater Management Ordinance.

0-.25 ac – 1,000 sf; .26-.50 - 1,500 sf; .51-1.0 ac - 2,500 sf; >1 ac – 5,000 sf

- f. Stormwater Management Ordinance Applications have been received and reviewed or are currently being reviewed.
- g. Orchard Lane Stormwater Management Plan - Revised Stormwater Management Plans and supporting documents were received and will be reviewed for the parking area on Orchard Lane and reported under separate cover.
- h. TASA Project (MS4 PRP Implementation) - A reassignment of inspection personnel was required for the project prior to final award of the project.

The schedule has a Notice to Proceed being issued on October 20, 2025 and construction completion May 20, 2026.

- i. Bowers Road Project - The contractor was directed to remove the silt sock from the project area. We have not verified that this has occurred.

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- j. The owner of 108 Gernants Church Road provided the Township with an executed copy of the revised agreement prepared by Attorney Magovern's office. The agreement outlines costs and responsibilities for the repairs to Gernants Church Road and the commitment to reimburse the Township for the repairs.
- k. Road Opening Permits applications have been received from Frontier Communications for the installation of communication cable, pedestals and junction boxes within the Harvest, Beechwood and Willow Glen developments and Wingco Lane, Osterling Drive and Margaret Street. Applications fees and escrow funds have been requested from the applicant. A meeting with the applicant is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. with the applicant.
- l. The annual MS4 Report is being prepared for submission prior to the due date of September 30, 2025.
- m. The meeting agenda contains an item regarding the opening, review and action on the bids requested for the roof mounted solar panels for the Township building.

### **13. Water System Engineering & Reporting**

- a. The Memorandum of Understanding for the proposed RAWA upgrades to the Ashley Water Booster Pump Station to address existing water pressure concerns and future needs within Ontelaunee Township was executed and forwarded to RAWA.
- b. ARRO requested quotes for the installation of an air release valve on Ide Red Drive. Quotes are due September 4<sup>th</sup> before 6 p.m.
- c. ARRO responded to a citizen inquiry regarding Nitrate/Nitrite reporting listed in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR).
- d. ARRO will coordinate PADEP approval of testing at the auto flusher on Wingco Lane in lieu of the Berks Medical facility.

### **14. Sanitary Sewer System Engineering**

- a. The following Industrial permitting documents are under review.
  - i. Hazardous Waste Permit submission for the Reitnouer facility
  - ii. Materion Pre-treatment Upgrade
  - iii. Cambridge Lee IU permit.
- b. The Township and ARRO personnel will be meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> regarding the status versus requirements of the Township Industrial User permitting program and surcharge testing.
- c. The Township staff and ARRO researched lateral information related to 241 Gernants Church Road. All documents in our possession lead to the belief that no lateral for the parcel exists; however, the owners consultant professes a lateral does exist.

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- d. ARRO was authorized at the July Supervisors meeting to schedule a meeting with PADEP, RAWA and Attorney Magovern regarding the exposed sewer and water pipes in Willow Creek. To date, we have not scheduled the meeting.

**15. Water System Operations (ARRO Water Services)**

Additional flushing by the Township staff resulted in adequate chlorine residuals in response to an inadequate test result received from MJ Reider.

**16. Sanitary Sewer Operations (ARRO Water Services)**

Services/activities were conducted as identified under the Routine Operations scope of services outlined in the Professional Services Agreement between Ontelaunee Township and ARRO.

- a. Following a request by the operators, the removal of grease from pump stations is being coordinated by Township personnel. The addition of Proka for grease reduction will once again be implemented on a regular basis.
- b. AWS personnel reported an alarm for the PS #7 generator related to it not starting properly during the weekly exercising schedule.

A motion was made by Josh Steingraber and seconded by Jeremy Hoagland to accept the review extension for the Epting Tract Preliminary Plan until December 4, 2025 as provided by the developer. Vote 3:0

A motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and seconded by Jeremy Hoagland to approve Reitnouer escrow release #3 in the amount of \$1,173,533.15. Vote 3:0

The Municipal building solar roof project bids were received and read as follows:

Paradise Solar	\$475,000.00
Spotts Brothers	\$324,350.00

At this time the topic was tabled for the Solicitor and Engineer to review the bids.

Discussion was held regarding the planting of vegetation along Route 73 for the Reitnouer project. A motion was made by Jeremy Hoagland and seconded by Chuck Grebloski to approve the request to hold off on planting the vegetation until after the road project at 73 and Ontelaunee Drive is completed and that a bond will be held until such time as all the trees have been planted. Vote 3:0

A motion was made by Jeremy Hoagland and seconded by Chuck Grebloski to approve the signing of an agreement with the property owner of 108 Gernants Church Road detailing repairs to the roadway that occurred during their driveway paving. Vote 3:0

Discussion was held regarding Ontelaunee Drive between Kindt Corner Road and Moser Lane, the hill in the area becomes extremely slick when it rains or snows. Questions were raised as to how to fix the issue. This is a state portion of Ontelaunee Drive. Mr. McMullen will contact PA DOT to discuss a skid resistant surface or any other remedies that could help alleviate this problem.

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**MS4:** Nothing to report

**Solicitor:** Solicitor Magovern

At this time a Public Hearing was held regarding the amendment to Chapter 27 regarding keeping of chickens, ducks and turkeys. Since everyone had expressed their concerns at the beginning of the meeting under Business from the floor, there were no additional comments.

A motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and seconded by Josh Steingraber to adopt Ordinance #2025-3 amending Chapter 27 of the code of ordinance entitled Zoning to create regulations for the accessory keeping of chickens, ducks and turkeys. Vote 3:0

**CODE ENFORCEMENT** – August report

**EMA COORDINATOR** – no report

**POLICE COMMISSION** – no report

The Lease agreement with NBRPD for next five years at the current rate of \$3,600/month was approved by the Police Commission on August 11, 2025. A motion was made by Jeremy Hoagland and seconded by Chuck Grebloski approve this lease agreement for five years. Vote 3:0

## **PLANNING COMMISSION -**

On the recommendation of the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and Josh Steingraber to approve the plan of annexation of the parcel of land at 5621 Allentown Pike to 5619 Allentown Pike (the Printz property) as shown on the plan and meeting the requirements of Arro review letter dated August 8, 2025. Vote 3:0

On the recommendation of the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Josh Steingraber and seconded by Chuck Grebloski to approve a waiver request for the Stoltzfus land development in Perry township, allowing Perry Township to handle the land development of a proposed poultry barn addition. This project is mainly in Perry Township with a small part of the land in Ontelaunee Township. There will be no development in the Ontelaunee section of land. Perry Township will be asked to keep the township up to date on the progress of the project. Vote 3:0

## **EXPENDITURES**

A motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and seconded by Josh Steingraber to approve expenditures for the month of August in the amount of \$306,826.95 Vote 3:0

General	\$158,531.88
Water	\$ 69,111.04
Sewer	\$ 79,184.03

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LIST OF BILLS PAID - AUGUST 2025

21st Century Media - Philly Cluster	96.88
ARRO Consulting, Inc.	20,479.75
ARRO Water Services	5,841.50
B & G Glass Service	315.00
Berks Soil & Stone	175.00
Capital Blue Cross	1,635.10
Deer Country Farm & Lawn Inc.	167.65
Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authori	1,720.80
Elan Financial Services	1,531.49
Elite Fuel Service, LLC	340.93
Exeter Supply Co, Inc	27,282.25
First Energy	7,481.94
Hartman Valeriano Magovern & Lutz P.C.	6,863.04
J.C.EHRLICH	460.00
JB Environmental Services LLC	144.00
KANTNERS TIRE SERVICE, INC.	1,480.00
Kraft Municipal Group Inc.	20,330.18
KUZANS HARDWARE	366.28
Leesport Borough Authority	50,909.00
M.J. Reider Associates Inc	1,091.40
Maidencreek Township Authority	18,883.92
Met-Ed	1,540.23
Nationwide	739.62
NORTHERN BERKS REGIONAL POLICE DEPT.	92,175.13
PSATS UC GROUP TRUST	807.96
QUILL	44.98
Reading Area Water Authority	36,460.59
Reading Office Maintenance	220.00
Republic Services #318	1,090.13
Rhoads Energy Corporation	1,572.67
Rieck's Printing	100.00
Schultz Technology Solutions	223.00
Suburban Testing Labs	180.00
T. M. Bailey Services, LLC	260.00
TELCO GROUP LLC	3,777.00
VERIZON	39.53
Total	306,826.95
General	158,531.88
Water	69,111.04
Sewer	79,184.03

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

October 31, 2025 has been designated as Trick or Treat night

A motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and seconded by Jeremy Hoagland to approve the preventative maintenance/service agreement for the township HVAC system with Comfort Pro from September 1, 2025 thru August 31, 2026 at the same price as last year – \$2,456.00, Vote 3:0

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/INFO:**

September 8 – 6 p.m. – NBRPD Commission meeting

September 18 – 7 p.m. – Planning Commission

October 2 - 7 p.m. – Supervisors meeting

An executive session was held from 8:07 p.m. until 8:29 p.m.

Regarding the Municipal Building Solar Roof Project, a motion was made by Jeremy Hoagland and seconded by Josh Steingraber to award the project to Spotts Brothers at a bid price of 324,350.00

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Chuck Grebloski and seconded by Josh Steingraber to adjourn the monthly meeting at 8:30 p.m. Vote 3:0

Respectfully

Kim Y. Berger  
Secretary